

SANDRIDGE ENERGY INC

Form 424B3

May 07, 2010

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Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)  
SEC File No. 333-166141

### **MERGER PROPOSED YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT**

SandRidge Energy, Inc., referred to as SandRidge, its wholly owned subsidiary, Steel Subsidiary Corporation, referred to as Merger Sub, and Arena Resources, Inc., referred to as Arena, have entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of April 3, 2010, referred to as the merger agreement. Under the merger agreement, SandRidge will acquire Arena through a merger of Merger Sub with and into Arena (or, in certain circumstances, through a merger of Arena with and into Merger Sub), referred to as the merger. Following the merger, Arena will be the surviving entity and will continue as a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, except that in certain circumstances, Merger Sub will be the surviving entity (see The Merger General below). The merger agreement is attached as Annex A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated into this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus describes the merger agreement, the merger and the transactions related to the merger in detail and provides information concerning the special meeting of SandRidge stockholders and the special meeting of Arena stockholders. Before we can complete the merger, we must obtain the approval of our companies' common stockholders. We are sending to you this joint proxy statement/prospectus to ask holders of SandRidge common stock to vote in favor of approving the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and amending the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock, and holders of Arena common stock to vote in favor of approving the merger agreement.

At the effective time of the merger, each issued and outstanding share of common stock of Arena will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock, plus \$2.50 in cash, subject to adjustment as described under The Merger Merger Consideration in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The board of directors of SandRidge unanimously: (i) has determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, are fair to, and in the best interests of, SandRidge and its stockholders; (ii) has approved and adopted the merger agreement and approved the merger and the other transactions contemplated thereby; (iii) has approved the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock; and (iv) recommends that the stockholders of SandRidge vote FOR the approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and FOR amending the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock. The issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting. The amendment to the certificate of incorporation requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock.

The board of directors of Arena unanimously: (i) has determined that the merger agreement, the merger, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and the other transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Arena and its stockholders; (ii) has approved and adopted the merger agreement and approved the merger and the other transactions contemplated thereby; (iii) has directed that the merger agreement be submitted to a vote of the Arena stockholders at the Arena special meeting; and (iv) recommends that the stockholders of Arena vote FOR approval of the merger agreement. The approval of the merger agreement requires the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares of Arena common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting.

SandRidge stockholders will vote at the SandRidge special meeting at the SandRidge Auditorium, 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at 10:00 a.m. local time on June 8, 2010. Arena stockholders will vote at the Arena special meeting at the Doubletree Hotel, Warren Place, 6110 South Yale, Tulsa, Oklahoma at 9:00 a.m. local time on June 8, 2010.

SandRidge common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SD. Arena common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ARD.

**Before casting your vote, please take the time to review carefully this joint proxy statement/prospectus, including the section entitled Risk Factors beginning on page 27.**

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Your vote is very important regardless of the number of shares you hold. We enthusiastically support this combination of our companies and join with our boards of directors in recommending that you vote **FOR** the approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger, in the case of SandRidge stockholders, and **FOR** the approval of the merger agreement, in the case of Arena stockholders.

Sincerely,

Tom L. Ward

Phillip W. Terry

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

President and Chief Executive Officer

SandRidge Energy, Inc.

Arena Resources, Inc.

**NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THE COMMON STOCK TO BE ISSUED IN THE MERGER OR PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THE DISCLOSURES IN THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.**

**This joint proxy statement/prospectus is dated May 5, 2010 and is first being mailed to SandRidge stockholders on or about May 7, 2010 and to Arena stockholders on or about May 7, 2010.**

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**SandRidge Energy, Inc.**

**123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue**

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD ON JUNE 8, 2010**

To the stockholders of SandRidge Energy, Inc.:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of holders of common stock of SandRidge Energy, Inc., a Delaware corporation, referred to as SandRidge, will be held at the SandRidge Auditorium, 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on June 8, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. local time, for the following purposes:

- (1) to consider and vote on a proposal to approve the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger of Steel Subsidiary Corporation, referred to as Merger Sub, a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, with and into Arena Resources, Inc., a Nevada corporation, referred to as Arena (or, in certain circumstances, the merger of Arena with and into Merger Sub);
- (2) to vote on a proposal to amend the certificate of incorporation of SandRidge to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge capital stock from 450,000,000 to 850,000,000 and the authorized shares of SandRidge common stock from 400,000,000 to 800,000,000; and
- (3) to transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

A copy of the merger agreement relating to the proposed merger is attached as Annex A to the joint proxy statement/prospectus accompanying this notice.

SandRidge has fixed the close of business on May 5, 2010, as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. A list of the stockholders entitled to vote will be open for examination by stockholders at SandRidge Energy, Inc., 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102, during ordinary business hours during the ten-day period prior to the special meeting, and will also be available at the special meeting.

**The board of directors of SandRidge unanimously:**

**(i) has determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, are fair to, and in the best interests of, SandRidge and its stockholders;**

**(ii) has approved and adopted the merger agreement and approved the merger and the other transactions contemplated thereby;**

**(iii) has approved the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock; and**

**(iv) recommends that the stockholders of SandRidge vote FOR approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and FOR the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of**

**SandRidge common stock.**

We cordially invite you to attend the special meeting in person. However, to ensure your representation at the special meeting, we encourage you to mark, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card as promptly as possible in the enclosed postage-prepaid envelope. You may also vote by telephone or on the Internet using the instructions on the proxy card. Your telephone/Internet vote authorizes the named proxies to vote your shares in the same manner as if you had marked, signed and returned your proxy card. If your shares are held in street name by a broker or other record holder, only that holder can vote your shares and the vote cannot be cast unless you provide instructions to your broker. You should follow the directions provided by your broker regarding how to instruct your broker to vote your shares. If you attend the special meeting you may vote in person even if you have returned a proxy card, or voted by telephone or on the Internet.

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**IMPORTANT: WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL MEETING, WE ASK YOU TO COMPLETE AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED OR TO VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR ON THE INTERNET USING THE INSTRUCTIONS SHOWN ON THE PROXY CARD.**

By order of the Board of Directors

Richard J. Gognat

*Corporate Secretary*

May 5, 2010

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**Arena Resources, Inc.**  
**6555 South Lewis Avenue**  
**Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD ON JUNE 8, 2010**

To the stockholders of Arena Resources, Inc.:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of holders of common stock of Arena Resources, Inc., a Nevada corporation, referred to as Arena, will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Warren Place, 6110 South Yale, Tulsa, Oklahoma, on June 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. local time, for the following purposes:

- (1) to consider and vote on a proposal to approve the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of April 3, 2010, by and among Arena, SandRidge Energy, Inc., a Delaware corporation, referred to as SandRidge, and Steel Subsidiary Corporation, referred to as Merger Sub, a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, pursuant to which Merger Sub will merge with and into Arena (or, in certain circumstances, pursuant to which Arena will merge with and into Merger Sub); and
- (2) to transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

A copy of the merger agreement is attached as Annex A to the joint proxy statement/prospectus accompanying this notice.

Arena has fixed the close of business on May 5, 2010, as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. A list of the stockholders entitled to vote will be open for examination by stockholders at Arena Resources, Inc., 6555 South Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136, during ordinary business hours during the ten-day period prior to the special meeting, and will also be available at the special meeting.

**The board of directors of Arena unanimously:**

- (i) has determined that the merger agreement, the merger, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and the other transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Arena and its stockholders;**
- (ii) has approved and adopted the merger agreement and approved the merger and the other transactions contemplated thereby;**
- (iii) has directed that the merger agreement be submitted to a vote of the Arena stockholders at the special meeting; and**
- (iv) recommends that the stockholders of Arena vote FOR approval of the merger agreement.**

We cordially invite you to attend the special meeting in person. However, to ensure your representation at the special meeting, we encourage you to mark, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card as promptly as possible in the enclosed postage-prepaid envelope. You may also vote by telephone or on the Internet. Your telephone/Internet vote authorizes the named proxies to vote your shares in the same manner as if you had marked, signed and returned your proxy card. If your shares are held in street name by a broker or other record holder, only that holder can vote

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your shares and the vote cannot be cast unless you provide instructions to your broker. You should follow the directions provided by your broker regarding how to instruct your broker to vote your shares. If you attend the special meeting you may vote in person even if you have returned a proxy card, or voted by telephone or on the Internet using the instructions on the proxy card.

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**IMPORTANT: WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL MEETING, WE ASK YOU TO COMPLETE AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED OR TO VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR ON THE INTERNET USING THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PROXY CARD.**

By order of the Board of Directors

William R. Broaddrick

*Secretary*

May 5, 2010

**Please do not send your common stock certificates at this time. If the merger is consummated, you will be sent instructions regarding the surrender of your certificates.**



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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This joint proxy statement/prospectus incorporates by reference important business and financial information about SandRidge and Arena that is not included in or delivered with this document. Such information is included in SandRidge's and Arena's documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available without charge from the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). See "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 127.

Copies of the documents relating to SandRidge may also be obtained without charge from SandRidge on the Internet at [www.sandridgeenergy.com](http://www.sandridgeenergy.com), under the "Investor Relations" section, or may be requested via mail at SandRidge Energy, Inc., 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102, Attention: Corporate Secretary or via telephone at (405) 429-5500.

Copies of the documents relating to Arena may be obtained without charge on the Internet at [www.arenaresourcesinc.com](http://www.arenaresourcesinc.com), under the "Investor Relations" section, or may be requested via mail at Arena Resources, Inc., 6555 South Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136, Attention: Secretary or via telephone at (918) 747-6060.

**If you wish to obtain any of these documents from SandRidge or Arena, you should, to ensure timely delivery, make your request no later than June 1, 2010.**

All information in this document concerning SandRidge has been furnished by SandRidge. All information in this document concerning Arena has been furnished by Arena. SandRidge has represented to Arena, and Arena has represented to SandRidge, that the information furnished by and concerning it is true and complete.

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**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MERGER**

**General**

**Q: Why is the merger being proposed?**

**A:** The merger is being proposed because it will position the combined company as one of the largest producers of West Texas conventional oil and gas. The oil opportunities will come primarily from drilling and development of shallow, low risk reservoirs located on the Central Basin Platform, referred to as the CBP, a part of the Permian Basin in West Texas. The combined company will have over 200,000 net acres in the Permian Basin and 5,700 identified locations to drill primarily in the shallow San Andres and the Clear Fork formations.

**Q: What will happen if the merger is completed?**

**A:** It is contemplated that SandRidge will acquire Arena through the merger of Merger Sub, a Nevada corporation and a direct wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, with and into Arena, with Arena remaining as the surviving entity after the merger. In certain circumstances, however, Arena may be merged with and into Merger Sub, with Merger Sub remaining as the surviving entity after the merger. In either case, the surviving entity will be a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge.

**Q: When will the merger be completed?**

**A:** The merger will be completed when the conditions described below under "The Merger Agreement - Conditions to the Completion of the Merger" are satisfied (or, where permitted, waived). SandRidge and Arena believe that the merger can be completed during the second or third quarter of 2010. There can be no guarantee, however, as to when all conditions to the merger will be satisfied (or, where permitted, waived) and the completion of the merger will occur, if at all. See "Risk Factors - Risks Relating to the Merger" beginning on page 27.

**Q: What do I need to do now?**

**A:** After carefully reading and considering the information contained in this document, please fill out and sign your proxy card and vote by mail, or vote by telephone or on the Internet according to the instructions provided on the proxy card. Please mail your signed proxy card in the enclosed return envelope, or vote by phone or on the Internet, as soon as possible so that your shares may be represented at the applicable special meeting. Your proxy will instruct the persons named on the proxy card to vote your shares at the applicable special meeting as you direct on the card.

**Q: Can I change my vote after I have mailed my signed proxy?**

**A:** Yes. You may change your vote at any time before your proxy is voted at the applicable special meeting. You can do this in several ways. First, you can send a written notice stating that you would like to revoke your proxy. Second, you can complete and submit a new proxy card. Third, if you vote by telephone or on the Internet, you may change your vote by telephone or on the Internet by following the instructions given to you when you call or visit the Internet site. Fourth, you can attend the special meeting and vote in person. If you have instructed a broker to vote your shares, you must follow directions received from your broker to change your vote. Further information about these procedures is contained in "The SandRidge Special Meeting" beginning on page 45 and "The Arena Special Meeting" beginning on page 48.



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**Q: May I vote in person if my shares are held in street name ?**

**A:** Yes. Holding in street name means that a stockholder's shares are held in the name of a broker, bank or other record holder. SandRidge stockholders whose shares are held in street name can vote in person at the SandRidge special meeting. Arena stockholders whose shares are held in street name can vote in person at the Arena special meeting. To vote in person, stockholders must obtain a proxy from the broker, bank or other record holder of their shares.

**Q: If my shares are held in street name, will the broker, bank or other record holder of my shares vote the shares for me?**

**A:** The record holder of your shares will not vote your shares for or against approval of the merger agreement, the issuance of SandRidge common stock pursuant to the merger agreement or the amendment to the SandRidge certificate of incorporation unless you instruct them how to vote. You should follow the directions provided by your broker, bank or other record holder regarding how to instruct them to vote your shares. Without instructions, your shares will not be voted.

**Q: Do I have dissenters' rights of appraisal?**

**A:** No. Neither SandRidge stockholders nor Arena stockholders will have dissenters' rights of appraisal as a result of the merger.  
**For SandRidge Stockholders**

**Q: When and where is the special meeting of the SandRidge stockholders?**

**A:** The SandRidge special meeting will take place on June 8, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., local time. The location of the special meeting is the SandRidge Auditorium, 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**Q: On what are SandRidge stockholders voting and why?**

**A:** SandRidge stockholders are voting on proposals to (i) approve the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock to stockholders of Arena in connection with the merger, and (ii) amend the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock to 800,000,000. Approval of the issuance of shares is required under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange because the aggregate number of shares of SandRidge common stock to be issued to Arena stockholders in the merger will exceed 20% of the total number of shares of SandRidge common stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the completion of the merger. Passage of the amendment to the certificate of incorporation is being sought because, after taking into account the shares of SandRidge common stock already issued and reserved for issuance, the 400,000,000 shares of SandRidge common stock currently authorized by the certificate of incorporation is not sufficient for SandRidge to consummate the merger and continue to run its business in the ordinary course after the merger. Approval of the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock and approval of the issuance of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger are conditions to the consummation of the merger.

**Q: How will SandRidge stockholders be affected by the merger and share issuance?**

**A:**

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After the merger, each SandRidge stockholder will have the same number of shares of SandRidge common stock that such stockholder held immediately prior to the merger. However, because SandRidge will be issuing new shares of SandRidge common stock to Arena stockholders in the merger, each outstanding share of SandRidge common stock immediately prior to the merger will represent a smaller percentage of the aggregate number of shares of SandRidge common stock outstanding after the merger. As a result of the merger, each SandRidge stockholder will own the same number of shares, but in a larger company with more assets.



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**Q: What vote of SandRidge stockholders is required to approve the share issuance?**

**A:** The issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting.

**Q: What vote of SandRidge stockholders is required to approve the amendment to the certificate of incorporation?**

**A:** The amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting.

**Q: What will happen if I abstain from voting?**

**A:** Neither an abstention nor a failure to vote will affect the outcome of the vote regarding the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger, since they will not be counted as votes either for or against the proposal. However, an abstention or failure to vote will be equivalent to a vote cast against the proposal to amend the certificate of incorporation.

**Q: Are there risks associated with the merger that I should consider in deciding how to vote?**

**A:** Yes. You should carefully read the detailed description of the risks associated with the merger and the combined company's operations following the merger in "Risk Factors" beginning on page 27.

**Q: Who should I contact if I have questions?**

**A:** If you have any questions about the merger agreement, the merger, the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger or the amendment to the certificate of incorporation, or if you need additional copies of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the enclosed proxy card, you should contact SandRidge Energy, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102.

**For Arena Stockholders**

**Q: When and where is the special meeting of the Arena stockholders?**

**A:** The Arena special meeting will take place on June 8, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. local time. The location of the special meeting is the Doubletree Hotel, Warren Place, 6110 South Yale, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Q: On what are the Arena stockholders voting and why?**

**A:** Arena stockholders are voting on a proposal to approve the merger agreement. The approval of the merger agreement by the Arena stockholders is a condition to the consummation of the merger.

**Q: What will Arena stockholders receive in the merger?**

**A:** At the effective time of the merger, each issued and outstanding share of common stock of Arena will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock, plus \$2.50 in cash, subject to adjustment as described under The Merger Merger Consideration.

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**Q: How will SandRidge pay the cash component of the merger consideration?**

**A:** SandRidge's obligation to complete the merger is not conditioned upon its obtaining financing. SandRidge anticipates that approximately \$98.3 million will be required to pay the aggregate cash portion of the merger consideration to the Arena stockholders. SandRidge intends to fund the cash component of the transaction through draws under its revolving credit facility and/or, to the extent available, internal cash resources. For a more complete discussion of sources of funding for the merger and related costs, see "The Merger - Source of Funding for the Merger" beginning on page 79.

**Q: What will happen to options to purchase Arena common stock and shares of Arena restricted stock in the merger?**

**A:** SandRidge will not assume any outstanding options to purchase shares of Arena common stock in the merger. No later than 30 days prior to the scheduled or anticipated closing date of the merger, Arena will send a notice to all holders of options notifying them that (i) SandRidge will not assume any Arena options following the effective time of the merger or substitute new options therefore, and (ii) all unvested options will become vested and fully exercisable immediately prior to the effective time of the merger and contingent upon the consummation of the merger. Any options that are in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger and that are not exercised prior to the effective time of the merger will be deemed automatically exercised by the holder thereof, and the holder will be entitled to receive a number of shares of SandRidge common stock equal to the value (based on the merger consideration) of the net number of Arena shares resulting from the deemed exercise. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. Any options that are not in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger will be canceled. Holders of options that become fully vested only as of and effective immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be permitted to exercise such fully vested options effective as of and contingent upon the consummation of the merger. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena stock options, see "Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger - Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock."

Each award of restricted stock that is outstanding at the effective time of the merger will be (i) assumed by SandRidge, in accordance with the terms of the applicable Arena stock plan and award agreement by which it is evidenced, except as provided in the immediately succeeding sentence, and (ii) converted into an award of a number of shares of restricted SandRidge common stock equal to the product of (A) the number of shares of Arena common stock underlying such award multiplied by (B) the conversion ratio, which is the exchange ratio of 4.7771 plus a fraction equal to \$2.50 divided by the closing price of the SandRidge common stock on the closing date of the merger. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. For any employee of Arena whose primary work location is at the Tulsa office, the vesting provisions of each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will be modified, such that each such award will vest upon the earliest to occur of the following: (x) the vesting of such award pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement, (y) the end of the transition period (as defined in the Severance Plan described in "Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger") with respect to the applicable employee and (z) the termination date (as defined in the Severance Plan) with respect to the applicable employee. With respect to any other employee of Arena, each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will vest pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena restricted stock, see "Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger - Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock."

**Q: What are the tax consequences of the merger?**

**A:** SandRidge and Arena intend for the merger to qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, referred to as the Code. As a result, Arena stockholders will recognize gain (but not loss) for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount not to exceed the cash received as part of the merger consideration (other than cash in lieu of fractional shares of SandRidge common stock). Arena stockholders will generally recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal

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income tax purposes with respect to cash received in lieu of a fractional share of SandRidge common stock. This treatment may not be available to certain non-U.S. holders of more than 5% of Arena's common stock. For a full description of the material tax consequences of the merger for Arena stockholders, see "The Merger - Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page 80.

**Q: What vote of Arena stockholders will be required to approve the merger agreement?**

**A:** The approval of the merger agreement requires the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of shares of Arena common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting.

**Q: What will happen if I abstain from voting on the merger agreement and the merger?**

**A:** An abstention or failure to vote shares of Arena common stock will have the same effect as a vote against the approval of the merger agreement.

**Q: Should I send in my stock certificates now?**

**A:** No. After the merger is completed, you will receive written instructions for exchanging your stock certificates. Please do not send in your stock certificates with your proxy.

**Q: Are there risks associated with the merger that I should consider in deciding how to vote?**

**A:** Yes. You should carefully read the detailed description of the risks associated with the merger and the combined company's operations following the merger in "Risk Factors" beginning on page 27.

**Q: Who should I contact if I have questions?**

**A:** If you have any questions about the merger agreement or the merger, or if you need additional copies of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the enclosed proxy card, you should contact Arena Resources, Inc., Attn: Secretary, 6555 South Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136, (918) 747-6060.

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**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

SandRidge and Arena have made certain forward-looking statements in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and in the documents referred to in this joint proxy statement/prospectus which are subject to risks and uncertainties. These statements are based on the beliefs and assumptions of the management of the companies and on the information currently available to such management. Forward-looking statements include information concerning possible or assumed future results of SandRidge, Arena and the combined company and may be preceded by, followed by, or otherwise include the words believes, expects, anticipates, intends, plans, estimates or similar expressions. These statements occur among other places:

Questions and Answers About the Merger;

Summary Selected Historical Financial Data of SandRidge; Selected Historical Financial Data of Arena; Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Information; Summary Pro Forma Combined Oil and Natural Gas Reserve and Production Data; Comparative Per Share Information; and Comparative Per Share Market Price and Dividend Information;

Risk Factors;

The Merger Background of the Merger; SandRidge's Considerations Relating to the Merger and the Share Issuance; Recommendation of the SandRidge Board of Directors; Arena's Considerations Relating to the Merger; and Recommendation of the Arena Board of Directors;

The Merger Opinion of SandRidge's Financial Advisor; and Opinion of Arena's Financial Advisor;

Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information; and

Statements contained elsewhere in this document concerning SandRidge's and Arena's plans for the combined company's growth and future operations or financial position.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance. They involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. The future results and stockholder values of SandRidge, Arena and the combined company may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. Many of the factors that will determine these results and values are beyond SandRidge's and Arena's ability to control or predict. Stockholders of Arena and SandRidge are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Except for their ongoing obligations to disclose material information as required by the Federal securities laws, SandRidge and Arena do not have any intention or obligation to update forward-looking statements after they distribute this joint proxy statement/prospectus. For those statements, which include all statements in this document and in documents referred to herein that are not historical facts, SandRidge and Arena claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements set forth in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

You should understand that various factors, in addition to those discussed elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and in the documents referred to in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, could affect the future results of the combined company following the merger and could cause results to differ materially from those expressed in such forward-looking statements, including:

the possibility that the companies will be unable to fully realize the benefits they anticipate from the merger;

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the possibility that the merger may not occur or that SandRidge and Arena may be required to modify some aspect of the merger or their businesses to obtain regulatory approvals;

adverse changes in general economic conditions or in the markets served by SandRidge and Arena, including changes in the prices of oil and gas;

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the success of the combined company's oil and gas exploration, development and production programs;

the amount, nature and timing of capital expenditures, including future development costs, required to develop the West Texas Overthrust, referred to as the WTO, and other undeveloped areas;

the concentration of operations in the WTO and the Permian Basin;

the economic viability of WTO gas production with high CO<sub>2</sub> content;

uncertainties about estimates of reserves or in interpreting seismic data;

the ability of SandRidge and Arena to retain certain employees key to the ongoing success of the combined company;

the financial resources of competitors;

changes in laws and regulations, including environmental laws, or changes in the administration of such laws and regulations;

the quality of future opportunities that may be presented to or pursued by SandRidge, Arena or the combined company;

the ability to generate cash flows or obtain financing to fund growth and the cost of such financing;

the ability to complete and integrate appropriate acquisitions, strategic alliances and joint ventures;

the effect of various litigation that arise from time to time in the ordinary course of business;

the impact of weather and the occurrence of natural disasters such as fires, floods and other catastrophic events;

terrorist activities or other armed conflict; and

the ability to respond to changes in political or economic conditions, or trade or regulatory matters.

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### **SUMMARY**

This summary highlights selected information from this joint proxy statement/prospectus and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. To understand the merger fully and for a more complete description of the legal terms of the merger, you should carefully read this entire joint proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents to which we refer you. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) on page 127. We have included page references parenthetically to direct you to a more complete description of the topics presented in this summary.

### **The Companies**

**(page 43)**

#### **SandRidge Energy, Inc.**

123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

(405) 429-5500

SandRidge Energy, Inc. is an independent oil and natural gas company headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma concentrating on exploration, development and production activities related to the exploitation and development of its significant holdings in West Texas. Its primary areas of focus are the West Texas Overthrust, referred to as the WTO, and the Permian Basin. The WTO is a natural gas-prone geological region in Pecos County and Terrell County, Texas where SandRidge has operated since 1986 and currently has over 500,000 net acres under lease. The WTO includes the Piñon gas field. In the Permian Basin, SandRidge controls approximately 125,000 net acres in West Texas and New Mexico. SandRidge also operate interests in the Mid-Continent, the Cotton Valley Trend in East Texas, the Gulf Coast area and the Gulf of Mexico.

#### **Arena Resources, Inc.**

6555 South Lewis Avenue

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136

(918) 747-6060

Arena Resources, Inc. is engaged in oil and natural gas acquisition, exploration, development and production, with activities currently in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Kansas. Arena has a portfolio of oil and natural gas reserves, with approximately 86% of its proved reserves consisting of oil and approximately 14% consisting of natural gas. Of those reserves approximately 33% of Arena's proved reserves are classified as proved developed producing, approximately 5% of its proved reserves are classified as proved developed behind pipe, and approximately 62% are classified as proved undeveloped.

### **The Merger**

**(pages 51-85)**

#### **How the Merger is Structured**

It is contemplated that SandRidge will acquire Arena through the merger of Merger Sub, a Nevada corporation and a direct wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, with and into Arena, with Arena remaining as the surviving entity after the merger. In certain circumstances, however, Arena may be merged with and into Merger Sub, with Merger Sub remaining as the surviving entity after the merger. In either case, the surviving entity will be a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge.





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### **What Arena Stockholders Will Receive in the Merger**

In the merger, holders of shares of Arena common stock will receive 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock, plus \$2.50 in cash for each share of Arena common stock that they own immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. The ratio of 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock for each share of Arena common stock is referred to as the exchange ratio. Arena stockholders will receive cash for any fractional shares which they would otherwise receive in the merger.

Immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, any outstanding options to purchase shares of Arena common stock that are in the money and that have not been exercised will be automatically exercised and converted into the right to receive a number of shares of SandRidge common stock equal to the value (based on the merger consideration) of the net number of Arena shares resulting from the deemed exercise. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. Any outstanding options to purchase shares of Arena common stock that are not in the money and that have not been exercised will be canceled at the effective time of the merger. SandRidge will not assume any Arena options in connection with the merger. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena stock options, see *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock*.

Each of the then outstanding awards of Arena restricted stock will be assumed by SandRidge at the effective time of the merger and converted into an award of a number of shares of restricted SandRidge common stock equal to the product of (A) the number of shares of Arena common stock underlying such award multiplied by (B) the conversion ratio, which is the exchange ratio of 4.7771 plus a fraction equal to \$2.50 divided by the closing price of the SandRidge common stock on the closing date of the merger. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. The vesting schedules for certain of the awards of restricted stock will be altered, as described under *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock* *Arena Restricted Stock*. All other assumed awards of restricted stock will generally have the same terms and be subject to the same restrictions (including with respect to transfer and vesting) applicable to the award immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena restricted stock, see *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock*.

### **Ownership of SandRidge Following the Merger**

Based on the number of outstanding shares of Arena common stock on the record date relating to the Arena special meeting, we anticipate that Arena stockholders will receive approximately 188.9 million shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger. Based on that number and on the number of outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock on the record date relating to the SandRidge special meeting, following the merger, former Arena stockholders will own approximately 47.3% of the outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock (including approximately 2.5 million shares of SandRidge common stock that will be issued in respect of Arena restricted stock) and therefore will have the ability to exercise approximately 47.3% of the total voting power of the SandRidge common stock. These numbers do not give effect to shares of SandRidge common stock that may be issued upon the exercise of outstanding SandRidge options or upon the conversion of Arena shares that may be issued prior to the closing of the merger upon the exercise of outstanding Arena options. See *What Arena Stockholders Will Receive in the Merger* above.

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**The Special Meetings and Voting**

(pages 45-50)

**The Special Meetings**

The special meeting of SandRidge stockholders will be held at the SandRidge Auditorium, 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 10:00 a.m., local time, on June 8, 2010. At the special meeting, stockholders will be asked to approve the amendment to the SandRidge certificate of incorporation and the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger.

The special meeting of Arena stockholders will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Warren Place, 6110 South Yale, Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 9:00 a.m., local time, on June 8, 2010. At the special meeting, stockholders will be asked to approve the merger agreement.

**Record Date; Voting Power**

SandRidge stockholders are entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting if they owned shares as of the close of business on May 5, 2010, referred to as the SandRidge record date. On May 3, 2010, there were 211,152,778 shares of SandRidge common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Stockholders will have one vote at the special meeting for each share of SandRidge common stock they owned on the SandRidge record date.

Arena stockholders are entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting if they owned shares as of the close of business on May 5, 2010, referred to as the Arena record date. On May 3, 2010, there were 38,693,684 shares of Arena common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Stockholders will have one vote at the special meeting for each share of Arena common stock they owned on the Arena record date.

**Vote Required**

At the SandRidge special meeting, assuming a quorum is present, (i) to approve the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger, the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting is required and (ii) to approve the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock, the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting is required.

As of May 3, 2010, shares representing approximately 13.58% of the total outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock were held by SandRidge's directors, executive officers and their respective affiliates.

At the Arena special meeting, assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of Arena common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting is required to approve the merger agreement.

As of May 3, 2010, shares representing approximately 3.06% of the total outstanding shares of Arena common stock were held by Arena's directors, executive officers and their respective affiliates.

**Quorum; Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes**

A quorum must be present to transact business at each of the meetings. If a SandRidge stockholder or an Arena stockholder submits a properly executed proxy card, even if that person abstains from voting, his or her shares will be counted for purposes of calculating whether a quorum is present at the SandRidge special meeting or the Arena special meeting, as applicable.

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A quorum at the SandRidge special meeting and the Arena special meeting requires the presence, whether in person or by proxy, of a majority of the SandRidge common stock or the Arena common stock, respectively, issued and outstanding as of the applicable record date and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting or the Arena special meeting, respectively.

Shares held in street name by brokers and other record holders but not voted at the special meetings because such brokers have not received voting instructions from the underlying owners are called broker non-votes. An abstention occurs when a stockholder attends a meeting, either in person or by proxy, but abstains from voting. If no instruction as to how to vote is given (including an instruction to abstain) in an executed, duly returned and not revoked proxy, the proxy will be voted FOR each proposal to be voted on by the SandRidge and Arena stockholders, respectively.

At the SandRidge special meeting, abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted in determining whether a quorum is present. Neither abstentions nor broker non-votes will affect the outcome of the vote regarding the issuance of SandRidge common stock pursuant to the merger agreement, since they will not be counted as votes either for or against the proposal. With respect to the proposal to amend the certificate of incorporation, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against such proposal.

At the Arena special meeting, both abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted in determining whether a quorum is present. Abstentions and broker non-votes at the Arena special meeting will have the same effect as a vote against the approval of the merger agreement.

### **Matters to be Considered in Deciding How to Vote**

#### **Board of Directors Recommendations to Stockholders (pages 56 and 58)**

The SandRidge board of directors believes that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the amendment to the certificate of incorporation and the consummation of the merger, are fair to, and in the best interests of, SandRidge and its stockholders and unanimously recommends that the SandRidge stockholders vote FOR approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and FOR the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the authorized number of shares of SandRidge common stock.

The Arena board of directors believes that the merger agreement, the merger, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and the other transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Arena and its stockholders and unanimously recommends that the Arena stockholders vote FOR approval of the merger agreement.

To review the background and reasons for the merger in greater detail, as well as certain risks related to the merger, see Risk Factors, The Merger General and The Merger Background of the Merger.

#### **Opinions of Financial Advisors (pages 58-78)**

**SandRidge's Financial Advisor.** Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., referred to as Deutsche Bank, delivered a written opinion to the SandRidge board of directors as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, to SandRidge of the merger consideration provided for in the merger. The full text of Deutsche Bank's written opinion, dated April 3, 2010, is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Annex B. We encourage you to read this opinion carefully in its entirety for a description of the procedures followed, assumptions made, and

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qualifications and limitations of the review undertaken. **Deutsche Bank's opinion was provided to the SandRidge board of directors in connection with its consideration of the merger, and does not constitute a recommendation to any stockholder of SandRidge as to whether to vote for or against the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger.**

**Arena's Financial Advisor.** In connection with the merger, Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. Securities, Inc., referred to as TudorPickering, delivered a written opinion to the Arena board of directors as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration to be received by the holders (excluding specified holders) of the outstanding shares of Arena. Arena retained TudorPickering solely to provide its opinion. The full text of TudorPickering's written opinion, dated April 3, 2010, is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Annex C. We encourage you to read this opinion carefully in its entirety for a description of the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered and limitations on the review undertaken. **TudorPickering's opinion was provided to the Arena board of directors in connection with the board's consideration of the merger, does not address any other aspect of the proposed merger and does not constitute a recommendation as to how any holder of interests in Arena should vote or act with respect to the merger or any other matter.**

### **Interests of Arena and SandRidge Directors and Officers in the Merger (pages 94-99)**

In considering the recommendation of the Arena board of directors with respect to the merger agreement and the recommendation of the SandRidge board of directors with respect to the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock, Arena and SandRidge stockholders, respectively, should be aware that certain executive officers and directors have interests in the merger that may be different from, or in addition to, the interests of other stockholders of Arena and SandRidge generally.

### **Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger (pages 80-83)**

SandRidge and Arena intend that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. Holders of Arena common stock generally will recognize any gain (but not loss) for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount not to exceed the cash received as part of the merger consideration (other than cash received instead of a fractional share of SandRidge common stock). Arena stockholders will generally recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes with respect to cash received in lieu of a fractional share of SandRidge stock. This treatment may not be available to certain non-U.S. holders of more than 5% of Arena's common stock. Holders of SandRidge common stock will not recognize any gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the merger.

Tax matters are very complicated and the tax consequences of the merger to you will depend on the facts of your particular situation. You should consult your own tax advisors for a full understanding of the tax consequences of the merger to you.

### **Dissenters' Rights of Appraisal (page 80)**

Holders of SandRidge common stock and Arena common stock are not entitled to dissenters' rights of appraisal in connection with the merger.

### **Accounting Treatment of the Merger (page 78)**

The merger will be accounted for using the purchase method of accounting.

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### **Regulatory Matters (page 84)**

U.S. antitrust laws prohibit SandRidge and Arena from completing the merger until after they have furnished certain information and materials to the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission and a required waiting period has ended. SandRidge and Arena each filed the required notification and report forms with the Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission on April 19, 2010. SandRidge requested early termination of the applicable waiting period, which was granted effective April 30, 2010.

### **Market Price Information (page 26)**

SandRidge's and Arena's common stock are each listed on the New York Stock Exchange. On April 1, 2010, the last full trading day on the New York Stock Exchange prior to the public announcement of the proposed merger, SandRidge common stock closed at \$7.85 per share and Arena common stock closed at \$34.26 per share. Based on the exchange ratio of 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock, plus \$2.50 cash for each share of Arena common stock, the pro forma equivalent per share value of the Arena common stock on April 1, 2010 was approximately \$40.00.

On May 4, 2010, SandRidge common stock closed at \$7.36 per share and Arena common stock closed at \$36.41 per share. Based on the foregoing assumptions, the pro forma equivalent per share value of the Arena common stock on April 29, 2010 was approximately \$37.66 per share.

### **Material Differences in the Rights of Stockholders (pages 117-123)**

The rights of Arena stockholders are governed by Nevada law and by Arena's articles of incorporation and bylaws. Upon completion of the merger, Arena stockholders' rights as stockholders of SandRidge will be governed by Delaware law and by SandRidge's certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws. Nevada law and Arena's articles of incorporation and bylaws differ from Delaware law and SandRidge's certificate of incorporation and bylaws in some material respects. For more information on these differences, see "Comparison of Rights of SandRidge Stockholders and Arena Stockholders."

## **The Merger Agreement**

**(pages 100-114)**

The merger agreement is attached as Annex A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated by reference herein. We encourage you to read the merger agreement. It is the principal document governing the merger.

### **Consideration to be Received in the Merger**

The merger consideration to be received by Arena stockholders is described above under "What Arena Stockholders Will Receive in the Merger." For a full description of the merger consideration to be received in the merger by Arena stockholders, see "The Merger Merger Consideration" beginning on page 78.

