

NUCOR CORP
Form 10-Q
August 13, 2014
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Second

Quarter

2014

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

FORM 10-Q

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended July 5, 2014

Commission file number 1-4119

NUCOR CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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| | |
|---|--|
| Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) | 13-1860817 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |
| 1915 Rexford Road, Charlotte, North Carolina (Address of principal executive offices) | 28211 (Zip Code) |
| (704) 366-7000 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code) | |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

| | |
|---|--|
| Large accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/> | Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/> |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

318,843,007 shares of common stock were outstanding at July 5, 2014.

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Nucor Corporation

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July 5, 2014

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Table of Contents**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements****Nucor Corporation Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings (Unaudited)**

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Net sales | \$ 5,291,075 | \$ 4,665,588 | \$ 10,399,519 | \$ 9,216,360 |
| Costs, expenses and other: | | | | |
| Cost of products sold | 4,875,208 | 4,352,463 | 9,606,450 | 8,600,019 |
| Marketing, administrative and other expenses | 132,813 | 123,150 | 266,247 | 239,375 |
| Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates | (3,202) | (1,585) | (7,676) | (413) |
| Interest expense, net | 44,391 | 39,228 | 85,132 | 71,719 |
| | 5,049,210 | 4,513,256 | 9,950,153 | 8,910,700 |
| Earnings before income taxes and noncontrolling interests | 241,865 | 152,332 | 449,366 | 305,660 |
| Provision for income taxes | 74,930 | 46,062 | 152,735 | 88,662 |
| Net earnings | 166,935 | 106,270 | 296,631 | 216,998 |
| Earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests | 19,894 | 21,125 | 38,559 | 47,064 |
| Net earnings attributable to Nucor stockholders | \$ 147,041 | \$ 85,145 | \$ 258,072 | \$ 169,934 |
| Net earnings per share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.27 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.53 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.27 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.53 |
| Average shares outstanding: | | | | |
| Basic | 319,693 | 318,903 | 319,597 | 318,796 |
| Diluted | 319,981 | 319,023 | 319,872 | 318,934 |
| Dividends declared per share | \$ 0.37 | \$ 0.3675 | \$ 0.74 | \$ 0.735 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Nucor Corporation Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)**

(In thousands)

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Net earnings | \$ 166,935 | \$ 106,270 | \$ 296,631 | \$ 216,998 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | | | |
| Net unrealized income (loss) on hedging derivatives, net of income taxes of \$100 and \$0 for the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$(1,000) and \$0 for the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively | 238 | | (1,633) | |
| Reclassification adjustment for (income) loss on settlement of hedging derivatives included in net income, net of income taxes of \$(100) and \$0 for the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$100 and \$0 for the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively | (238) | | 233 | |
| Foreign currency translation gain (loss), net of income taxes of \$0 and (\$200) for the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$(400) and (\$200) for the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively | 31,845 | (15,582) | (11,632) | (66,095) |
| | 31,845 | (15,582) | (13,032) | (66,095) |
| Comprehensive income | 198,780 | 90,688 | 283,599 | 150,903 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (19,894) | (21,125) | (38,559) | (47,064) |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Nucor stockholders | \$ 178,886 | \$ 69,563 | \$ 245,040 | \$ 103,839 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Nucor Corporation Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)**

(In thousands)

