
**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): May 22, 2012

Oiltanking Partners, L.P.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

001-35230
(Commission
File Number)

45-0684578
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**15631 Jacintoport Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77015**
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(281) 457-7900
(Registrants' telephone number, including area code)

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

Item 5.02 **Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On May 22, 2012, Oiltanking Holding Americas, Inc. (“**OTA**”), the sole member of OTLP GP, LLC (the “**General Partner**”), the general partner of Oiltanking Partners, L.P. (the “**Partnership**”), appointed D. Mark Leland to serve as a member of the board of directors of the General Partner (the “**Board**”). The Board determined that Mr. Leland is an independent director, and appointed Mr. Leland to serve as a member of both the Audit and Conflicts Committees of the Board.

Mr. Leland, as a non-employee director of the General Partner, will receive the same compensation provided to all non-employee members of the Board. The compensation of non-employee directors of the General Partner is described in the Partnership’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

There are no understandings or arrangements between Mr. Leland and any other person pursuant to which Mr. Leland was elected to serve as a director of the General Partner. There are no relationships between Mr. Leland and the General Partner, the Partnership or any of the Partnership’s subsidiaries that would require disclosure pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated May 29, 2012, announcing appointment of D. Mark Leland to the Board of Directors of OTLP GP, LLC.

SIGNATURES

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Oiltanking Partners, L.P.

By: OTLP GP, LLC, its general partner

Dated: May 29, 2012

By: /s/ Carlin G. Conner

Name: Carlin G. Conner

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Ken Owen, Chief Financial Officer
ir@oiltankingpartners.com
(855) 866-6458

Jack Lascar / jlascar@drg-l.com
Lisa Elliott / lelliott@drg-l.com
DRG&L / 713-529-6600

OILTANKING PARTNERS, L.P. ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF D. MARK LELAND AS DIRECTOR

HOUSTON – May 29, 2012 – Oiltanking Partners, L.P. (NYSE: OILT) announced today that D. Mark Leland has been appointed to serve on the board of directors of its general partner. Mr. Leland will serve as an independent director and as a member of both the Audit and Conflicts Committees of the board.

Carlin G. Conner, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, stated, “We are excited to have Mark join our leadership team. His deep operational and financial experience in the energy industry will further strengthen our board. We look forward to working with Mark to help execute our growth strategy and deliver value to our unitholders.”

Mr. Leland served as Executive Vice President of El Paso Corporation and President of El Paso’s midstream business unit from October 2009 to May 2012, and as Director of El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P. from its formation in 2007 to May 2012. Mr. Leland also previously served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of El Paso Corporation from August 2005 to November 2009. He served as Executive Vice President of El Paso Exploration & Production Company from January 2004 to August 2005, and as Chief Financial Officer and a director from April 2004 to August 2005. Mr. Leland served as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

of the general partner of GulfTerra Energy Partners, L.P. from January 2003 to December 2003, and as Senior Vice President and Controller from July 2000 to January 2003.

Oiltanking Partners is a master limited partnership engaged in independent storage and transportation of crude oil, refined petroleum products and liquefied petroleum gas. We provide our services to a variety of customers, including major integrated oil companies, distributors, marketers and chemical and petrochemical companies. Our assets are located along the Gulf Coast of the United States. For more information, visit www.oiltankingpartners.com.

###