UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 23, 2020 (April 23, 2020)

HOLLY ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P.

001-32225

20-0833098

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

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(I.R.S. Employer (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) (Commission File Number) Identification Number) 75201 2828 N. Harwood, Suite 1300 **Dallas** TX(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (214) 871-3555 Not applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report) Securities registered pursuant to 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934: Trading Symbol(s) Title of each class Name of each exchange on which registered Common Limited Partner Units Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions: ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12) ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Emerging growth company \Box If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. \Box

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

The disclosure set forth in Item 7.01 below and in the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 regarding certain financial information of Holly Energy Partners, L.P. (the "*Partnership*") as of March 31, 2020 is hereby incorporated by reference into this Item 2.02.

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

On April 23, 2020, the Partnership issued a press release announcing the declaration of its quarterly distribution of \$0.35 per unit for the first quarter of 2020 and updating previously issued 2020 distribution strategy and distribution guidance. The press release also provides certain preliminary information regarding the Partnership's liquidity position as of March 31, 2020, which includes approximately \$400 million in cash and availability under its senior secured revolving credit facility. The estimated preliminary information presented herein and in the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 is preliminary, unaudited and subject to the completion of the Partnership's financial closing procedures for the three months ended March 31, 2020.

A copy of the Partnership's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein in its entirety.

The information contained in, or incorporated into, these Items 2.02 and 7.01 is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference to such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release of the Partnership issued April 23, 2020.*

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

^{*} Furnished herewith.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

HOLLY ENERGY PARTNERS, L.P.

HEP LOGISTICS HOLDINGS, L.P.,

By: its General Partner

HOLLY LOGISTIC SERVICES, L.L.C.,

By: its General Partner

By: /s/ John Harrison

Name: John Harrison

Title: Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Date: April 23, 2020

Holly Energy Partners Announces Change in Distribution Strategy and Quarterly Distribution

- Quarterly distribution of \$0.35 per LP unit
- Fund all capital expenditures and distributions from operating cash flow
- Target 3.0 3.5x leverage and 1.3x or greater distribution coverage

DALLAS--(BUSINESS WIRE) -- The Board of Directors of Holly Energy Partners, L.P. (NYSE:HEP) has declared a cash distribution of \$0.35 per unit, which represents a 48% reduction from its last quarterly distribution. The first quarter 2020 distribution will be paid on May 14, 2020 to unitholders of record on May 4, 2020.

HEP's current distribution strategy is intended to:

- fund all capital expenditures and distributions within free cash flow,
- improve distributable cash flow coverage to 1.3x or greater, and
- reduce leverage to 3.0-3.5x.

HEP expects to maintain the quarterly distribution constant at \$0.35 per unit, or \$1.40 on an annualized basis for the balance of 2020.

"This announcement reflects a significant shift in HEP's distribution strategy based on both the current environment and our expectations for the future," commented Mike Jennings, Chief Executive Officer. "We believe a strategy of funding growth and distributions with cash flow, while deleveraging the balance sheet and enhancing liquidity best positions HEP to create long-term value for its unitholders.

Additionally, we are committed to maintaining safe and reliable operations. The health and safety of our employees, communities, and contractors remains our top priority."

HEP's business model remains supported by its long-term minimum volume commitments which contributed over 70% of 2019 annual revenue. Additionally, approximately 87% of 2019 annual revenue was generated from investment grade refining customers.

As of March 31, 2020, HEP had approximately \$400 million in liquidity, including cash and availability under its \$1.4 billion credit facility which matures in July 2022. HEP's projected capital expenditures for 2020 remain unchanged at \$58 - \$69 million.

Statements previously made by HEP regarding HEP's distribution strategy, distribution guidance or potential future financial or operating results should not be considered to be updated or reaffirmed as of any later date except to the extent specifically updated or reaffirmed in this release or in subsequent public disclosures.

About Holly Energy Partners, L.P.:

Holly Energy Partners, L.P., headquartered in Dallas, Texas, provides petroleum product and crude oil transportation, terminalling, storage and throughput services to the petroleum industry, including HollyFrontier Corporation subsidiaries. Holly Energy, through its subsidiaries and joint ventures, owns and/or operates petroleum product and crude gathering pipelines, tankage and terminals in Texas, New Mexico, Washington, Idaho, Oklahoma, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming and Kansas as well as refinery processing units in Kansas and Utah.

This release is intended to be a qualified notice under Treasury Regulation Section 1.1446-4(b). Please note that one hundred percent (100.0%) of Holly Energy Partner's distributions to foreign investors are attributable to income that is effectively connected with a United States trade or business. Accordingly, Holly Energy Partner's distributions to foreign investors are subject to federal income tax withholding at the highest applicable effective tax rate.

Forward-looking Statement:

The statements in this press release relating to matters that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws, including statements regarding funding of capital expenditures and distributions, distributable cash flow coverage and leverage targets. These statements are based on our beliefs and assumptions and those of our general partner using currently available information and expectations as of the date hereof, are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks and uncertainties. Although we and our general partner believe that such expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, neither we nor our general partner can give assurance that our expectations will prove to be correct. Therefore, actual outcomes and results could materially differ from what is expressed, implied or forecast in these statements. Any differences could be caused by a number of factors including, but not limited to:

- the extraordinary market environment and effects of COVID-19 pandemic, including the continuation of a material decline in demand for crude oil and refined petroleum products in markets we serve;
- risks and uncertainties with respect to the actual quantities of petroleum products and crude oil shipped on our pipelines and/or terminalled, stored and throughput in our terminals;
- the economic viability of HollyFrontier Corporation and our other customers, including any refusal or inability of our customers or counterparties to perform their obligations under their contracts;
- our ability to purchase and integrate future acquired operations;
- our ability to complete previously announced or contemplated acquisitions;
- the availability and cost of additional debt and equity financing;
- · the possibility of reductions in production or shutdowns at refineries utilizing our pipeline and terminal facilities, whether due to

infection in the workforce or in response to reductions in demand;

- the effects of current and future government regulations and policies, including the effects of current restrictions on various commercial and economic activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- our operational efficiency in carrying out routine operations and capital construction projects;
- the possibility of terrorist or cyber-attacks and the consequences of any such attacks;
- general economic conditions, including uncertainty regarding the timing, pace and extent of an economic recovery in the United States: and
- other financial, operations and legal risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in our Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

The forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made and, other than as required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Holly Energy Partners, L.P. Craig Biery, 214-954-6511 Director, Investor Relations or Trey Schonter, 214-954-6511 Investor Relations