### **Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock**

SandRidge will not assume any outstanding options to purchase shares of Arena common stock in the merger. No later than 30 days prior to the scheduled or anticipated closing date of the merger, Arena will send a notice to all holders of options notifying them that (i) SandRidge will not assume any Arena options following

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the effective time of the merger or substitute new options therefore, and (ii) all unvested options will become vested and fully exercisable immediately prior to the effective time of the merger and contingent upon the consummation of the merger. Any options that are in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger and that are not exercised prior to the effective time of the merger will be deemed automatically exercised by the holder thereof, and the holder will be entitled to receive a number of shares of SandRidge common stock equal to the value (based on the merger consideration) of the net number of Arena shares resulting from the deemed exercise. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. Any options that are not in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger will be canceled. Holders of options that become fully vested only as of and effective immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be permitted to exercise such fully vested options effective as of and contingent upon the consummation of the merger. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena stock options, see *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock*.

Each award of restricted stock that is outstanding at the effective time of the merger will be (i) assumed by SandRidge, in accordance with the terms of the applicable Arena stock plan and award agreement by which it is evidenced, except as provided in the immediately succeeding sentence, and (ii) converted into an award of a number of shares of restricted SandRidge common stock equal to the product of (A) the number of shares of Arena common stock underlying such award multiplied by (B) the conversion ratio, which is the exchange ratio of 4.7771 plus a fraction equal to \$2.50 divided by the closing price of the SandRidge common stock on the closing date of the merger. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. For any employee of Arena whose primary work location is at the Tulsa office, the vesting provisions of each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will be modified, such that each such award will vest upon the earliest to occur of the following: (x) the vesting of such award pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement, (y) the end of the transition period (as defined in the Severance Plan described in *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger*) with respect to the applicable employee and (z) the termination date (as defined in the Severance Plan) with respect to the applicable employee. With respect to any other employee of Arena, each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will vest pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena restricted stock, see *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock*.

To the extent legally required, as soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time of the merger, SandRidge will cause the shares of restricted stock to be assumed as described above to be registered on Form S-8 (or any successor form promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission), and will use its commercially reasonable efforts to maintain the effectiveness of such registration statement for so long as such assumed restricted stock remains outstanding. As soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time of the merger, SandRidge will also deliver to each holder of an assumed restricted stock a notice setting forth such holder's rights pursuant to such restricted stock.

### **Conditions to the Merger**

SandRidge and Arena will be obligated to complete the merger only if certain conditions are satisfied or, in some cases, waived, including the following:

the receipt of the requisite approval of the SandRidge and Arena stockholders;

the expiration or termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended;

the declaration of effectiveness by the Securities and Exchange Commission of SandRidge's registration statement on Form S-4 registering the SandRidge common stock issuable to Arena stockholders, with no stop orders suspending the effectiveness thereof having been issued;

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the approval for listing on the New York Stock Exchange of the SandRidge common stock to be issued in connection with the merger;

no preliminary injunction or other order, decree or ruling issued by a court of competent jurisdiction or by a governmental regulatory or administrative agency or commission, nor any statute, rule, regulation or executive order promulgated or enacted by any governmental authority, will be in effect that would make the merger illegal or otherwise prevent the consummation thereof;

the accuracy of each company's representations and warranties and compliance by each company with its agreements contained in the merger agreement;

the delivery to SandRidge by Covington & Burling LLP, and to Arena by Johnson & Jones, P.C., of opinions stating that the merger will qualify for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code; and

demonstration by each of SandRidge and Arena that it has good and defensible title to oil and gas leases and other properties covering not less than 90% of its estimated reserves as of December 31, 2009, free and clear of any liens except certain permitted liens.

### **No Solicitation of Takeover Proposals**

The merger agreement contains detailed provisions prohibiting each of SandRidge and Arena from seeking an alternative transaction. These no solicitation provisions prohibit SandRidge and Arena and their respective officers, directors, employees and representatives from taking any action to solicit a takeover proposal. These provisions also prohibit such persons from recommending, participating in discussions regarding, or furnishing information with respect to any takeover proposal, although this is subject to some exceptions, including some exceptions that permit the directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) to comply with their fiduciary duties, after following specified procedures. In specified circumstances, the merger agreement permits the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) to accept an alternative takeover proposal it determines to be superior to the merger, and to terminate the merger agreement in such event.

### **Termination of the Merger Agreement**

The merger agreement can be terminated in the following circumstances:

- (1) SandRidge, Merger Sub and Arena can jointly agree in writing to terminate the merger agreement at any time without completing the merger.
- (2) SandRidge or Arena can terminate the merger agreement if:

SandRidge and Arena do not complete the merger by September 30, 2010, or such other date agreed upon by the parties except that if either SandRidge or Arena has breached the merger agreement and the breach has caused the merger not to occur by September 30, 2010, then the breaching party may not exercise the right to terminate;

any judgment, order, decree, statute, law, ordinance, rule, regulation or other legal restraint or prohibition that would make the merger illegal or otherwise prevent the consummation thereof will be in effect and will have become final and nonappealable;

the holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Arena common stock entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting do not approve the merger agreement; or



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a majority of the votes cast, in person or by proxy, at the SandRidge special meeting are not voted in favor of the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger or a majority of the outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock are not voted in favor of the amendment to the certificate of incorporation.

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(3) SandRidge can terminate the merger agreement if:

prior to the SandRidge special meeting, SandRidge has not breached the no-solicitation provisions of the merger agreement, the SandRidge board of directors authorizes SandRidge to enter into an agreement concerning a superior alternative proposal and Arena does not make, within three business days of receipt of notice from SandRidge of its intention to enter into such agreement, an offer to SandRidge that the SandRidge board of directors determines is at least as favorable to SandRidge's stockholders from a financial point of view as the superior alternative proposal, and, prior to such termination, SandRidge pays the termination fee described below under Termination Fees.

the board of directors of Arena has withdrawn, modified or amended in any respect adverse to SandRidge its adoption of or recommendation in favor of the merger agreement or has failed to make such a favorable recommendation;

the board of directors of Arena or any committee thereof has recommended to Arena stockholders any alternative takeover proposal or shall have resolved to, or publicly announced its intention to, do so;

Arena has breached the no-solicitation provisions of the merger agreement in any respect; or

Arena has breached or failed to perform in any material respect any of its representations, warranties, covenants or other agreements under the merger agreement which breach or failure to perform would result in the conditions related to the accuracy of Arena's representations and warranties or Arena's compliance with its obligations contained in the merger agreement not being satisfied, and which is incapable of being cured or has not been cured by Arena within 20 calendar days after SandRidge sends written notice to Arena of that breach or failure to perform.

(4) Arena can terminate the merger agreement if:

prior to the Arena special meeting, Arena has not breached the no-solicitation provisions of the merger agreement, the Arena board of directors authorizes Arena to enter into an agreement concerning a superior alternative takeover proposal and SandRidge does not make, within three business days of receipt of notice from Arena of its intention to enter into such agreement, an offer to Arena that the Arena board of directors determines is at least as favorable to Arena's stockholders from a financial point of view as the superior proposal, and, prior to such termination, Arena pays the termination fee described below under Termination Fees;

the board of directors of SandRidge has withdrawn, modified or amended in any respect adverse to Arena its recommendation in favor of the share issuance and the amendment to the SandRidge charter or has failed to make such a favorable recommendation;

the board of directors of SandRidge or any committee thereof has recommended to SandRidge stockholders any alternative superior proposal or shall have resolved to, or publicly announced its intention to, do so;

SandRidge has breached the no-solicitation provisions of the merger agreement in any respect; or

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SandRidge has breached or failed to perform in any material respect any of its representations, warranties covenants or other agreements under the merger agreement which breach or failure to perform would result in the conditions related to the accuracy of SandRidge's representations and warranties or SandRidge's or Merger Sub's compliance with their agreements contained in the merger agreement not being satisfied, and which is incapable of being cured or has not been cured by SandRidge within 20 calendar days after Arena sends written notice to SandRidge of that breach or failure to perform.

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### **Termination Fees**

Under the merger agreement, the following termination fees are payable by Arena:

Arena must pay SandRidge a termination fee of \$50 million if:

- (1) SandRidge terminates the merger agreement for the reasons described in any of the second, third or fourth bullet points of paragraph (3) above under Termination of the Merger Agreement,
- (2) Arena terminates the merger agreement for the reason described in the first bullet point of paragraph (4) above under Termination of the Merger Agreement, or
- (3) an alternative takeover proposal in respect of Arena is publicly announced or is proposed or offered or made to Arena or to the Arena stockholders prior to the approval of the merger agreement by the Arena stockholders, the merger agreement is terminated by SandRidge or Arena because of the failure to complete the merger by September 30, 2010, and within 12 months following such termination, Arena consummates or enters into an agreement with the proponent of the alternative takeover proposal.

Arena must pay SandRidge a termination fee of \$20 million if the merger agreement is terminated pursuant to the third bullet point under paragraph (2) above under Termination of the Merger Agreement, and will be required to pay an additional termination fee of \$30 million if within 12 months following such termination Arena consummates or enters into an agreement with the proponent of an alternative takeover proposal.

Under the merger agreement, the following termination fees are payable by SandRidge:

SandRidge must pay Arena a termination fee of \$50 million if:

- (1) Arena terminates the merger agreement for the reasons described in any of the second, third or fourth bullet points of paragraph (4) above under Termination of the Merger Agreement,
- (2) SandRidge terminates the merger agreement for the reason described in the first bullet point in paragraph (3) above under Termination of the Merger Agreement, or
- (3) an alternative takeover proposal in respect of SandRidge is publicly announced or is proposed or offered or made to SandRidge or to the SandRidge stockholders prior to the approval of SandRidge's share issuance and amendment to its certificate of incorporation in connection with the merger by the SandRidge stockholders, the merger agreement is terminated by SandRidge or Arena because of the failure to complete the merger by September 30, 2010, and within 12 months following such termination, SandRidge consummates or enters into an agreement with the proponent of the alternative takeover proposal.

SandRidge must pay Arena a termination fee of \$20 million if the merger agreement is terminated pursuant to the fourth bullet point under paragraph (2) above under Termination of the Merger Agreement, and will be required to pay an additional termination fee of \$30 million if within 12 months following such termination SandRidge consummates or enters into an agreement with the proponent of an alternative takeover proposal.

### **Expenses**

Each of SandRidge and Arena will bear all expenses it incurs in connection with the merger. If the merger agreement is terminated and any termination fee described above is payable as a result thereof, the party obligated to pay such fee will reimburse the other party for all documented and reasonable out of pocket fees and expenses incurred by such other party in connection with the merger, up to a maximum of \$7.5 million.



**Table of Contents****Selected Historical Financial Data of SandRidge**

Set forth below is selected consolidated financial data of SandRidge as of and for each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2009. The information is derived from audited financial statements of SandRidge for the years 2005 through 2009. This information should be read together with SandRidge's consolidated financial statements, the accompanying notes and management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations contained in SandRidge's reports on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission and incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find Other Information" on page 127.

	2009	Years Ended December 31,			2005
		2008	2007	2006	
		(In thousands, except per share data)			
<b>Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Revenues	\$ 591,044	\$ 1,181,814	\$ 677,452	\$ 388,242	\$ 287,693
Expenses:					
Production	169,285	159,004	106,192	35,149	16,195
Production taxes	4,010	30,594	19,557	4,654	3,158
Drilling and services	30,899	26,186	44,211	98,436	52,122
Midstream and marketing	78,684	186,655	94,253	115,076	141,372
Depreciation and depletion - natural gas and oil	176,027	290,917	173,568	26,321	9,313
Depreciation, depletion and amortization - other	50,865	70,448	53,541	29,305	14,893
Impairment	1,707,150	1,867,497			
General and administrative	100,256	109,372	61,780	55,634	11,908
(Gain) loss on derivative contacts	(147,527)	(211,439)	(60,732)	(12,291)	4,132
Loss (gain) on sales of assets	26,419	(9,273)	(1,777)	(1,023)	547
Total operating expenses	2,196,068	2,519,961	490,593	351,261	253,640
(Loss) income from operations	(1,605,024)	(1,338,147)	186,859	36,981	34,053
Other income (expense):					
Interest income	375	3,569	4,694	991	206
Interest expense	(185,691)	(147,027)	(117,185)	(16,904)	(5,277)
Income (loss) from equity investments	1,020	1,398	4,372	967	(384)
Other income, net	7,272	1,454	729	118	
Total other (expense) income	(177,024)	(140,606)	(107,390)	(14,828)	(5,455)
(Loss) income before income taxes	(1,782,048)	(1,478,753)	79,469	22,153	28,598
Income tax (benefit) expense	(8,716)	(38,328)	29,524	6,236	9,968
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(1,773,332)	(1,440,425)	49,945	15,917	18,630
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax					229
Net (loss) income	(1,773,332)	(1,440,425)	49,945	15,917	18,859
Less: net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest	2,258	855	(276)	296	737
Net (loss) income attributable to SandRidge Energy, Inc.	(1,775,590)	(1,441,280)	50,221	15,621	18,122
Preferred stock dividends and accretion	8,813	16,232	39,888	3,967	
(Loss applicable) income available to SandRidge Energy, Inc., common stockholders	\$ (1,784,403)	\$ (1,457,512)	\$ 10,333	\$ 11,654	\$ 18,122



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	Years Ended December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(In thousands, except per share amounts)					
<b>Earnings Per Share Information:</b>					
<b>Basic and Diluted</b>					
Net (loss) income attributable to SandRidge Energy, Inc.	\$ (10.15)	\$ (9.26)	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.31
Income from discontinued operations, net of income tax					0.01
Preferred stock dividends	(0.05)	(0.10)	(0.37)	(0.05)	
(Loss) income per share (applicable) available to SandRidge Energy, Inc. common stockholders	\$ (10.20)	\$ (9.36)	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.32
<b>Weighted average number of SandRidge Energy, Inc., common shares outstanding(1):</b>					
Basic	175,005	155,619	108,828	73,727	56,559
Diluted	175,005	155,619	110,041	74,664	56,737
	As of December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(In thousands)					
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,861	\$ 636	\$ 63,165	\$ 38,948	\$ 45,731
Property, plant and equipment, net	2,433,643	3,175,559	3,337,410	2,134,718	337,881
Total assets	2,780,317	3,655,058	3,630,566	2,388,384	458,683
Long-term debt	2,578,938	2,375,316	1,067,649	1,066,831	43,133
Redeemable convertible preferred stock(2)			450,715	439,643	
Total (deficit) equity	(195,905)	793,551	1,771,563	694,910	297,179
Total liabilities and equity	2,780,317	3,655,058	3,630,566	2,388,384	458,683

(1) The number of shares has been adjusted to reflect a 281.562-to-1 stock split in December 2005.

(2) On May 7, 2008, SandRidge Energy, Inc. converted all of its then outstanding redeemable convertible preferred stock into shares of SandRidge common stock.



**Table of Contents****Selected Historical Financial Data of Arena**

Set forth below is selected consolidated financial data of Arena as of and for each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2009. The information is derived from audited financial statements of Arena for the years 2005 through 2009. This information should be read together with Arena's consolidated financial statements, the accompanying notes and management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations contained in Arena's reports on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission and incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find Other Information" on page 127.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
<b>Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Revenues	\$ 126,240,777	\$ 208,858,645	\$ 100,089,698	\$ 59,760,117	\$ 25,843,077
Cost of revenues	21,999,046	28,351,514	17,156,338	9,960,178	5,772,225
Realized loss (gain) on oil derivative	(14,884,846)	4,275,330	932,361		
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	38,957,641	29,789,794	17,968,062	7,900,099	2,781,504
Accretion	410,926	309,402	190,904	127,132	102,585
General and administrative	13,453,384	13,557,202	7,815,721	3,617,309	1,365,590
Net income	42,294,179	83,617,201	34,441,939	23,267,968	9,460,683
Basic income per common share	\$ 1.10	\$ 2.28	\$ 1.07	\$ 0.83	\$ 0.42
Diluted income per common share	1.09	2.20	1.02	0.77	0.38
	As of December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Current assets	\$ 80,171,888	\$ 89,530,137	\$ 30,823,214	\$ 14,674,345	\$ 7,673,860
Oil and gas properties subject to amortization	661,453,134	548,714,235	339,887,859	171,708,200	69,770,685
Total assets	657,070,934	591,684,775	350,980,663	176,312,978	74,421,907
Total current liabilities	18,571,593	19,789,547	19,216,475	14,995,870	6,590,196
Total long-term liabilities	115,832,611	89,599,767	73,953,223	41,273,056	9,102,956
Total Stockholder Equity	522,666,730	482,295,461	257,810,965	120,044,052	58,728,755

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**Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Information**

SandRidge and Arena are providing the following selected unaudited pro forma financial information to present a summary of the results of operations and financial position of the combined company after giving effect to (i) the merger, absent any operational or other changes, had SandRidge's and Arena's businesses been combined for the periods and at the dates indicated, and (ii) SandRidge's December 2009 acquisition of Permian Basin properties from Forest Oil Corporation.

The pro forma adjustments are based upon available information and assumptions that each company's management believes are reasonable. The selected unaudited pro forma financial information is presented for illustrative purposes only and is based on the estimates and assumptions set forth below and in the notes accompanying the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information. The companies may have performed differently had they always been combined. Stockholders should not rely on this information as necessarily being indicative of the historical results that would have been achieved had the companies always been combined or the future results that the combined company will experience after the merger. The selected unaudited pro forma financial information (i) has been derived from and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information and accompanying notes included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus as described under "Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information" beginning on page 86 and (ii) should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of SandRidge and Arena incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 127.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information was prepared based on the following assumptions:

SandRidge issued an aggregate of approximately 189.9 million shares of SandRidge common stock and paid \$98.3 million in cash for all the outstanding shares of common stock of Arena (including shares of restricted stock expected to vest prior to the merger). The shares of SandRidge common stock to be issued in the merger also includes shares issued in respect of outstanding options to purchase Arena common stock that are in-the-money, which, for purposes of the pro forma financial information, are all currently outstanding options with an exercise price less than \$34.26 per share (the closing price of Arena common stock on April 1, 2010). The actual number of shares issued in exchange for outstanding Arena options will depend on the number of unexercised options outstanding at closing and will be determined based upon Arena's closing price on the closing date of the merger.

SandRidge drew \$98.3 million under its senior credit facility to fund the cash component of the merger consideration.

SandRidge's professional services costs and other costs directly related to the transaction were \$15.0 million.

The unaudited pro forma balance sheet has been prepared as if the merger occurred on December 31, 2009. The unaudited pro forma statements of operations have been prepared as if the merger and SandRidge's acquisition of the Permian Basin assets occurred on January 1, 2009.

The merger was accounted for as a purchase of Arena by SandRidge.

Cost savings (or associated costs to achieve those savings) from operating efficiencies, synergies or other restructuring that could result from the merger have not been reflected as an adjustment to the historical data.

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	<b>As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2009 (In thousands, except per share amounts)</b>
<b>Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statement of Operations Data:</b>	
Revenues	\$ 808,834
Total operating expenses	2,370,619
Loss (income) from operations	(1,561,785)
Total other (expense) income	(217,920)
(Loss) income before income taxes	(1,779,705)
Income tax (benefit) expense	(8,716)
Net (loss) income	(1,770,989)
(Loss applicable) income available to common stockholders	(1,793,693)
Pro forma net (loss) income per common share:	
Basic	\$ (4.61)
Diluted	\$ (4.61)
<b>Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet Data:</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 56,496
Property, plant and equipment, net	3,896,709
Total assets	4,807,794
Long-term debt (excluding current maturities)	2,665,245
Total equity	1,706,124
Total liabilities and equity	4,807,794

**Table of Contents****Summary Pro Forma Combined Oil and Natural Gas Reserve and Production Data**

The following table sets forth summary pro forma information with respect to SandRidge's and Arena's combined estimated oil and natural gas reserves as of December 31, 2009. This pro forma information gives effect to the merger as if it occurred on December 31, 2009. The SandRidge and Arena oil and natural gas reserve data presented below was derived from each company's 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K, which are incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Future exploration, exploitation and development expenditures, as well as future commodity prices and service costs, will affect the reserve volumes attributable to the acquired properties. The reserve estimates shown below were determined using a 12-month average price for oil and natural gas for the year ended December 31, 2009. Because of the relatively high volumes of CO<sub>2</sub> produced with natural gas in certain areas of the WTO, the natural gas reserve volumes reported for SandRidge are reported net of CO<sub>2</sub> volumes removed at the gas plants. The gas plant fees for removing CO<sub>2</sub> for high CO<sub>2</sub> natural gas have been included in SandRidge's lease operating expenses as treating and gathering fees. All natural gas delivered to sales points with CO<sub>2</sub> levels within pipeline specifications is included in reported reserves.

	Estimated Quantities of Oil and Natural Gas Reserves as of December 31, 2009		
	SandRidge Historical	Arena Historical	SandRidge Pro Forma Combined
<b>Estimated Proved Reserves:</b>			
Oil (MBbls)(1)	105,349	59,715	165,064
Natural Gas (MMcf)	680,075	57,215	737,290
Total (MMcfe)(2)	1,312,169	415,505	1,727,674
<b>Estimated Proved Developed Reserves:</b>			
Oil (MBbls)(1)	38,327	21,145	59,472
Natural Gas (MMcf)	592,777	28,302	621,079
Total (MMcfe)(2)	822,739	155,172	977,911
<b>Estimated Proved Undeveloped Reserves:</b>			
Oil (MBbls)(1)	67,022	38,570	105,592
Natural Gas (MMcf)	87,298	28,913	116,211
Total (MMcfe)(2)	489,430	260,333	749,763

(1) Includes natural gas liquids.

(2) Assumes a ratio of 6 mcf of natural gas per barrel of oil.

The following table sets forth summary pro forma information with respect to SandRidge's and Arena's combined oil and natural gas production for the year ended December 31, 2009. This pro forma information gives effect to the merger as if it occurred on January 1, 2009. The SandRidge and Arena oil and natural gas production data presented below was derived from each company's 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K, which are incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. SandRidge's pro forma production data also gives effect to its acquisition of assets from Forest Oil Corporation, which was consummated on December 21, 2009, as if such transaction occurred on January 1, 2009.

	Production for the Year Ended December 31, 2009			
	SandRidge Historical	SandRidge Pro Forma for Forest Acquisition	Arena Historical	SandRidge Pro Forma Combined
Oil (MBbls)(1)	2,894	4,448	2,004	6,452
Natural Gas (MMcf)	87,461	93,526	2,173	95,699
Total (MMcfe)(2)	104,825	120,214	14,197	134,411

(1) Includes natural gas liquids.

(2) Assumes a ratio of 6 mcf of natural gas per barrel of oil.



**Table of Contents****Comparative Per Share Information**

The following tables set forth historical per share information for SandRidge common stock and Arena common stock and unaudited pro forma condensed combined per share information after giving effect to the merger under the purchase method of accounting.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined per share information does not purport to represent what the results of operations or financial position of SandRidge, Arena or the combined company would actually have been had the merger occurred at the beginning of the period shown or to project SandRidge's, Arena's or the combined company's results of operations or financial position for any future period or date. Such pro forma information is derived from, and should be read in conjunction with, the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information and accompanying notes included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus as described under "Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information" beginning on page 86.

The historical per share information is derived from, and should be read in conjunction with, the financial statements for each of SandRidge and Arena, which are contained in the reports and other information that have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 127.

	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2009</b>
<b>SandRidge Historical Per Common Share Data:</b>	
Income from continuing operations:	
Basic(a)	\$ (10.20)
Diluted(b)	\$ (10.20)
Cash dividends	
Book value(c)	\$ (0.79)
<b>Arena Historical Per Common Share Data:</b>	
Income from continuing operations:	
Basic(a)	\$ 1.10
Diluted(b)	\$ 1.09
Cash dividends	
Book value(c)	\$ 12.91
<b>Pro Forma Combined Company Per Common Share Data:</b>	
Income from continuing operations:	
Basic(d)	\$ (4.61)
Diluted(d)	\$ (4.61)
Cash dividends	
Book value(e)	\$ 3.76
<b>Pro Forma Arena Equivalent Per Common Share Data:</b>	
Income from continuing operations:	
Basic(f)	\$ (22.02)
Diluted(f)	\$ (22.02)
Cash dividends(f)	
Book value(f)	\$ 17.96

- (a) Based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding for SandRidge and Arena, respectively, for such period.
- (b) Based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus the potential dilution that would occur if interests in securities (such as the outstanding options and convertible perpetual preferred stock) were exercised and converted into common stock of SandRidge or Arena for such period.



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- (c) Computed by dividing stockholders' equity (excluding noncontrolling interests) by the number of shares of common stock at the end of such period plus the dilutive effect of interests in securities (such as the outstanding options and convertible perpetual preferred stock).
- (d) Based on the pro forma net income from the Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Consolidated Financial Information beginning on page 86 which gives effect to the merger under the purchase method of accounting.
- (e) Computed by dividing stockholders' equity by the number of outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock at the end of such period, adjusted to include the estimated number of shares of SandRidge common stock to be issued in the merger plus the dilutive effect of interests in securities (such as the outstanding options and convertible perpetual preferred stock) at the end of such period.
- (f) Based on the assumed conversion of each share of Arena common stock into 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger.



**Table of Contents****Comparative Per Share Market Price and Dividend Information**

SandRidge common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SD. Arena common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ARD. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sale prices per share of SandRidge and Arena common stock on the New York Stock Exchange. For current price information, you should consult publicly available sources. Arena has neither declared nor paid any cash dividends on its common stock in the past three years. SandRidge has neither declared nor paid any cash dividends on its common stock, and does not anticipate declaring any dividends on its common stock in the foreseeable future.

**SandRidge Common Stock**

	High	Low
<b>2010</b>		
Second Quarter (through May 4, 2010)	\$ 8.03	\$ 6.92
First Quarter	\$ 11.08	\$ 7.13
<b>2009</b>		
Fourth Quarter	\$ 14.08	\$ 7.97
Third Quarter	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.44
Second Quarter	\$ 11.84	\$ 6.31
First Quarter	\$ 8.79	\$ 4.49
<b>2008</b>		
Fourth Quarter	\$ 19.54	\$ 4.85
Third Quarter	\$ 69.41	\$ 17.46
Second Quarter	\$ 69.00	\$ 37.88
First Quarter	\$ 41.05	\$ 28.50

**Arena Common Stock**

	High	Low
<b>2010</b>		
Second Quarter (through May 4, 2010)	\$ 38.24	\$ 33.68
First Quarter	\$ 45.15	\$ 30.81
<b>2009</b>		
Fourth Quarter	\$ 45.72	\$ 32.25
Third Quarter	\$ 36.65	\$ 26.52
Second Quarter	\$ 38.75	\$ 24.80
First Quarter	\$ 32.79	\$ 18.59
<b>2008</b>		
Fourth Quarter	\$ 39.03	\$ 17.63
Third Quarter	\$ 56.59	\$ 32.47
Second Quarter	\$ 57.60	\$ 38.00
First Quarter	\$ 44.17	\$ 29.25

The following table sets forth the closing prices per share of SandRidge and Arena common stock, as well as the equivalent per share of Arena common stock price, on April 1, 2010, the last full trading day prior to the public announcement of the merger, and May 4, 2010, the last full trading day that this information could practicably be calculated prior to the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

SandRidge Common Stock	Arena Common Stock	Equivalent per share of Arena
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			<b>Common Stock</b>
April 1, 2010	\$ 7.85	\$ 34.26	\$ 40.00
May 4, 2010	\$ 7.36	\$ 36.41	\$ 37.66

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**RISK FACTORS**

*In addition to the matters addressed in Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements on page 6, the information included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents attached to or incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, you should consider the following risk factors carefully in determining whether to vote in favor of the proposals described herein.*

**Risks Relating to the Merger**

*Because the exchange ratio is fixed, the value of SandRidge common stock issued to the Arena stockholders will depend on the market price of SandRidge common stock when the merger is completed.*

Arena stockholders will receive a fixed number of shares of common stock of SandRidge, rather than a number of shares with a particular fixed market value. The market values of SandRidge and Arena common stock at the time of the merger may vary significantly from their prices on the date the merger agreement was executed, the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the date on which Arena stockholders vote on the merger. Because the exchange ratio will not be adjusted to reflect any changes in the market value of SandRidge or Arena common stock, the market value of the SandRidge common stock issued in the merger and the Arena common stock surrendered in the merger may be higher or lower than the values of such shares on such earlier dates. Stock price changes may result from a variety of factors that are beyond the control of SandRidge and Arena, including changes in their businesses, operations and prospects, regulatory considerations, market assessments of the likelihood that the merger will be completed, the timing of the completion of the merger, and general and oil and gas specific market and economic conditions. Arena is not permitted to walk away from the merger or resolicit the vote of its stockholders solely because of changes in the market price of either party's common stock.

*Merger-related charges will be incurred.*

SandRidge and Arena estimate that, as a result of the merger, the combined company will incur cash severance expenses of approximately \$0.2 million and make certain retention incentive payments in cash in an aggregate amount of approximately \$2.4 million. In addition, SandRidge and Arena expect to incur other merger-related cash expenses of approximately \$15.0 million, consisting of investment banking, legal and accounting fees and financial printing and other related charges. The foregoing amounts are preliminary estimates and the actual amounts may be higher or lower. Moreover, the combined company is likely to incur additional expenses in future periods in connection with the integration of SandRidge's and Arena's businesses.

*Directors and executive officers of Arena and SandRidge may have interests in the merger that are different from those of Arena and SandRidge stockholders.*

Certain directors and executive officers of Arena and SandRidge who recommend that you vote in favor of the approval of the merger transaction have compensation or benefit arrangements that provide them with interests in the merger that may be different than yours. The receipt of compensation or other benefits in connection with the merger (including severance and other payments, acceleration of the vesting of stock options, termination of employment or service as a director, the lapsing of restrictions on restricted stock as a result of the merger, and acceleration of vesting of deferred compensation benefits), or the continuation of indemnification arrangements for current directors and executive officers of Arena following completion of the merger, may influence these directors and executive officers in making their recommendation that you vote in favor of the merger. See *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger*. You should consider these interests in connection with your vote on the merger, including whether these interests may have influenced these directors and executive officers to recommend or support the merger.

*Failure to retain key employees could adversely affect the combined company after the merger.*

The performance of Arena as a subsidiary of SandRidge after the merger could be adversely affected if the combined company cannot retain selected key employees. As part of its retention and severance plan, Arena has implemented an employee retention program designed to help the combined company retain selected key

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employees for a transition period after the merger, but no assurance can be given as to whether this program will cause key employees to remain with the combined company after the transition period.

***Obtaining required approvals necessary to satisfy closing conditions may delay or prevent completion of the merger. The government could bring an antitrust action before or after completion of the merger.***

Completion of the merger is conditioned upon the receipt of certain governmental authorizations, consents, orders or other approvals, including the expiration or termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, referred to as the HSR Act. SandRidge and Arena are pursuing all required approvals in accordance with the merger agreement. These approvals may impose conditions on or require divestitures relating to the operations or assets of SandRidge or Arena. Such conditions or divestitures may jeopardize or delay completion of the merger or may reduce the anticipated benefits of the merger. Further, no assurance can be given that the required approvals will be obtained and, even if all such approvals are obtained, no assurance can be given as to the terms, conditions and timing of the approvals or that they will satisfy the terms of the merger agreement. See The Merger Agreement Conditions to the Completion of the Merger beginning on page 100 for a discussion of the conditions to the completion of the merger and The Merger Regulatory Filings and Approvals Required to Complete the Merger on page 84 for a description of the regulatory approvals necessary in connection with the merger.

Further, the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission could challenge the merger on antitrust grounds either before or after expiration of the waiting period prescribed by the HSR Act. Accordingly, at any time before or after the completion of the merger, either the Department of Justice or the Federal Trade Commission could bring an action under the antitrust laws, including an injunction action, if deemed necessary to protect competition in any relevant market. There can be no assurance that an antitrust challenge to the merger will not be made or that, if a challenge is made, the parties would prevail.

### **Risks Relating to the Combined Company's Operations After the Consummation of the Merger**

***The integration of SandRidge and Arena following the merger will present significant challenges.***

Upon consummation of the merger, the integration of the operations of Arena and of SandRidge and the consolidation of such operations in SandRidge will require the dedication of management resources, which will temporarily detract attention from the day-to-day businesses of the combined company. The difficulties of assimilation may be increased by the necessity of coordinating geographically separated organizations, integrating operations and systems and personnel with disparate business backgrounds and combining different corporate cultures. The process of combining the organizations may cause an interruption of, or a loss of momentum in, the activities of any or all of the companies' businesses, which could have an adverse effect on the revenues and operating results of the combined company, at least in the near term. The failure to successfully integrate SandRidge and Arena or to successfully manage the challenges presented by the integration process may result in SandRidge and Arena not achieving the anticipated potential benefits of the merger.

***Oil and natural gas prices are volatile, and a decline in oil and natural gas prices could significantly affect the combined company's financial results and impede its growth.***

The combined company's revenues, profitability and cash flow depend upon the prices and demand for oil and natural gas. The markets for these commodities are very volatile. Even relatively modest drops in prices can significantly affect the combined company's financial results and impede its growth. Changes in oil and natural gas prices have a significant impact on the value of the combined company's reserves and on its cash flow. Prices for oil and natural gas may fluctuate widely in response to relatively minor changes in the supply of and demand for oil and natural gas and a variety of additional factors that are beyond the combined company's control, such as:

the domestic and foreign supply of oil and natural gas;

the price of foreign imports;

worldwide economic conditions;



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political and economic conditions in oil producing regions, including the Middle East and South America;

the ability of members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to agree to and maintain oil price and production controls;

the level of consumer product demand;

weather conditions, including hurricanes and tropical storms in and around the Gulf of Mexico;

technological advances affecting energy consumption;

availability of pipeline infrastructure, treating, transportation and refining capacity;

domestic and foreign governmental regulations and taxes; and

the price and availability of alternative fuels.

Lower oil and natural gas prices, such as those experienced in recent periods, may not only decrease the combined company's revenues on a per share basis, but also may reduce the amount of oil and natural gas that it can produce economically and, therefore, could have a material adverse effect on the combined company's financial condition and results of operations. This also may result in the combined company's having to make substantial downward adjustments to its estimated proved reserves.

***Volatility in the capital markets could affect the value of certain assets as well as the combined company's ability to obtain capital.***

Global financial markets and economic conditions have been, and continue to be, disrupted and volatile due to a variety of factors, including significant write-offs in the financial services sector and current weak economic conditions. In some cases, the markets have produced downward pressure on stock prices and credit capacity for certain issuers without regard to those issuers' underlying financial and/or operating strength. As a result, for many companies, the cost of raising money in the debt and equity capital markets has increased substantially while the availability of funds from those markets has diminished significantly. In particular, as a result of concerns about the stability of financial markets generally and the solvency of lending counterparties specifically, the cost of obtaining money from the credit markets generally has increased as many lenders and institutional investors have increased interest rates, enacted tighter lending standards, refused to refinance existing debt on similar terms or at all and reduced, or in some cases ceased, to provide funding to borrowers. In addition, lending counterparties under existing revolving credit facilities and other debt instruments may be unwilling or unable to meet their funding obligations. These factors may adversely affect the value of certain of the combined company's assets and the combined company's ability to draw on SandRidge's senior credit facility. If the current credit conditions of U.S. and international capital markets persist or deteriorate, the combined company may be required to impair the carrying value of assets associated with derivative contracts to account for non-performance by counterparties to those contracts. Moreover, government responses to the disruptions in the financial markets may not restore consumer confidence, stabilize the markets or increase liquidity and the availability of credit.

If financial institutions that have extended credit commitments to SandRidge or Arena are adversely affected by the current conditions of the U.S. and international capital markets, they may become unable to fund borrowings under their credit commitments to the combined company, which could have a material adverse effect on the combined company's financial condition and its ability to borrow additional funds, if needed, for working capital, capital expenditures and other corporate purposes.

***Future price declines may result in further reductions of the asset carrying values of the combined company's oil and natural gas properties.***

## Edgar Filing: SANDRIDGE ENERGY INC - Form 424B3

SandRidge and Arena have utilized, and the combined company will utilize, the full cost method of accounting for costs related to their oil and natural gas properties. Under this accounting method, all costs for

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both productive and nonproductive properties are capitalized and amortized on an aggregate basis over the estimated lives of the properties using the unit-of-production method. However, the amount of these costs that can be carried as capitalized assets is subject to a ceiling, which limits such pooled costs to the aggregate of the present value of future net revenues of proved oil and natural gas reserves attributable to proved properties, discounted at 10%, plus the lower of cost or market value of unproved properties. The full cost ceiling is evaluated at the end of each quarter using the most recent 12-month average prices for oil and natural gas, adjusted for the impact of derivatives accounted for as cash flow hedges. In the event any of the combined company's derivatives are accounted for as cash flow hedges, the impact of these derivative contracts will be included in the determination of its full cost ceiling.

SandRidge's ceiling limitation as of December 31, 2009 resulted in a non-cash impairment charge of \$388.9 million. Further declines in oil and natural gas prices, without other mitigating circumstances, could result in additional losses of future net revenues to the combined company, including losses attributable to quantities that cannot be economically produced at lower prices, which could cause us to make additional write-downs of capitalized costs of the combined company's oil and natural gas properties and non-cash charges against future earnings. The amount of such future write-downs and non-cash charges could be substantial.