| | July 5, 2014 | Dec. 31, 2013 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 1,067,561 | \$ 1,483,252 |
| Short-term investments | 100,000 | 28,191 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 2,071,439 | 1,810,987 |
| Inventories, net | 2,738,658 | 2,605,609 |
| Other current assets | 517,132 | 482,007 |
| Total current assets | 6,494,790 | 6,410,046 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 4,971,813 | 4,917,024 |
| Goodwill | 1,971,452 | 1,973,608 |
| Other intangible assets, net | 842,445 | 874,154 |
| Other assets | 1,030,388 | 1,028,451 |
| Total assets | \$ 15,310,888 | \$ 15,203,283 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Short-term debt | \$ 42,414 | \$ 29,202 |
| Long-term debt due within one year | 11,300 | 3,300 |
| Accounts payable | 1,124,077 | 1,117,078 |
| Salaries, wages and related accruals | 276,660 | 282,860 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 562,775 | 527,776 |
| Total current liabilities | 2,017,226 | 1,960,216 |
| Long-term debt due after one year | 4,368,900 | 4,376,900 |
| Deferred credits and other liabilities | 978,749 | 955,889 |
| Total liabilities | 7,364,875 | 7,293,005 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Nucor stockholders' equity: | | |
| Common stock | 151,172 | 151,010 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,867,948 | 1,843,353 |
| Retained earnings | 7,160,952 | 7,140,440 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, net of income taxes | (3,952) | 9,080 |
| Treasury stock | (1,495,298) | (1,498,114) |
| Total Nucor stockholders' equity | 7,680,822 | 7,645,769 |
| Noncontrolling interests | 265,191 | 264,509 |
| Total equity | 7,946,013 | 7,910,278 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Total liabilities and equity | \$ 15,310,888 | \$ 15,203,283 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Nucor Corporation Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)**

(In thousands)

| | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Operating activities: | | |
| Net earnings | \$ 296,631 | \$ 216,998 |
| Adjustments: | | |
| Depreciation | 326,429 | 258,390 |
| Amortization | 36,265 | 37,575 |
| Stock-based compensation | 33,752 | 34,043 |
| Deferred income taxes | (5,121) | 12,304 |
| Distributions from affiliates | 11,504 | 7,708 |
| Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates | (7,676) | (413) |
| Loss on assets | 9,046 | |
| Changes in assets and liabilities (exclusive of acquisitions and dispositions): | | |
| Accounts receivable | (249,196) | (70,785) |
| Inventories | (130,463) | 36,087 |
| Accounts payable | 90,460 | (44,724) |
| Federal income taxes | 14,100 | 3,709 |
| Salaries, wages and related accruals | (1,672) | (35,332) |
| Other operating activities | 19,270 | 29,414 |
| Cash provided by operating activities | 443,329 | 484,974 |
| Investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (446,798) | (621,306) |
| Investment in and advances to affiliates | (68,491) | (43,485) |
| Repayment of advances to affiliates | 15,000 | 30,500 |
| Disposition of plant and equipment | 12,858 | 10,145 |
| Acquisitions (net of cash acquired) | (38,466) | |
| Purchases of investments | (100,000) | (19,390) |
| Proceeds from the sale of investments | 27,529 | 73,428 |
| Proceeds from the sale of restricted investments | | 148,725 |
| Changes in restricted cash | | 55,355 |
| Cash used in investing activities | (598,368) | (366,028) |
| Financing activities: | | |
| Net change in short-term debt | 13,212 | 1,796 |
| Repayment of long-term debt | | (250,000) |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation | 2,700 | 1,700 |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interests | (37,877) | (57,266) |
| Cash dividends | (237,369) | (235,280) |
| Other financing activities | (1,123) | 109 |
| Cash used in financing activities | (260,457) | (538,941) |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash | (195) | (2,400) |
| Decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (415,691) | (422,395) |
| Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year | 1,483,252 | 1,052,862 |

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| | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents - end of six months | \$ 1,067,561 | \$ 630,467 |
| Non-cash investing activity: | | |
| Change in accrued plant and equipment purchases | \$ (96,023) | \$ (20,537) |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Nucor Corporation Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

1. BASIS OF INTERIM PRESENTATION: The information furnished in Item 1 reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented and are of a normal and recurring nature unless otherwise noted. The information furnished has not been audited; however, the December 31, 2013 condensed consolidated balance sheet data was derived from audited financial statements but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements in this Item 1 should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in Nucor's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements In the first quarter of 2014, Nucor adopted new accounting guidance, which requires unrecognized tax benefits to be presented as a decrease in net operating loss, similar tax loss or tax credit carryforward if certain criteria are met. Adoption of the guidance did not impact Nucor's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In March 2013, new accounting guidance was issued on foreign currency matters that clarifies the guidance of a parent company's accounting for the cumulative translation adjustment upon derecognition of certain subsidiaries or groups of assets within a foreign entity or of an investment in a foreign entity. Under this new standard, a parent company that ceases to have a controlling financial interest in a foreign subsidiary or group of assets within a foreign entity shall release any related cumulative translation adjustment into net income only if a sale or transfer results in complete or substantially complete liquidation of the foreign entity. This standard is applied prospectively for the Company beginning January 1, 2014. The adoption of this standard did not have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