***The combined company has a substantial amount of indebtedness, which may adversely affect its cash flow and ability to operate its business.***

As adjusted for the merger, at December 31, 2009, the combined company's total indebtedness was \$2.7 billion, and the combined company had preferred stock outstanding with an aggregate liquidation preference of \$465.0 million. The combined company's substantial level of indebtedness and preferred stock outstanding increases the possibility that it may be unable to generate cash sufficient to pay, when due, the principal of, interest on or other amounts due in respect of its indebtedness. The combined company's substantial indebtedness, combined with certain leases and other financial obligations and contractual commitments, could have other important consequences to the combined company. For example, it could:

- make the combined company more vulnerable to adverse changes in general economic, industry and competitive conditions and adverse changes in government regulation;

- require the combined company to dedicate a substantial portion of its cash flow from operations to payments on its indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of its cash flows to fund working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes;

- limit the combined company's flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in its business and the industry in which it operates;

- place the combined company at a disadvantage compared to its competitors that are less leveraged and, therefore, may be able to take advantage of opportunities that its indebtedness prevents it from pursuing; and

- limit the combined company's ability to borrow additional amounts for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, debt service requirements, execution of its business strategy or other purposes.

Any of the above listed factors could have a material adverse effect on the combined company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

***The combined company's estimated reserves are based on many assumptions that may turn out to be inaccurate. Any significant inaccuracies in these reserve estimates or underlying assumptions could materially affect the quantities and present value of its reserves. The combined company's current estimates of reserves could change, potentially in material amounts, in the future.***

The process of estimating oil and natural gas reserves is complex and inherently imprecise. It requires interpretations of available technical data and many assumptions, including assumptions relating to production





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rates and economic factors such as oil and natural gas prices, drilling and operating expenses, capital expenditures and availability of funds. Any significant inaccuracies in these interpretations or assumptions could materially affect the estimated quantities and present value of reserves shown in SandRidge's or Arena's respective Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2009.

Actual future production, oil and natural gas prices, revenues, taxes, development expenditures, operating expenses and quantities of recoverable oil and natural gas reserves most likely will vary from the combined company's estimates. Any significant variance could materially affect the estimated quantities and present value of reserves reported by the combined company, which in turn could have a negative effect on the value of the combined company's assets. In addition, from time to time in the future, the combined company may adjust estimates of proved reserves, potentially in material amounts, to reflect production history, results of exploration and development, oil and natural gas prices and other factors, many of which are beyond the combined company's control.

***The present value of future net cash flows from the combined company's proved reserves will not necessarily be the same as the current market value of its estimated oil and natural gas reserves.***

The combined company will base the estimated discounted future net cash flows from its proved reserves on 12-month average prices and costs. Actual future net cash flows from the combined company's oil and natural gas properties also will be affected by factors such as:

actual prices the combined company receives for oil and natural gas;

the accuracy of its reserve estimates;

actual cost of development and production expenditures;

the amount and timing of actual production;

supply of and demand for oil and natural gas; and

changes in governmental regulations or taxation.

The timing of both the combined company's production and incurrence of expenses in connection with the development and production of oil and natural gas properties will affect the timing of actual future net cash flows from proved reserves, and thus their actual present value. In addition, the combined company will use a 10% discount factor when calculating discounted future net cash flows, which may not be the most appropriate discount factor based on interest rates in effect from time to time and risks associated with the combined company or the oil and gas industry in general.

***Unless the combined company replaces its oil and natural gas reserves, its reserves and production will decline, which would adversely affect the combined company's business, financial condition and results of operations.***

The combined company's future oil and natural gas reserves and production, and therefore its cash flow and income, are highly dependent on its success in efficiently developing and exploiting current reserves and economically finding or acquiring additional recoverable reserves. The combined company may not be able to develop, find or acquire additional reserves to replace current and future production at acceptable costs.

***The combined company's potential drilling location inventories are scheduled over several years, making them susceptible to uncertainties that could materially alter the occurrence or timing of their drilling.***

As of December 31, 2009, 610 of SandRidge's approximately 12,100 identified potential future well locations and 992 of Arena's approximately 4,302 identified potential future well locations, respectively, were attributed to proved undeveloped reserves. These potential drilling locations, including those without proved



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undeveloped reserves, represent a significant part of the combined company's growth strategy. The combined company's ability to drill and develop these locations is subject to a number of uncertainties, including the availability of capital, seasonal conditions, regulatory approvals, oil and natural gas prices, costs and drilling results. Because of these uncertainties, we do not know if the numerous potential drilling locations the combined company has will ever be drilled or if the combined company will be able to produce natural gas or oil from these or any other potential drilling locations. As such, the combined company's actual drilling activities may materially differ from its current expectations, which could adversely affect its business.

***The combined company will not know conclusively prior to drilling whether natural gas or oil will be present in sufficient quantities to be economically viable.***

A prospect is a property on which the combined company has identified what its geoscientists believe, based on available seismic and geological information, to be indications of natural gas or oil. The combined company's prospects and drilling locations are in various stages of evaluation, ranging from a prospect that is ready to drill to a prospect that will require substantial additional seismic data processing and interpretation. The use of seismic data and other technologies and the study of producing fields in the same area will not enable the combined company to know conclusively prior to drilling whether natural gas or oil will be present or, if present, whether natural gas or oil will be present in sufficient quantities to be economically viable. Even if sufficient amounts of natural gas or oil exist, the combined company may damage the potentially productive hydrocarbon bearing formation or experience mechanical difficulties while drilling or completing the well, resulting in a reduction in production from the well or abandonment of the well.

During 2009, SandRidge participated in drilling a total of 160 gross wells, of which four were identified as dry wells, while Arena participated in drilling a total of 182 gross wells, of which one was identified as a dry well. If the combined company drills additional wells that it identifies as dry wells in its current and future prospects, the combined company's drilling success rate may decline and materially harm its business. In summary, the cost of drilling, completing and operating any well is often uncertain, and new wells may not be productive.

***Properties that the combined company buys may not produce as projected, and the combined company may be unable to determine reserve potential, identify liabilities associated with the properties or obtain protection from sellers against them.***

The combined company's reviews of properties it acquires will be inherently incomplete because an in-depth review of every individual property involved in each acquisition generally is not feasible. Even a detailed review of records and properties may not necessarily reveal existing or potential problems, nor will it permit a buyer to become sufficiently familiar with the properties to assess fully their deficiencies and potential. Inspections may not always be performed on every well, and environmental problems, such as soil or ground water contamination, are not necessarily observable even when an inspection is undertaken. Even when problems are identified, the combined company may assume certain environmental and other risks and liabilities in connection with acquired properties, and such risks and liabilities could have a material adverse effect on the combined company's results of operations and financial condition.

***The development of the proved undeveloped reserves in West Texas and other areas of operation may take longer and may require higher levels of capital expenditures than the combined company anticipates.***

Approximately 35.5% of the estimated proved reserves that SandRidge owned or had under lease in West Texas as of December 31, 2009 were proved undeveloped reserves and 37.3% of its total reserves were proved undeveloped reserves. Approximately 52% of the estimated proved reserves that Arena owned or had under lease in West Texas as of December 31, 2009 were proved undeveloped reserves and 62% of its total reserves were proved undeveloped reserves. Development of these reserves may take longer and require higher levels of capital expenditures than SandRidge or Arena currently anticipates. Therefore, ultimate recoveries from these fields may

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not match current expectations. Delays in the development of the combined company's reserves or increases in costs to drill and develop such reserves will reduce the PV-10 value of the combined company's estimated proved undeveloped reserves and future net revenues estimated for such reserves.

*A significant portion of the combined company's operations will be located in West Texas, making the combined company vulnerable to risks associated with operating in one major geographic area.*

As of December 31, 2009, approximately 69.7% of SandRidge's proved reserves and 64.5% of its production and approximately 80% of Arena's proved reserves and 86% of its production were located in the WTO and Permian Basin in West Texas. In addition, a substantial portion of the combined company's WTO natural gas contains a high concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> and requires treating. As a result, the combined company may be disproportionately exposed to the impact of delays or interruptions of production from these wells caused by transportation and treatment capacity constraints, curtailment of production or treatment plant closures for scheduled maintenance or unanticipated occurrences. Such delays or interruptions could have a material adverse effect on the combined company's financial condition and results of operations.

*Many of the combined company's prospects in the WTO may contain natural gas that is high in CO<sub>2</sub> content, which can negatively affect its economics.*

The reservoirs of many of the combined company's prospects in the WTO may contain natural gas that is high in CO<sub>2</sub> content. The natural gas produced from these reservoirs must be treated for the removal of CO<sub>2</sub> prior to marketing. If the combined company cannot obtain sufficient capacity at treatment facilities for natural gas with a high CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, or if the cost to obtain such capacity significantly increases, the combined company could be forced to delay production and development or experience increased production costs. The combined company will not know the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> it will encounter in any well until it is drilled. As a result, the combined company may encounter CO<sub>2</sub> levels in a well that is higher than expected. Since the treatment expenses are incurred on a Mcf basis, the combined company will incur a higher effective treating cost per MMBtu of natural gas sold for natural gas with a higher CO<sub>2</sub> content. As a result, high CO<sub>2</sub> gas wells must produce at much higher rates than low CO<sub>2</sub> gas wells to be economic, especially in a low natural gas price environment.

Furthermore, when the combined company treats the gas for the removal of CO<sub>2</sub>, some of the methane will be used to run the treatment plant as fuel gas and other methane and heavier hydrocarbons, such as ethane, propane and butane, cannot be separated from the CO<sub>2</sub> and is lost. This is known as plant shrink. Historically SandRidge's plant shrink has been approximately 14% in the WTO. After giving effect to plant shrink, as many as 4 Mcf of high CO<sub>2</sub> natural gas must be produced to sell one MMBtu of natural gas. SandRidge currently reports, and the combined company plans to report, its volumes of natural gas reserves and production net of CO<sub>2</sub> volumes that are removed and/or lost to shrinkage prior to sales.

*All of the combined company's consolidated drilling and services revenues will be derived from companies in the oil and gas industry.*

Companies to which the combined company will provide drilling and related services are affected by the oil and gas industry risks mentioned above. Market prices of oil and natural gas, limited access to capital and reductions in capital expenditures could result in oil and gas companies canceling or curtailing their drilling programs, which could reduce the demand for the combined company's drilling and related services. Any prolonged reduction in the overall level of exploration and development activities, whether resulting from changes in oil and natural gas prices or otherwise, could impact the combined company's drilling and services segment by negatively affecting:

revenues, cash flow and profitability;

the combined company's ability to retain skilled rig personnel whom it would need in the event of an upturn in the demand for drilling and related services; and

the fair value of the combined company's rig fleet.

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***A significant decrease in natural gas production in the combined company's areas of operations, due to declines in production from existing wells, depressed commodity prices or otherwise, would adversely affect the combined company's ability to satisfy certain contractual obligations and revenues and cash flow from its midstream gas services segment.***

In June 2009, SandRidge sold an entity, Piñon Gathering Company, LLC, referred to as PGC, holding SandRidge's gathering and compression assets located in the Piñon Field, which is part of the WTO in Pecos County, Texas, to an unaffiliated third party. In conjunction with the sale, SandRidge entered into a gas gathering agreement pursuant to which it dedicated its Piñon Field acreage to PGC for gathering services for 20 years. During that period, SandRidge has minimum throughput and delivery obligations to PGC. In addition, SandRidge continues to construct and acquire its own gathering and compression assets in the Piñon Field. Most of the reserves supporting SandRidge's contractual obligations to PGC and its own midstream assets are operated by SandRidge's exploration and production segment. A material decrease in natural gas production in SandRidge's areas of operation would result in a decline in the volume of natural gas delivered to PGC's and SandRidge's pipelines and facilities for gathering, transporting and treating. The combined company will have no control over many factors affecting production activity, including prevailing and projected energy prices, demand for hydrocarbons, the level of reserves, geological considerations, governmental regulation and the availability and cost of capital. The combined company will be responsible for maintaining SandRidge's throughput and delivery obligations to PGC, and the combined company may not satisfy them if it do not connect new wells to PGC's gathering systems or if there is a decline in natural gas that the combined company produces from the Piñon Field; however, the combined company would still be obligated to pay fees under the gas gathering agreement. Failure to connect new wells to the combined company's own gathering systems would result in the amount of natural gas it gathers, transports and treats being reduced substantially over time and could, upon exhaustion of the current wells, cause the combined company to abandon its gathering systems and, possibly cease gathering, transporting and treating operations.

***The combined company will use 2-D and 3-D seismic data, which is subject to interpretation and may not accurately identify the presence of oil and natural gas. In addition, the use of such technology requires greater predrilling expenditures, which could adversely affect the results of the combined company's drilling operations.***

A significant aspect of the combined company's exploration and development plan will involve seismic data. Even when properly used and interpreted, 2-D and 3-D seismic data and visualization techniques are only tools used to assist geoscientists in identifying subsurface structures and hydrocarbon indicators and do not enable the interpreter to know whether hydrocarbons are present in those structures. Other geologists and petroleum professionals, when studying the same seismic data, may have significantly different interpretations than the combined company's professionals.

In addition, the use of 2-D and 3-D seismic and other advanced technologies requires greater predrilling expenditures than traditional drilling strategies, and the combined company could incur losses due to such expenditures. As a result, the combined company's drilling activities may not be geologically successful or economical, and its overall drilling success rate or its drilling success rate for activities in a particular area may not improve.

The combined company may often gather 2-D and 3-D seismic data over large areas. The interpretation of seismic data delineates for the combined company those portions of an area that we believe are desirable for drilling. Therefore, the combined company may choose not to acquire option or lease rights prior to acquiring seismic data, and in many cases, may identify hydrocarbon indicators before seeking option or lease rights in the location. If the combined company is not able to lease those locations on acceptable terms, it will have made substantial expenditures to acquire and analyze 2-D and 3-D data without having an opportunity to attempt to benefit from those expenditures.

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*Drilling for and producing oil and natural gas are high risk activities with many uncertainties that could adversely affect the combined company's business, financial condition or results of operations.*

The combined company's drilling and operating activities are subject to many risks, including the risk that the combined company will not discover commercially productive reservoirs. Drilling for oil and natural gas can be unprofitable if dry wells are drilled and if productive wells do not produce sufficient revenues to return a profit. In addition, the combined company's drilling and producing operations may be curtailed, delayed or canceled as a result of other factors, including:

unusual or unexpected geological formations and miscalculations;

pressures;

fires;

blowouts;

loss of drilling fluid circulation;

title problems;

facility or equipment malfunctions;

unexpected operational events;

shortages of skilled personnel;

shortages or delivery delays of equipment and services;

compliance with environmental and other regulatory requirements; and

adverse weather conditions.

Any of these risks can cause substantial losses, including personal injury or loss of life, damage to or destruction of property, natural resources and equipment, pollution, environmental contamination or loss of wells and regulatory fines or penalties.

Insurance against all operational risks will not be available to the combined company. Additionally, the combined company may elect not to obtain insurance if it believes that the cost of available insurance is excessive relative to the perceived risks presented. The combined company could incur losses for uninsurable or uninsured risks or in amounts in excess of existing insurance coverage. The occurrence of an event that is not covered in full or in part by insurance could have a material adverse impact on the combined company's business activities, financial condition and results of operations.

*The combined company's development and exploration operations require substantial capital, and it may be unable to obtain needed capital or financing on satisfactory terms, which could lead to a loss of properties and a decline in the combined company's oil and natural gas reserves.*

The oil and natural gas industry is capital intensive. SandRidge and Arena have made, and the combined company will continue to make, substantial capital expenditures in its business and operations for the exploration, development, production and acquisition of oil and natural gas reserves. Historically, SandRidge and Arena have financed capital expenditures primarily with proceeds from the sale of equity, debt and cash generated by operations. The combined company will finance future capital expenditures with the sale of equity and debt securities, cash flow from operations, asset sales and current and new financing arrangements. The combined company's cash flow from operations and access to capital are subject to a number of variables, including:

the combined company's proved reserves;



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the level of oil and natural gas the combined company is able to produce from existing wells;

the prices at which oil and natural gas are sold; and

the combined company's ability to acquire, locate and produce new reserves.

If the combined company's revenues decrease as a result of lower oil and natural gas prices, operating difficulties, declines in reserves or for any other reason, it may have limited ability to obtain the capital necessary to sustain its operations at current levels. In order to fund capital expenditures, the combined company may seek additional financing. SandRidge's senior credit facility and senior note indentures, which will remain in place following the merger, contain covenants restricting the combined company's ability to incur additional indebtedness without the consent of the lenders. The lenders may withhold this consent at their sole discretion.

Continuing disruptions in the global financial and capital markets also could adversely affect the combined company's ability to obtain debt or equity financing on favorable terms, or at all. The failure to obtain additional financing could result in a curtailment of the combined company's operations relating to exploration and development of prospects, which in turn could lead to a possible loss of properties and a decline in the combined company's oil and natural gas reserves.

***The high cost or unavailability of drilling rigs, equipment, supplies, personnel and other oil field services could adversely affect the combined company's ability to execute its exploration and development plans on a timely basis and within budget.***

The combined company will operate in an industry that is cyclical and where, from time to time, there is a shortage of drilling rigs, equipment, supplies or qualified personnel. During these periods, the costs of rigs, equipment, supplies and personnel are substantially greater and their availability may be limited. Additionally, these services may not be available on commercially reasonable terms.

***Market conditions or operational impediments may hinder the combined company's access to oil and natural gas markets or delay its production.***

Market conditions or a lack of satisfactory oil and natural gas transportation arrangements may hinder the combined company's access to oil and natural gas markets or delay its production. The availability of a ready market for the combined company's oil and natural gas production depends on a number of factors, including the demand for and supply of oil and natural gas and the proximity of reserves to pipelines and terminal facilities. The combined company's ability to market its production will depend, in substantial part, on the availability and capacity of gathering systems, pipelines and treating facilities. For example, in 2009, SandRidge experienced capacity limitations on high CO<sub>2</sub> gas treating in the Piñon Field in the WTO. The combined company's failure to obtain such services on acceptable terms in the future or expand midstream assets could have a material adverse effect on the combined company's business. The combined company may be required to shut in wells for a lack of a market or because access to natural gas pipelines, gathering system capacity or treating facilities may be limited or unavailable. The combined company would be unable to realize revenue from any shut-in wells until production arrangements were made to deliver the production to market.

***The agreements governing the combined company's existing indebtedness have restrictions, financial covenants and borrowing base redeterminations which could adversely affect operations.***

SandRidge's senior credit facility and the indentures governing its senior notes, which will remain in place following the merger, will restrict the combined company's ability to obtain additional financing, make investments, lease equipment, sell assets and engage in business combinations. The combined company will also be required to comply with certain financial covenants and ratios. The combined company's ability to comply with these restrictions and covenants in the future is uncertain and will be affected by the levels of cash flow

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from its operations and events or circumstances beyond its control. If commodity prices decline, this could adversely affect the combined company's ability to meet covenants. The combined company's failure to comply with any of the restrictions and covenants under SandRidge's senior credit facility, senior notes or other debt financing could result in a default under those instruments, which could cause all of the combined company's existing indebtedness to be immediately due and payable.

SandRidge's senior credit facility limits the amounts the combined company can borrow to a borrowing base amount. The borrowing base is subject to review semi-annually; however, the lenders reserve the right to have one additional re-determination of the borrowing base per calendar year. Unscheduled re-determinations may be made at the combined company's request, but are limited to two requests per year. The borrowing base is determined based upon proved developed producing reserves, proved developed non-producing reserves and proved undeveloped reserves. Outstanding borrowings in excess of the borrowing base must be repaid immediately, or the combined company must pledge other oil and natural gas properties as additional collateral. Because of this, the combined company may not have the financial resources in the future to make any mandatory principal prepayments under the senior credit facility, which are required, for example, when the committed line of credit is exceeded, proceeds of asset sales in new oil and natural gas properties are not reinvested or indebtedness that is not permitted by the terms of the senior credit facility is incurred. If the indebtedness under SandRidge's senior credit facility and senior notes were to be accelerated, the combined company's assets may not be sufficient to repay such indebtedness in full.

***The combined company's derivative activities could result in financial losses and could reduce its earnings.***

To achieve a more predictable cash flow and to reduce exposure to adverse fluctuations in the prices of oil and natural gas, SandRidge and Arena currently have, and the combined company may in the future, enter into derivative contracts for a portion of the combined company's oil and natural gas production, including collars, basis swaps and fixed-price swaps.

The combined company does not plan to designate any of its derivative contracts as hedges for accounting purposes and, as a result, it will record all derivative contracts on its balance sheet at fair value. Changes in the fair value of the combined company's derivative contracts will be recognized in current period earnings. Accordingly, the combined company's earnings may fluctuate significantly as a result of changes in fair value of its derivative contracts. Derivative contracts also expose the combined company to the risk of financial loss in some circumstances, including when:

production is less than expected;

the counterparty to the derivative contract defaults on its contract obligations; or

there is a change in the expected differential between the underlying price in the derivative contract and actual prices received.

In addition, these types of derivative contracts limit the benefit the combined company would receive from increases in the prices for oil and natural gas.

The combined company may elect to designate its derivative contracts as hedges in the future.

***Repercussions from terrorist activities or armed conflict could harm the combined company's business.***

Terrorist activities, anti-terrorist efforts or other armed conflict involving the United States or its interests abroad may adversely affect the United States and global economies and could prevent the combined company from meeting its financial and other obligations. If events of this nature occur and persist, the attendant political instability and societal disruption could reduce overall demand for oil and natural gas, potentially putting

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downward pressure on prevailing oil and natural gas prices and causing a reduction in the combined company's revenues. Oil and natural gas production facilities, transportation systems and storage facilities could be direct targets of terrorist attacks, and operations could be adversely impacted if infrastructure integral to the combined company's operations is destroyed by such an attack. Costs for insurance and other security may increase as a result of these threats, and some insurance coverage may become more difficult to obtain, if available at all.

***Competition in the oil and gas industry is intense, which may adversely affect the combined company's ability to succeed.***

The oil and gas industry is intensely competitive, and the combined company will compete with companies that have greater resources than it has. Many of these companies not only explore for and produce oil and natural gas, but also carry on refining operations and market petroleum and other products on a regional, national or worldwide basis. These companies may be able to pay more for productive oil and natural gas properties and exploratory prospects or identify, evaluate, bid for and purchase a greater number of properties and prospects than the combined company's financial or human resources permit. In addition, these companies may have a greater ability to continue exploration activities during periods of low oil and natural gas market prices. The combined company's larger competitors may be able to absorb the burden of present and future federal, state, local and other laws and regulations more easily than it can, which would adversely affect the combined company's competitive position. The combined company's ability to acquire additional properties and to discover reserves in the future will be dependent upon its ability to evaluate and select suitable properties and to consummate transactions in a highly competitive environment. In addition, because the combined company has fewer financial and human resources than many companies in its industry, it may be at a disadvantage in bidding for exploratory prospects and producing oil and natural gas properties.

Downturns in oil and natural gas prices can result in decreased oil field activity which, in turn, can result in an oversupply of service providers and drilling rigs. This oversupply can result in severe reductions in prices received for oil field services or a complete lack of work for crews and equipment.

***The combined company is subject to complex federal, state, local and other laws and regulations that could adversely affect the cost, manner or feasibility of conducting its operations.***

The combined company's oil and natural gas exploration, production, transportation and treatment operations are subject to complex and stringent laws and regulations. In order to conduct its operations in compliance with these laws and regulations, the combined company will have to obtain and maintain numerous permits, approvals and certificates from various federal, state and local governmental authorities. The combined company may incur substantial costs in order to maintain compliance with these existing laws and regulations. In addition, the costs of compliance may increase if existing laws and regulations are revised, or if new laws and regulations become applicable to the combined company's operations. For instance, the combined company may be unable to obtain all necessary permits, approvals and certificates for proposed projects. Alternatively, the combined company may have to incur substantial expenditures to obtain, maintain or renew authorizations to conduct existing projects. If a project is unable to function as planned due to changing requirements or public opposition, it may suffer expensive delays, extended periods of non-operation or significant loss of value in a project. Such costs may have a negative effect on the combined company's business and results of operations.

The combined company's business will be subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations as interpreted and enforced by governmental agencies and other bodies vested with authority relating to the exploration for, and the development, production and transportation of, oil and natural gas. Failure to comply with such laws and regulations, as interpreted and enforced, could have a material adverse effect on the combined company. For instance, the Minerals Management Service of the United States Department of the Interior may suspend or terminate the combined company's operations on federal leases for failure to pay royalties or comply with safety and environmental regulations.

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*The combined company's operations expose it to potentially substantial costs and liabilities with respect to environmental, health and safety matters.*

The combined company may incur substantial costs and liabilities as a result of environmental, health and safety requirements applicable to oil and natural gas exploration, development, production, transportation, treatment, and other activities. These costs and liabilities could arise under a wide range of environmental, health and safety laws that cover, among other things, emissions into the air and water, habitat and endangered species protection, the containment and disposal of hazardous substances, oil field waste and other waste materials, the use of underground injection wells, and wetlands protection. These laws and regulations are complex, change frequently and have tended to become increasingly strict over time. Failure to comply with environmental, health and safety laws or regulations may result in assessment of administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, imposition of cleanup and site restoration costs and liens and the issuance of orders enjoining or limiting the combined company's current or future operations. Compliance with these laws and regulations will also increase the cost of the combined company's operations and may prevent or delay the commencement or continuance of a given operation. Specifically, the combined company may incur increased expenditures in the future in order to maintain compliance with laws and regulations governing emissions of air pollutants from its natural gas treatment plants.

Certain environmental laws impose strict joint and several liability that may require the combined company to pay for or incur the costs to remediate contaminated properties regardless of whether such contamination resulted from the conduct of others or from consequences of its own actions that were or were not in compliance with all applicable laws at the time those actions were taken. In addition, claims for damages to persons, property or natural resources may result from environmental and other impacts of the combined company's operations. Moreover, new or modified environmental, health or safety laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be more stringent and impose unforeseen liabilities or significantly increase compliance costs. Therefore, the costs to comply with environmental, health or safety laws or regulations or the liabilities incurred in connection with such compliance could significantly and adversely affect the combined company's business, financial condition or results of operations.

In addition, many countries as well as several states and regions of the United States have begun implementing legal measures to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide and methane, a primary component of natural gas, in response to scientific studies suggesting that these gases may be contributing to the warming of the Earth's atmosphere. On the U.S. federal level, Congress is currently considering and President Obama has expressed support for legislation to restrict or regulate emissions of greenhouse gases. The EPA's Final Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Rule, which requires reporting of certain greenhouse gas emissions, became effective December 29, 2009. Regulation of greenhouse gases could adversely impact some of the combined company's operations and demand for some of its services or products in the future.

*SandRidge's Century Plant may not be completed as planned, or operate or perform as intended.*

There are significant risks associated with the construction, operation and performance of SandRidge's Century Plant project. There are a limited number of firms and individuals with the expertise and experience necessary to complete construction projects of this size and nature. There is no assurance that the materials necessary to complete the construction of the plant will be in ready supply when needed or delivered on a timely basis. Accordingly, the combined company may not be able to complete the Century Plant within the time frame anticipated, and could experience cost overruns that will not be covered by other parties. Finally, there is no guarantee that, once the Century Plant is constructed, the combined company will be able to find, produce and deliver enough high CO<sub>2</sub> gas to satisfy the combined company's delivery obligations or that the Century Plant will operate at its designed capacity or otherwise perform as anticipated. For more information about the Century Plant project, please refer to SandRidge's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2009.

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*The combined company may not realize the anticipated benefits of past or future acquisitions, and integration of these acquisitions may disrupt its business and management.*

SandRidge has in the past, and the combined company may in the future, acquire other companies or large asset packages. The combined company may not realize the anticipated benefits of an acquisition and each acquisition has numerous risks. These risks include:

difficulty in assimilating the operations and personnel of the acquired company;

difficulty in maintaining controls, procedures and policies during the transition and integration;

disruption of the combined company's ongoing business and distraction of its management and employees from other opportunities and challenges;

difficulty integrating the acquired company's accounting, management information, human resources and other administrative systems;

inability to retain key personnel of the acquired business;

inability to achieve the financial and strategic goals for the acquired and combined businesses;

inability to take advantage of anticipated tax benefits;

potential failure of the due diligence processes to identify significant problems, liabilities or other shortcomings or challenges of an acquired business;

exposure to litigation or other claims in connection with, or inheritance of claims or litigation risk as a result of, an acquisition, including but not limited to, claims from terminated employees, customers, former stockholders or other third-parties;

potential inability to assert that internal controls over financial reporting are effective; and

potential incompatibility of business cultures.

***If the combined company fails to maintain an adequate system of internal control over financial reporting, it could adversely affect its ability to accurately report its results.***

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. The combined company's internal control over financial reporting will consist of a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in an issuer's internal control over financial reporting that results in a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Effective internal controls will be necessary for the combined company to provide reliable financial reports and effectively prevent material fraud. If the combined company cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, its reputation and operating results would be harmed. Efforts to develop and maintain

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internal controls for the combined company may not be successful, and the combined company may be unable to maintain adequate controls over its financial processes and reporting in the future, including future compliance with the obligations under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Any failure to develop or maintain effective controls, or difficulties encountered in their implementation, including those related to acquired businesses, or other effective improvement of the combined company's internal controls could harm its operating results. Ineffective internal controls could also cause investors to lose confidence in the combined company's reported financial information.

*Certain U.S. federal income tax deductions currently available to the combined company with respect to its oil and gas exploration and development may be eliminated as a result of future legislation.*

President Obama's Proposed Fiscal Year 2011 Budget included proposed legislation that would, if enacted into law, make significant changes to U.S. tax laws, including the elimination of certain key U.S. federal income tax incentives currently available to oil and natural gas exploration and production companies. These changes

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include, but are not limited to, (i) the repeal of the percentage depletion allowance for oil and natural gas properties, (ii) the elimination of current deductions for intangible drilling and development costs, (iii) the elimination of the deduction for certain domestic production activities, and (iv) an extension of the amortization period for certain geological and geophysical expenditures. It is unclear whether any such changes will be enacted or how soon any such changes could become effective. The passage of any legislation as a result of these proposals or any other similar changes in U.S. federal income tax laws could negatively affect the combined company's financial condition and results of operations.

### ***The adoption of new derivatives legislation or regulation could adversely affect the combined company's ability to hedge risks associated with its business.***

Congress is currently considering legislation to impose restrictions on certain transactions involving derivatives, which could affect the use of derivatives in hedging transactions. The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009, which was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives on December 11, 2009, would subject over-the-counter, referred to as OTC, derivative dealers and major OTC derivative market participants to substantial supervision and regulation, including by imposing conservative capital and margin requirements and strict business conduct standards. Derivative contracts that are not cleared through central clearinghouses or exchanges may be subject to substantially higher capital and margin requirements.

Additionally, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, also known as the Waxman-Markey cap-and-trade legislation or ACESA, which was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 26, 2009, contains provisions that would prohibit private OTC energy commodity derivative and hedging transactions. ACESA would expand the power of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, referred to as the CFTC, to regulate derivative transactions related to energy commodities, including oil and natural gas, and to mandate clearance of such derivative contracts through registered derivative clearing organizations. Under ACESA, the CFTC's expanded authority over energy derivatives would terminate upon the adoption of general legislation covering derivative regulatory reform.

On January 14, 2010, the CFTC proposed rules to establish position limits on derivatives that reference major energy commodities, including oil and natural gas. The proposed all-months-combined position limits would be 10% of the first 25,000 contracts of open interest and 2.5% of open interest beyond 25,000 contracts. The CFTC's proposal includes an exemption for *bona fide* hedges relating to inventory or anticipatory purchases or sales of the commodity. The CFTC also is evaluating whether position limits should be applied consistently across all markets and participants.

Although it is not possible at this time to predict the specific content of any derivatives legislation that may ultimately be enacted, any such laws or regulations that are adopted that subject the combined company to additional capital or margin requirements relating to, or to additional restrictions on, the combined company's trading and commodity positions could have an adverse effect on its ability to hedge risks associated with its business or on the cost of its hedging activity.

### ***Federal and state legislation and regulatory initiatives relating to hydraulic fracturing could result in increased costs and additional operating restrictions or delays.***

Congress is currently considering legislation to amend the federal Safe Drinking Water Act to require the disclosure of chemicals used by the oil and gas industry in the hydraulic fracturing process and impose additional regulatory burdens on the combined company's industry. Hydraulic fracturing involves the injection of water, sand and chemicals under pressure into rock formations to stimulate natural gas production. Sponsors of bills currently pending before the Senate and House of Representatives have asserted that chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect drinking water supplies. The proposed legislation would require the reporting and public disclosure of chemicals used in the fracturing process, which could make it easier for third parties opposing the hydraulic fracturing process to initiate legal proceedings based on allegations that specific

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chemicals used in the fracturing process could adversely affect groundwater. In addition, these bills, if adopted, could establish an additional level of regulation at the federal level that could lead to operational delays or increased operating costs and could result in additional regulatory burdens that could make it more difficult to perform hydraulic fracturing and increase the combined company's costs of compliance and doing business.

*Climate change legislation or regulations restricting emissions of greenhouse gases could result in increased operating costs and reduced demand for the gas and oil that the combined company produces.*

On December 7, 2009, the EPA announced its findings that emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases endanger human health and the environment because emissions of such gases, according to the EPA, contribute to warming the Earth's atmosphere and other climate changes. These findings by the EPA allow it to proceed with the adoption and implementation of regulations that would restrict emissions of greenhouse gases under existing provisions of the federal Clean Air Act. In September 2009, the EPA proposed two sets of regulations in anticipation of finalizing its findings. The proposed regulations would require a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases from motor vehicles and also could require permits for emitting greenhouse gas from certain stationary sources. In addition, on September 22, 2009, the EPA issued a final rule requiring annual reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from specified large greenhouse gas emission sources in the United States, beginning in 2011 for emissions occurring in 2010. The adoption and implementation of any regulations imposing reporting obligations on, or limiting emissions of greenhouse gases from, the combined company's equipment and operations could require it to incur costs to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases associated with the combined company's operations or could adversely affect demand for the gas and oil it produces.

Also, on June 26, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, referred to as the ACESA, which would establish an economy-wide cap-and-trade program to reduce U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide and methane, that may contribute to warming of the Earth's atmosphere and other climate changes. The ACESA would require a 17% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 2020 and just over an 80% reduction of such emissions by 2050. Under this legislation, the EPA would issue a capped and steadily declining number of tradable emissions allowances to certain major sources of greenhouse gas emissions so that such sources could continue to emit greenhouse gases. The net effect of the ACESA would be to impose increasing costs on the combustion of carbon-based fuels such as oil, refined petroleum products and natural gas. The U.S. Senate has begun work on its own legislation for restricting domestic greenhouse gas emissions, and President Obama has indicated his support of legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through an emission allowance system. Although it is not possible at this time to predict whether or when the United States Senate may act on this or other climate change legislation or how any bill passed by the United States Senate would be reconciled with the ACESA, any federal laws or implementing regulations that may be adopted to address greenhouse gas emissions could require the combined company to incur increased operating costs and could adversely affect demand for the gas and oil it produces.



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**Table of Contents****THE COMPANIES****SandRidge**

SandRidge Energy, Inc. is an independent oil and natural gas company headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma concentrating on exploration, development and production activities related to the exploitation and development of its significant holdings in West Texas. Its primary areas of focus are the West Texas Overthrust, referred to as the WTO, and the Permian Basin. The WTO is a natural gas-prone geological region in Pecos County and Terrell County, Texas where SandRidge has operated since 1986 and currently has over 500,000 net acres under lease. The WTO includes the Piñon gas field. In the Permian Basin, SandRidge controls approximately 125,000 net acres in West Texas and New Mexico. SandRidge also operate interests in the Mid-Continent, the Cotton Valley Trend in East Texas, the Gulf Coast area and the Gulf of Mexico.

SandRidge has assembled an extensive oil and natural gas property base on which its has identified approximately 12,100 potential drilling locations as of December 31, 2009, including approximately 5,500 locations in the WTO and approximately 2,600 locations in the Permian Basin. As of December 31, 2009, SandRidge's estimated proved reserves were 1,312.2 Bcfe (billion cubic feet equivalent), of which 52% were natural gas. The reports covering approximately 95% of these estimated proved reserves were prepared by third-party engineers. As of December 31, 2009, SandRidge had 3,373 gross (2,721.2 net) producing wells, substantially all of which it operates, and had 1,720,909 gross (1,262,115 net) acres under lease. As of December 31, 2009, the company had eight rigs drilling in the WTO, four rigs drilling in the Permian Basin, two rigs drilling in East Texas and one rig drilling in the Mid-Continent. SandRidge's 2010 production guidance as of February 25, 2010 was 130 Bcfe, based on 2010 capital expenditure guidance of \$860.0 million.