In February 2013, new accounting guidance was issued on joint and several liability arrangements for which the total amount of the obligation is fixed at the reporting date. Under this new standard, obligations resulting from joint and several liability arrangements are to be measured as the sum of: (a) the amount the reporting entity agreed with its co-obligors that it will pay and (b) any additional amount the reporting entity expects to pay on behalf of its co-obligors. This standard is applied prospectively for the Company beginning January 1, 2014. The adoption of this standard did not have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements In April 2014, new accounting guidance was issued which changes the criteria for determining which disposals can be presented as discontinued operations and modifies related disclosure requirements. The new guidance is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2014. The impact on the Company of adopting the new guidance will depend on the nature, terms and size of business disposals completed after the effective date.

In May 2014, new accounting guidance was issued that will supersede nearly all existing accounting guidance related to revenue recognition. The new guidance provides that an entity recognizes revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. This update also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments, and assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. The amendments are effective for the Company for all annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The Company is currently evaluating adoption methods and the impact it will have on the consolidated financial statements.

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2. **INVENTORIES:** Inventories consisted of approximately 37% raw materials and supplies and 63% finished and semi-finished products at July 5, 2014 (40% and 60%, respectively, at December 31, 2013). Nucor's manufacturing process consists of a continuous, vertically integrated process from which products are sold to customers at various stages throughout the process. Since most steel products can be classified as either finished or semi-finished products, these two categories of inventory are combined.

Inventories valued using the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method of accounting represented approximately 45% of total inventories as of July 5, 2014 and December 31, 2013. If the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method of accounting had been used, inventories would have been \$639.2 million higher at July 5, 2014 (\$624.7 million higher at December 31, 2013). Use of the lower of cost or market methodology reduced inventories by \$1.8 million at July 5, 2014 (\$2.1 million at December 31, 2013).

3. **PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT:** Property, plant and equipment is recorded net of accumulated depreciation of \$6.93 billion at July 5, 2014 (\$6.63 billion at December 31, 2013).

Included within property, plant and equipment, net at July 5, 2014 is \$24.1 million of assets, net of accumulated depreciation, under a capital lease agreement (none at December 31, 2013). The gross amount of property, plant and equipment acquired under the capital lease was \$25.4 million, which is not included in capital expenditures on the condensed consolidated statement of cash flows. Total obligations associated with this capital lease agreement were \$24.2 million at July 5, 2014 (none at December 31, 2013), of which \$2.1 million was classified in accrued expenses and other current liabilities and \$22.1 million was classified in deferred credits and other liabilities.

As discussed in Note 7 to Nucor's annual report for the year ended December 31, 2013, in the third quarter of 2013 one of three storage domes collapsed at Nucor Steel Louisiana in St. James Parish. As a result, Nucor recorded a partial write down of assets at the facility, including \$21.0 million of property, plant and equipment and \$7.0 million of inventory, offset by a \$14.0 million insurance receivable that was based on management's current estimate of probable insurance recoveries. The associated net charge of \$14.0 million was included in marketing, administrative and other expenses in the consolidated statement of earnings in 2013. We are continuing to investigate the cause or causes of the 2013 dome collapse at Nucor Steel Louisiana and as a result, Nucor may record additional insurance proceeds and/or incur additional charges.

4. **RESTRICTED CASH AND INVESTMENTS:** There were no restricted cash or investments as of July 5, 2014 or December 31, 2013. In November 2010, Nucor issued \$600.0 million in 30-year Gulf Opportunity Zone bonds, the net proceeds of which were accounted for as restricted cash and investments. The restricted cash and investments were held in a trust account and were used to partially fund the capital costs associated with the construction of Nucor's direct reduced ironmaking facility in St. James Parish, Louisiana. Funds were disbursed as qualified expenditures for the construction of the facility were made, with \$204.2 million being disbursed in the first six months of 2013. The remaining funds were disbursed over the remainder of 2013.

5. **GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS:** The change in the net carrying amount of goodwill for the six months ended July 5, 2014 by segment is as follows (in thousands):

| | Steel Mills | Steel Products | Raw Materials | Total |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | \$ 495,897 | \$ 774,486 | \$ 703,225 | \$ 1,973,608 |
| Translation | | (2,156) | | (2,156) |
| Balance at July 5, 2014 | \$ 495,897 | \$ 772,330 | \$ 703,225 | \$ 1,971,452 |

Nucor completed its most recent annual goodwill impairment testing during the fourth quarter of 2013 and concluded that there was no impairment of goodwill for any of its reporting units. There have been no triggering events requiring an interim assessment for impairment since the most recent annual impairment testing date.

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Intangible assets with estimated useful lives of 5 to 22 years are amortized on a straight-line or accelerated basis and were comprised of the following (in thousands):

| | July 5, 2014 | | December 31, 2013 | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Gross Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Gross Amount | Accumulated Amortization |
| Customer relationships | \$ 1,151,532 | \$ 423,011 | \$ 1,147,786 | \$ 391,254 |
| Trademarks and trade names | 151,188 | 44,219 | 151,332 | 40,397 |
| Other | 22,823 | 15,868 | 21,869 | 15,182 |
| | \$ 1,325,543 | \$ 483,098 | \$ 1,320,987 | \$ 446,833 |

Intangible asset amortization expense in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013 was \$17.8 million and \$18.6 million, respectively, and was \$36.3 million and \$37.6 million in the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively. Annual amortization expense is estimated to be \$71.6 million in 2014; \$68.6 million in 2015; \$66.9 million in 2016; \$65.2 million in 2017; and \$61.5 million in 2018.

6. **EQUITY INVESTMENTS:** The carrying value of our equity investments in domestic and foreign companies was \$937.3 million at July 5, 2014 (\$936.0 million at December 31, 2013) and is recorded in other assets in the condensed consolidated balance sheets.
- DUFERDOFIN NUCOR**

Nucor owns a 50% economic and voting interest in Duferdofin Nucor S.r.l. (Duferdofin Nucor), an Italian steel manufacturer, and accounts for the investment (on a one-month lag basis) under the equity method, as control and risk of loss are shared equally between the members.

Nucor's investment in Duferdofin Nucor at July 5, 2014 was \$456.7 million (\$465.4 million at December 31, 2013). Nucor's 50% share of the total net assets of Duferdofin Nucor was \$55.9 million at July 5, 2014, resulting in a basis difference of \$400.8 million due to the step-up to fair value of certain assets and liabilities attributable to Duferdofin Nucor as well as the identification of goodwill (\$328.4 million) and finite-lived intangible assets. This basis difference, excluding the portion attributable to goodwill, is being amortized based on the remaining estimated useful lives of the various underlying net assets, as appropriate. Amortization expense and other purchase accounting adjustments associated with the fair value step-up were \$2.7 million and \$2.8 million in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and were \$5.4 million and \$5.7 million in the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively.

As of July 5, 2014, Nucor had outstanding notes receivable of \$35.0 million (\$47.6 million) from Duferdofin Nucor (\$35.0 million, or \$48.2 million, at December 31, 2013). The notes receivable bear interest at 1.539% and will reset annually on September 30 to the twelve-month Euro Interbank Offered Rate (Euribor) plus 1% per year. The principal amounts are due on January 31, 2016. Accordingly, the notes receivable were classified in other assets in the condensed consolidated balance sheets as of July 5, 2014.