SandRidge also operates businesses that are complementary to its primary exploration, development and production activities which businesses provide operational flexibility and an advantageous cost structure. The company owns related gas gathering and treating facilities, a gas marketing business and an oil field services business, including a wholly owned drilling rig business. As of December 31, 2009, SandRidge's drilling rig fleet consisted of 31 rigs, 30 of which were operational. The company also captures and transports CO<sub>2</sub> to the Permian Basin.

In December 2009, SandRidge purchased oil and natural gas properties located in the Permian Basin from Forest Oil Corporation and one of its subsidiaries, collectively referred to as Forest, for \$800.0 million, subject to purchase price and post-closing adjustments. The assets consist primarily of six operated areas in the Central Basin Platform and greater Permian Basin area of western Texas and eastern New Mexico. These properties are characterized by multiple producing horizons including the Spraberry, Wolfcamp, Grayburg, San Andres and Wichita-Albany formations. Additionally, there are significant undeveloped properties in the Clear Fork formation. Approximately 98% of the production is operated and the subject properties cover over 90,000 net acres of which nearly 80% is held by production.

**Arena**

Arena Resources, Inc. is engaged in oil and natural gas acquisition, exploration, development and production, with activities currently in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Kansas. The company's focus has been on developing its existing properties, while continuing to pursue acquisitions of oil and gas properties with upside potential. From the company's inception in 2000 through December 31, 2009, Arena increased its proved reserves to approximately 69.3 million Boe (barrels of oil equivalent). As of December 31, 2009, Arena's estimated proved reserves had a pre-tax PV10 (present value of future net revenues before income taxes discounted at 10%) of approximately \$1.12 billion and a Standardized Measure of Discounted Future Net Cash Flows of approximately \$754.2 million. The difference between these two amounts is the effect of income taxes. The Company presents the pre-tax PV-10 value, which is a non-GAAP financial measure, because it is a widely used industry standard which it believes is useful to those who may review this joint proxy statement/prospectus when comparing the company's

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asset base and performance to other comparable oil and gas exploration and production companies. Arena spent approximately \$485.6 million on acquisitions and capital projects during 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Arena has a portfolio of oil and natural gas reserves, with approximately 86% of its proved reserves consisting of oil and approximately 14% consisting of natural gas. Of those reserves approximately 33% of the company's proved reserves are classified as proved developed producing, approximately 5% of its proved reserves are classified as proved developed behind pipe and approximately 62% are classified as proved undeveloped.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, Arena's oil production was 2,004,498 Bbls (barrels of oil), its natural gas production was 2,172,790, and its total production, measured in barrels of oil equivalent, was 2,366,630. This amounts to a daily production of 6,484 barrels of oil equivalent per day.

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### **THE SANDRIDGE SPECIAL MEETING**

SandRidge is furnishing this joint proxy statement/prospectus to its common stockholders in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the SandRidge board of directors for use at the special meeting of its stockholders.

*The board of directors of SandRidge unanimously:*

*(i) has determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, are fair to, and in the best interests of, SandRidge and its stockholders;*

*(ii) has approved and adopted the merger agreement and approved the merger and the other transactions contemplated thereby;*

*(iii) has approved the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock; and*

*(iv) recommends that the stockholders of SandRidge vote **FOR** approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and **FOR** the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock.*

#### **Date; Place and Time**

The special meeting is scheduled to be held at the SandRidge Auditorium, 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on June 8, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. local time.

#### **Purpose of the Special Meeting**

The purpose of the special meeting is to consider and vote upon the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock and the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger pursuant to the merger agreement, dated as of April 3, 2010, by and among SandRidge, Arena and Merger Sub, a direct wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, and, to the extent permitted under the merger agreement, such other matters as may be appropriate for consideration at the special meeting. Approval of both of these proposals is a condition to the consummation of the merger.

#### **Record Date; Stock Entitled to Vote; Quorum**

Owners of record of shares of common stock of SandRidge at the close of business on May 5, 2010, the record date for the special meeting, are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting. SandRidge's common stock is the only class of voting securities of SandRidge. On May 3, 2010, approximately 211,152,778 shares of common stock were issued and outstanding and entitled to vote.

Owners of record of SandRidge common stock on the record date are each entitled to one vote per share with respect to both the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock pursuant to the merger agreement and the amendment of the certificate of incorporation.

A quorum of SandRidge stockholders is necessary to have a valid meeting of stockholders. The holders of at least a majority of the shares of SandRidge common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting must be represented in person or by proxy at the special meeting in order for a quorum to be established. Both abstentions and broker non-votes count as present for establishing a quorum. An abstention occurs when a stockholder attends a meeting, either in person or by proxy, but abstains from voting. A broker non-vote occurs on an item when a broker is not permitted to vote on that item without instructions from the beneficial owner of the shares and no instructions are given.

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### **Vote Required**

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting is required to approve the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting is required to approve the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock. Abstentions may be specified with respect to each proposal by properly marking the ABSTAIN box on the proxy for such proposal or by making the same election by telephone or Internet voting. Abstentions, broker non-votes and failures to vote will not affect the outcome of the vote to issue shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger, since they will not be counted as votes either for or against such proposal. However, abstentions, broker non-votes and failures to vote will be equivalent to votes against the amendment to the certificate of incorporation.

### **Share Ownership of SandRidge Directors, Executive Officers and Significant Stockholders**

At the close of business on May 3, 2010 and excluding shares underlying options, SandRidge's directors and executive officers and their affiliates may be deemed to be the beneficial owners of, and have the power to vote, 28,665,564 shares of SandRidge common stock, representing approximately 13.58% of the then outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock. SandRidge believes that each of its directors and executive officers intends to vote FOR the approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger.

### **Voting of Proxies**

Shares of SandRidge common stock represented by properly executed physical proxies or proxies properly effected by telephone or on the Internet and received prior to the special meeting will be voted at the special meeting in the manner specified on such proxies. Physical proxies that are properly executed and timely submitted but which do not contain specific voting instructions will be voted FOR both proposals presented at the special meeting.

SandRidge stockholders whose shares are held in street name (that is, in the name of a broker, bank or other record holder) must either direct the record holder of their shares as to how to vote their shares or obtain a proxy from the record holder to vote in person at the special meeting.

### **Revocation of Proxy**

A SandRidge stockholder may revoke a proxy at any time prior to the time the proxy is to be voted at the special meeting by:

delivering, prior to the special meeting, to SandRidge Energy, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, at 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102, a written notice of revocation bearing a later date or time than the revoked proxy;

as to physical proxies, completing and submitting a new later-dated proxy card;

as to proxies effected by telephone or on the Internet, by calling the telephone voting number or connecting to the Internet voting site and following the instructions for revoking or changing a vote; or

attending the special meeting and voting in person.

Attending the special meeting will not by itself constitute revocation of a proxy; to do so, a stockholder must vote in person at the meeting. If a broker has been instructed to vote a stockholder's shares, the stockholder must follow directions received from the broker in order to change the stockholder's vote.

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### **Expenses of Solicitation**

SandRidge will bear the costs of printing and mailing this joint proxy statement/prospectus to its stockholders and the costs of soliciting proxies from its stockholders. In addition to soliciting proxies by mail, directors, officers and employees of SandRidge, without receiving additional compensation therefor, may solicit proxies by telephone, by e-mail, by facsimile or in person. Arrangements may also be made with brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries to forward solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of shares held of record by such persons, and SandRidge will reimburse such brokerage firms, custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred by them in connection therewith.

In addition, SandRidge has retained MacKenzie Partners, Inc., referred to as MacKenzie, to assist SandRidge in the solicitation of proxies from stockholders in connection with the special meeting. MacKenzie will receive a fee of up to \$30,000 as compensation for its services and reimbursement of its out-of-pocket expenses in connection therewith. SandRidge has agreed to indemnify MacKenzie against certain liabilities arising out of or in connection with its engagement.

### **Miscellaneous**

In the event that a quorum is not present at the time the special meeting is convened, or if for any other reason SandRidge believes that additional time should be allowed for the solicitation of proxies, SandRidge may adjourn the special meeting with or without a vote of the stockholders. If SandRidge proposes to adjourn the special meeting by a vote of the stockholders, the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy will vote all shares of SandRidge common stock for which they have voting authority in favor of an adjournment. Proxies voted against either proposal will not be voted in favor of any adjournment of the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies.

It is not expected that any matter not referred to in this joint proxy statement/prospectus will be presented for action at the special meeting. If any other matters are properly brought before the special meeting, the persons named in the proxies will have discretion to vote on such matters according to their best judgment. The grant of a proxy will also confer discretionary authority on the persons named in the proxy as proxy appointees to vote in accordance with their best judgment on matters incidental to the conduct of the special meeting.

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### **THE ARENA SPECIAL MEETING**

Arena is furnishing this joint proxy statement/prospectus to its common stockholders in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Arena board of directors for use at the special meeting for its stockholders.

*The board of directors of Arena unanimously:*

*(i) has determined that the merger agreement, the merger, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and the other transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Arena and its stockholders;*

*(ii) has approved and adopted the merger agreement and approved the merger and the other transactions contemplated thereby;*

*(iii) has directed that the merger agreement be submitted to a vote of the Arena stockholders at the special meeting; and*

*(iv) recommends that the stockholders of Arena vote **FOR** approval of the merger agreement.*

#### **Date; Place and Time**

The special meeting is scheduled to be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Warren Place, 6110 South Yale, Tulsa, Oklahoma, on June 8, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. local time.

#### **Purpose of the Special Meeting**

The purpose of the special meeting is to consider and vote upon the merger agreement, dated as of April 3, 2010, by and among SandRidge, Arena and Merger Sub, a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge, pursuant to which Merger Sub will be merged with and into Arena (or, in certain circumstances, pursuant to which Arena will be merged with and into Merger Sub), and, to the extent permitted under the merger agreement, such other matters as may be appropriate for consideration at the special meeting. Approval of this proposal is a condition to the consummation of the merger.

#### **Record Date; Stock Entitled to Vote; Quorum**

Owners of record of shares of common stock of Arena at the close of business on May 5, 2010, the record date for the special meeting, are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting. Arena's common stock is the only class of voting securities of Arena. On May 3, 2010, approximately 38,693,684 shares of common stock were issued and outstanding and entitled to vote.

Owners of record of Arena common stock on the record date are each entitled to one vote per share with respect to the approval of the merger agreement.

A quorum of Arena stockholders is necessary to have a valid meeting of stockholders. The holders of at least a majority of the shares of Arena common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting must be represented in person or by proxy at the Arena special meeting in order for a quorum to be established. Abstentions and broker non-votes count as present for purposes of establishing a quorum. An abstention occurs when a stockholder attends a meeting, either in person or by proxy, but abstains from voting. A broker non-vote occurs on an item when a broker is not permitted to vote on that item without instructions from the beneficial owner of the shares and no instructions are given.

#### **Vote Required**

The affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares of Arena common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the Arena special meeting is required to approve the merger agreement. Abstentions may be specified with respect to the proposal by properly marking the **ABSTAIN** box on the proxy for such proposal or by making the same election by telephone or Internet voting. Abstentions, broker non-votes and failures to vote will have the effect of votes cast against the proposal.

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### **Share Ownership of Arena Directors, Executive Officers and Significant Stockholders**

At the close of business on May 3, 2010 and excluding shares underlying options, Arena's directors and executive officers and their affiliates may be deemed to be the beneficial owners of, and have the power to vote, 1,182,606 shares of Arena common stock, representing approximately 3.06% of the then outstanding shares of Arena common stock. Arena believes that each of its directors and executive officers intends to vote FOR the approval of the merger agreement.

### **Voting of Proxies**

Shares of Arena common stock represented by properly executed physical proxies or proxies properly effected by telephone or on the Internet and received prior to the special meeting will be voted at the special meeting in the manner specified on such proxies. Physical proxies that are properly executed and timely submitted but which do not contain specific voting instructions will be voted FOR the proposal presented at the special meeting.

Arena stockholders whose shares are held in street name (that is, in the name of a broker, bank or other record holder) must either direct the record holder of their shares as to how to vote their shares or obtain a proxy from the record holder to vote at the special meeting.

### **Revocation of Proxy**

An Arena stockholder may revoke a proxy at any time prior to the time the proxy is to be voted at the special meeting by:

delivering, prior to the special meeting, to Arena Resources, Inc., Attention: Secretary, 6555 South Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136, a written notice of revocation bearing a later date or time than the revoked proxy;

as to physical proxies, completing and submitting a new later-dated proxy card;

as to proxies effected by telephone or on the Internet, by calling the telephone voting number or connecting to the Internet voting site and following the instructions for revoking or changing a vote; or

attending the special meeting and voting in person.

Attending the special meeting will not by itself constitute revocation of a proxy; to do so, a stockholder must vote in person at the meeting. If a broker has been instructed to vote a stockholder's shares, the stockholder must follow directions received from the broker in order to change the stockholder's vote.

### **Expenses of Solicitation**

Arena will bear the costs of printing and mailing this joint proxy statement/prospectus to its stockholders and the costs of soliciting proxies from its stockholders. In addition to soliciting proxies by mail, directors, officers and employees of Arena, without receiving additional compensation therefor, may solicit proxies by telephone, by e-mail, by facsimile or in person. Arrangements may also be made with brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries to forward solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of shares held of record by such persons, and Arena will reimburse such brokerage firms, custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred by them in connection therewith.

In addition, Arena has retained Innisfree M&A Incorporated, referred to as Innisfree, to assist Arena in the solicitation of proxies from stockholders in connection with the special meeting. Innisfree will receive a fee of \$25,000 as compensation for its services and reimbursement of its out-of-pocket expenses in connection therewith. Arena has agreed to indemnify Innisfree against certain liabilities arising out of or in connection with its engagement.





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**Miscellaneous**

In the event that a quorum is not present at the time the special meeting is convened, or if for any other reason Arena believes that additional time should be allowed for the solicitation of proxies, Arena may adjourn the special meeting with or without a vote of the stockholders. If Arena proposes to adjourn the special meeting by a vote of the stockholders, the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy will vote all shares of Arena common stock for which they have voting authority in favor of an adjournment.

It is not expected that any matter not referred to in this joint proxy statement/prospectus will be presented for action at the special meeting. If any other matters are properly brought before the special meeting, the persons named in the proxies will have discretion to vote on such matters according to their best judgment. The grant of a proxy will also confer discretionary authority on the persons named in the proxy as proxy appointees to vote in accordance with their best judgment on matters incidental to the conduct of the special meeting. Proxies voted against the proposal related to the merger will not be voted in favor of any adjournment of the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies.

**Holders of Arena common stock should not send their stock certificates with their proxy cards. If the merger is completed, a separate letter of transmittal will be mailed to stockholders which will enable each of them to receive the appropriate consideration.**

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### **THE MERGER**

*The following discussion summarizes the material terms of the merger and the merger agreement. Stockholders should read carefully the merger agreement, which is attached as Annex A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated into this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference.*

#### **General**

SandRidge, its direct wholly owned subsidiary, Merger Sub and Arena have entered into a merger agreement pursuant to which SandRidge will acquire Arena through the merger of Merger Sub with and into Arena. Arena will be the surviving entity in the merger and, after the effective time of the merger, will continue as a direct wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge.

The merger is conditioned, in part, on the delivery to SandRidge by Covington & Burling LLP, and to Arena by Johnson & Jones, P.C., of opinions stating that the merger will qualify for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. If the value of SandRidge common stock at the effective time of the merger is less than a certain amount, in order for counsel to be able to deliver these opinions to SandRidge and Arena, SandRidge's acquisition of Arena would have to be accomplished pursuant to a merger of Arena with and into Merger Sub in which Merger Sub would be the surviving entity. As a result, the merger agreement provides that, in the event the opinions of Covington & Burling LLP and Johnson & Jones, P.C. cannot be delivered at the effective time of the merger unless the merger consists of Arena merging with and into Merger Sub, then Arena will merge with and into Merger Sub with Merger Sub continuing as the surviving entity and a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge.

Each holder of Arena common stock will be entitled to receive 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock, plus \$2.50 in cash for each share of Arena common stock held by the holder immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. The ratio of 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock for each share of Arena common stock is referred to as the exchange ratio.

#### **Background of the Merger**

SandRidge's management and board of directors have discussed from time to time the benefits of acquiring oil and gas reserves, and exploration and development prospects through a merger or acquisition, and in particular increasing the proportion of oil reserves in the overall company reserves of oil and natural gas.

Arena's management and board of directors periodically review business development strategies, including strategic business combinations that could enhance Arena's core business.

On January 19, 2010, representatives of SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc., referred to as SunTrust, met with Tom Ward, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Dirk Van Doren, Chief Financial Officer, of SandRidge, to discuss possible transaction opportunities. Because of SunTrust's familiarity with the businesses of both SandRidge and Arena, in the course of the discussion the possibility of a business combination between SandRidge and Arena arose. Following the meeting, on February 4, 2010, a representative of SunTrust contacted Lloyd T. Rochford, Chairman of Arena, to inquire if Mr. Rochford would be interested in meeting Mr. Ward to entertain discussions regarding a possible business combination. On February 10, 2010, representatives of SunTrust contacted Mr. Ward and Mr. Van Doren, and indicated that Mr. Rochford was agreeable to meet. On February 24, 2010, a representative of SunTrust, introduced Mr. Ward to Mr. Rochford and facilitated the initial discussions about a potential business combination between the companies at a meeting in Los Angeles.

SandRidge and Arena entered into a mutual confidentiality agreement dated March 3, 2010, which allowed for the provision of nonpublic information for each party's use in evaluating a potential transaction, and included a standstill provision pursuant to which each party generally agreed to refrain from otherwise acquiring an interest in, and taking certain other actions with respect to, the other party, except in connection with a negotiated transaction.

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On separate conference calls on March 4 and March 8, 2010, representatives of SunTrust discussed the potential transaction with Mr. Rochford and Mr. Ward, respectively. On March 12, 2010, Arena retained SunTrust as its financial advisor in connection with the potential transaction, in part due to SunTrust's familiarity with both Arena and SandRidge.

On March 13, 2010, representatives of SandRidge and representatives of Arena and SunTrust met in SandRidge's offices in Oklahoma City to discuss, among other things, the assets, operations and reserves of the respective companies. Commencing on March 15, 2010 through April 3, 2010, representatives of SandRidge, and of Deutsche Bank, financial advisor to SandRidge, and Covington & Burling LLP and Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, P.C., legal advisors to SandRidge, conducted a review of certain assets, business, accounting and legal matters regarding Arena. During the same period, representatives of Arena, and of SunTrust and Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. Securities, Inc., referred to as TudorPickering (which financial advisor Arena engaged for the sole purpose of providing a fairness opinion, if requested), and Johnson & Jones P.C., legal advisors to Arena, conducted a review of certain assets, business, accounting and legal matters regarding SandRidge.

On March 18, 2010, Richard Gognat, General Counsel of SandRidge, sent to representatives of SunTrust a draft merger agreement. Between March 22 and April 2, the companies, their respective legal counsel, and Deutsche Bank and SunTrust negotiated the specific terms of the merger agreement, including provisions regarding non-solicitation of other potential offers and fees payable by the respective parties upon certain terminations.

On March 18, 2010, Mr. Ward met with the board of directors of Arena and representatives of SunTrust to discuss the strategic rationale of the potential transaction. Mr. Ward also proposed that SandRidge pay consideration in the form of common stock of SandRidge with an exchange ratio based solely on the calculation of the actual trading day volume weighted average prices of SandRidge and Arena common stock and with no additional premium factored into the calculation.

On March 19, 2010, at the direction of the Arena board of directors, representatives of SunTrust met with Mr. Ward in Phoenix for an extended period to discuss the valuation of the respective companies and Arena's view that SandRidge would need to propose an exchange ratio that resulted in a premium in order for discussions to continue.

Between March 20 and March 23, 2010, Mr. Ward, Mr. Rochford and representatives of SunTrust negotiated by way of numerous telephone conversations, ultimately increasing the exchange ratio so that it would result in an approximate 10% premium to Arena stockholders. During these conversations, the parties further discussed a range of the volume weighted average price of Arena common stock of between 7 and 20 days, that was still to be negotiated.

On March 22, SandRidge and Arena entered into an agreement under which the parties agreed to negotiate exclusively with the other party through April 7, 2010. On March 24, representatives of SunTrust and TudorPickering met in Oklahoma City with representatives of SandRidge and its financial advisor as part of the due diligence review of SandRidge. On March 25, representatives of Deutsche Bank met in Tulsa with representatives of Arena and its financial advisors as part of the due diligence review of Arena. Among the due diligence items reviewed with respect to each company were information regarding reserves and other assets of the other company based on an exchange of non-public information.

Between March 24 and March 31, several conversations among Mr. Ward, representatives of SunTrust, and Mr. Rochford took place, principally concerning valuation issues.

On March 30, 2010, the board of directors of Arena met telephonically, together with representatives of SunTrust, TudorPickering and Johnson & Jones, for several hours to receive an update on the status of operational, financial and legal due diligence, and to consider the preliminary analysis of TudorPickering regarding the proposed transaction.

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On March 31, 2010, Mr. Ward communicated by telephone to representatives of SunTrust that the board of directors of SandRidge had approved the terms of the merger agreement offer, which included an exchange ratio of 4.67 shares of common stock of SandRidge for each share of common stock of Arena, which would be an approximate 10% premium to the ten trading day volume weighted average price of Arena common stock.

On the evening of March 31, 2010, the board of directors of Arena met, together with representatives of SunTrust, TudorPickering and Johnson & Jones, to consider the merger transaction. During the meeting, representatives of Johnson & Jones provided guidance to the board of directors regarding their fiduciary duties in connection with their consideration of the transaction and provided a detailed summary of the terms of the merger agreement. The board of directors then received from TudorPickering an updated analysis. Following these presentations, the representatives of SunTrust and TudorPickering were excused from the meeting. After lengthy discussion, the board of directors invited the SunTrust representatives to rejoin the meeting and indicated that the board of directors had determined that the proposed exchange ratio was not sufficient. The representatives of SunTrust stated that, in their opinion, the potential merger with SandRidge presented certain unique synergies which were unlikely to be present in any other business combination opportunity. The board of directors of Arena reconfirmed its earlier determination that the proposed exchange ratio was not sufficient, and authorized representatives of SunTrust to communicate such determination to representatives of Deutsche Bank that evening.

On April 1, Mr. Ward discussed with representatives of SunTrust the possibility of increasing the price to approximately \$40 per share through a combination of stock and cash consideration, which discussions resulted in a proposed exchange ratio of 4.7771 shares of common stock of SandRidge plus cash of \$2.50 for each share of common stock of Arena, representing an approximate 17% premium to the closing price of Arena common stock on April 1, 2010, and an approximate 23% premium to the ten day volume weighted average price of Arena common stock. On April 1, 2010, Mr. Rochford and a representative of SunTrust contacted Mr. Ward by telephone and advised that Mr. Rochford would take the revised proposal to the Arena board of directors with a recommendation of acceptance.

On April 2, 2010, following further discussion among the board and a presentation from representatives of TudorPickering regarding the transaction, TudorPickering gave an oral fairness opinion as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of the date of such opinion, of the merger consideration provided for in the merger agreement to be paid to the holders of Arena common stock (excluding specified holders) (which opinion was subsequently confirmed in writing), and the Arena board of directors approved the merger agreement including the consideration of 4.7771 shares of common stock of SandRidge plus cash of \$2.50 for each share of common stock of Arena. On the following day, the board of directors of SandRidge approved the merger agreement, following which the parties entered into the merger agreement. At 3:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time on April 4, 2010, SandRidge and Arena issued a joint press release announcing the merger.

**SandRidge's Considerations Relating to the Merger and the Share Issuance**

In reaching its decision to approve entering into the merger agreement and to recommend the approval by the SandRidge stockholders of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and the amendment to the certificate of incorporation to provide for and permit the share issuance, the SandRidge board of directors consulted with SandRidge management and Covington & Burling LLP and Deutsche Bank, legal and financial advisors, respectively, to SandRidge, and considered a variety of factors with respect to the merger, including the following:

***Complementary High Quality Assets.*** The combined company provides a balance of oil and gas assets, encompassing each company's oil assets in the Permian Basin and SandRidge's natural gas assets in the WTO. A significant part of Arena's assets, particularly on the CBP, are complementary to existing SandRidge assets. This is expected to facilitate the integration of SandRidge and Arena's businesses. The realization of expected synergies and economies of scale will result in cost savings and improved operating efficiencies.

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***Increase in Reserves; Increase in Proportion of Oil Reserves.*** The merger is expected to increase SandRidge's proved reserves by approximately 32%, predominantly from increases in proved oil reserves. The combination with Arena will increase SandRidge's total proved oil reserves from approximately 48% to approximately 57% of total proved reserves. All reserve and production figures are based on year end SEC 2009 12-month average price.

***Large Inventory of Shallow Low-Risk Oil Drilling Locations.*** SandRidge believes that Arena's existing properties contain approximately 4,200 additional drilling locations, all of which are located in the Furrman-Mascho Field on the CBP in the Permian Basin.

***Improved Balance Sheet Leverage.*** The merger is expected to improve a number of SandRidge's financial ratios commonly used to assess a company's credit rating. This improved balance sheet leverage is expected to ensure compliance by the combined company with certain financial covenants under SandRidge's senior credit facility.

***Financial Hedges.*** SandRidge plans to hedge a significant amount of its oil production (more than \$3.0 billion of oil revenues, inclusive of existing hedges) following the closing of the merger through 2013 as a result of the increase of its proportion of oil assets to total assets.

***Application of SandRidge Expertise.*** SandRidge expects to benefit from sharing with Arena SandRidge's extensive expertise in operating in the Permian Basin.

***Potential Cost Savings.*** SandRidge believes it can achieve substantial annual pre-tax cost savings due to G&A reductions subsequent to the merger.

***Combined Company will be Significantly Larger.*** The combined company will be significantly larger than either Arena or SandRidge on a standalone basis. As a result of the larger size, SandRidge should have greater exploration, production and marketing strengths, should have greater liquidity in the market for its securities and should be able to consider future strategic transactions that would not otherwise be possible.

The SandRidge board of directors also considered the following factors:

***Financial Information; Market Conditions.*** Information concerning the financial condition, results of operations, prospects and businesses of SandRidge and Arena, including the respective companies' reserves, production volumes, cash flows from operations, recent performance of common stock and the ratio of SandRidge's common stock price to Arena's common stock price over various periods, as well as current industry, economic and market conditions.

***Due Diligence Investigations.*** The results of business, legal and financial due diligence investigations of Arena conducted by SandRidge's management and legal and financial advisors.

***Opinion of Financial Advisor.*** The presentation and opinion of Deutsche Bank described elsewhere in this proxy statement/prospectus to the effect that, as of the date of the opinion and based on the assumptions, limitations, qualifications and conditions stated in the opinion letter, from a financial point of view, the merger consideration was fair to SandRidge.

SandRidge's board of directors recognized that there are risks associated with the merger and considered, among others, the following risks:

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***Potential Dilution of SandRidge Stockholders.*** Because SandRidge will be issuing new shares of common stock to Arena stockholders in the merger, each outstanding share of SandRidge common stock immediately prior to the merger will represent a smaller percentage of SandRidge's total shares of common stock after the merger.

***Effects of Public Announcement.*** A public announcement concerning the merger could affect the price of SandRidge's common stock and its ability to attract and retain key employees.

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**Integration Risks.** In most public company mergers there are significant risks inherent in combining and integrating two companies, including that the companies may not be successfully integrated. There are significant risks inherent in combining and integrating two companies, including that the companies may not be successfully integrated. Successful integration of SandRidge and Arena will require the dedication of significant management resources, which will temporarily detract attention from the day-to-day businesses of the combined companies. Risks could also include unanticipated liabilities and unanticipated costs. Because the value of Arena is concentrated in one area, which is adjacent to SandRidge's current operations in the Central Basin Platform, these risks should be lessened in this transactions.

**Conversion of Probable and Possible Reserves.** SandRidge expects to allocate a portion of the total purchase price for Arena to Arena's probable and possible reserves. There is always uncertainty in converting probable and possible reserves into proved reserves and their successful development.

**Capital Requirements.** The capital requirements necessary to achieve the expected growth in the combined company's businesses will be significant. In addition, the combined company will have total long-term debt of approximately \$2.7 billion on a pro forma basis as of December 31, 2009, consisting of historical SandRidge debt and incremental draws to fund the cash portion of the merger consideration. There can be no assurance that the combined company will be able to fund all of its capital requirements from operating cash flows.

**Interim Restrictions on the Operation of the Business.** SandRidge has agreed under the merger agreement that, between the signing of the merger agreement and the closing of the merger, it will operate its business in the ordinary and usual course and will not take certain specified actions without Arena's prior written consent (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed). This may have the effect of restricting SandRidge from taking certain actions in conducting its business that it would otherwise be inclined to take.

**Merger Related Costs.** SandRidge estimates that, as a result of the merger, the combined company will incur certain severance expenses and make certain retention incentive payments. In addition, SandRidge expects to incur other merger-related expenses, consisting of investment banking, legal and accounting fees and financial printing and other related charges.

**Potential Payment of a Termination Fee under Certain Circumstances.** Pursuant to the merger agreement, if the merger agreement is terminated in certain specified circumstances, SandRidge would be required to pay Arena a termination fee of up to \$50 million (depending on the reason for the termination) and reimburse Arena for reasonable expenses incurred by Arena in connection with the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, up to a maximum \$7.5 million. The payment of these fees would decrease the available cash flow for SandRidge.

**Effect of Failure to Complete the Transaction.** The merger might not be completed as a result of a failure to satisfy the conditions contained in the merger agreement. Neither SandRidge nor Arena is obligated to consummate the merger unless the conditions in the merger agreement are satisfied or, in some cases, waived.

The foregoing discussion of the factors considered by the SandRidge board of directors in making its decision is not exhaustive, but includes the material factors considered by the SandRidge board of directors. In view of the variety of material factors considered in connection with its evaluation of the merger, the SandRidge board of directors did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise assign relative or specific weight to any of these factors, and individual directors may have given different weight to different factors. Rather, the SandRidge board of directors made its determination based on the totality of the information presented to it.

The above description of the SandRidge board of directors' considerations relating to the merger is forward-looking in nature. This information should be read in light of the factors discussed above under **Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements.**

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### **Recommendation of the SandRidge Board of Directors**

At its meeting on April 3, 2010, after due consideration, the SandRidge board of directors unanimously adopted resolutions (i) approving the merger agreement, the share issuance and the amendment to the certificate of incorporation (ii) directing that the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock and payment of cash in the merger and the amendment to the certificate of incorporation be submitted to a vote of the SandRidge stockholders at the SandRidge special meeting and (iii) recommending that SandRidge stockholders vote FOR the approval of the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock in connection with the merger and FOR the approval of the amendment of the certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge common stock.

### **Arena's Considerations Relating to the Merger**

In reaching its decision to approve and adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger, approve the terms of and transactions contemplated by the merger agreement and recommend that Arena stockholders vote to approve the merger agreement, the Arena board of directors consulted with Arena's management and legal and financial advisors and considered a variety of factors with respect to the merger, including the following:

the Arena board of directors' belief in the growth potential of SandRidge's existing high quality property base and the quality of SandRidge management, its knowledge of Arena's core assets and its demonstrated success in the operating environments in which both Arena's and SandRidge's properties are located;

the complementary nature of the two companies' respective asset bases, and the stable base of SandRidge's proven reserves with a projected production over an extended period of time;

the upside potential to Arena stockholders from the development of SandRidge's conventional natural gas reserves, especially in the event of increases in the commodity price levels of natural gas;

information concerning the financial condition, results of operations, prospects and businesses of SandRidge and Arena, and the improved balance sheet of SandRidge following the merger with Arena;

the proposed merger consideration represented a premium of approximately 17% on the last trading date prior to execution of the merger agreement and approximately 23% of the volume weighted average price of Arena's common stock over the 10-trading day period ending on such date;

if it remained a stand-alone company, Arena would, in the future, need to pursue other acquisition opportunities to diversify its current reserves, and SandRidge provides a unique blend of operational and asset synergies which can potentially be captured by a merger;

the combined companies' larger market capitalization and access to capital markets, if needed, which Arena's board of directors believe will enhance the ability to finance production of the combined companies' assets;

the Arena board of directors' belief that the merger would maximize the value and development potential of Arena's properties in the Permian Basin region of New Mexico and West Texas;



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the financial and business prospects for the combined businesses, including general information relating to possible synergies, cost reductions and operating efficiency and consolidations;

the Arena board of directors' consideration of Arena's current and anticipated stature in the market, prospects for growth, performance, staffing, and other factors that related to timing and advisability of Arena's continuing as a stand-alone entity versus combining with SandRidge in a business combination transaction;

current industry, economic and market conditions and the Arena board of directors' understanding of the present and anticipated environment in the independent exploration and production sector of the energy industry, including the continued consolidation within the sector;

the opinion of Arena's outside legal counsel that the merger could be accomplished on a tax-free basis;

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presentations by, and discussions with, senior executives of Arena and representatives of its outside legal counsel regarding the terms and conditions of the merger agreement;

the results of the business, engineering, legal and financial due diligence investigations of SandRidge conducted by Arena's management and outside advisors;

discussions and financial presentation of representatives of SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc., who was engaged by Arena to provide financial advice and assistance in connection with the transaction;

the financial presentation to the Arena board of directors of TudorPickering, who was engaged by Arena solely to render an opinion, as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of the date of such opinion, of the merger consideration provided for in the merger agreement to be paid to the holders of Arena common stock (excluding specified holders), and the rendering of such opinion to Arena's board of directors orally on April 2, 2010, and confirmed in writing on April 3, 2010, as more fully described below under the caption "Opinion of Arena's Financial Advisor;" and

the fact that at the time the transaction was being considered by Arena's board of directors, the holders of a majority of Arena's common stock were also stockholders in SandRidge.

The Arena board of directors also considered certain risks associated with the merger including, among others, the following risks:

that the merger might not be completed as a result of a failure to satisfy one or more conditions to the merger;

that the operations of the two companies may not be successfully integrated;

that the anticipated synergies may not be fully realized;

that the amount of the premium represented by the merger consideration on the date the merger agreement was signed might be reduced at the time the merger is consummated as a result of market fluctuations in SandRidge's share price;

that the potential upside to Arena stockholders of the combined companies may not be as great in the event natural gas commodity prices are depressed for a substantial period;

the overall debt associated with the combined companies could have a depressive effect on stock prices, and it could also impact SandRidge's ability to secure, on terms it believes favorable, the necessary capital required to develop the properties of the combined companies;

that the merger agreement generally prohibits Arena from taking any action to seek or solicit an alternative transaction or takeover proposal and from recommending, participating in discussions regarding or furnishing information with respect to a takeover proposal, except in each case in limited circumstances, including those which permit the directors of Arena to comply with their fiduciary duties;

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that in the event of the termination of the merger agreement in certain instances Arena would be responsible for payment to SandRidge of a termination fee of \$50 million and up to an additional \$7.5 million in expense reimbursement, and in the event that the merger agreement is not approved by Arena stockholders, then Arena would be responsible for payment to SandRidge of a \$20 million termination fee and up to an additional \$7.5 million of expense reimbursement and an additional \$30 million termination fee if, within one year following such termination, Arena consummates or enters into an agreement with respect to a takeover proposal; and

other matters described under the caption Risk Factors.

The foregoing discussion of the factors considered by the Arena board of directors in making its decision is not exhaustive, but includes the material factors considered by the Arena board of directors. In view of the variety of material factors considered in connection with its evaluation of the merger, the Arena board of

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directors did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise assign relative or specific weight to any of these factors, and individual directors may have given different weight to different factors. Rather, the Arena board of directors made its determination based on the totality of the information presented to it.

The above description of the Arena board of directors' considerations relating to the merger is forward-looking in nature. This information should be read in light of the factors discussed above under "Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements."

In approving and adopting the merger agreement and approving the merger, the Arena board of directors was aware of the interests of certain directors and officers of Arena in the merger, as discussed below under "Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger."

### **Recommendation of the Arena Board of Directors**

At its meeting on April 2, 2010, after due consideration, the Arena board of directors unanimously adopted resolutions (i) determining that the merger agreement, the merger, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, and the other transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Arena and its stockholders, (ii) approving and adopting the merger agreement and approving the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, (iii) directing that the merger agreement be submitted to a vote of the Arena stockholders at the Arena special meeting and (iv) recommending that the Arena stockholders vote FOR the approval of the merger agreement.

### **Opinion of SandRidge's Financial Advisor**

Pursuant to an engagement letter dated March 26, 2010, Deutsche Bank acted as SandRidge's financial advisor in connection with the merger. At the meeting of the SandRidge board of directors on April 3, 2010, Deutsche Bank rendered its oral opinion, subsequently confirmed in writing, to the SandRidge board of directors to the effect that, as of that date and based on and subject to the assumptions, limitations, qualifications and other conditions described in the Deutsche Bank opinion, the merger consideration consisting of 4.7771 shares of common stock of SandRidge and \$2.50 in cash in exchange for each share of Arena common stock was fair, from a financial point of view, to SandRidge.