Nucor has issued guarantees for its ownership percentage (50%) of Duferdofin Nucor's borrowings under Facility A of a Structured Trade Finance Facilities Agreement as well as the Standby Medium Long Term Loan Credit Facility, which mature on April 26, 2016 and April 22, 2016, respectively. The maximum amount that Duferdofin Nucor can borrow under Facility A is \$122.5 million, and as of July 5, 2014, Duferdofin Nucor had \$113.5 million (\$154.3 million) outstanding under that facility (\$112.0 million, or \$154.4 million, at December 31, 2013). The guarantee under the Standby Medium Long Term Loan Credit Facility was issued in the second quarter of 2014, and as of July 5, 2014, Duferdofin Nucor had the maximum borrowing amount of \$60.0 million (\$81.6 million) outstanding under that facility. If Duferdofin Nucor fails to pay when due any amounts for which it is obligated under Facility A or the Standby Medium Long Term Credit Facility, Nucor could be required to pay 50% of such amounts pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of its guarantees. Any indebtedness of Duferdofin Nucor to Nucor is effectively subordinated to the indebtedness of Duferdofin Nucor under both financing agreements. Nucor has not recorded any liability associated with these guarantees.

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NUMIT

Nucor has a 50% economic and voting interest in NuMit LLC (NuMit). NuMit owns 100% of the equity interest in Steel Technologies LLC, an operator of 25 sheet processing facilities located throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Nucor accounts for the investment in NuMit (on a one-month lag basis) under the equity method as control and risk of loss are shared equally between the members.

Nucor's investment in NuMit at July 5, 2014 was \$324.8 million (\$318.4 million as of December 31, 2013). Nucor has recorded two notes receivable from Steel Technologies LLC. The first note receivable of \$40.0 million bears interest at 1.13% as of July 5, 2014, and it resets quarterly to the three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 90 basis points. The second note receivable of \$44.0 million was issued on May 2, 2014. It bears interest at 1.43% as of July 5, 2014. The principal amounts of these notes receivable are due on October 21, 2014 and May 1, 2015, respectively. In addition, Nucor has extended a \$60.0 million line of credit (of which \$15.0 million was outstanding at July 5, 2014) to Steel Technologies LLC. As of July 5, 2014, the amounts outstanding on the line of credit bear interest at 1.36% and mature on April 1, 2015. As of July 5, 2014, both the notes receivable and the amounts outstanding on the line of credit are classified in other current assets in the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

HUNTER RIDGE

Nucor has a 50% economic and voting interest in Hunter Ridge Energy Services LLC (Hunter Ridge). Hunter Ridge provides services for the gathering, separation and compression of energy products including natural gas produced by Nucor's working interest drilling program. Nucor accounts for the investment (on a one-month lag basis) under the equity method, as control and risk of loss are shared equally between the members. Nucor's investment in Hunter Ridge at July 5, 2014 was \$136.7 million (\$134.5 million at December 31, 2013).

ALL EQUITY INVESTMENTS

Nucor reviews its equity investments for impairment if and when circumstances indicate that a decline in value below their carrying amounts may have occurred. In the fourth quarter of 2013, Nucor assessed its equity investment in Duferdofin Nucor for impairment due to the protracted challenging steel market conditions in Europe. After completing its assessment, the Company determined that the estimated fair value exceeded its carrying amount and that there was no need for impairment. The assumptions that most significantly affect the fair value determination include projected revenues and the discount rate. Steel market conditions in Europe have continued to be challenging through the first six months of 2014, and, therefore, it is reasonably possible that material deviation of future performance from the estimates used in our most recent valuation could result in further impairment of our investment in Duferdofin Nucor. Nucor recorded a \$30.0 million impairment charge against its investment in Duferdofin Nucor in the second quarter of 2012.

7. **CURRENT LIABILITIES:** Book overdrafts, included in accounts payable in the condensed consolidated balance sheets, were \$166.2 million at July 5, 2014 (\$81.6 million at December 31, 2013). Dividends payable, included in accrued expenses and other current liabilities in the condensed consolidated balance sheets, were \$118.9 million at July 5, 2014 (\$118.7 million at December 31, 2013).
8. **DERIVATIVES:** Nucor periodically uses derivative financial instruments primarily to partially manage its exposure to price risk related to natural gas purchases used in the production process as well as to scrap, copper and aluminum purchased for resale to its customers. In addition, Nucor periodically uses derivatives to partially manage its exposure to changes in interest rates on outstanding debt instruments and uses forward foreign exchange contracts to hedge cash flows associated with certain assets and liabilities, firm commitments and anticipated transactions.

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Nucor recognizes all derivative instruments in the condensed consolidated balance sheets at fair value. Any resulting changes in fair value are recorded as adjustments to other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax, or recognized in net earnings, as appropriate.

The following tables summarize information regarding Nucor's derivative instruments (in thousands):

Fair Value of Derivative Instruments

| | | Fair Value at | |
|---|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Balance Sheet Location | | July 5, 2014 | Dec. 31, 2013 |
| Liability derivatives designated as hedging instruments: | | | |
| Commodity contracts | Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | \$ (1,400) | \$ |
| Commodity contracts | Deferred credits and other liabilities | (900) | |
| Total liability derivatives designated as hedging instruments | | (2,300) | |
| Liability derivatives not designated as hedging instruments: | | | |
| Commodity contracts | Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | (757) | (553) |
| Foreign exchange contracts | Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | (132) | (2) |
| Total liability derivatives not designated as hedging instruments | | (889) | (555) |
| Total liability derivatives | | \$ (3,189) | \$ (555) |

The Effect of Derivative Instruments on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings**Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments**

| Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships | Statement of Earnings Location | Amount of Gain or (Loss), net of tax, Recognized in OCI on Derivatives (Effective Portion) Three Months Ended | | Amount of Gain or (Loss), net of tax, Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Earnings (Effective Portion) Three Months Ended | | Amount of Gain or (Loss), net of tax, Recognized in Earnings on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion) Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| | | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Commodity contracts | Cost of products sold | \$ 238 | \$ | \$ 238 | \$ | \$ | \$ |

| Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships | Statement of Earnings Location | Amount of Gain or (Loss), net of tax, Recognized in OCI | | Amount of Gain or (Loss), net of tax, | | Amount of Gain or (Loss), net of tax, | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | |

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| | | on Derivatives (Effective Portion) | | Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Earnings (Effective Portion) | | Recognized in Earnings on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion) | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
| | | Six Months (26 weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 weeks) Ended | |
| | | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Commodity contracts | Cost of products sold | \$ (1,633) | \$ | \$ (233) | \$ | \$ | \$ |

Table of Contents**Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments**

| Derivatives Not Designated as | Statement of Earnings Location | Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Earnings on Derivatives | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------|--|------------------|
| | | Three Months (13 weeks) Ended July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | Six Months (26 weeks) Ended July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Hedging Instruments | | | | | |
| Commodity contracts | Cost of products sold | \$ (795) | \$ 2,473 | \$ 438 | \$ 4,982 |
| Foreign exchange contracts | Cost of products sold | (201) | 2 | (48) | 118 |
| Total | | \$ (996) | \$ 2,475 | \$ 390 | \$ 5,100 |

9. **FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS:** The following table summarizes information regarding Nucor's financial assets and financial liabilities that were measured at fair value as of July 5, 2014 and December 31, 2013 (in thousands). Nucor does not currently have any non-financial assets or liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis.

| Description | Carrying Amount in Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets | Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using Quoted Prices | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| <u>As of July 5, 2014</u> | | | | |
| Assets: | | | | |
| Cash equivalents | \$ 919,447 | \$ 919,447 | \$ | \$ |
| Short-term investments | 100,000 | 100,000 | | |
| Total assets | \$ 1,019,447 | \$ 1,019,447 | \$ | \$ |
| Liabilities: | | | | |
| Foreign exchange and commodity contracts | \$ (3,189) | \$ | \$ (3,189) | \$ |
| <u>As of December 31, 2013</u> | | | | |
| Assets: | | | | |
| Cash equivalents | \$ 1,269,465 | \$ 1,269,465 | \$ | \$ |
| Short-term investments | 28,191 | 28,191 | | |
| Total assets | \$ 1,297,656 | \$ 1,297,656 | \$ | \$ |
| Liabilities: | | | | |
| Foreign exchange and commodity contracts | \$ (555) | \$ | \$ (555) | \$ |

Fair value measurements for Nucor's cash equivalents and short-term investments are classified under Level 1 because such measurements are based on quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets. Our short-term investments are held in similar short-term investment instruments as described in Note 4 to Nucor's annual report for the year ended December 31, 2013. Fair value measurements for Nucor's derivatives are classified under Level 2 because such measurements are based on published market prices for similar assets or are estimated based on observable inputs such as interest rates, yield curves, credit risks, spot and future commodity prices, and spot and future exchange rates.