**The full text of the written opinion of Deutsche Bank, dated April 3, 2010, which sets forth the assumptions, limitations, qualifications and conditions relating to the review undertaken by Deutsche Bank in rendering its opinion, is included as Annex B to this joint proxy statement/prospectus. SandRidge encourages its stockholders to read the opinion carefully in its entirety. The Deutsche Bank opinion was approved and authorized for issuance by a fairness opinion review committee, is addressed to, and for the use and benefit of, the SandRidge board of directors and does not express an opinion or recommendation as to how any holder of SandRidge common stock should vote with respect to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The summary of the Deutsche Bank opinion set forth in this joint proxy statement/prospectus is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion included as Annex B.**

In connection with its role as SandRidge's financial advisor, and in arriving at its opinion, Deutsche Bank, among other things:

reviewed certain publicly available financial and other information concerning SandRidge and Arena;

reviewed certain internal analyses, financial forecasts and other information relating to SandRidge prepared by management of SandRidge;

reviewed certain internal analyses, financial forecasts and other information relating to Arena prepared by management of Arena;

reviewed certain analyses and financial forecasts relating to Arena prepared by management of SandRidge;

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held discussions with certain senior officers and other representatives and advisors of SandRidge and Arena regarding the businesses and prospects of SandRidge and Arena, respectively, and the businesses and prospects of the combined company after giving effect to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement;

reviewed the reported prices and trading activity for both the SandRidge common stock and the Arena common stock;

to the extent publicly available, compared certain financial and stock market information for SandRidge and Arena with similar information for certain other companies Deutsche Bank considered relevant whose securities are publicly traded;

to the extent publicly available, reviewed the financial terms of certain recent business combinations which Deutsche Bank deemed relevant;

reviewed the merger agreement; and

performed such other studies and analyses and considered such other factors as Deutsche Bank deemed appropriate.

Deutsche Bank did not assume responsibility for independent verification of, and did not independently verify, any information, whether publicly available or furnished to it, concerning SandRidge or Arena, including, without limitation, any financial information considered in connection with the rendering of its opinion. Accordingly, for purposes of its opinion, Deutsche Bank, with SandRidge's permission, assumed and relied upon the accuracy and completeness of all such information. Deutsche Bank did not conduct a physical inspection of any of the properties or assets, and did not prepare or obtain any independent evaluation or appraisal of any of the assets or liabilities (including, without limitation, any contingent, derivative or off-balance-sheet assets and liabilities), of SandRidge or Arena or any of their respective subsidiaries, nor did Deutsche Bank evaluate the solvency or fair value of SandRidge or Arena under any state or federal law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or similar matters. With respect to financial forecasts made available to Deutsche Bank and used in its analyses, Deutsche Bank assumed with SandRidge's permission that they had been reasonably prepared on bases reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the management of SandRidge and Arena as to the matters covered thereby. In rendering its opinion, Deutsche Bank expressed no view as to the reasonableness of such forecasts and projections or the assumptions on which they were based.

For purposes of rendering its opinion, Deutsche Bank assumed with SandRidge's permission that, in all respects material to its analysis, the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement will be consummated in accordance with its terms, without any material waiver, modification or amendment of any term, condition or agreement. Deutsche Bank also assumed that all material governmental, regulatory, contractual or other approvals and consents required in connection with the consummation of the merger will be obtained and that in connection with obtaining any necessary governmental, regulatory, contractual or other approvals and consents, no material restrictions, terms or conditions will be imposed. Deutsche Bank is not a legal, regulatory, tax or accounting expert and relied on the assessments made by SandRidge and its advisors with respect to such issues.

The following is a summary of the material financial analyses used by Deutsche Bank in preparing its opinion for SandRidge's board of directors. Certain financial, comparative and other analyses summarized below include information presented in tabular format. In order to understand fully the methodologies used by Deutsche Bank and the results of its financial, comparative and other analyses, the tables must be read together with the text of each summary, as the tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the financial, comparative and other analyses. In performing its analyses, Deutsche Bank made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, general business and economic conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of SandRidge and Arena. None of SandRidge, Arena, Deutsche Bank or any other person assumes responsibility if future results are materially different from those discussed. Any estimates contained in these analyses are not necessarily indicative of actual values or predictive of future results or values, which may be significantly more or less favorable than as set forth below. In addition, analyses relating to the value of the businesses do not purport to be appraisals or to reflect the prices at which the businesses could actually be sold.

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### ***Summary of Analyses***

In assessing the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration to SandRidge, Deutsche Bank considered, among other things, the results of the following valuation methodologies (without assigning relative weights to each):

net asset valuation analysis;

comparable company analysis;

comparable transaction analysis;

analysis of equity research analyst price targets;

contribution analysis; and

historical stock trading analysis.

Each of these methodologies was used to generate reference enterprise or equity value ranges for each of SandRidge and Arena. The enterprise value ranges for each company were adjusted for appropriate on-balance sheet assets and liabilities in order to arrive at implied equity value ranges (in aggregate dollars) for each company. The implied equity value ranges were then divided by diluted shares outstanding, comprising outstanding common shares and incorporating the dilutive effect of outstanding options and restricted stock, as appropriate, in order to derive implied equity value ranges per share for each company.

The implied equity value ranges per share of Arena common stock were compared to the value of the merger consideration to be received by Arena's stockholders, which was determined to be \$40.00 per Arena share. The value of the merger consideration to be received by Arena's stockholders was, for each valuation methodology, calculated as the product of (i) the closing price of SandRidge's common stock of \$7.85 per share on the New York Stock Exchange on April 1, 2010, the last trading day before the announcement of the proposed merger, multiplied by the exchange ratio of 4.7771 SandRidge shares per Arena share, plus (ii) cash consideration of \$2.50 per Arena share.

The implied equity value ranges per share derived using the various valuation methodologies listed above supported the conclusion that the consideration to be paid by SandRidge in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to SandRidge.

The following summary does not purport to be a complete description of the financial analyses performed by Deutsche Bank, nor does the order in which the analyses are described represent the relative importance or weight given to the analyses by Deutsche Bank.

### ***Net Asset Valuation Analysis***

Deutsche Bank estimated the present value of the future cash flows expected to be generated from each company's proved developed, proved undeveloped, probable and possible reserves, based on reserve, production and capital cost estimates as provided by SandRidge, in addition to the value of non-reserve assets and liabilities for each company. The net asset value was determined using a range of discount rates and applying certain risk adjustments to certain categories of reserves as deemed appropriate by Deutsche Bank and SandRidge management. The net asset valuation analysis utilized a combination of realized prices and NYMEX commodity prices as of April 1, 2010 as adjusted for commodity price differentials based on SandRidge management estimates. The resultant realized commodity price assumptions were as follows:

**SandRidge**

**Arena**

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Oil (\$/Bbl)</b>	<b>Gas (\$ / MMcf)</b>	<b>Oil (\$ / Bbl)</b>	<b>Gas (\$ / MMcf)</b>
2010	\$81.46	\$4.18	\$78.70	\$5.65
2011	\$84.43	\$4.97	\$82.02	\$6.44
2012	\$84.16	\$5.33	\$82.10	\$6.81
2013+	\$83.82	\$5.55	\$82.28	\$7.07

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The net asset valuation analysis yielded valuations for SandRidge that implied an equity value range of \$4.11 to \$8.73 per share based on the range of discount rates, as compared to SandRidge's closing stock price of \$7.85 per share on April 1, 2010. The net asset valuation analysis yielded valuations for Arena that implied an equity value range of \$33.13 to \$39.94 per share based on the range of discount rates, as compared to Arena's closing stock price of \$34.26 per share on April 1, 2010.

On a combined company basis, and after adjusting for the cash component of the merger consideration, the net asset value analysis yielded implied exchange ratios of 4.29 to 7.46 SandRidge shares per Arena share, as compared to the agreed upon exchange ratio of 4.7771 SandRidge shares per Arena share.

***Comparable Company Analysis***

In order to assess how the public market values shares of similar publicly traded companies, Deutsche Bank reviewed and compared specific financial and operating data relating to SandRidge and Arena with selected companies that Deutsche Bank deemed comparable to SandRidge and Arena, based on its experience in the exploration and production industry.

With respect to Arena, Deutsche Bank reviewed the public stock market trading multiples for the following exploration and production companies, which Deutsche Bank selected because of their generally similar size, regional focus and relatively comparable reserve portfolios:

Concho Resources Inc.;

Continental Resources, Inc.;

Denbury Resources Inc.;

Gulfport Energy Corporation;

Pioneer Natural Resources Company;

Resolute Energy Corporation; and

Whiting Petroleum Corporation.

Using publicly available information, Deutsche Bank calculated and analyzed enterprise value multiples of each comparable company's estimated EBITDA, proved reserves and daily production, adjusted for recent acquisition and divestiture activity. Deutsche Bank also analyzed recent price to estimated cash flow multiples for each comparable company. The results of the Arena comparable company analysis are summarized below.

	<b>Multiple Range of Comparable Companies of Arena</b>		
	<b>Low</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>High</b>
Total enterprise value divided by:			
2010 Estimated EBITDA(a)	6.1x	8.4x	11.1x
2011 Estimated EBITDA(a)	4.6x	6.1x	8.6x
12/31/2009 Proved Reserves (\$/BOE)	\$ 11.31	\$ 24.51	\$ 31.35
Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)(b)	\$ 95,547	\$ 122,160	\$ 213,677



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2011 Estimated Annualized Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)(a)	\$ 77,105	\$ 94,228	\$ 160,321
Price to 2010 Estimated Cash Flow(a)	4.9x	6.9x	11.0x
Price to 2011 Estimated Cash Flow(a)	4.0x	5.2x	8.7x

- (a) Based on research analyst consensus estimates.
- (b) Reflects fourth quarter 2009 annualized production.

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The following tables set forth the estimates of SandRidge management and selected research analysts for Arena for estimated EBITDA, proved reserves, daily production and estimated cash flows, adjusted for recent acquisition and divestiture activity:

	SandRidge Management Estimates(a)		Consensus Estimates(b)	
	Arena @ April 1, 2010	Arena @ Merger Consideration	Arena @ April 1, 2010	Arena @ Merger Consideration
Total enterprise value divided by:				
2010 Estimated EBITDA	5.8x	6.8x	8.2x	9.7x
2011 Estimated EBITDA	3.9x	4.6x	6.8x	8.0x
12/31/2009 Proved Reserves (\$/BOE)	\$ 18.80	\$ 22.17	\$ 18.80	\$ 22.17
Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)	\$ 144,660	\$ 170,595	\$ 153,169	\$ 180,631
2011 Estimated Annualized Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)	\$ 84,615	\$ 99,785	\$ 127,182	\$ 149,984
Price to 2010 Estimated Cash Flow	5.9x	6.9x	8.6x	10.1x
Price to 2011 Estimated Cash Flow	4.0x	4.7x	6.9x	8.0x

(a) Based on SandRidge management estimates.

(b) Based on research analyst consensus estimates.

Deutsche Bank selected the comparable companies listed above because their business and operating profiles are reasonably similar to that of Arena. However, because of the inherent differences between the businesses, operations and prospects of Arena and those of the selected comparable companies, Deutsche Bank believed that it was inappropriate to, and therefore did not, rely solely on the quantitative results of the selected comparable company analysis. Accordingly, Deutsche Bank also made qualitative judgments concerning differences between the business, financial and operating characteristics and prospects of Arena and the selected comparable companies that could affect the public trading values of each in order to provide a context in which to consider the results of the quantitative analysis. These qualitative judgments related primarily to the differing sizes, growth prospects, reserve profiles, profitability levels and degrees of operational risk between Arena and the selected companies included in the comparable company analysis. Based upon these judgments, Deutsche Bank selected enterprise value multiple ranges of (i) \$18.00 to \$25.00 per proved barrel of oil equivalent, (ii) \$100,000 to \$160,000 per barrel of oil equivalent of daily production, (iii) 6.5x to 9.0x for 2010 estimated EBITDA, and (iv) 5.0x to 6.5x for 2011 estimated EBITDA. In addition, Deutsche Bank selected price to cash flow multiples of 6.0x to 8.0x for 2010 and 4.0x to 6.0x for 2011. Deutsche Bank then applied these ranges, as appropriate, to SandRidge management estimates and research analyst consensus estimates for Arena to arrive at an average valuation range of \$30.40 to \$41.71 per Arena share.

With respect to SandRidge, Deutsche Bank reviewed the public stock market trading multiples for the following exploration and production companies, which Deutsche Bank selected because of their generally similar size, regional focus and relatively comparable reserve portfolios:

Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation;

Cimarex Energy Co.;

EXCO Resources, Inc.;

Forest Oil Corporation;

Newfield Exploration Company;

Plains Exploration & Production Company; and

St. Mary Land & Exploration Company.

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Using publicly available information, Deutsche Bank calculated and analyzed enterprise value multiples of each comparable company's estimated EBITDA, proved reserves and daily production, adjusted for recent acquisition and divestiture activity. Deutsche Bank also analyzed recent price to estimated cash flow multiples for each comparable company. The results of the SandRidge comparable company analysis are summarized below.

	Multiple Range of Comparable Companies of SandRidge		
	Low	Median	High
Total enterprise value divided by:			
2010 Estimated EBITDA(a)	5.0x	6.5x	9.0x
2011 Estimated EBITDA(a)	4.4x	5.6x	6.7x
12/31/2009 Proved Reserves (\$/BOE)	\$ 12.97	\$ 19.37	\$ 31.27
Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)(b)	\$ 57,428	\$ 79,279	\$ 118,060
2011 Estimated Annualized Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)(a)	\$ 51,118	\$ 60,724	\$ 68,912
Price to 2010 Estimated Cash Flow(a)	4.8x	5.3x	8.4x
Price to 2011 Estimated Cash Flow(a)	4.3x	4.7x	6.8x

(a) Based on research analyst consensus estimates.

(b) Reflects fourth quarter 2009 annualized production.

The following tables set forth the estimates of SandRidge management and selected research analysts for SandRidge for estimated EBITDA, proved reserves, daily production and estimated cash flows, adjusted for recent acquisition and divestiture activity:

	SandRidge Management Estimates(a)	Consensus Estimates(b)
Total enterprise value divided by:		
2010 Estimated EBITDA	6.7x	6.5x
2011 Estimated EBITDA	6.3x	6.0x
12/31/2009 Proved Reserves (\$/BOE)	\$ 21.50	\$ 21.50
Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)	\$ 92,667	\$ 92,667
2011 Estimated Annualized Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)(c)	\$ 64,372	\$ 62,278
Price to 2010 Estimated Cash Flow	3.7x	3.2x
Price to 2011 Estimated Cash Flow	3.4x	2.7x

(a) Based on SandRidge management estimates.

(b) Based on research analyst consensus estimates.

(c) Reflects September 30, 2009 production adjusted through December 31, 2009 to reflect the pro forma impact of a full quarter contribution of the Forest Permian acquisition, which closed effective December 21, 2009.

Deutsche Bank selected the comparable companies listed above because their businesses and operating profiles are reasonably similar to that of SandRidge. However, because of the inherent differences between the businesses, operations and prospects of SandRidge and those of the selected comparable companies, Deutsche Bank believed that it was inappropriate to, and therefore did not, rely solely on the quantitative results of the selected comparable company analysis. Accordingly, Deutsche Bank also made qualitative judgments concerning differences between the business, financial and operating characteristics and prospects of SandRidge and the selected comparable companies that could affect the public trading values of each in order to provide a context in which to consider the results of the quantitative analysis. These qualitative judgments related primarily to the differing sizes, growth prospects, reserve profiles, profitability levels and degrees of operational risk between SandRidge and the selected companies included in the comparable company analysis. Based upon these judgments, Deutsche Bank selected enterprise value multiple ranges of (i) \$15.00 to \$21.00 per proved barrel of

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oil equivalent, (ii) \$65,000 to \$100,000 per barrel of oil equivalent of daily production, (iii) 5.50x to 7.25x for 2010 estimated EBITDA, and (iv) 4.75x to 6.25x for 2011 estimated EBITDA. In addition, Deutsche Bank selected price to cash flow multiples of 4.75x to 6.25x for 2010 and 4.25x to 5.25x for 2011. Deutsche Bank then applied these ranges, as appropriate, to SandRidge management estimates and research analyst consensus estimates for SandRidge to arrive at an average valuation range of \$5.96 to \$10.89 per SandRidge share.

***Comparable Transaction Analysis***

Deutsche Bank reviewed and compared the purchase prices and financial multiples paid in selected other transactions that Deutsche Bank deemed relevant, based on its experience with merger and acquisition transactions. Deutsche Bank chose such transactions based on, among other things, the similarity of the applicable target in each transaction to Arena with respect to size, location of assets, reserve portfolio and other characteristics that Deutsche Bank deemed relevant.

The following list sets forth the transactions analyzed based on such characteristics:

Denbury Resources Inc. s acquisition of Encore Acquisition Company;

Apollo Global Management s acquisition of Parallel Petroleum Corporation;

Concho Resources Inc. s acquisition of Henry Petroleum Corporation;

XTO Energy Inc. s acquisition of assets from Headington Oil Company;

Plains Exploration & Production Company s acquisition of Pogo Producing Company;

Pogo Producing Company s acquisition of Latigo Petroleum; and

Cimarex Energy Co. s acquisition of Magnum Hunter Resources Corp.

Using publicly available information for comparable transactions, Deutsche Bank calculated and analyzed, where available, enterprise value multiples of estimated EBITDA for the one-year and two-year periods following the announcement of the transaction and enterprise value multiples of recent proved reserve and production data, in each case at the time of the announcement. Deutsche Bank also analyzed then-current equity value as a multiple of cash flow for the one-year and two-year periods following the announcement of the transaction. The results of the comparable transaction analysis are summarized below.

	<b>Median</b>
Total enterprise value divided by:	
Estimated EBITDA for Year 1 following announcement	5.9x
Estimated EBITDA for Year 2 following announcement	4.7x
Proved Reserves (\$/BOE)	\$ 16.69
Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)	\$ 99,395
Price to Estimated Cash Flow Multiple for Year 1 following announcement	3.8x
Price to Estimated Cash Flow Multiple for Year 2 following announcement	4.5x(a)

- (a) The price to estimated cash flow multiples for Year 2 following announcement were determined not to be meaningful by Deutsche Bank given limited available data.

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The following tables set forth enterprise value multiples of estimated EBITDA, proved reserves and production for Arena based on information provided by SandRidge management and published by selected equity research analysts. For purposes of determining Arena's equity value, Deutsche Bank used Arena's closing price of \$34.26 per share on the New York Stock Exchange on April 1, 2010 and an assumed implied value of the merger consideration of \$40.00 per Arena share.

	SandRidge Management Estimates		Consensus Estimates	
	Arena @ April 1, 2010	Arena @ Merger Consideration	Arena @ April 1, 2010	Arena @ Merger Consideration
Total enterprise value divided by:				
Estimated EBITDA for Year 1 after following announcement	5.8x	6.8x	8.2x	9.7x
Estimated EBITDA for Year 2 following announcement	3.9x	4.6x	6.8x	8.0x
12/31/2009 Proved Reserves (\$/BOE)	\$ 18.80	\$ 22.17	\$ 18.80	\$ 22.17
Daily Production (\$/BOE/d)	\$ 144,660(a)	\$ 170,595(a)	\$ 153,169(b)	\$ 180,631(b)
Price to Estimated Cash Flow Multiple for Year 1 following announcement	5.9x	6.9x	8.6x	10.1x
Price to Estimated Cash Flow Multiple for Year 2 following announcement	4.0x	4.7x	6.9x(c)	8.0x(c)

(a) Based on Arena management estimates of daily production as of April 1, 2010.

(b) Based on Arena's publicly disclosed estimates of daily production.

(c) The price to estimated cash flow multiples for Year 2 following announcement were determined not to be meaningful by Deutsche Bank given limited available data.

The reasons for and the circumstances surrounding each of the selected comparable transactions analyzed were diverse, and there are inherent differences between the businesses, operations, financial conditions and prospects of Arena and the companies and assets included in the comparable transaction analysis. Accordingly, Deutsche Bank believed that a purely quantitative comparable transaction analysis would not be particularly meaningful in the context of considering the merger. Deutsche Bank, therefore, made qualitative judgments concerning differences between the characteristics of the selected comparable transactions and the merger which would affect the acquisition values of the selected target companies and Arena. Based upon these judgments, Deutsche Bank selected enterprise value multiple ranges of (i) \$15.00 to \$21.00 per proved barrel of oil equivalent, (ii) \$75,000 to \$115,000 per barrel of oil equivalent of daily production, (iii) 5.5x to 7.5x for estimated EBITDA for year 1 following the announcement, and (iv) 4.5x to 6.5x for estimated EBITDA for year 2 following the announcement. In addition, Deutsche Bank selected price to estimated cash flow multiples of 4.5x to 6.0x for year 1 following the announcement. Deutsche Bank then applied these ranges, as appropriate, to SandRidge management estimates and research analyst estimates for Arena to arrive at an average valuation range of \$26.21 to \$36.02 per Arena share.

**Research Analyst Price Targets**

Deutsche Bank evaluated the publicly available price targets for SandRidge and Arena published by independent equity research analysts, as reported on Bloomberg and independent equity research analysts as of April 1, 2010. For SandRidge, Deutsche Bank reviewed twelve-month price targets published by eleven independent equity research analysts associated with various Wall Street firms. Research analyst price targets attributed a twelve-month target share price range for SandRidge of \$9.00 to \$15.00, with a median of \$13.00 per share. After discounting these price targets for SandRidge's estimated cost of equity, Deutsche Bank arrived at an implied share price range for SandRidge of \$7.72 per share to \$12.57 per share, as compared to SandRidge's closing stock price of \$7.85 per share on April 1, 2010. For Arena, Deutsche Bank reviewed twelve-month price

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targets published by thirteen independent equity research analysts associated with various Wall Street firms. Research analyst price targets attributed a twelve-month target share price range for Arena of \$36.00 to \$50.00 per share, with a median of \$44.00 per share. After discounting these price targets for Arena's estimated cost of equity, Deutsche Bank arrived at an implied share price range for Arena of \$32.49 per share to \$45.96 per share, as compared to Arena's closing stock price of \$34.26 per share on April 1, 2010.

**Contribution Analysis**

Deutsche Bank performed a contribution analysis in which it analyzed and compared the relative implied contribution of SandRidge and Arena to the combined company on a percentage basis based on:

EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2009 and as estimated for calendar years ending December 31, 2010, 2011 and 2012;

Proved reserves for the year ended December 31, 2009; and

Production for the year ended December 31, 2009, latest publicly disclosed production and production estimates for calendar years ending December 31, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

For purposes of this analysis, Deutsche Bank reviewed the enterprise values of SandRidge and Arena based upon the fully diluted outstanding number of shares of common stock calculated with the treasury stock method, derived using a weighted average trading valuation multiple of SandRidge and Arena as of April 1, 2010. Deutsche Bank also adjusted the respective contribution percentages resulting from EBITDA, proved reserves and production based metrics to reflect the relative capital structures for each of SandRidge and Arena as reported on December 31, 2009 and after adjusting for the cash component of the merger consideration. The contribution analysis did not give effect to the impact of any synergies as a result of the proposed merger. The following table summarizes the results of this analysis:

	Contribution % (a)		Implied % of Combined Equity (b)		Implied Exchange Ratio
	SandRidge	Arena	SandRidge	Arena	
<b>EBITDA</b>					
2009A	84.7%	15.3%	72.6%	27.4%	2.30x
2010E	75.6%	24.4%	51.9%	48.1%	4.90x
2011E	68.8%	31.2%	38.1%	61.9%	8.59x
2012E	70.3%	29.7%	41.2%	58.8%	7.55x
<b>Proved reserves(c)</b>					
2009A	70.2%	29.8%	41.0%	59.0%	7.62x
<b>Production(c)</b>					
2009A	80.0%	20.0%	62.0%	38.0%	3.75x
As of April 1, 2010	77.7%	22.3%	56.1%	43.9%	4.14x
2010E	76.8%	23.2%	54.3%	45.7%	4.45x
2011E	74.2%	25.8%	49.0%	51.0%	5.51x
2012E	74.4%	25.6%	49.4%	50.6%	5.41x

(a) Based on SandRidge management estimates.

(b) Based on relative equity value contribution as adjusted for differing capital structures for each of SandRidge and Arena as reported on December 31, 2009, after adjusting for the cash component of the merger consideration, and derived using a weighted average trading valuation multiple of SandRidge and Arena as of April 1, 2010.

(c) Reflects a 15.4 to 1 gas to oil conversion based on the average oil price benchmark for 2010 - 2014 divided by the gas price benchmark for 2010 - 2014.





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Deutsche Bank noted that the low and high closing prices per share of Arena common stock during the 52-week period commencing April 1, 2009 ranged from a low of \$25.48 to a high of \$45.24. Deutsche Bank also analyzed the implied exchange ratios based on historical trading levels for both the SandRidge and Arena common shares, which ranged from 2.67 SandRidge shares for each Arena share (average since SandRidge's initial public offering in November 2007) to a high of 4.47 SandRidge shares for each Arena share (average over three months ending April 1, 2010). Based on the pre-announcement trading prices of SandRidge and Arena, the implied exchange ratio on April 1, 2010 was 4.36 SandRidge shares for each Arena share.

***General***

The Deutsche Bank opinion was approved and authorized for issuance by a fairness opinion review committee and was addressed to, and for the use and benefit of, the SandRidge board of directors, and was not a recommendation to the stockholders of SandRidge to approve the issuance of SandRidge common stock or the amendments to SandRidge's charter, in each case as contemplated by the merger agreement. The opinion was limited to the fairness, from a financial point of view, to SandRidge of the merger consideration consisting of 4.7771 shares of common stock of SandRidge and \$2.50 in cash in exchange for each share of Arena common stock. Deutsche Bank's opinion was subject to the assumptions, limitations, qualifications and other conditions contained in the opinion and was necessarily based on the economic, market and other conditions, and information made available to Deutsche Bank, as of the date of the opinion. SandRidge did not ask Deutsche Bank to, and its opinion did not, address the fairness of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, or any consideration received in connection therewith, to the holders of any class of securities, creditors or other constituencies of SandRidge, nor did it address the fairness of the contemplated benefits of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. Deutsche Bank did not express any view on, and its opinion did not address, any other term or aspect of the merger agreement or transactions contemplated thereby or any term or aspect of any other agreement or instrument contemplated by the merger agreement or entered into or amended in connection with the transactions contemplated thereby. Deutsche Bank expressly disclaimed any undertaking or obligation to advise any person of any change in any fact or matter affecting Deutsche Bank's opinion of which it becomes aware after the date thereof. Deutsche Bank expressed no opinion as to the merits of the underlying decision by SandRidge to engage in the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement or the relative merits of such transactions as compared to any alternative business strategies. Deutsche Bank did not express any view or opinion as to the fairness, financial or otherwise, of the amount or nature of any compensation payable to or to be received by any of the officers, directors, or employees of SandRidge or Arena, or any class of such persons, in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement whether relative to the amounts to be received by any other person pursuant to the merger agreement or otherwise. Deutsche Bank's opinion did not in any manner address the prices at which SandRidge common stock will trade following the announcement or consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

Deutsche Bank is an affiliate of Deutsche Bank AG. Deutsche Bank or one or more of its affiliates have, from time to time, provided investment banking, commercial banking (including extension of credit) and other financial services to SandRidge or its affiliates for which it has received compensation, including customary fees. During the two years preceding the date of the opinion letter, Deutsche Bank AG and its affiliates had not provided any significant investment banking, commercial banking (including extension of credit) or other financial services to Arena or its affiliates. Deutsche Bank AG and its affiliates may provide investment and commercial banking services to SandRidge, Arena or their respective affiliates in the future for which Deutsche Bank would expect Deutsche Bank AG and its affiliates to receive compensation. In the ordinary course of business, Deutsche Bank AG and its affiliates may actively trade in the securities and other instruments and obligations of Arena, SandRidge, or their respective affiliates for their own accounts and for the accounts of their customers. Accordingly, Deutsche Bank AG and its affiliates may at any time hold a long or short position in such securities, instruments and obligations.

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The SandRidge board of directors engaged Deutsche Bank as a financial advisor because it is an internationally recognized investment banking firm that has substantial experience in transactions similar to the merger. Pursuant to its engagement letter with SandRidge, Deutsche Bank will be paid a transaction fee for its services as financial advisor to SandRidge in connection with the merger in the amount of approximately \$3.0 million, a portion of which was paid upon delivery of its opinion and a substantial portion of which is payable contingent upon completion of the merger. SandRidge also agreed to reimburse Deutsche Bank for its expenses, and to indemnify Deutsche Bank against certain liabilities, in connection with its engagement

### **Opinion of Arena's Financial Advisor**

Arena retained Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. Securities, Inc., referred to as TudorPickering, solely to provide an opinion to the board of directors of Arena in connection with the merger. Arena instructed TudorPickering to evaluate the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the Merger Consideration (as defined below) to be paid to the holders of Arena common stock in the merger other than Arena, SandRidge, the surviving company or any of their affiliates. At a meeting of the board of directors of Arena held on April 2, 2010, TudorPickering rendered its opinion orally to the board of directors of Arena that, as of April 2, 2010, based upon and subject to the factors and assumptions set forth in the opinion and based upon such other matters as TudorPickering considered relevant, the Merger Consideration (as defined below) to be paid to the holders of Arena common stock pursuant to the merger agreement was fair from a financial point of view to such holders. Upon execution of the merger agreement on April 3, 2010, TudorPickering confirmed its opinion in writing to the board.

The opinion speaks only as of the date it was delivered and not as of the time the merger will be completed. The opinion does not reflect changes that may occur or may have occurred after April 3, 2010, which could significantly alter the value of Arena or SandRidge or the respective trading prices of their common stock, which are factors on which TudorPickering's opinion was based.

**The full text of the TudorPickering opinion, dated April 3, 2010, which sets forth, among other things, the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations of the review undertaken by TudorPickering in rendering its opinion, is attached as Annex C to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated herein by reference. The summary of the TudorPickering opinion set forth in this document is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion. Arena stockholders are urged to read the TudorPickering opinion carefully and in its entirety. TudorPickering provided its opinion for the information and assistance of the board of directors of Arena in connection with its consideration of the merger. The TudorPickering opinion does not constitute a recommendation as to how any holder of interests in Arena should vote or act with respect to the merger or any other matter.**

TudorPickering's opinion and its presentation to the board of directors of Arena were among many factors taken into consideration by the board of directors of Arena in approving the merger agreement and making its recommendation regarding the merger.

In connection with rendering its opinion and performing its related financial analysis, TudorPickering reviewed, among other things:

1. the merger agreement;
2. annual reports to stockholders and Annual Reports on Form 10-K of Arena for the three years ended December 31, 2009;
3. annual reports to stockholders and Annual Reports on Form 10-K of SandRidge for the three years ended December 31, 2009;
4. certain interim reports to stockholders and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q of Arena and SandRidge;
5. certain other communications from Arena and SandRidge to their respective stockholders;

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6. certain internal financial and production information and forecasts for Arena and SandRidge prepared by the respective managements of Arena and SandRidge;
7. the estimated proved reserves and economics report for Arena effective December 31, 2009 prepared by Arena and reviewed by Williamson Petroleum Consultants, Inc.;
8. the estimated proved, probable and possible reserves of Arena effective December 31, 2009, as estimated by Arena based on the three year NYMEX forward price strip as of March 11, 2010;
9. the estimated proved reserves and future revenue or future net cash flow reports for specified SandRidge interests effective December 31, 2009, prepared by Lee Keeling and Associates, Inc. and Netherland, Sewell & Associates, Inc.;
10. the estimated net proved crude oil, condensate, natural gas liquids, and natural gas reserves report for specified interests of SandRidge Tertiary, LLC, effective December 31, 2009, prepared by DeGolyer and MacNaughton;
11. the estimated proved, probable and possible reserves of SandRidge effective December 31, 2009, as estimated by SandRidge based on the three year NYMEX forward price strip as of March 11, 2010 (including a unique case assuming an accelerated capital expenditure program);
12. certain cost savings and other synergies projected by the management of SandRidge to result from the merger; and
13. certain publicly available research analyst reports with respect to the expected future financial performance of Arena and SandRidge, which it discussed with the senior managements of Arena and SandRidge.

TudorPickering also held discussions with members of the senior management of Arena and SandRidge regarding their assessment of the strategic rationale for, and the potential benefits of, the merger and the past and current business operations, financial condition and future prospects of their respective entities. In addition, TudorPickering reviewed the reported price and trading activity for the Arena common stock and SandRidge common stock, compared certain financial and stock market information for Arena and SandRidge with similar information for certain other companies the securities of which are publicly traded, reviewed the financial terms of certain recent business combinations in the upstream sector of the energy industry specifically and in other industries generally and performed such other studies and analyses, and considered such other factors, as it considered appropriate.

For purposes of its opinion, TudorPickering assumed and relied upon the accuracy and completeness of all of the financial, accounting, legal, tax and other information provided to, discussed with or reviewed by or for it, or publicly available, and has not independently verified such information. In that regard, TudorPickering assumed with Arena's consent that the internal financial and production information and forecasts and synergies referenced above were reasonably prepared on a basis reflecting the best currently available estimates and good faith judgments of Arena and SandRidge and that such forecasts and synergies will be realized in the amounts and the time periods contemplated thereby. TudorPickering also assumed at the direction of Arena, that the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement will be consummated in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, without waiver, modification or amendment of any material term, condition or agreement and that, in the course of obtaining the necessary governmental, regulatory or other consents, approvals, releases and waivers, no delay, limitation, restriction or condition will be imposed that would have an adverse effect on Arena, SandRidge, Merger Sub, the holders of Arena common stock or the expected benefits of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement in any way meaningful to its analysis. In addition, TudorPickering has not made an independent evaluation or appraisal of the assets and liabilities (including any contingent, derivative or off-balance-sheet assets and liabilities) of Arena or any of its subsidiaries or SandRidge or any of its subsidiaries and has not been furnished with any such evaluation or appraisal. TudorPickering's opinion does not address any legal, regulatory, tax or accounting matters, and it has assumed, at the direction of Arena, that the Merger will qualify for federal income tax purposes as a reorganization under the provisions of Section 368(a) of the Code.



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TudorPickering's opinion is necessarily based upon economic, monetary, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information made available to it as of, April 3, 2010. TudorPickering has disclaimed any undertaking or obligation to update, revise or reaffirm its opinion or to advise any person of any change in any matter affecting its opinion which may be brought to its attention after the date of its opinion.

The estimates contained in TudorPickering's analysis and the results from any particular analysis are not necessarily indicative of future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by such analyses. In addition, analyses relating to the value of businesses or assets neither purport to be appraisals nor do they necessarily reflect the prices at which businesses or assets may actually be sold. Accordingly, TudorPickering's analysis and estimates are inherently subject to substantial uncertainty.

In arriving at its opinion, TudorPickering did not attribute any particular weight to any particular analysis or factor considered by it, but rather made qualitative judgments as to the significance and relevance of each analysis and factor. Several analytical methodologies were employed by TudorPickering in its analyses, and no one single method of analysis should be regarded as critical to the overall conclusion reached by TudorPickering. Each analytical technique has inherent strengths and weaknesses, and the nature of the available information may further affect the value of particular techniques. Accordingly, TudorPickering believes that its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analyses and of the factors considered by it, without considering all analyses and factors in their entirety, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the evaluation process underlying its opinion. The conclusion reached by TudorPickering, therefore, is based on the application of TudorPickering's own experience and judgment to all analyses and factors considered by TudorPickering, taken as a whole. TudorPickering's opinion was reviewed and approved by its fairness opinion committee.

TudorPickering's opinion relates solely to the fairness, from a financial point of view, to the holders of the outstanding shares of Arena common stock (other than Arena, SandRidge, the surviving company or their affiliates) of the Merger Consideration to be paid to such holders in the merger as contemplated by the merger agreement.

TudorPickering's opinion does not address the relative merits of the merger as compared to any alternative business transaction or strategic alternative that might be available to Arena, nor does it address the underlying business decision of Arena to engage in the merger. TudorPickering does not express any view on, and its opinion does not address, any other term or aspect of the merger agreement or the merger, including, without limitation, the fairness of the merger to, or any consideration received in connection therewith by, creditors or other constituencies of Arena or SandRidge; nor as to the fairness of the amount or nature of any compensation to be paid or payable to any of the officers, directors or employees of Arena or SandRidge, or any class of such persons, in connection with the merger. TudorPickering has not been asked to consider, and its opinion does not address, the price at which SandRidge common stock will trade at any time. TudorPickering is not rendering any legal or accounting advice and understands Arena is relying on its legal counsel and accounting advisors as to legal and accounting matters in connection with the merger.

The data and analyses summarized herein are from TudorPickering's presentation to the board of directors of Arena delivered on April 2, 2010, which primarily utilized market closing prices as of April 1, 2010. The analyses summarized herein include information presented in tabular format. In order to fully understand the financial analyses performed, the tables must be read with the text of each summary. For purposes of its analysis, TudorPickering defined EBITDA as net income plus income taxes, interest expense (less interest income), depreciation and amortization. Cash flow represents cash flow provided by operations.

### ***Summary of TudorPickering's Analysis***

In the merger, holders of Arena common stock will receive 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock and \$2.50 in cash for each share of Arena common stock, which is collectively referred to in this section as the Merger Consideration. Based on the last trading price of SandRidge common stock of \$7.85 on April 1, 2010, the value of the Merger Consideration to be received by Arena shareholders was \$40.00 per share.

**Table of Contents****Commodity Price Assumptions**

The annual commodity price assumptions used by TudorPickering in certain of its analyses are summarized below:

NYMEX Forward Strip as of March 11, 2010

Year	Gas (per MMBtu)	Oil (per Bbl)
2010	\$ 4.94	\$ 82.17
2011	5.58	85.74
2012	5.94	86.94
Thereafter (Tail Price)	6.14	87.88

NYMEX Forward Strip as of April 1, 2010

Year	Gas (per MMBtu)	Oil (per Bbl)
2010	\$ 4.61	\$ 83.76
2011	5.44	87.38
2012	5.85	88.03
2013	6.12	88.45
2014	6.39	88.89
Thereafter (Tail Price)	6.39	88.89

Research Consensus per Bloomberg

Year	Gas (per MMBtu)	Oil (per Bbl)
2010	\$ 6.00	\$ 79.00
2011	6.50	86.00
2012	6.75	97.00
Thereafter (Tail Price)	7.00	90.00

10 Year Historical Monthly Average

	Gas (per MMBtu)	Oil (per Bbl)
Average (Rounded)	\$ 6.00	\$ 55.00

**Historical Share Exchange Ratio Analysis**

TudorPickering derived implied historical share exchange ratios by dividing the average closing price of the Arena common stock by the average closing price of the SandRidge common stock over varying time periods. Such derived share exchange ratios were used by TudorPickering as a basis for comparison with the portion of the Merger Consideration composed of the proposed 4.7771x share exchange ratio. The following table sets forth the results of this analysis:

	Share Exchange Ratio
Ratio As Of April 1, 2010	4.36x
10-Day Average	4.28x
1-Month Average	4.28x
6-Month Average	4.13x

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1-Year Average	3.60x
Since SandRidge IPO	1.72x



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**Table of Contents*****Net Asset Valuation Analysis***

TudorPickering performed an illustrative Net Asset Value analysis of Arena. TudorPickering calculated the present value of the after-tax future cash flows that Arena could be expected to generate from its existing base of estimated proved reserves, probable reserves and possible reserves as of January 1, 2010, as provided by the management of Arena. TudorPickering estimated Net Asset Value by adding (i) the present value of the cash flows generated by these estimated proved, probable and possible reserves multiplied by probability weightings ranging from 100% to 25% to reflect the relative certainty of the individual reserve categories, plus (ii) the present value of existing hedges, plus (iii) the book value or estimated market value of other assets, less (iv) the expected income taxes to be paid, less (v) other corporate adjustments including net debt (total debt less cash). All cash flows were discounted at a rate of 9 to 11%. The commodity prices utilized to derive the cash flows through 2014 were based on the NYMEX forward strip on April 1, 2010. The commodity prices utilized to derive cash flows in 2015 and beyond, referred to as the Tail Price, were based on 2014 commodity prices. TudorPickering calculated the impact of commodity price assumptions and the valuation factor applied to the proved, probable and possible reserves on Net Asset Value. For commodity price sensitivities, TudorPickering applied (i) 10 year historical monthly average prices, and (ii) research consensus prices. Taken together, the foregoing sensitivities applied to the Net Asset Value calculation resulted in an implied Arena common stock valuation range of \$20.28 to \$51.06 per share.

***Discounted Cash Flow Analysis***

TudorPickering performed a discounted cash flow analysis of Arena using financial forecasts through 2013 as provided by Arena. TudorPickering analyzed three commodity cases: NYMEX forward curve as of March 11, 2010, research consensus prices, and a 10 year historical monthly average prices. Terminal values were calculated at December 31, 2012 using a multiple range of 4.5x to 6.5x 2013E EBITDA. Discount rates of 9% to 11% were used to calculate the present value of the annual free cash flows and the terminal value. The resulting enterprise value was then adjusted by Arena's net debt amount (total debt less cash) to calculate equity value. Taken together, the foregoing sensitivities resulted in an Arena common stock valuation range of \$12.63 to \$46.66 per share.

***Relative Consideration Analysis***

TudorPickering compared the implied value of the Merger Consideration per share received by Arena to its standalone valuation per share across a range of analyses. The implied value per share of the Merger Consideration was calculated by multiplying the SandRidge value per share for each individual analysis by the 4.7771x exchange ratio and adding the \$2.50 in cash consideration.

Public information, including research analysts target prices and TudorPickering's equity research NAV estimates, was used to compare Arena's standalone valuation to the Merger Consideration.

Additionally, to compare the Merger Consideration to Arena's standalone discounted cash flow valuation, TudorPickering performed a discounted cash flow analysis of SandRidge using financial forecasts through 2013 as provided by SandRidge. TudorPickering analyzed two commodity cases: NYMEX forward curve as of March 11, 2010 and research consensus prices. Terminal values for SandRidge were calculated at December 31, 2012 using a multiple of 6.5x 2013E EBITDA. A discount rate of 10% was used to discount annual free cash flows and the terminal value for both Arena and SandRidge.

To compare the Merger Consideration to Arena's standalone Net Asset Value, TudorPickering calculated the Net Asset Value of SandRidge using a methodology consistent with that used to calculate the Net Asset Value of Arena. To calculate SandRidge's Net Asset Value, TudorPickering calculated the present value of the after-tax future cash flows that SandRidge could be expected to generate from its existing base of estimated proved reserves, probable reserves and possible reserves as of January 1, 2010, as provided by the management of SandRidge. TudorPickering estimated Net Asset Value by adding (i) the present value of the cash flows

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generated by these estimated proved, probable and possible reserves multiplied by probability weightings ranging from 100% to 25% to reflect the relative certainty of the individual reserve categories, plus (ii) the present value of existing hedges, plus (iii) the book value or estimated market value of other assets less (iv) the expected income taxes to be paid, less (v) other corporate adjustments including net debt (total debt less cash). SandRidge management also provided TudorPickering an alternative reserve report with accelerated capital expenditures. For this analysis, cash flows of both Arena and SandRidge were discounted to present value using a discount rate of 10%.

The implied Merger Consideration per share was compared to the Arena stand alone value per share for each individual analysis as summarized below:

Case	Implied Merger Consideration Per Share	Arena Standalone Value Per Share
<b>Public Information Analysis</b>		
Analyst Price Targets	\$ 62.21	\$ 43.50
TPH Research NAV	64.60	39.00
<b>Discounted Cash Flow Analysis</b>		
NYMEX Strip as of 3/11/10	31.91	36.94
Research Consensus	51.46	39.05
<b>NAV Analysis - Commodity Sensitivity</b>		
NYMEX Strip as of 4/1/10	49.90	40.80
10 Year Average	20.69	21.41
Research Consensus	73.10	41.53
<b>NAV Analysis - Operating Cases</b>		
Accelerated Capex (NYMEX Strip as of 4/1/10)	52.74	40.80
Unrisked Case (NYMEX Strip as of 4/1/10)	68.66	47.98

**Accretion / (Dilution) Analysis**

TudorPickering analyzed the accretion / (dilution) to Arena stockholders on a cash flow per share basis. For purposes of the analysis, each share of Arena was converted to an equivalent number of shares of the combined company using the proposed exchange ratio and the \$2.50 of cash consideration was assumed to be used to purchase shares of the combined company at the most recent closing share price of SandRidge. The analysis was performed using both management estimates and publicly available data. Public data cash flow was calculated by adjusting consensus EBITDA estimates available from FactSet by non-EBITDA cash flow items as detailed in select Wall Street research reports, which was then divided by fully diluted share count to calculate the publicly available cash flow per share.

	% Accretion / (Dilution) to Arena Stockholders
<b>Accretion / (Dilution) Public Data</b>	
2010E CFPS	90.9%
2011E CFPS	73.2%
<b>Accretion / (Dilution) Management Estimates</b>	
2010E CFPS	91.2%
2011E CFPS	63.6%

**Table of Contents*****Present Value of Future Share Price Analysis***

TudorPickering analyzed the present value per share of Arena and the present value per share of the Merger Consideration. Future share prices of Arena and SandRidge were calculated by multiplying 2013E cash flow per share by select multiples. The peer multiples used for Arena and SandRidge were 5.3x and 4.9x, respectively, and the current multiples for Arena and SandRidge were 7.0x and 3.8x, respectively. An equity discount rate of 13% was then used to discount the future share prices to the present. The present value of SandRidge's future share price was then multiplied by the 4.7771x exchange ratio and added to the \$2.50 cash consideration to calculate the implied present value per share of the Merger Consideration. This implied present value per share of the Merger Consideration was then compared to the present value of Arena's future share price.

	Arena	Merger Consideration
Peer Multiples	\$ 35.30	\$ 57.51
Current Multiples	46.62	45.32

***Premiums Paid Analysis***

TudorPickering reviewed certain transactions with stock consideration in the upstream energy industry with the following criteria: (i) greater than 50% stock consideration and (ii) announced since 2001. For each of the following transactions, TudorPickering calculated the premium of the \$40.00 per share Merger Consideration (calculated by multiplying the 4.7771 exchange ratio by SandRidge's closing price as of April 1, 2010 and adding the \$2.50 of cash consideration per share) to the last trading day prior and the trading day seven days prior to the announcement of the transaction. The selected transactions and results of the analysis are summarized below:

Exxon Mobil Corp. / XTO Energy Inc. (2009)

Denbury Resources Inc. / Encore Acquisition Co. (2009)

Plains Exploration & Production Co. / Pogo Producing (2007)

Forest Oil Corp. / Houston Exploration Co. (2007)

Petrohawk Energy Corp. / KCS Energy Inc. (2006)

ConocoPhillips / Burlington Resources (2005)

Occidental Petroleum Corp. / Vintage Petroleum Inc. (2005)

Chevron Corp. / Unocal Corp. (2005)

Petrohawk Energy Corp. / Mission Resources Corp. (2005)

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Cimarex Energy Co. / Magnum Hunter Resources Inc. (2005)

Noble Energy Inc. / Patina Oil & Gas Corp. (2004)

Pioneer Natural Resources Co. / Evergreen Resources, Inc. (2004)

Kerr-McGee Corp. / Westport Resources Corp. (2004)

Plains Exploration & Production Co. / Nuevo Energy Company (2004)

Whiting Petroleum Corp. / Equity Oil Co. (2004)

Evergreen Resources, Inc. / Carbon Energy Corporation (2003)

Devon Energy Corp. / Ocean Energy Inc. (2003)

Unocal Corp. / Pure Resources Inc. (2002)

Newfield Exploration Co. / EEX Corp. (2002)

Magnum Hunter Resources, Inc. / Prize Energy Corp. (2001)

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Phillips Petroleum Company / Conoco Inc. (2001)

Dominion Resources Inc. / Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas Corp. (2001)

Westport Resources Corp. / Belco Oil &amp; Gas Corp. (2001)

Williams Cos. / Barret Resources Corp. (2001)

	<b>Range</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Merger Consideration</b>
Premium to 1 Day	-4% to 61%	19%	17%
Premium to 7 Days	-9% to 66%	19%	23%

**Select Corporate Transaction Statistics Analysis**

TudorPickering reviewed certain corporate transactions in the upstream energy industry with the following criteria: (i) greater than 50% stock consideration and (ii) announced since 2004. TudorPickering conducted a comparable transactions analysis to assess how similar transactions were valued.

Exxon Mobil Corp. / XTO Energy Inc. (2009)

Denbury Resources Inc. / Encore Acquisition Co. (2009)

Plains Exploration &amp; Production Co. / Pogo Producing (2007)

Petrohawk Energy Corp. / KCS Energy Inc. (2006)

Occidental Petroleum Corp. / Vintage Petroleum Inc. (2005)

Chevron Corp. / Unocal Corp. (2005)

Petrohawk Energy Corp. / Mission Resources Corp. (2005)

Cimarex Energy Co. / Magnum Hunter Resources Inc. (2005)

Noble Energy Inc. / Patina Oil &amp; Gas Corp. (2004)

Pioneer Natural Resources Co. / Evergreen Resources, Inc. (2004)

Kerr-McGee Corp. / Westport Resources Corp. (2004)

Plains Exploration & Production Co. / Nuevo Energy Company (2004)

Whiting Petroleum Corp. / Equity Oil Co. (2004)

For the comparable transactions analysis, select transaction multiples were analyzed including:

the transaction value (defined as the equity purchase price plus assumed net debt obligations, if any) over proved reserves;

the transaction value over daily production; and

the transaction value over current year and forward year EBITDA.

The observed multiple ranges from the comparable transaction analysis as compared to the resulting implied transaction multiples resulting from the proposed Merger Consideration are summarized below:

	Comparable Transactions		Merger
	Range	Median	Consideration
<b><u>Ratio Of Enterprise Value Over:</u></b>			
Proved Reserves (\$/Boe)	\$ 4.50 to \$24.36	\$ 12.78	\$ 22.17
Current Production (\$/MBoe/d)	\$ 19.0 to \$94.9	\$ 58.5	\$ 221.3
FY1 EBITDA	4.9x to 10.2x	5.8x	9.9x
FY2 EBITDA	4.5x to 8.4x	5.8x	8.0x

**Table of Contents****Select Oil-Weighted Transaction Statistics Analysis**

TudorPickering reviewed certain oil-weighted transactions in upstream energy industry that were characterized by similar geographic or commodity characteristics that were: (i) greater than \$50 million in value, (ii) greater than 50% oil and (iii) announced since 2009. TudorPickering conducted a comparable transactions analysis to assess how similar transactions were valued.

For the comparable transactions analysis, select transaction multiples were analyzed including:

the transaction value (defined as the equity purchase price plus assumed net debt obligations, if any) over proved reserves; and

the transaction value over daily production.

The observed multiple ranges from the comparable transaction analysis as compared to the resulting implied transaction multiples resulting from the proposed Merger Consideration are summarized below:

<b><u>Ratio Of Transaction Value Over:</u></b>	<b>Comparable Transactions</b>		<b>Merger</b>
	<b>Range</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Consideration</b>
Proved Reserves (\$/Boe)	\$ 2.71 to \$40.44	\$ 12.23	\$ 22.17
Q4 2009 Production (\$/MBoe/d)	\$ 170.5 to \$35.4	\$ 89.2	\$ 221.3

**Select Public Company Trading Statistics Analysis**

TudorPickering reviewed and compared certain financial, operating and stock market information of Arena to corresponding information of selected publicly traded companies. Also, TudorPickering analyzed two groupings of companies: (i) companies with assets and operations most similar to Arena which included Berry Petroleum, Concho Resources, Denbury Resources, Pioneer Natural Resources and Whiting Petroleum and (ii) companies with operations that were predominately oil-focused, which included Berry Petroleum, Brigham Exploration, Clayton Williams, Concho Resources, Continental Resources, Denbury Resources, Pioneer Natural Resources, Venoco and Whiting Petroleum.

For the public trading analysis, select trading multiples were analyzed including:

enterprise value over proved reserves;

enterprise value over Q4 2009 daily production;

enterprise value over 2010E production;

enterprise value over current year and forward year EBITDA; and

share price over current year and forward year cash flow per share.

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The observed multiple ranges from the public trading analysis as compared to the resulting implied transaction multiples resulting from the proposed Merger Consideration are summarized below:

	Arena Group Range	Median	Oil Focused Group Range	Median	Merger Consideration
<b><u>Ratio Of Enterprise Value Over:</u></b>					
Proved Reserves (\$/Boe)	\$ 10.21 to \$25.99	\$ 20.97	\$ 10.21 to \$68.73	\$ 24.36	\$ 22.17
Q4 2009 Production (\$/MBoe/d)	\$ 93.4 to \$179.8	\$ 101.7	\$ 53.3 to \$375.4	\$ 101.7	\$ 221.3
2010E Production (\$/MBoe/d)	\$ 82.1 to \$142.3	\$ 92.4	\$ 53.1 to \$263.6	\$ 92.4	\$ 192.0
2010E EBITDA	6.2x to 11.2x	7.7x	3.6x to 16.9x	7.7x	9.9x
2011E EBITDA	4.5x to 7.9x	6.5x	2.7x to 9.4x	6.5x	8.0x
<b><u>Ratio Of Share Price Over:</u></b>					
2010E Cash Flow Per Share	5.2x to 8.4x	6.6x	2.0x to 17.1x	6.6x	10.3x
2011E Cash Flow Per Share	4.0x to 6.2x	5.3x	1.5x to 9.3x	5.3x	8.3x

**General**

TudorPickering and its affiliates, as part of their investment banking business, are continually engaged in performing financial analyses with respect to businesses and their securities in connection with merger and acquisitions, negotiated underwritings, competitive biddings, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities, private placements and other transactions as well as for estate, corporate and other purposes.

TudorPickering also engages in securities trading and brokerage, private equity activities, equity research and other financial services, and in the ordinary course of these activities, TudorPickering and its affiliates may from time to time acquire, hold or sell, for their own accounts and for the accounts of their customers, (i) equity, debt and other securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans and other obligations) of Arena, SandRidge or any of the other parties to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, and any of their respective affiliates and (ii) any currency or commodity that may be involved in the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

In addition, TudorPickering and its affiliates and certain of its employees, including members of the team performing services in connection with the merger, as well as certain private equity funds associated or affiliated with TudorPickering in which they may have financial interests, may from time to time acquire, hold or make direct or indirect investments in or otherwise finance a wide variety of companies, including Arena and SandRidge, other prospective purchasers and their respective affiliates. TudorPickering was not requested to, and did not, solicit indications of interest or proposals from third parties regarding a possible acquisition of all or any part of Arena or any alternative transaction. TudorPickering was not requested to, and it did not, participate in the negotiation of the terms of the merger agreement or the transactions contemplated thereby, nor was TudorPickering requested to, and it did not, provide any advice or services in connection with the merger agreement or the transactions contemplated thereby other than the delivery of its opinion. TudorPickering expresses no view or opinion as to any such matters and has assumed, with the consent of Arena, that the terms of the merger agreement are, from the perspective of Arena and its stockholders, the most beneficial that could be obtained.

Arena selected TudorPickering to provide a fairness opinion in connection with the merger because of TudorPickering's expertise, reputation and familiarity with the oil and gas industry generally and the oil and gas services industry specifically and because its investment banking professionals have substantial experience in transactions comparable to the merger.

TudorPickering has provided investment banking services to third parties who considered engaging in a transaction with Arena and received fees for those services. TudorPickering has also provided various investment



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banking services to both Arena and SandRidge in the past for which it received fees or compensation, including serving as an underwriter with respect to Arena's common stock offering in May 2008 and SandRidge's common stock offerings in November 2007, April 2009 and December 2009. TudorPickering and its affiliates may provide investment banking or other financial services to Arena or SandRidge in the future. In connection with such investment banking or other financial services, it may receive compensation.

The description set forth above constitutes a summary of the analyses employed and factors considered by TudorPickering in rendering its opinion to the board of directors of Arena. TudorPickering believes that its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analyses, without considering all analyses and factors, could create an incomplete view of the process underlying its opinion. The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex, analytical process involving various determinations as to the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances and is not necessarily susceptible to partial analysis or summary description.

No company or transaction used in the analyses of comparable transactions summarized above is identical or directly comparable to Arena, SandRidge or the merger. Accordingly, these analyses must take into account differences in the financial and operating characteristics of the selected publicly traded companies and differences in the structure and timing of the selected transactions and other factors that would affect the public trading value and acquisition value of the companies considered.

Pursuant to the terms of the engagement of TudorPickering, Arena agreed to pay TudorPickering a \$1.0 million fee upon delivery of its opinion. In addition, Arena has agreed to reimburse TudorPickering for its reasonably incurred out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the engagement, including fees and disbursements of its legal counsel. Arena has also agreed to indemnify TudorPickering, its affiliates and their respective officers, directors, partners, agents, employees and controlling persons for liabilities arising in connection with or as a result of its rendering of services under its engagement, including liabilities under the federal securities laws.

## **Accounting Treatment of the Merger**

SandRidge intends to account for the merger under the purchase method for business combinations with SandRidge being deemed to have acquired Arena. This means that the assets and liabilities of Arena will be recorded, as of the completion of the merger, at their fair values and added to those of SandRidge.

## **Merger Consideration**

In the merger, holders of shares of Arena common stock will receive 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock (referred to as the exchange ratio), plus \$2.50 in cash (referred to as the per share cash consideration) for each share of Arena common stock that they own immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. The right of each holder of Arena common stock to receive the consideration described in the immediately preceding sentence is referred to as the merger consideration. If between the date of the merger agreement and the effective time of the merger, the outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock are changed into a different number or a different class of shares by reason of any reclassification, recapitalization, split-up, combination, exchange of shares or readjustment, or a stock dividend thereon has been declared with a record date within such period, the exchange ratio, the conversion ratio (as defined below) and the per share cash consideration shall be correspondingly adjusted. Arena stockholders will receive cash for any fractional shares which they would otherwise receive in the merger.

SandRidge will not assume any outstanding options to purchase shares of Arena common stock in the merger. No later than 30 days prior to the scheduled or anticipated closing date of the merger, Arena will send a notice to all holders of options notifying them that (i) SandRidge will not assume any Arena options following the effective time of the merger or substitute new options therefor, and (ii) all unvested options will become

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vested and fully exercisable immediately prior to the effective time of the merger and contingent upon the consummation of the merger. Any options that are in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger and that are not exercised prior to the effective time of the merger will be deemed automatically exercised by the holder thereof, and the holder will be entitled to receive a number of shares of SandRidge common stock equal to the value (based on the merger consideration) of the net number of Arena shares resulting from the deemed exercise. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. Any options that are not in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger will be canceled. Holders of options that become fully vested only as of and effective immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be permitted to exercise such fully vested options effective as of and contingent upon the consummation of the merger. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena stock options, see *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock*.

Each award of restricted stock that is outstanding at the effective time of the merger will be (i) assumed by SandRidge, in accordance with the terms of the applicable Arena stock plan and award agreement by which it is evidenced, except as provided in the immediately succeeding sentence, and (ii) converted into an award of a number of shares of restricted SandRidge common stock equal to the product of (A) the number of shares of Arena common stock underlying such award multiplied by (B) the conversion ratio, which is the exchange ratio of 4.7771 plus a fraction equal to \$2.50 divided by the closing price of the SandRidge common stock on the day immediately prior to the closing date of the merger. Fractions resulting from such conversion will be rounded down. For any employee of Arena whose primary work location is at the Tulsa office, the vesting provisions of each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will be modified, such that each such award will vest upon the earliest to occur of the following: (x) the vesting of such award pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement, (y) the end of the transition period (as defined in the Severance Plan described in *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* ) with respect to the applicable employee and (z) the termination date (as defined in the Severance Plan) with respect to the applicable employee. With respect to any other employee of Arena, each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will vest pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement. For a more complete discussion of the treatment of Arena restricted stock, see *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* *Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock*.

To the extent legally required, as soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time of the merger, SandRidge will cause the shares of restricted stock to be assumed as described above to be registered on Form S-8 (or any successor form promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission), and will use its commercially reasonable efforts to maintain the effectiveness of such registration statement for so long as such assumed restricted stock remains outstanding. As soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time of the merger, SandRidge will also deliver to each holder of an assumed restricted stock a notice setting forth such holder's rights pursuant to such restricted stock.

**Source of Funding for the Merger**

SandRidge's obligation to complete the merger is not conditioned upon its obtaining financing. As of December 31, 2009, SandRidge had \$7.9 million in cash and cash equivalents. In addition, at December 31, 2009, SandRidge had \$803.4 million in undrawn committed revolving credit facilities with commercial banks and \$47.0 million in outstanding letters of credit, which affect the availability under the credit facilities on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The committed facilities expire on April 15, 2014 unless extended. SandRidge expects to fund approximately \$98.3 million (based on the number of outstanding shares of Arena common stock at the closing of the merger) for the aggregate cash portion of the merger consideration payable to the Arena stockholders through drawdowns under its revolving credit facility and/or, to the extent available, internal cash resources. In addition, SandRidge intends to use such internal cash resources and financing as well as cash on hand of Arena following the merger, which at December 31, 2009 was \$63.6 million, to pay for the estimated direct merger transaction costs and professional services of approximately \$15.0 million.

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### **Dissenters Rights of Appraisal**

Holders of SandRidge common stock and Arena common stock are not entitled to dissenters rights of appraisal under either Nevada law or Delaware law in connection with the merger.

### **Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger**

The following discussion sets forth the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to holders of Arena common stock. This discussion does not address any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign jurisdiction. This discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, referred to as the Code, the regulations of the U.S. Treasury Department and court and administrative rulings and decisions in effect on the date of this document. These laws may change, possibly retroactively, and any change could affect the continuing validity of this discussion.

Except as described below under Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, this discussion only applies to you if you are a U.S. Holder. For purposes of this discussion, the term U.S. Holder refers to a holder of Arena common stock that is:

a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized under the laws of the United States or any of its political subdivisions;

a trust if it (i) is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (ii) has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person; or

an estate that is subject to U.S. federal income tax on its income regardless of its source.

For purposes of this discussion, the term Non-U.S. Holder refers to a holder of Arena common stock (other than a partnership) who is not a U.S. Holder.

If a partnership (including any entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds Arena common stock, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partners and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership holding Arena common stock, you should consult your tax advisor.

This discussion assumes that you hold your shares of Arena common stock as a capital asset within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. Further, this discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances or that may be applicable to you if you are subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, including if you are:

a financial institution;

a tax-exempt organization;

an S corporation or other pass-through entity;

an insurance company;

a mutual fund;

a dealer in securities or foreign currencies;

a trader in securities who elects the mark-to-market method of accounting for your securities;

an Arena stockholder subject to the alternative minimum tax provisions of the Code;

an Arena stockholder who received your Arena common stock through the exercise of employee stock options or through a tax-qualified retirement plan;

a person that has a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar;

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a holder of options granted under any Arena benefit plan;

an Arena stockholder who holds Arena common stock as part of a hedge, straddle or a constructive sale or conversion transaction;

a Non-U.S. Holder who holds Arena common stock in connection with such Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. trade or business;

a Non-U.S. Holder who is present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year of the merger; or

certain U.S. expatriates.

**The Merger.** SandRidge and Arena have structured the merger to qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. As described below, it is a condition to each party's respective obligations to complete the merger that SandRidge and Arena each receive a legal opinion that the merger will so qualify. In addition, based on representations contained in representation letters provided by SandRidge and Arena and on customary factual assumptions, all of which must continue to be true and accurate in all material respects as of the effective time of the merger, and subject to the qualifications and limitations set forth in each opinion, it is the opinion of Covington & Burling LLP, counsel to SandRidge, and Johnson & Jones, P.C., counsel to Arena, that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code and, accordingly, that (subject to the considerations relevant to a 5% Non-U.S. Holder described under Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act below) the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger are as follows:

you will recognize gain (but not loss) upon your receipt of SandRidge common stock and cash in exchange for your Arena stock pursuant to the merger in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) the amount by which the sum of the fair market value of the SandRidge common stock and cash received by you exceeds your basis in your Arena stock and (ii) the amount of cash received by you (except with respect to any cash received instead of a fractional share of SandRidge common stock, which is discussed below under Cash Received Instead of a Fractional Share );

your aggregate basis in the SandRidge common stock you receive in the merger (including fractional shares of SandRidge common stock deemed received and redeemed as described below) will be the same as the aggregate basis of your Arena stock for which it is exchanged, decreased by the amount of cash received in the merger (other than cash received instead of a fractional share of SandRidge common stock), and increased by the amount of gain recognized on the exchange, other than with respect to cash received instead of a fractional share of SandRidge common stock (regardless of whether such gain is classified as capital gain or as dividend income, as discussed below under Recharacterization of Gain as a Dividend ); and

your holding period in SandRidge common stock received in exchange for shares of Arena common stock (including fractional shares of SandRidge common stock deemed received and redeemed as described below) will include the holding period of your Arena common stock for which it is exchanged.

**Taxation of Capital Gain.** Except as described below under Recharacterization of Gain as a Dividend below, gain that you recognize in connection with the merger generally will constitute capital gain and will constitute long-term capital gain if you have held (or are treated as having held) your Arena common stock for more than one year as of the date of the merger. For U.S. Holders of Arena common stock that are non-corporate holders, long-term capital gain generally will be taxed at a maximum U.S. federal income tax rate of 15%.

**Recharacterization of Gain as a Dividend.** All or part of the gain that a particular U.S. Holder of Arena common stock recognizes could be treated as dividend income rather than capital gain if (i) you are a significant stockholder of SandRidge or (ii) your percentage ownership, taking into account constructive ownership rules, in

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SandRidge after the merger is not meaningfully reduced from what your percentage ownership would have been if you had received solely shares of SandRidge common stock rather than a combination of cash and shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger. This could happen, for example, because of ownership of additional shares of SandRidge common stock by you or ownership of shares of SandRidge common stock by a person related to you. The Internal Revenue Service has indicated in rulings that any reduction in the interest of a minority stockholder that owns a small number of shares in a publicly and widely held corporation and that exercises no control over corporate affairs would result in capital gain as opposed to dividend treatment. Because the possibility of dividend treatment depends primarily upon the particular circumstances of a holder of Arena common stock, including the application of certain constructive ownership rules, holders of Arena common stock should consult their own tax advisor regarding the potential tax consequences of the merger to them.

***Cash Received Instead of a Fractional Share.*** The receipt by you of cash instead of a fractional share of SandRidge common stock will be treated as if you had received the fractional share pursuant to the merger and then as having exchanged the fractional share for cash in a redemption by SandRidge. As a result, you will generally recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and the basis in your fractional share interest as set forth above. This gain or loss will generally be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if, as of the effective date of the merger, your holding period for such shares is greater than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

You are urged to consult with your own tax advisors about the particular tax consequences of the merger to you, including the effects of U.S. federal, state or local, or foreign and other tax laws.

If you acquired different blocks of Arena common stock at different times and at different prices, your tax basis and holding period in your SandRidge common stock may be determined with reference to each block of Arena common stock.

***Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act.*** Unless a Non-U.S. Holder's shares of Arena common stock are considered U.S. real property interests, referred to as a USRPI under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act, referred to as FIRPTA, a non-U.S. Holder will generally not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on its exchange of Arena stock for SandRidge stock and cash in the merger. Under FIRPTA, dispositions of a USRPI, as described below, by a Non-U.S. Holder are generally subject to U.S. federal income taxation. In the case of a disposition of a USRPI in a transaction qualifying as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code, an exchange of shares representing a USRPI for shares of the acquiring company is eligible for the tax treatment described above under The Merger only if the shares of the acquiring company received by the Non-U.S. Holder in the transaction constitute, immediately after the transaction, a USRPI in the hands of the relevant Non-U.S. Holder.

Because it is believed that Arena is a U.S. real property holding corporation (as defined below), Arena common stock held by Non-U.S. Holders who owned, directly or indirectly by attribution from related persons or entities, more than 5% of Arena common stock at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of the merger, referred to as a 5% Non-U.S. Holder, represents a USRPI. Thus, a 5% Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to U.S. federal income taxation on any gain realized with respect to the SandRidge common stock received in the merger unless the SandRidge common stock received will also constitute a USRPI in the hands of the 5% Non-U.S. Holder. In that event, the Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to U.S. federal income tax under FIRPTA in the same manner as a U.S. Holder as described above. The SandRidge common stock received in the merger will constitute a USRPI only if (1) the relevant Non-U.S. Holder will own greater than 5% of the SandRidge common stock immediately after the Merger and (2) SandRidge is a U.S. real property holding corporation. Shares of Arena common stock held by a Non-U.S. Holder who has not owned, directly or indirectly by attribution to related persons or entities, more than 5% of Arena common stock at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of the merger will not constitute a USRPI.

A U.S. real property holding corporation means any domestic corporation if the fair market value of its U.S. real property interests equals or exceeds 50% of the fair market value of the sum of (i) its U.S. real property

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interests; (ii) its interests in real property located outside the United States; and (iii) any other assets used or held for use in its trade or business. Although SandRidge has not performed a detailed examination of the fair market value of its assets, SandRidge believes that it is a U.S. real property holding corporation, based in part on the assumption that the standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows disclosed on its Annual Report Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 represents the fair market value of its assets. There can be no assurance, however, that the Internal Revenue Service will not take a contrary view or that, if such a contrary view were taken, the Internal Revenue Service would not prevail.

A 5% Non-U.S. Holder should consult its own tax advisor concerning the tax consequences of the merger and, in particular, the application of the rules described above with respect to the ownership of U.S. real property interests.

***Closing Condition Tax Opinions.*** It is a condition to the closing of the merger that SandRidge and Arena will receive opinions from Covington & Burling LLP and Johnson & Jones, P.C., respectively, dated as of the effective date of the merger, to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. These opinions will be based on updated representation letters provided by SandRidge and Arena to be delivered at the time of closing, and on customary factual assumptions. Although the merger agreement allows us to waive this condition to closing, we currently do not anticipate doing so. If either party does waive this condition and the tax consequences of the merger are materially different from those described in this document, we will inform you of this decision and ask you to vote on the merger taking this into consideration.

Neither of these tax opinions will be binding on the Internal Revenue Service. SandRidge and Arena have not and do not intend to seek any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service regarding any matters relating to the merger, and as a result, there can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service will not disagree with or challenge any of the conclusions described herein.

***Backup Withholding.*** If you are a non-corporate holder of Arena common stock, you may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding on any cash payments received instead of a fractional share interest in SandRidge common stock. You will not be subject to backup withholding, however, if you:

furnish a correct taxpayer identification number and certify that you are not subject to backup withholding on either the substitute Form W-9 or successor form included in the letter of transmittal to be delivered to you following the completion of the merger or applicable Form W-8; or

are otherwise exempt from backup withholding.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability, provided you furnish the required information to the Internal Revenue Service.

***Reporting Requirements.*** If you receive SandRidge common stock as a result of the merger, you will be required to retain records pertaining to the merger and may be required to file with your U.S. federal income tax return for the year in which the merger takes place a statement setting forth facts relating to the merger.

**This discussion does not address tax consequences that may vary with, or are contingent on, individual circumstances. Moreover, it does not address any non-income tax or any foreign, state or local tax consequences of the merger. Tax matters are very complicated, and the tax consequences of the merger to you will depend upon the facts of your particular situation. Accordingly, we strongly urge you to consult with a tax advisor to determine the particular federal, state, local or foreign income or other tax consequences to you of the merger.**

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### **Regulatory Filings and Approvals Required to Complete the Merger**

The merger is subject to the requirements of the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, referred to as the HSR Act, which prevents transactions subject to its requirements from being consummated until the required notification forms and attachments are furnished to the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission and certain waiting periods expire or are terminated. SandRidge and Arena each filed the required notification and report forms with the Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission on April 19, 2010. SandRidge requested early termination of the applicable waiting period, which was granted effective April 30, 2010.

The Department of Justice or the Federal Trade Commission, however, are not legally precluded from challenging the merger on antitrust grounds either before or after expiration of the HSR Act waiting period. Accordingly, at any time before or after the completion of the merger, either the Department of Justice or the Federal Trade Commission could bring an action under the antitrust laws, including an injunction action, if deemed necessary to protect competition in any relevant market. Moreover, at any time before or after the completion of the merger, notwithstanding that the applicable waiting period may have expired or been terminated, any state or private party could challenge the merger under the antitrust laws, although a private plaintiff would need to establish that it had the requisite antitrust standing. There can be no assurance that a governmental or private challenge to the merger will not be made or that, if a challenge is made, the parties would prevail.

Except as otherwise described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, we are not aware of any other material governmental or regulatory approval required for completion of the merger, other than compliance with the applicable corporate law of the State of Delaware and the State of Nevada.

### **Litigation Related to the Merger**

Nine shareholder lawsuits styled as class actions have been filed against Arena and its board of directors. The lawsuits are as follows:

*Thomas Slater v. Arena Resources, Inc., et al.* filed in District Court in Tulsa County, Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 6, 2010;

*Raymond M. Eberhardt v. Arena Resources, Inc., et al.* filed in District Court in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on April 8, 2010;

*City of Pontiac General Employees Retirement System v. Arena Resources, Inc., et al.* filed in District Court in Washoe County, Reno, Nevada on April 8, 2010;

*West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund v. Rochford, et al.* filed in District Court in Clark County, Las Vegas, Nevada on April 12, 2010;

*Henry Kolesnik v. Arena Resources, Inc. et al.* filed in District Court in Washoe County, Reno, Nevada on April 14, 2010;

*Roger and Kanya Tiemchan Phillips v. Rochford, et al.* filed in District Court in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on April 16, 2010;

*Richard J. Erickson v. Arena Resources, Inc. et al.* filed in Tulsa County, Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 16, 2010;

*Reinfried v. Arena Resources, Inc., et al.* filed in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on April 20, 2010; and



*Thomas R. Stevenson v. Rochford et al.* filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma on April 26, 2010. All nine lawsuits also name SandRidge as a defendant. Six of the lawsuits (*Eberhardt, Pontiac, West Palm Beach, Tiemchan Phillips, Reinfried, and Stevenson*) name both SandRidge and Merger Sub as additional defendants. All nine complaints generally allege that Arena's directors breached their fiduciary duties in negotiating and approving the merger and by administering a sale process that failed to maximize shareholder

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value. In addition, excepting the *Pontiac* lawsuit, the lawsuits claim that Arena and SandRidge (and, in the case of the *Eberhardt*, *West Palm Beach*, *Tiemchan Phillips*, *Reinfried*, and *Stevenson* lawsuits, Merger Sub) aided and abetted the Arena directors in breaching their fiduciary duties. In the *Stevenson* lawsuit, the plaintiff also alleges that the defendants violated Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder, by issuing an incomplete and misleading proxy statement. The plaintiffs seek among other relief, to enjoin the merger, to rescind the merger agreement and/or to collect damages. In the *Pontiac* lawsuit, the plaintiff also specifically seeks an order declaring the termination fee void and unenforceable, on the ground that it allegedly impermissibly influences the vote of the Arena stockholders on the proposed transaction. Arena and SandRidge believe the lawsuits are without merit and that they have valid defenses to all claims. Arena and SandRidge intend to vigorously defend themselves in the lawsuits.

### **Effective Time of the Merger**

The merger will become effective upon the date on which the articles of merger or other appropriate documents are filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada or at such later time as SandRidge and Arena will agree and specify in the articles of merger. The articles of merger may provide for an effective date that is no more than 90 days after the date the articles of merger have been filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada. If an effective date is provided for in the articles of merger, the parties may terminate the merger by filing articles of termination prior to the stated effective date.

### **New York Stock Exchange Listing of Common Stock to be Issued in the Merger**

SandRidge common stock currently is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SD. SandRidge has agreed in the merger agreement that it will use its reasonable best efforts to cause the SandRidge common stock issuable in the merger to be approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange prior to the effective time of the merger. Listing of the shares of SandRidge common stock, subject to official notice of issuance, is a condition to closing the merger.

### **Delisting and Deregistration of Arena Common Stock**

Upon consummation of the merger, shares of Arena common stock will be delisted from the New York Stock Exchange and deregistered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

### **Federal Securities Laws Consequences; Stock Transfer Restrictions**

SandRidge common stock issued in the merger will not be subject to any restrictions on transfer arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. This joint proxy statement/prospectus does not cover resales of SandRidge common stock received by any person upon completion of the merger, and no person is authorized to make any use of this proxy statement/prospectus in connection with any such resale.

Shares of SandRidge common stock issued in respect of Arena restricted stock will generally have the same terms and be subject to the same restrictions (including with respect to transfer and vesting) applicable to the award of Arena restricted stock immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. However, certain holders of Arena restricted stock will have their vesting schedule altered as described in *Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger* Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock.

### **Organizational Documents, Directors and Officers of Merger Sub**

The merger agreement states that the articles of incorporation of Merger Sub, as in effect immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, will be the articles of incorporation of the entity surviving the merger, until thereafter amended. The bylaws of Merger Sub, as in effect immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, will be the bylaws of the entity surviving the merger until thereafter amended. The directors of Merger Sub immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be the initial directors of the entity surviving the merger and the officers of Merger Sub immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be the initial officers of the entity surviving the merger.

### **Board of Directors and Management of SandRidge Following the Merger**

SandRidge's board of directors and executive officers will remain the same following the merger as they are immediately before the merger becomes effective.



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**Table of Contents****UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information reflects the historical results of SandRidge as adjusted on a pro forma basis to give effect to SandRidge's acquisition of Arena. SandRidge's historical results have also been adjusted to give effect to SandRidge's December 2009 property acquisition in the Permian Basin. These acquisitions are described further below.

*Arena Acquisition.* On April 3, 2010, SandRidge entered into a merger agreement with Arena whereby SandRidge will issue 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock and pay \$2.50 in cash for each share of Arena common stock outstanding, referred to as the Arena Acquisition. Based upon the closing price of SandRidge stock on April 1, 2010, the date used for preparation of these unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information, the consideration to be received by Arena shareholders is valued at \$40.00 per share or \$1.6 billion in the aggregate. Completion of the transaction is contingent upon approval by stockholders of both companies as well as other customary closing conditions. SandRidge will be the surviving company after completion of the merger. Arena is an oil and gas exploration, development and production company with current operations in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and New Mexico.

*2009 Permian Basin Acquisition.* On December 21, 2009, SandRidge purchased oil and natural gas properties located in the Permian Basin, referred to as the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition, from Forest Oil Corporation and one of its subsidiaries for \$800.0 million, subject to certain purchase price and post-closing adjustments. The assets consist primarily of six operated areas in the Central Basin Platform and greater Permian Basin of western Texas and eastern New Mexico. The acquisition was financed with proceeds from the issuance of 8.75% Senior Notes due 2020, the placement of 2,000,000 new shares of 6.0% convertible perpetual preferred stock, and the public offering of 25,600,000 shares of SandRidge common stock, collectively referred to herein as the financing transactions.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet is based on the audited December 31, 2009 balance sheets of SandRidge and Arena and includes pro forma adjustments to give effect to the Arena Acquisition as if it occurred on December 31, 2009. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2009 is based on the audited statements of operations of SandRidge and Arena and includes pro forma adjustments to give effect to SandRidge's 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition and the Arena Acquisition as if those transactions occurred on January 1, 2009.

The pro forma adjustments reflecting the Arena Acquisition under the acquisition method of accounting are based on various preliminary estimates and assumptions and are described in the related notes. The actual adjustments to SandRidge's consolidated combined financial statements upon consummation of the Arena Acquisition and allocation of the purchase price will depend on a number of factors, including additional financial information available at such time, changes in the fair value of SandRidge's common stock transferred at the closing date, changes in the estimated fair value of Arena's natural gas and oil properties as of the closing date, final appraisals of property and equipment and changes in the operating results of Arena between the date of preparation of this pro forma information and the effective date of the acquisition. Accordingly, it is likely that the actual adjustments will differ from the pro forma adjustments, and it is possible these differences could be material. The pro forma statements do not reflect any cost savings (or associated costs to achieve such savings) from operating efficiencies, synergies or other restructuring that could result from the merger.

This unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information is provided for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the results that actually would have occurred had the transactions been in effect on the dates or for the periods indicated, or of results that may occur in the future. This unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes, Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 of both SandRidge and Arena and Form 8-K/A filed by SandRidge on March 8, 2010 in connection with the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition.

**Table of Contents****UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED BALANCE SHEET****AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	SandRidge Historical	Arena Historical	Pro Forma Adjustments (In thousands)		SandRidge Pro Forma Combined
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,861	\$ 63,635	\$ (15,000)	(a)	\$ 56,496
Accounts receivable, net:					
Trade	105,412	15,496			120,908
Related parties	64				64
Derivative contracts	105,994				105,994
Inventories	3,707				3,707
Costs in excess of billings	12,346				12,346
Other current assets	20,580	1,041			21,621
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>255,964</b>	<b>80,172</b>	<b>(15,000)</b>		<b>321,136</b>
Natural gas and crude oil properties, net (full cost method of accounting)	1,971,782	566,474	886,166	(b)	3,424,422
Other property, plant and equipment, net	461,861	10,426		(b)	472,287
Goodwill			499,239	(b)	499,239
Restricted deposits	32,894				32,894
Deferred income taxes			16,789	(b)	
			(16,789)	(d)	
Other assets	57,816				57,816
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,780,317</b>	<b>\$ 657,072</b>	<b>\$ 1,370,405</b>		<b>\$ 4,807,794</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>					
Current liabilities:					
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 12,003				\$ 12,003
Accounts payable and accrued expenses:					
Trade	203,048	18,572			221,620
Related parties	860				860
Derivative contracts	7,080				7,080
Asset retirement obligation	2,553				2,553
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>225,544</b>	<b>18,572</b>			<b>244,116</b>
Long-term debt	2,566,935		98,310	(b)	2,665,245
Other long-term obligations	14,099		1,356	(c)	15,455
Derivative contracts	61,060				61,060
Asset retirement obligation	108,584	7,210			115,794
Deferred income taxes		108,623	335,930	(b)	
			(444,553)	(d)	
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,976,222</b>	<b>134,405</b>	<b>(8,957)</b>		<b>3,101,670</b>
Commitments and contingencies					
Equity:					
SandRidge Energy, Inc. stockholders' equity:					
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 50,000 shares authorized:					
8.5% Convertible perpetual preferred stock; 2,650 shares issued and outstanding;					
aggregate liquidation preference of \$265,000	3				3
6.0% Convertible perpetual preferred stock; 2,000 shares issued and outstanding;					
aggregate liquidation preference of \$200,000	2				2
	203	39	(39)	(b)	

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Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 400,000 shares authorized (historical); 800,000 shares authorized (pro forma); 210,581 issued and 208,715 outstanding (historical); 400,469 issued and 398,603 outstanding (pro forma)

			190	(b)	393
Additional paid-in capital	2,961,613	326,991	(326,991)	(b)	
			1,490,431	(b)	
			2,590	(e)	4,454,634
Treasury stock, at cost	(25,079)				(25,079)
(Accumulated deficit) retained earnings	(3,142,699)	195,637	213,181	(n)	(2,733,881)
Total SandRidge Energy, Inc. stockholders (deficit) equity	(205,957)	522,667	1,379,362		1,696,072
Noncontrolling interest	10,052				10,052
Total (deficit) equity	(195,905)	522,667	1,379,362		1,706,124
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 2,780,317	\$ 657,072	\$ 1,370,405		\$ 4,807,794

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial information.

**Table of Contents****UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	SandRidge Historical	SandRidge 2009 Acquisition and Financing Adjustments		SandRidge as Adjusted for 2009 Acquisition and Financing	Arena Historical	Arena Pro Forma Adjustments	SandRidge Pro Forma Combined
(In thousands, except per share amounts)							
<b>Revenues:</b>							
Natural gas and crude oil	\$ 454,705	\$ 91,549	(f)	\$ 546,254	\$ 126,241	\$	\$ 672,495
Drilling and services	23,902			23,902			23,902
Midstream and marketing	86,028			86,028			86,028
Other	26,409			26,409			26,409
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>591,044</b>	<b>91,549</b>		<b>682,593</b>	<b>126,241</b>		<b>808,834</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>							
Production	169,285	23,638	(f)	192,923	15,543		208,466
Production taxes	4,010	3,937	(f)	7,947	6,456		14,403
Drilling and services	30,899			30,899			30,899
Midstream and marketing	78,684			78,684			78,684
Depreciation and depletion natural gas and crude oil	176,027	54,377	(g)	230,404	39,071	32,663	(g) 302,138
Depreciation, depletion and amortization other	50,865			50,865	298		51,163
Impairment	1,707,150		(h)	1,707,150			(h) 1,707,150
General and administrative	100,256			100,256	13,453		113,709
Gain on derivative contracts	(147,527)			(147,527)	(14,885)		(162,412)
Loss on sale of assets	26,419			26,419			26,419
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,196,068</b>	<b>81,952</b>		<b>2,278,020</b>	<b>59,936</b>	<b>32,663</b>	<b>2,370,619</b>
<b>(Loss) income from operations</b>	<b>(1,605,024)</b>	<b>9,597</b>		<b>(1,595,427)</b>	<b>66,305</b>	<b>(32,663)</b>	<b>(1,561,785)</b>
<b>Other income (expense):</b>							
Interest income	375			375	829		1,204
Interest expense	(185,691)	(39,434)	(i)	(225,125)		(2,291)	(m) (227,416)
Income (loss) from equity investments	1,020			1,020			1,020
Other (expense) income, net	7,272			7,272			7,272
<b>Total other (expense) income</b>	<b>(177,024)</b>	<b>(39,434)</b>		<b>(216,458)</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>(2,291)</b>	<b>(217,920)</b>
<b>(Loss) income before income tax (benefit) expense</b>	<b>(1,782,048)</b>	<b>(29,837)</b>		<b>(1,811,885)</b>	<b>67,134</b>	<b>(34,954)</b>	<b>(1,779,705)</b>
Income tax (benefit) expense	(8,716)		(j)	(8,716)	24,840	(24,840)	(j) (8,716)
<b>Net (loss) income</b>	<b>(1,773,332)</b>	<b>(29,837)</b>		<b>(1,803,169)</b>	<b>42,294</b>	<b>(10,114)</b>	<b>(1,770,989)</b>
Less: net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	2,258			2,258			2,258
<b>Net (loss) income (applicable) attributable to SandRidge Energy, Inc.</b>	<b>(1,775,590)</b>	<b>(29,837)</b>		<b>(1,805,427)</b>	<b>42,294</b>	<b>(10,114)</b>	<b>(1,773,247)</b>
Preferred stock dividends and accretion	8,813	11,633	(k)	20,446			20,446
<b>(Loss) income (applicable) available to SandRidge Energy, Inc. common stockholders</b>	<b>\$ (1,784,403)</b>	<b>\$ (41,470)</b>		<b>\$ (1,825,873)</b>	<b>\$ 42,294</b>	<b>\$ (10,114)</b>	<b>\$ (1,793,693)</b>

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(Loss) income per share (applicable) available to SandRidge Energy, Inc. common stockholders:						
Basic	\$	(10.20)			\$	(4.61)
Diluted	\$	(10.20)			\$	(4.61)
Weighted average number of SandRidge Energy, Inc. common shares outstanding:						
Basic		175,005	24,075	(1)	189,888	(b) 388,968
Diluted		175,005	24,075	(1)	189,888	(b) 388,968

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial information.



**Table of Contents****NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA****CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION****1. Basis of Presentation**

The historical financial information is derived from the historical consolidated financial statements of SandRidge, the historical statements of revenues and direct operating expenses of properties acquired in the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition, and the historical consolidated financial statements of Arena. Revenues and direct operating expenses related to properties acquired in the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition were derived from unaudited financial statements. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of December 31, 2009 has been prepared as if the Arena Acquisition had occurred on December 31, 2009. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2009 assumes that the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition and Arena Acquisition occurred on January 1, 2009.

**2. Pro Forma Adjustments**

The following adjustments were made in the preparation of the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information.

- (a) Adjustment reflects estimated costs related to the Arena Acquisition, including professional fees and employee severance, which will be expensed. The additional expense has not been included in the accompanying pro forma condensed combined statement of operations due to its non-recurring nature.
- (b) Adjustment to reflect the elimination of the components of Arena's historical stockholders' equity, the estimated value of consideration to be paid by SandRidge in the merger and the adjustments to the historical book values of Arena's assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2009 to their estimated fair values, in accordance with acquisition accounting. The following table reflects the preliminary allocation of the total purchase price of Arena to the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed and the resulting goodwill based on the preliminary estimates of fair value (in thousands, except stock price):

<i>Purchase Price(1):</i>	
Shares of SandRidge common stock to be issued to Arena stockholders	189,888
SandRidge common stock price	\$ 7.85
Fair value of common stock issued	1,490,621
Cash consideration to be paid to Arena stockholders(2)	98,310
Total purchase price	1,588,931
<i>Estimated Fair Value of Liabilities Assumed:</i>	
Current liabilities	18,572
Long-term deferred tax liability(3)	444,553
Other non-current liabilities	7,210
Amount attributable to liabilities assumed	470,335
Total purchase price plus liabilities assumed	2,059,266
<i>Estimated Fair Value of Assets Acquired:</i>	
Current assets	80,172
Natural gas and oil properties(4)	1,452,640
Other property, plant and equipment	10,426
Long-term deferred tax assets	16,789

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Amount attributable to assets acquired	1,560,027
Goodwill(1)	\$ 499,239

- (1) Under the terms of the merger agreement, consideration paid by SandRidge will consist of 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock plus \$2.50 cash for each share of Arena common stock

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA****CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)**

outstanding. The total purchase price is based upon the closing price of \$7.85 per share of SandRidge common stock on April 1, 2010 (the last full trading day prior to the merger agreement). Under the acquisition method of accounting, the actual purchase price will be determined based on the total cash paid and the fair value of SandRidge common stock issued in the merger on the acquisition date. Total shares to be issued consists of (i) approximately 186.4 million shares issued in exchange for 39.0 million shares of currently outstanding Arena common stock, (ii) approximately 1.5 million shares issued in exchange for restricted shares of Arena common stock expected to vest prior to consummation of the merger, and (iii) 2.0 million shares issued in exchange for currently outstanding options to purchase Arena common stock considered in-the-money (based on the closing price of \$34.26 per share of Arena common stock on April 1, 2010) that would convert into shares of SandRidge common stock in accordance with the merger agreement. The actual number of shares issued in exchange for options outstanding will be determined based upon the closing price of Arena common stock on the date of the merger.

Assuming SandRidge issues 189.9 million shares of common stock to consummate the Arena Acquisition, a \$1.00 increase (decrease) in the closing price of SandRidge's common stock would increase (decrease) goodwill by approximately \$189.9 million.

- (2) Pro forma presentation assumes cash to be paid to Arena stockholders will be funded through a draw on SandRidge's senior credit facility.
  - (3) SandRidge will receive carryover tax basis in Arena's assets and liabilities because the merger will not be a taxable transaction under the United States Internal Revenue code. Based upon the preliminary purchase price allocation, a step-up in basis related to the property to be acquired from Arena is expected to result in a SandRidge deferred tax liability of approximately \$444.6 million, an increase of \$335.9 million to Arena's existing \$108.6 deferred tax liability. See also (d).
  - (4) Weighted average commodity prices utilized in the determination of the pro forma fair value of natural gas and oil properties were \$6.98 per mcf of natural gas and \$82.14 per barrel of oil, after adjustment for transportation fees and regional price differentials. An increase or decrease in commodity prices as of the closing date will result in a corresponding increase or decrease in the fair value of the properties and related deferred tax liabilities and a decrease or increase to goodwill.
- (c) Adjustment to recognize expense related to the vesting of certain employer contributions to SandRidge's non-qualified deferred compensation plan due to change in control provisions that will trigger upon consummation of the Arena Acquisition. The additional expense has not been included in the accompanying pro forma condensed combined statement of operations due to its non-recurring nature.
  - (d) Adjustment to recognize offset of newly created net deferred tax liability with existing SandRidge deferred tax assets and the resulting release of approximately \$427.8 million in the current valuation allowance against those existing deferred tax assets. The release of the valuation allowance has been reflected as a credit to accumulated deficit in the accompanying pro forma condensed combined balance sheet, but has not been included in the accompanying pro forma condensed combined statement of operations due to its non-recurring nature.
  - (e) Adjustment to recognize effects on additional paid-in capital and accumulated deficit of estimated stock-based compensation of \$2.6 million associated with 76,000 restricted shares of Arena common stock to be granted immediately prior to and in conjunction with Arena Acquisition. This estimated additional stock-based compensation expense has not been included in the accompanying pro forma condensed combined statement of operations due to its non-recurring nature.

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA****CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)**

- (f) Adjustment to recognize revenues and direct operating expenses of the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition properties as if the acquisition had taken place on January 1, 2009.
- (g) Adjustment to recognize accretion of asset retirement obligation attributable to the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition properties as well as depreciation and depletion attributable to the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition and Arena Acquisition properties, using the unit of production method under the full cost method of accounting, as if the acquisitions had taken place on January 1, 2009.
- (h) SandRidge estimates it would have incurred an additional impairment from full cost ceiling limitations of approximately \$121.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 had the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition occurred on January 1, 2009 and a total combined additional impairment of approximately \$426.4 million had both the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition and Arena Acquisition occurred on January 1, 2009. These additional estimated pro forma impairments have not been reflected in the pro forma condensed combined statement of operations due to their non-recurring nature.
- (i) Adjustment to recognize discount and offering cost amortization and interest expense associated with 8.75% Senior Notes due 2020 issued in December 2009. Proceeds were used to partially fund the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition.
- (j) There was no pro forma income tax provision related to the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition or the Arena Acquisition due to SandRidge's net deferred tax asset position and the corresponding full valuation allowance.
- (k) Adjustment to recognize additional dividends associated with SandRidge's 6.0% convertible perpetual preferred stock issued in December 2009. Proceeds were used to partially fund the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition.
- (l) Impact on weighted average shares outstanding for the December 2009 underwritten offering of 25,600,000 shares of SandRidge common stock. Proceeds were used to partially fund the 2009 Permian Basin Acquisition.
- (m) Adjustment to recognize additional interest expense related to the \$98.3 million drawn on SandRidge's senior credit facility to fund the cash portion of the Arena Acquisition purchase price. Additional interest expense was calculated based upon the average annual interest rate paid on amounts outstanding under SandRidge's senior credit facility during 2009 of 2.33%.
- (n) Pro forma adjustments to (accumulated deficit) retained earnings are as follows:

Pro forma adjustment to expense estimated transaction costs to be incurred see(a)	\$ (15,000)
Historical Arena retained earnings see(b)	(195,637)
Pro forma adjustment to recognize vesting of certain employer contributions made to SandRidge's non-qualified compensation plan see(c)	(1,356)
Pro forma adjustment for the release of valuation allowance against existing SandRidge net deferred tax asset see(d)	427,764
Pro forma adjustment for additional stock-based compensation see(e)	(2,590)



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## NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA

## CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

**3. Supplemental Pro Forma Combined Oil and Gas Reserve and Standardized Measure Information (Unaudited)**

The following unaudited supplemental pro forma oil and natural gas reserve tables present how the combined oil and gas reserve and standardized measure information of SandRidge and Arena may have appeared had the merger occurred on January 1, 2009. The Supplemental Pro Forma Combined Oil and Gas Reserve and Standardized Measure Information is for illustrative purposes only.

**Estimated Pro Forma Combined Quantities of Proved Reserves**

	SandRidge Historical		Arena Historical		Total Pro Forma	
	Oil(1) (MBbls)	Gas (MMcf)	Oil (MBbls)	Gas (MMcf)	Oil(1) (MBbls)	Gas (MMcf)
<b>Proved Reserves</b>						
As of December 31, 2008	43,164	1,899,636	55,845	58,805	99,009	1,958,441
Revisions of previous estimates	8,826	(1,244,873)	(10,075)	(15,814)	(1,249)	(1,260,687)
Acquisition of new reserves	56,342	104,046	1,589	2,792	57,931	106,838
Extensions and discoveries	8	8,890	14,360	13,605	14,368	22,495
Sales of reserves in place	(97)	(163)			(97)	(163)
Production	(2,894)	(87,461)	(2,004)	(2,173)	(4,898)	(89,634)
As of December 31, 2009	105,349	680,075	59,715	57,215	165,064	737,290
<b>Proved developed reserves:</b>						
As of December 31, 2008	15,342	851,357	20,231	28,659	35,573	880,016
As of December 31, 2009	38,327	592,777	21,145	28,302	59,472	621,079
<b>Proved undeveloped reserves:</b>						
As of December 31, 2008	27,822	1,048,279	35,614	30,146	63,436	1,078,425
As of December 31, 2009	67,022	87,298	38,570	28,913	105,592	116,211

(1) Includes NGLs

**Pro Forma Combined Standardized Measure of Discounted Future Net Cash Flows**

	SandRidge Historical	Year Ended December 31, 2009		
		Arena Historical	Pro Forma Adjustments(1)	Pro Forma
(In thousands)				
Future cash inflows from production	\$ 7,582,670	\$ 3,721,874	\$	\$ 11,304,544
Future production costs	(3,028,888)	(902,964)		(3,931,852)
Future development costs	(938,272)	(543,023)		(1,481,295)
Future income tax expenses		(746,548)	746,548	

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Undiscounted future net cash flows	3,615,510	1,529,339	746,548	5,891,397
10% annual discount	(2,054,532)	(775,105)	(379,424)	(3,209,061)
Standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows	\$ 1,560,978	\$ 754,234	\$ 367,124	\$ 2,682,336

- (1) Pro forma adjustments represent elimination of effect of future income taxes due to SandRidge's deferred tax asset position and the associated full valuation allowance that serves to reduce to zero a tax benefit that otherwise would result from the tax effects of PV-10 at December 31, 2009.

**Table of Contents****NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA****CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)****Changes in the Pro Forma Combined Standardized Measure of Discounted Future Net Cash Flows**

	SandRidge Historical	Year Ended December 31, 2009		Pro Forma
		Arena Historical	Pro Forma Adjustments(1)	
(In thousands)				
Standardized measure at December 31, 2008	\$ 2,220,576	\$ 460,687	\$	\$ 2,681,263
Revenues less production and other costs	(281,410)	(110,697)		(392,107)
Net changes in prices, production and other costs	(1,841,292)	619,543		(1,221,749)
Net development costs incurred	201,467	107,237		308,704
Net changes in future development costs	1,075,246	6,551		1,081,797
Extensions and discoveries	8,671	253,486		262,157
Revisions of previous quantity estimates	(553,469)	(447,111)		(1,000,580)
Accretion of discount	109,512	48,058		157,570
Net change in income taxes	37,936	(176,306)	367,124	228,754
Purchases of reserves in place	565,457	28,329		593,786
Sales of reserves in place	(131)			(131)
Timing differences and other	18,415	(35,543)		(17,128)
Standardized measure at December 31, 2009	\$ 1,560,978	\$ 754,234	\$ 367,124	\$ 2,682,336

- (1) Pro forma adjustments represent elimination of effect of future income taxes due to SandRidge's deferred tax asset position and the associated full valuation allowance that serves to reduce to zero a tax benefit that otherwise would result from the tax effects of PV-10 at December 31, 2009.



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**INTERESTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN THE MERGER**

In considering the recommendation of the SandRidge board of directors with respect to the issuance of shares of SandRidge common stock, and the recommendation of the Arena board of directors with respect to the merger agreement, SandRidge and Arena stockholders, respectively, should be aware that certain executive officers and directors have interests in the merger that may be different from, or in addition to, the interests of other stockholders of SandRidge and Arena generally.

**Interests of Arena directors and officers**

***Arena Stock Options and Restricted Stock***

**Arena Stock Options.** SandRidge will not assume any outstanding options to purchase shares of Arena common stock in the merger. No later than 30 days prior to the scheduled or anticipated closing date of the merger, Arena will send a notice to all holders of options notifying them that (i) SandRidge will not assume any Arena options following the effective time of the merger or substitute new options therefor, and (ii) all unvested options will become vested and fully exercisable immediately prior to the effective time of the merger and contingent upon the consummation of the merger.

Any options that are in-the-money (as defined below) as of the effective time of the merger and that are not exercised prior to the effective time of the merger will be deemed automatically exercised by the holder thereof, and the holder will be entitled to receive a number of shares of SandRidge common stock (rounded down to the nearest whole number) equal to the product of (i) the conversion ratio (as defined below) multiplied by (ii) the quotient obtained by dividing (x) the product of (1) the number of shares of Arena common stock issuable upon the exercise of the applicable options multiplied by (2) the excess of (A) the last reported sale price of Arena common stock on the NYSE on the closing date of the merger over (B) the exercise price per share of the applicable options, by (y) the last reported sale price of Arena common stock on the NYSE on the closing date of the merger. Any options that are not in-the-money as of the effective time of the merger will be canceled.

Holders of options that become fully vested only as of and effective immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be permitted to exercise such fully vested options effective as of and contingent upon the consummation of the merger.

As used in the merger agreement, (i) in-the-money means, with respect to an option, that the excess of (x) the last reported sale price of Arena common stock on the NYSE on the closing date of the merger over (y) the exercise price per share of the applicable options, is a positive number; and (ii) conversion ratio means the sum of (1) 4.7771 and (2) the quotient obtained by dividing (x) \$2.50 by (y) the last reported sale price of SandRidge common stock on the NYSE on the closing date of the merger.

**Arena Restricted Stock.** At the effective time of the merger, each of the then outstanding awards of Arena restricted stock will be (i) assumed by SandRidge, in accordance with the terms of the applicable Arena stock plan and award agreement by which it is evidenced, except as provided in the immediately succeeding paragraph and except that from and after the effective time of the merger, SandRidge and its board of directors or compensation committee, as the case may be, shall be substituted for Arena and its subsidiaries and their respective boards of directors and committees thereof administering any such stock plan, and (ii) converted into an award of a number of shares of restricted SandRidge common stock equal to the product of (A) the conversion ratio (defined above) multiplied by (B) the number of shares of Arena common stock underlying such award.

With respect to any employee of Arena whose primary work location is at the Tulsa office, the vesting provisions of each such award of restricted SandRidge common stock will be modified, such that each such award will vest upon the earliest to occur of the following: (x) the vesting of such award pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement, (y) the end of the transition period (as defined in the Severance Plan) with respect to the applicable employee and (z) the termination date (as defined in the Severance Plan) with respect to the applicable employee. With respect to any other employee of Arena, each such award of restricted

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SandRidge common stock will vest pursuant to the terms of the applicable original award agreement. If the calculation of the number of shares of SandRidge common stock as described above results in the assumption of an award of restricted stock that would include a fraction of a share of SandRidge common stock, then the number of shares of SandRidge common stock subject to such award shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number of shares of SandRidge common stock.

To the extent legally required, as soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time of the merger, SandRidge will cause the shares of restricted stock to be assumed as described above to be registered on Form S-8 (or any successor form promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission), and will use its commercially reasonable efforts to maintain the effectiveness of such registration statement for so long as such assumed restricted stock remains outstanding. As soon as reasonably practicable following the effective time of the merger, SandRidge will also deliver to each holder of an assumed restricted stock a notice setting forth such holder's rights pursuant to such restricted stock.

The following table sets forth, with respect to the officers and directors of Arena named in the table, (i) the number of shares of Arena common stock subject to issued and outstanding options held by them and (ii) the aggregate value of such options based on the difference, if any, between the closing per share price of Arena common stock on April 1, 2010 and the exercise price of such options.

Name	Number of Shares of Arena Common Stock Underlying Unexercised Options at April 3, 2010		Value of Unexercised Options at April 3, 2010	
	Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable	Unexercisable
Phillip W. Terry	140,000	170,000	\$ 1,202,400	\$ 1,202,400
William R. Broaddrick	80,000	70,000	901,800	601,200
David R. Ricks	30,000	70,000	0	0
William C. Gaines		60,000		650,400
Sherman Hyatt	10,000	40,000	27,650	110,600
Patric R. McConn	10,000	30,000	0	0
Thomas W. Wahl		60,000		438,000
Carl H. Fiddner	10,000	75,000	0	650,400
Stanley M. McCabe	100,000	75,000	1,352,700	901,800
Anthony B. Petrelli	70,000	55,000	935,100	623,400
Lloyd T. Rochford	100,000	75,000	1,352,700	901,800
Clayton E. Woodrum	10,000	15,000	0	0

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The following table sets forth, with respect to the officers and directors of Arena named in the table, (i) the number of shares of Arena restricted stock held by them and (ii) the aggregate value of such restricted stock based upon the closing per share price of Arena common stock on April 1, 2010.

Name	Number of Shares of Arena Restricted Stock at April 3, 2010		Value of Restricted Stock at April 3, 2010	
	Vested	Unvested	Vested	Unvested
Phillip W. Terry		50,000		\$ 1,713,000
William R. Broaddrick		25,000		856,500
David R. Ricks		25,470		872,602
Sherman Hyatt		5,349		183,257
Patric R. McConn		25,363		868,936
Thomas W. Wahl		5,363		183,736
Stanley M. McCabe		150,000(a)		5,139,000
Lloyd T. Rochford		150,000(a)		5,139,000

(a) These shares will vest and all restrictions thereupon will lapse upon the closing of the merger.

***Individual Compensation Awards and Severance Plan for Certain Former Employees of Arena***

**Individual Compensation Awards.** Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, Arena has entered or will enter into individual compensation awards as described below. Unless otherwise specified below, such awards will be conditioned upon consummation of the merger.

Arena will enter into an agreement with Lloyd T. Rochford to pay him a severance benefit upon completion of the merger consisting of (a) a single cash payment of \$72,000, and (b) payment of COBRA premiums for Mr. Rochford and his spouse for a period of up to 18 months following the merger. These benefits are contingent on Mr. Rochford executing a valid release of all potential claims against Arena and SandRidge.

Arena will make the following restricted stock awards to employees effective immediately prior to the closing of the merger, all of which shares are reflected in the table above: (a) Sherman Hyatt 5,000 shares; (b) Patric R. McConn 25,000 shares; (c) David R. Ricks 25,000 shares; and (d) Thomas W. Wahl 5,000 shares. These awards will vest upon expiration of the transition period (as defined in the Severance Plan described below).

Arena will grant 1,000 restricted shares of common stock to another employee, Darren Seglem, with vesting to occur as a result of Mr. Seglem continuing his employment with SandRidge through December 31, 2010, unless continued employment is not offered or is terminated prior to the vesting date.

Effective immediately before closing of the merger, Arena will grant awards of restricted stock under its 2009 Restricted Stock Plan to a select number of employees as designated by SandRidge and in amounts designated by SandRidge. It is expected that these awards will not exceed 15,000 shares of restricted stock in the aggregate. These grants are not anticipated to be broad-based, but will be awarded to several employees to provide a retention incentive. The grants will be contingent on the closing of the merger occurring and will vest in equal annual installments over four years (subject to accelerated vesting for any recipient whose employment is involuntarily terminated before the one-year anniversary of the closing of the merger).

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Arena will enter into an agreement with William Parsons, Arena's Vice President of Investor Relations, to pay him a severance benefit upon completion of the merger, consisting of a single cash payment of \$96,000.

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**Severance Plan.** Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, SandRidge will enter into a Severance Plan covering full-time employees of Arena whose primary work location is at the Tulsa, Oklahoma, office as of the closing of the merger.

Under the Severance Plan, eligible employees will receive a cash severance payment. Severance payments will be (i) for participants designated by Arena as manager classification or higher, an amount equal to such participant's annual base salary and (ii) for all other participants, an amount equal to 50% of such participant's annual base salary. Severance payments will be made in a lump sum cash payment within sixty days of the date of the termination. All participants are required to sign a release of all potential claims against Arena and SandRidge in order to receive severance benefits.

A participant will only receive severance benefits if his or her employment is either terminated (i) by SandRidge for any reason other than for cause or (ii) by the participant for good reason and, in either case, the termination occurs between the date of the closing of the merger and the first anniversary thereof. A participant may resign with good reason (A) in the participant's sole discretion, at any time during the ten-day period after expiration of the transition period and prior to acceptance of continued employment by SandRidge or (B) as a result of, without the participant's prior written consent: (1) a material reduction in the participant's base salary or (2) a relocation that would result in the participant's new principal place of employment being moved 25 miles or more away from such participant's principal place of employment immediately before the closing of the merger. The transition period shall commence upon the closing of the merger and continue until SandRidge closes its offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma, or such other date as SandRidge may determine; provided, however, that in no event shall the transition period extend beyond the four-month anniversary of the closing of the merger (or, with respect to the chief financial officer of Arena, the eight-month anniversary of the date of the merger).

**Excise Tax Gross-Up.** Should any of the individual compensation awards or any amounts that may be received pursuant to the Severance Plan or otherwise result in the recipient being subject to the excise tax under Section 4999 of the Code because the payments that he or she receives in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement constitute parachute payments within the meaning of Section 280G of the Code, such individual shall also be entitled to receive from Arena (or SandRidge) a gross-up payment calculated, paid and administered in accordance with Appendix A to the Severance Plan.

### ***Arena Director and Officer Indemnification and Insurance***

In the merger agreement, SandRidge and Merger Sub agreed that all rights to indemnification by Arena existing in favor of each person who is, was or becomes at any time prior to the effective time of the merger an officer, director or employee of Arena or any subsidiary of Arena or who acts as a fiduciary under any of Arena's employee benefit plans, each referred to as an indemnified party, as provided in Arena's articles of incorporation or bylaws or pursuant to any other agreements in force on the date the merger agreement was signed, will remain in full force and effect. From and after the effective time of the merger, SandRidge and the surviving entity will be jointly and severally liable to pay and perform such indemnification obligations.

SandRidge will cause the surviving entity to maintain Arena's officers' and directors' liability insurance policies, in effect on the date of the merger agreement, for a period of not less than six years after the effective time of the merger, but only to the extent related to actions or omissions prior to the effective time of the merger; provided, that (i) the surviving entity may substitute therefor policies of at least the same coverage and amounts containing terms no less advantageous to such former directors or officers and (ii) such substitution will not result in gaps or lapses of coverage with respect to matters occurring prior to the effective time of the merger; provided, further, that neither SandRidge nor the surviving entity will be required to expend more than an amount per year equal to 300% of current annual premiums paid by Arena for such insurance, referred to as the maximum amount. If the amount of the annual premiums necessary to maintain or procure such insurance coverage exceeds the maximum amount, SandRidge and the surviving entity will procure and maintain for such six-year period as much coverage as reasonably practicable for the maximum amount. SandRidge also has the

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right to cause coverage to be extended under Arena's existing officers' and directors' liability insurance policies by obtaining a six-year tail policy on terms and conditions no less advantageous than the terms of Arena's existing policies. These obligations are binding upon any successor to or assign of SandRidge.

### ***Continuation of Arena Employee Benefits***

Under the merger agreement, the surviving entity will assume Arena's employee health and benefit plans as of the effective time of the merger, and will operate such plans in accordance with their terms (except that before the effective time of the merger, Arena will take such steps as are necessary to terminate its tax-qualified retirement plans). Arena employees that will be employed by the surviving entity, referred to as the acquired employees, after the effective time of the merger will continue to participate in such assumed plans. At a time as determined by SandRidge or the surviving entity (but in no event later than December 31, 2010), acquired employees will participate in SandRidge's compensation, severance, bonus, stock option and other incentive plans for which they are eligible pursuant to the terms and conditions of such plans, or in similar plans maintained by the surviving entity, in each case consistent with the participation offered to SandRidge's employees holding similar positions. Each such plan will grant credit to each acquired employee for all service prior to the effective time of the merger with Arena (including any predecessors) for vesting and eligibility purposes, except (i) for purposes of benefit accrual under any plan or (ii) any purpose under SandRidge's nonqualified deferred compensation plans.

During the plan year in which the effective time of the merger occurs, any group health plan established or maintained by SandRidge or the surviving entity will, with respect to any eligible acquired employee or, as applicable, a family member of an eligible acquired employee, (i) waive any waiting period, (ii) waive any exclusion or limitation for preexisting conditions which were covered under any group health plan maintained by Arena prior to the effective time of the merger, (iii) grant credit (for purposes of annual deductibles, co-payments and out-of-pocket limits) for any covered claims incurred or payments made prior to the effective time of the merger, and (iv) accept rollovers of the health flexible spending account and dependent care accounts of eligible acquired employees.

### **Interests of SandRidge directors and officers**

#### ***SandRidge Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan***

The SandRidge Energy, Inc. Executive Nonqualified Excess Plan, referred to as the Excess Plan, is a nonqualified deferred compensation plan that is subject to Section 409A of the Code. The Excess Plan permits eligible SandRidge employees to defer a portion of their compensation and to receive certain company contributions.

Under the terms of the Excess Plan, all participant deferrals are immediately vested, and company contributions generally vest ratably over a four-year period. However, company contributions automatically vest on a Change in Control Event. The Excess Plan defines a Change in Control Event to include the acquisition by a group of people of 30% or more of the voting power of SandRidge's stock. For this purpose, shareholders of a public company that merges with SandRidge are considered to be acting as a group.

A participant's benefit is generally distributed in a lump sum following the earliest of the participant's separation from service with SandRidge, death or disability. However, at the time they enroll in the Excess Plan, participants are permitted to elect to receive a distribution upon a Change in Control Event. By law, any participant who elects to receive a distribution upon a Change in Control Event cannot change this election within one year of the Change in Control Event.

Because the merger will constitute a Change in Control Event under the terms of the Excess Plan, all participants will automatically vest in their company contributions and those participants who elected to receive a distribution of their benefits upon a Change in Control Event will receive a distribution of their benefits.

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The officers of SandRidge who elected to receive a distribution of their benefits under the Excess Plan upon a Change in Control Event are: Wayne C. Chang, Randall D. Cooley, Richard J. Gognat, Matthew K. Grubb, Todd N. Tipton, Dirk M. Van Doren, Tom L. Ward, Kevin R. White and Mary L. Whitson. The aggregate amount of benefits that would be payable upon such distribution to such officers, as of April 9, 2010, is approximately \$4.8 million. The amount of the actual distribution will be based on the market value of the accrued benefit at the time of the distribution, which could be less or more than the amount as of April 9, 2010.

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### **THE MERGER AGREEMENT**

*The following description summarizes the material provisions of the merger agreement. Stockholders should read carefully the merger agreement, which is attached as Annex A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and incorporated herein by reference.*

#### **Structure**

Under the merger agreement, SandRidge will acquire Arena through a merger of Merger Sub with and into Arena, referred to as the merger. Following the merger, Arena will be the surviving entity and will continue as a wholly owned subsidiary of SandRidge. However, the structure of the merger will change such that Arena will merge with and into Merger Sub, with Merger Sub continuing as the surviving entity, if such change is necessary for the delivery of the opinions regarding the qualification of the merger for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a reorganization under Section 368(a) of the Code (as described below under Conditions to the Completion of the Merger ).

#### **Merger Consideration**

In the merger, holders of shares of Arena common stock will receive (i) 4.7771 shares of SandRidge common stock (referred to as the exchange ratio) and (ii) \$2.50 in cash (referred to as the per share cash consideration), for each share of Arena common stock that they own immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. The right of each holder of shares of Arena common stock to receive the consideration described in the immediately preceding sentence is referred to as the merger consideration. Such stockholders will receive cash for any fractional shares which they would otherwise receive in the merger.

#### **Consummation of the Merger**

The merger will be consummated when we file the articles of merger or other appropriate documents with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada. However, SandRidge and Arena may agree to a later time for consummation of the merger and specify that time in the articles of merger. We will file the articles of merger as soon as practicable after the satisfaction or, where permissible, waiver of the closing conditions in the merger agreement, which are described below.

#### **Conditions to the Completion of the Merger**

Each party's obligation to effect the merger is subject to the satisfaction or waiver of various conditions which include, in addition to other customary closing conditions, the following:

the merger agreement has been approved by the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Arena entitled to vote;

the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger has been approved by a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the SandRidge special meeting and the amendment to SandRidge's certificate of incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of SandRidge capital stock and common stock to provide for and permit the share issuance has been approved by a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of SandRidge common stock entitled to vote;

the waiting period applicable to the merger under the HSR Act has expired or been terminated;

the registration statement on Form S-4 of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part has been declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act and no stop orders suspending the effectiveness thereof have been issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission and no proceedings for that purpose have been initiated or threatened by the Securities and Exchange Commission;





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the shares of SandRidge common stock issuable to the Arena stockholders as contemplated by the merger agreement have been approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange, subject to official notice of issuance;

no preliminary injunction or other order, decree or ruling issued by a court of competent jurisdiction or by a governmental regulatory or administrative agency or commission, nor any statute, rule, regulation or executive order promulgated or enacted by any governmental authority, will be in effect that would make the merger illegal or otherwise prevent the consummation thereof;

(i) the representations and warranties of SandRidge and Arena, respectively, set forth in the merger agreement (other than with respect to capitalization, as described in clause (ii) below) are true and correct as of the date of the merger agreement and as of the closing date described therein, with the same effect as if made at and as of such date (except to the extent expressly made as of an earlier date, in which case as of such date), except where the failure of such representations and warranties to be so true and correct (without giving effect to any threshold or any limitation or qualifier as to materially or material adverse effect, or words of similar import set forth therein) does not have, and would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, and (ii) the representations and warranties of SandRidge and Arena, respectively, set forth in the merger agreement relating to capitalization are true and correct in all respects as of the date of the merger agreement and as of the closing date, with the same effect as if made at and as of such date (except to the extent expressly made as of an earlier date, in which case as of such date);

SandRidge and Arena, respectively, have performed in all material respects all obligations required to be performed by each of them, respectively, under the merger agreement at or prior to the closing date of the merger agreement;

each of SandRidge and Arena, respectively, have received from Covington & Burling LLP, counsel to SandRidge, and Johnson & Jones, P.C., counsel to Arena, respectively, on the date on which the registration statement relating to the issuance of the shares of SandRidge common stock in the merger is declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission and on the closing date of the merger, an opinion, in each case dated as of such respective date and stating that the merger will qualify for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code; and

each of SandRidge and Arena, as applicable, and their respective subsidiaries, have good and defensible title to oil and gas leases and other properties covering not less than 90% of the reserves reflected in the report of oil and gas reserves of SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, dated as of December 31, 2009, as attributable to interests owned by SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, and their respective subsidiaries, free and clear of any liens (other than (i) liens associated with obligations reflected in the reserve report or documents that have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission prior to the date of the merger agreement, (ii) liens for current taxes not yet due and payable, and (iii) such imperfections of title, easements, liens, government or tribal approvals or other matters of title as would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on SandRidge or Arena, as applicable).

The merger agreement provides that a material adverse effect, as it relates to SandRidge or Arena, means a material adverse effect on (i) the business, operations, assets, liabilities, condition (financial or otherwise) or results of operations of SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, and their respective subsidiaries, considered as a single enterprise or (ii) the ability of SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, to perform its obligations under the merger agreement or to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement; provided, however, that any event, condition, change, occurrence or development of a state of circumstances which (x) adversely affects the oil and gas exploration, development and production industry generally (including without limitation changes in commodity prices, general market prices and regulatory changes), (and in each case does not disproportionately affect SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, and their respective subsidiaries considered as a

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single enterprise), (y) arises out of general economic or industry conditions (and in each case does not disproportionately affect SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, and their respective subsidiaries considered as a single enterprise) or (z) (other than with respect to the representations of SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, relating to authorization and no conflict and certain contracts and arrangements) arises out of, results from or relates to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement or the announcement thereof, will not be considered in determining whether a material adverse effect has occurred.

Neither SandRidge nor Arena can provide assurance that all of the conditions precedent to the merger will be satisfied or, where permitted, waived by the party permitted to do so. Further, SandRidge and Arena cannot at this point determine whether either of them would resolicit proxies in the event that they decided and were permitted to waive any of the items listed above. This decision would depend upon the facts and circumstances leading to each of SandRidge's and Arena's decision to complete the merger and whether each of SandRidge and Arena, as applicable, believes there has been a material change in the terms of the merger and its effect on their respective stockholders. In making each of their determination, SandRidge and Arena, respectively, would consider, among other factors, the reasons for the waiver, the effect of the waiver on the terms of the merger, whether the requirement being waived was necessary in order to make the deal fair to their respective stockholders from a financial point of view, the availability of alternative transactions and the prospects of SandRidge and Arena, as applicable, as an independent entity. In the event of a waiver of a condition precedent to the merger, if either SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, determines that the waiver of such condition would materially change the terms of the merger, including the expected qualification of the merger as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code, it will resolicit proxies.

## **No Solicitation of Takeover Proposals**

The merger agreement provides that, from the date of the merger agreement until the effective time of the merger or, if earlier, the termination of the merger agreement in accordance with its terms, each of SandRidge and Arena, as applicable, will not, nor will it permit any of their respective subsidiaries to, nor will it authorize or permit any of their respective officers, directors, employees, investment bankers, attorneys or other advisors or representatives to, (i) solicit, initiate, or knowingly encourage the submission of, any takeover proposal (as defined below), (ii) approve or recommend any takeover proposal, enter into any agreement, agreement-in-principle or letter of intent with respect to or accept any takeover proposal (or resolve to or publicly propose to do any of the foregoing), or (iii) participate or engage in any discussions or negotiations regarding, or furnish to any person any information with respect to, or knowingly take any action to facilitate any inquiries or the making of any proposal that constitutes, or would reasonably be expected to lead to, any takeover proposal.

However, (x) nothing contained in subclauses (i) or (ii) above will prohibit SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) or their respective board of directors from disclosing to their respective stockholders a position with respect to a tender or exchange offer by a third party pursuant to Rules 14d-9 and 14e-2 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or from making any similar disclosure, in either case to the extent required by applicable law, provided that the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) will not recommend that the stockholders tender their SandRidge common stock or Arena common stock (as applicable) in connection with any such tender or exchange offer unless the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) determines in good faith (after receiving the advice of its financial adviser) that such takeover proposal is a superior proposal (as defined below); (y) if (under circumstances in which SandRidge or Arena, as applicable, has complied with all of its obligations under this no solicitation limitation), prior to the merger agreement having been approved by the stockholders of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable), SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) receives an unsolicited written takeover proposal from a third party that the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) determines in good faith (after receiving the advice of its financial adviser) is, or is reasonably likely to result in, a superior proposal, SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) and its representatives may conduct such additional discussions and provide such information as the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) will determine, but only if, prior to such provision of such information or conduct of such additional discussions (A) the third party will have entered into a confidentiality agreement in

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customary form that is no less favorable to SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) as the confidentiality agreement entered into between SandRidge and Arena in connection with the merger and (B) the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) determines in its good faith judgment, after consultation with and based upon the advice of outside legal counsel, that it is required to do so in order to comply with its fiduciary duties under applicable law; and (z) at any time prior to the merger agreement having been approved by the stockholders of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable), and subject to Arena's or SandRidge's (as applicable) compliance with their respective obligations under the no solicitation limitations described above, the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) may, after providing at least three business days' prior written notice to the other party to the merger agreement, (A) withdraw (or amend or modify in a manner adverse to the other party to the merger agreement), or publicly propose to withdraw (or amend or modify in a manner adverse to the other party to the merger agreement), the recommendation or declaration of advisability by the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) of the issuance of shares and the amendment to the certificate of incorporation in connection with the merger (in the case of SandRidge) or of the merger agreement, the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement (in the case of Arena), and recommend, or publicly propose to recommend any takeover proposal, or (B) to the extent permitted by the provisions of the merger agreement setting forth SandRidge's or Arena's (as applicable) respective rights and obligations in the event it determines to accept a superior proposal and terminate the merger agreement, allow SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) to enter into a binding written agreement concerning a transaction that constitutes a superior proposal, in the case of either subclause (A) or (B) of this clause (z) only (1) after the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) determines in good faith (after receiving the advice of its financial advisor) that such takeover proposal is a superior proposal, (2) after the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) determines in its good faith judgment, after consultation with and based upon the advice of outside legal counsel, that it is required to do so in order to comply with its fiduciary duties under applicable law and (3) if, during the three business day notice period referred to above SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) negotiates in good faith with the other party to the merger agreement (to the extent such other party desires to negotiate) to make adjustments to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement so that the takeover proposal no longer constitutes a superior proposal.

For purposes of the merger agreement, a takeover proposal means, with respect to SandRidge or Arena (as applicable), any inquiry, proposal or offer from any third party relating to any acquisition, merger, consolidation, reorganization, share exchange, recapitalization, liquidation, direct or indirect business combination, asset acquisition or other similar transaction of (A) assets or businesses that constitute or represent 10% or more of the total revenue, operating income, EBITDAX or assets of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) and their respective subsidiaries, taken as a whole, or (B) 10% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock or other capital stock of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) or capital stock of, or other equity or voting interests in, any of the subsidiaries of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) directly or indirectly holding, individually or taken together, the assets or business referred to in clause (A) above, in each case other than the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

The term superior proposal refers to any bona fide written takeover proposal to effect a merger, consolidation, reorganization, share exchange, recapitalization, liquidation, direct or indirect business combination, or other similar transaction as a result of which stockholders of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) cease to own at least 50% of the voting securities of the ultimate parent entity resulting from such transaction or sale of all or substantially all of the assets of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable), which in any such case is on terms that the board of directors of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) determines in its good faith judgment (after receipt of the advice of its financial advisor and outside counsel), taking into account all relevant factors, including any conditions to such takeover proposal, the timing of the closing thereof, the risk of nonconsummation, the ability of the person making the takeover proposal to finance the transaction contemplated thereby, any required governmental or other consents, filings and approvals, (A) would, if consummated, result in a transaction that is more favorable to the stockholders of SandRidge or Arena (as applicable) from a financial point of view than the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement (including the terms of any proposal by the other party to the merger agreement to modify the terms of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement) and (B) is reasonably likely to be financed and otherwise completed without undue delay.

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### **Termination**

The merger agreement may be terminated and the merger may be abandoned at any time prior to the effective time of the merger, whether before or after the merger agreement has been adopted by the Arena common stockholders:

(1) by mutual written consent of SandRidge, Merger Sub and Arena;

(2) by either Arena or SandRidge, if the merger has not been consummated by September 30, 2010, or such other date, if any, as Arena and SandRidge will agree upon. However, the right to terminate the merger agreement under this paragraph (2) will not be available to any party whose failure to fulfill any obligation under the merger agreement has been the cause of, or resulted in, the failure of the effective time of the merger to occur on or before such date;

(3) by either Arena or SandRidge, if any judgment, order, decree, statute, law, ordinance, rule, regulation or other legal restraint or prohibition that would make the merger illegal or otherwise prevent the consummation thereof will be in effect and will have become final and nonappealable;

(4) by either Arena or SandRidge, if at the Arena special meeting (including any adjournment or postponement thereof), the required vote of the Arena stockholders will not have been obtained, or if at the SandRidge special meeting (including any adjournment or postponement thereof), the required vote of the SandRidge stockholders will not have been obtained;

(5) by SandRidge, if

prior to the SandRidge special meeting, (A) SandRidge will not have breached the no solicitation limitations in any respect, (B) the board of directors of SandRidge authorizes SandRidge, subject to complying with the no solicitation limitations and this bullet point, to enter into a binding written agreement concerning a transaction that constitutes a superior proposal and SandRidge notifies Arena in writing that it intends to enter into such an agreement, (C) SandRidge provides at least three business days prior written notice to Arena of its intention to enter into such agreement, (D) during such three business day period SandRidge negotiates in good faith with Arena (to the extent Arena desires to negotiate) to make adjustments to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement so that the takeover proposal no longer constitutes a superior proposal, (E) Arena does not make, within such three business day period, an offer that the board of directors of SandRidge determines, in its good faith judgment (after receipt of the advice of its financial advisor) is at least as favorable to SandRidge's stockholders from a financial point of view as the superior proposal and (F) SandRidge prior to such termination pays to Arena in immediately available funds any fees required to be paid following termination of the merger agreement under the provisions of the merger agreement relating to the payment of termination fees (as described below under Termination Fees ). However, upon any material change in the terms and conditions of any superior proposal at any time, prior to any termination of the merger agreement pursuant to this bullet point, SandRidge will be required to provide three business days notice of such amended superior proposal pursuant to clause (C) above and will be required to comply with each of the other provisions of this bullet point with respect to such amended superior proposal;

the board of directors of Arena will have withdrawn or modified or amended in any respect adverse to SandRidge its adoption of or recommendation in favor of the merger agreement or will have failed to make such favorable recommendation;

the board of directors of Arena (or any committee thereof) will have recommended to the stockholders of Arena any takeover proposal or will have resolved to, or publicly announced an intention to, do so;

Arena will have breached the no solicitation limitations in any respect; or

Arena will have breached or failed to perform in any material respect any of its representations, warranties, covenants or other agreements contained in the merger agreement, which breach or



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failure to perform (A) would give rise to the failure of the conditions of to SandRidge's obligation to consummate the merger relating to Arena's representations and warranties and performance of its obligations, and (B) is incapable of being cured or has not been cured by Arena within 20 calendar days after written notice has been given by SandRidge to Arena of such breach or failure to perform; or

(6) by Arena, if

prior to the Arena special meeting, (A) Arena will not have breached the no solicitation limitations in any respect, (B) the board of directors of Arena authorizes Arena, subject to complying with the no solicitation limitations and this bullet point, to enter into a binding written agreement concerning a transaction that constitutes a superior proposal and Arena notifies SandRidge in writing that it intends to enter into such an agreement, (C) Arena provides at least three business days prior written notice to SandRidge of its intention to enter into such agreement, (D) during such three business day period Arena negotiates in good faith with SandRidge and Merger Sub (to the extent SandRidge and Merger Sub desire to negotiate) to make adjustments to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement so that the takeover proposal no longer constitutes a superior proposal, (E) SandRidge does not make, within such three business day period, an offer that the board of directors of Arena determines, in its good faith judgment (after receipt of the advice of its financial advisor) is at least as favorable to Arena's stockholders from a financial point of view as the superior proposal and (F) Arena prior to such termination pays to SandRidge in immediately available funds any fees required to be paid following termination of the merger agreement under the provisions of the merger agreement relating to the payment of termination fees (as described below under "Termination Fees"). However, upon any material change in the terms and conditions of any superior proposal at any time, prior to any termination of the merger agreement pursuant to this bullet point, Arena will be required to provide three business days notice of such amended superior proposal pursuant to clause (C) above and will be required to comply with each of the other provisions of this bullet point with respect to such amended superior proposal;

the board of directors of SandRidge will have withdrawn or modified or amended in any respect adverse to Arena its recommendation in favor of the share issuance and the amendment to the certificate of incorporation in connection with the merger or will have failed to make such favorable recommendation;

the board of directors of SandRidge (or any committee thereof) will have recommended to the stockholders of SandRidge any takeover proposal or will have resolved to, or publicly announced an intention to, do so;

SandRidge will have breached the no solicitation limitations in any respect; or

SandRidge will have breached or failed to perform in any material respect any of its representations, warranties, covenants or other agreements contained in the merger agreement, which breach or failure to perform (A) would give rise to the failure of the conditions of to Arena's obligation to consummate the merger relating to SandRidge's representations and warranties and performance of its obligations, and (B) is incapable of being cured or has not been cured by SandRidge within 20 calendar days after written notice has been given by Arena to SandRidge of such breach or failure to perform.

**Termination Fees**

Under the merger agreement, the following termination fees are payable by Arena:

Arena will pay to SandRidge a termination fee of \$50 million if:

the merger agreement is terminated pursuant to any of the second, third or fourth bullet points of paragraph (5) or the first bullet point of paragraph (6) under "Termination" above; or

(A) a takeover proposal in respect of Arena is publicly announced or is proposed or offered or made to Arena or Arena's stockholders prior to the merger agreement having been approved by



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the required Arena stockholder vote, (B) the merger agreement is terminated by either party, as applicable, pursuant to paragraph (2) under Termination above, and (C) within 12 months following such termination Arena consummates or enters into, directly or indirectly, an agreement with respect to a takeover proposal.

Arena will pay to SandRidge a termination fee of \$20 million if the merger agreement is terminated pursuant to paragraph (4) under Termination above (solely with respect to the failure to obtain the required Arena stockholder vote). However, in the event that within 12 months following such termination Arena consummates or enters into an agreement with respect to a takeover proposal, Arena will pay to SandRidge an additional termination fee of \$30 million.

Under the merger agreement, the following termination fees are payable by SandRidge:

SandRidge will pay to Arena a termination fee of \$50 million if:

the merger agreement is terminated pursuant to the first bullet point under paragraph (5) or any of the second, third or fourth bullet points of paragraph (6) under Termination above; or

(A) a takeover proposal in respect of SandRidge is publicly announced or is proposed or offered or made to SandRidge or SandRidge's stockholders prior to the merger agreement having been approved by the required SandRidge stockholder vote, (B) the merger agreement is terminated by either party, as applicable, pursuant to paragraph (2) above under Termination, and (C) within 12 months following such termination SandRidge consummates or enters into, directly or indirectly, an agreement with respect to a takeover proposal.

SandRidge will pay to Arena a termination fee of \$20 million if the merger agreement is terminated pursuant to paragraph (4) under Termination above (solely with respect to the failure to obtain the required SandRidge stockholder vote). However, in the event that within 12 months following such termination SandRidge consummates or enters into an agreement with respect to a takeover proposal, SandRidge will pay to Arena an additional termination fee of \$30 million.

Any termination fees that are due to be paid as described above will be payable in immediately available funds promptly, and no later than one business day after termination of the merger agreement (or on the date of the consummation or, if earlier, entry into an agreement in the case of a termination in respect of a takeover proposal). For the purposes of this section entitled Termination Fees, the references in the definition of takeover proposal to 10% will be changed to 50%.

**Expenses**

In the merger agreement, the parties agreed that all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby will be paid by the party incurring such expenses, whether or not the merger is consummated. If the merger agreement is terminated and any termination fee is payable as a result thereof, in addition to the payment of the applicable termination fee, the party obligated to pay such fee will assume and pay, or reimburse the other party for, all documented and reasonable out-of-pocket fees and expenses incurred by such other party (including the fees and expenses of its counsel, financial advisor and financing sources) in connection with the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, up to a maximum of \$7.5 million.

**Conduct of Business Pending the Merger**

In the merger agreement, Arena agreed that, prior to the effective time of the merger, unless SandRidge otherwise consents in writing (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed) or except as expressly permitted or required under the merger agreement:

(1) the businesses of Arena and its subsidiaries will be conducted in the ordinary and usual course of business and consistent with past practices, and Arena and its subsidiaries will use all commercially



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reasonable efforts to maintain and preserve intact their respective business organizations and to maintain significant beneficial business relationships with suppliers, contractors, distributors, customers, licensors, licensees and others having business relationships with them and to keep available the services of their current key officers and employees; and

(2) except as set forth in the disclosure letter submitted by Arena to SandRidge and Merger Sub in connection with the merger agreement, Arena will not directly or indirectly, and will not permit any of its subsidiaries to, do any of the following:

acquire, sell, lease, transfer or dispose of any assets, rights or securities that are material to Arena and its subsidiaries or terminate, cancel, materially modify or enter into any material commitment, transaction, line of business or other agreement, in each case outside of the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice or, in the case of acquisitions of oil and gas properties or interests therein, in excess of \$3 million in the aggregate;

acquire by merging or consolidating with or by purchasing a substantial equity interest in or a substantial portion of the assets of, or by any other manner, any business, corporation, partnership, association or other business organization or division thereof;

amend or propose to amend its articles of incorporation or bylaws or, in the case of its subsidiaries, their respective constituent documents;

declare, set aside or pay any dividend or other distribution payable in cash, capital stock, property or otherwise with respect to any shares of its capital stock;

purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, or offer to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, any shares of its capital stock, other equity securities, other ownership interests or any options, warrants or rights to acquire any such stock, securities or interests, other than in connection with the relinquishment of shares by employees and directors of Arena in payment of withholding tax upon the vesting of restricted stock;

split, combine or reclassify any outstanding shares of its capital stock;

except for Arena common stock issuable upon exercise of options outstanding on the date of the merger agreement (or granted after the date of the merger agreement as permitted by the merger agreement) and the vesting of restricted stock awards granted prior to the execution of the merger agreement, issue, sell, dispose of or authorize, propose or agree to the issuance, sale or disposition by Arena or any of its subsidiaries of, any shares of, or any options, warrants or rights of any kind to acquire any shares of, or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any shares of, its capital stock of any class, or any other securities in respect of, in lieu of, or in substitution for any class of its capital stock outstanding on the date of the merger agreement;

modify the terms of any existing indebtedness for borrowed money or security issued by Arena or any of its subsidiaries;

incur any indebtedness for borrowed money (other than pursuant to Arena's existing line of credit in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$10 million);

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assume, guarantee, endorse or otherwise as an accommodation become responsible for, the obligations of any other person or entity, or make any loans or advances, except (A) to or for the benefit of its subsidiaries or (B) for those not in excess of \$0.5 million in the aggregate;

create or assume any material lien on any material asset;

authorize, recommend or propose any material change in its capitalization;

(A) take any action with respect to the grant of or increase in any severance or termination pay to any current or former director, executive officer or employee of Arena or any of its subsidiaries, (B) execute any employment, deferred compensation or other similar agreement (or any

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amendment to any such existing agreement) with any such director, executive officer or employee of Arena or any of its subsidiaries, (C) increase the benefits payable under any existing severance or termination pay policies or employment agreements, (D) increase the compensation, bonus or other benefits of current or former directors, executive officers or employees of Arena or any of its subsidiaries, (E) adopt or establish any new employee benefit plan or amend in any material respect any existing employee benefit plan, (F) provide any material benefit to a current or former director, executive officer or employee of Arena or any of its subsidiaries not required by any existing agreement or employee benefit plan, other than for clauses (A), (B) and (D) above, in the case of employees who are not directors and executive officers, in the ordinary course of business, or (G) take any action that would result in its incurring any obligation for certain severance, change in control or similar material payments or benefits described in specified sections of Arena's representations and warranties with respect to its employee benefit plans (without regard to whether the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement are consummated) except to the extent required in a written plan, contract or agreement in existence as of the date of the merger agreement;

other than in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, execute or amend (other than as required by existing employee benefit plans or employment agreements or by applicable law) in any material respect any employment, consulting, severance or indemnification agreement between Arena or any of its subsidiaries and any of their respective directors, officers, agents, consultants or employees, or any collective bargaining agreement or other obligation to any labor organization or employee incurred or entered into by Arena or any of its subsidiaries (other than as required by existing employee benefit plans or employment agreements or by applicable law);

make any changes in its reporting for taxes or accounting methods other than as required by GAAP or applicable law; make or rescind any tax election; make any change to its method of reporting income, deductions, or other tax items for tax purposes; settle or compromise any tax liability or enter into any transaction with an affiliate outside the ordinary course of business if such transaction would give rise to a material tax liability;

settle, compromise or otherwise resolve any litigation or other legal proceedings involving a payment of more than \$1 million in any one case by or to Arena or any of its subsidiaries;

other than in the ordinary course of business, pay or discharge any claims, liens or liabilities involving more than \$0.5 million individually or \$1 million in the aggregate, which are not reserved for or reflected on the balance sheets included in Arena's financial statements;

write off any accounts or notes receivable in excess of \$100,000;

make or commit to make capital expenditures in excess of the aggregate budgeted amount set forth in Arena's fiscal 2010 capital expenditure plan previously provided to SandRidge, except as may be required to (A) continue operations on the drilling, completion or plugging of any well or any well operations for which Arena has consented to participate and is required to continue to participate pursuant to applicable agreements or (B) conduct emergency operations on any well pipeline or other facility;

make or assume any hedges covering in excess of 3,000 additional barrels of oil for calendar year 2010, or in excess of 6,000 barrels of oil for calendar year 2011;

enter into new contracts to sell hydrocarbons other than in the ordinary course of business at market pricing, but in no event any having a duration longer than three months;

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fail to timely meet its royalty payment obligations in connection with its oil and gas leases to the extent such failure has or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on Arena;

enter into any agreement, arrangement or commitment that limits or otherwise restricts Arena or any of its subsidiaries, or that would reasonably be expected to, after the effective time of the

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merger, limit or restrict SandRidge or any of its subsidiaries or any of their respective affiliates or any successor thereto, from engaging or competing in any line of business in which it is currently engaged or in any geographic area material to the business or operations of SandRidge or any of its subsidiaries;

terminate, amend, modify or waive any provision of any confidentiality or standstill agreement to which it is a party or fail to enforce, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the provisions of such agreement, including by obtaining injunctions to prevent any breaches of such agreement and to enforce specifically the terms and provisions thereof;

except in compliance with the no solicitation limitations described above under No Solicitation of Takeover Proposals, knowingly take, or agree to commit to take, any action that would or would reasonably be expected to result in the failure of the conditions to SandRidge's obligation to consummate the merger relating to Arena's representations and warranties and performance of its obligations at, or as of any time prior to, the effective time of the merger, or that would materially impair the ability of Arena, SandRidge, Merger Sub or the holders of shares of Arena's common stock to consummate the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement or materially delay such consummation;

knowingly take any action that would or could reasonably be expected to disqualify the merger as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code; or

take or agree in writing or otherwise to take any of the actions precluded by paragraphs (1) or (2) above.

In the merger agreement, SandRidge agreed that, prior to the effective time of the merger, unless Arena otherwise consents in writing (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed) or except as expressly permitted or required under the merger agreement:

(1) the businesses of SandRidge and its subsidiaries will be conducted in the ordinary and usual course of business and consistent with past practices, and SandRidge and its subsidiaries will use all commercially reasonable efforts to maintain and preserve intact (except to the extent not prohibited by paragraph (2) below) their respective business organizations and to maintain significant beneficial business relationships with suppliers, contractors, distributors, customers, licensors, licensees and others having business relationships with them and to keep available the services of their current key officers and employees; and

(2) except as set forth in the disclosure letter submitted by SandRidge to Arena in connection with the merger agreement, SandRidge will not directly or indirectly, and will not permit any of its subsidiaries to, do any of the following:

acquire, sell, lease, transfer or dispose of any assets, rights or securities that are material to SandRidge and its subsidiaries or terminate, cancel, materially modify or enter into any material commitment, transaction, line of business or other agreement, in each case outside of the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice or, in the case of acquisitions of oil and gas properties or interests therein, in excess of \$25 million individually or, in the case of sales or dispositions of assets, in amounts in excess of \$25 million individually;

acquire by merging or consolidating with or by purchasing a substantial equity interest in or a substantial portion of the assets of, or by any other manner, any business, corporation, partnership, association or other business organization or division thereof for a purchase price in excess of \$25 million individually;

except as otherwise specifically contemplated by the merger agreement, amend or propose to amend its articles of incorporation or bylaws or, in the case of its subsidiaries, their respective constituent documents;

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other than as may be required under the terms of SandRidge's shares of 6% preferred stock or 8.5% preferred stock, declare, set aside or pay any dividend or other distribution payable in cash, capital stock, property or otherwise with respect to any shares of its capital stock;

purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, or offer to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, any shares of its capital stock, other equity securities, other ownership interests or any options, warrants or rights to acquire any such stock, securities or interests, other than in connection with the relinquishment of shares by employees and directors of SandRidge in payment of withholding tax upon the vesting of restricted stock;

split, combine or reclassify any outstanding shares of its capital stock;

except as may be required in the event of any conversion of SandRidge's shares of 6% preferred stock or 8.5% preferred stock or the payment of any dividend thereon in the form of SandRidge common stock pursuant to the terms thereof and except for the vesting of restricted stock awards granted prior to the execution of the merger agreement, issue, sell, dispose of or authorize, propose or agree to the issuance, sale or disposition by SandRidge or any of its subsidiaries of, any shares of, or any options, warrants or rights of any kind to acquire any shares of, or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any shares of, its capital stock of any class, or any other securities in respect of, in lieu of, or in substitution for any class of its capital stock outstanding on the date of the merger agreement;

assume, guarantee, endorse or otherwise as an accommodation become responsible for, the obligations of any other person, or make any loans or advances, except (A) to or for the benefit of its subsidiaries or (B) for those not in excess of \$5 million in the aggregate;

authorize, recommend or propose any material change in its capitalization;

make any changes in its reporting for taxes or accounting methods other than as required by GAAP or applicable law; make or rescind any tax election; make any change to its method or reporting income, deductions, or other tax items for tax purposes; settle or compromise any tax liability or enter into any transaction with an affiliate outside the ordinary course of business if such transaction would give rise to a material tax liability;

settle, compromise or otherwise resolve any litigation or other legal proceedings involving a payment of more than \$2 million in any one case by SandRidge or any of its subsidiaries;

other than in the ordinary course of business, pay or discharge any claims, liens or liabilities involving more than \$5 million in the aggregate, which are not reserved for or reflected on the balance sheets included in SandRidge's financial statements;

enter into new contracts to sell hydrocarbons other than in the ordinary course of business at market pricing;

fail to timely meet its royalty payment obligations in connection with its oil and gas leases to the extent such failure has or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on SandRidge;



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except in compliance with the no solicitation limitations described above under No Solicitation of Takeover Proposals, knowingly take, or agree to commit to take, any action that would or would reasonably be expected to result in the failure of the conditions to Arena's obligation to consummate the merger relating to SandRidge's representations and warranties and performance of its obligations at, or as of any time prior to, the effective time of the merger, or that would materially impair the ability of Arena, SandRidge, Merger Sub or the holders of shares of SandRidge's common stock to consummate the merger in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement or materially delay such consummation;

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knowingly take any action that would or could reasonably be expected to disqualify the merger as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code; or

take or agree in writing or otherwise to take any of the actions precluded by paragraphs (1) or (2) above.

**Amendment; Waiver**

The merger agreement may be amended by SandRidge and Arena at any time before or after approval of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby by the respective boards of directors or stockholders of SandRidge and Arena; provided, however, that after any such approval by the stockholders, no amendment will be made that in any way materially adversely affects the rights of such stockholders (other than a termination of the merger agreement in accordance with the provisions thereof) without the further approval of such stockholders. The merger agreement may not be amended except by an instrument in writing signed on behalf of each of the parties thereto.

No covenant or other undertaking in the merger agreement will constitute an amendment to any employee benefit plan, program, policy or arrangement, and any covenant or undertaking that suggests that an employee benefit plan, program, policy or arrangement will be amended will be effective only upon the adoption of a written amendment in accordance with the amendment procedures of such plan, program, policy or arrangement and not as a result of the execution of the merger agreement.

Any failure of any of the parties to the merger agreement to comply with any obligation, covenant, agreement or condition in the merger agreement may be waived at any time prior to the effective time of the merger by any of the parties entitled to the benefit thereof only by a written instrument signed by each such party granting such waiver, but such waiver or failure to insist upon strict compliance with such obligation, representation, warranty, covenant, agreement or condition will not operate as a waiver of or estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure.

**Representations and Warranties**

The merger agreement contains customary representations and warranties relating to, among other things:

corporate organization and similar corporate matters of each of SandRidge and Arena;