The fair value of short-term and long-term debt, including current maturities, was approximately \$4.76 billion at July 5, 2014 (\$4.61 billion at December 31, 2013). The debt fair value estimates are classified under Level 2 because such estimates are based on readily available market prices of our debt at July 5, 2014 and December 31, 2013, or similar debt with the same maturities, rating and interest rates.

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10. **CONTINGENCIES:** Nucor is subject to environmental laws and regulations established by federal, state and local authorities and, accordingly, makes provision for the estimated costs of compliance. Of the undiscounted total of \$20.7 million of accrued environmental costs at July 5, 2014 (\$22.9 million at December 31, 2013), \$4.5 million was classified in accrued expenses and other current liabilities (\$6.9 million at December 31, 2013) and \$16.2 million was classified in deferred credits and other liabilities (\$16.0 million at December 31, 2013). Inherent uncertainties exist in these estimates primarily due to unknown conditions, evolving remediation technology, and changing governmental regulations and legal standards.

Nucor has been named, along with other major steel producers, as a co-defendant in several related antitrust class-action complaints filed by Standard Iron Works and other steel purchasers in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. The majority of these complaints were filed in September and October of 2008, with two additional complaints being filed in July and December of 2010. Two of these complaints have been voluntarily dismissed and are no longer pending. The plaintiffs allege that from April 1, 2005 through December 31, 2007, eight steel manufacturers, including Nucor, engaged in anticompetitive activities with respect to the production and sale of steel. The plaintiffs seek monetary and other relief. Five of the eight defendants have entered into settlement agreements with the plaintiffs, which agreements are in the process of court approval. Although we believe the plaintiffs claims are without merit, we will continue to vigorously defend against them, but we cannot at this time predict the outcome of this litigation or estimate the range of Nucor's potential exposure.

On March 25, 2014, a jury in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas returned a verdict against Nucor and five other co-defendants in an antitrust lawsuit brought by plaintiff MM Steel, LP, a steel plate service center located in Houston. The jury returned a verdict of \$52.0 million in damages against all defendants jointly and severally. On June 1, 2014, pursuant to antitrust laws providing for treble damages, the court awarded a judgment to MM Steel jointly and severally against the defendants in an amount totaling \$160.8 million after including costs and attorneys' fees. The Company has appealed the judgment to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and believes that it has valid grounds to have the judgment vacated or reversed. The Company believes that the evidence against Nucor was insufficient to support any finding that Nucor was involved in a horizontal conspiracy. The Company believes that the trial court wrongly excluded relevant testimony of Nucor's expert witness. The Company believes that the trial court erred in admitting hearsay evidence. Finally, the Company believes that the trial court did not sufficiently instruct the jury on applicable legal principles. As a result, the Company believes that the likelihood that the judgment will be affirmed is not probable, and, accordingly, it has not recorded any reserves or contingencies related to this legal matter. Although we are defending this lawsuit vigorously, its ultimate resolution is uncertain.

We are from time to time a party to various other lawsuits, claims and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. With respect to all such lawsuits, claims and proceedings, we record reserves when it is probable a liability has been incurred and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. We do not believe that any of these proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, would be expected to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows. Nucor maintains liability insurance for certain risks that is subject to certain self-insurance limits.

11. **STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION: *Stock Options*** Stock options may be granted to Nucor's key employees, officers and non-employee directors with exercise prices at 100% of the market value on the date of the grant. The stock options granted are generally exercisable at the end of three years and have a term of 10 years. New shares are issued upon exercise of stock options.

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A summary of activity under Nucor's stock option plans for the first six months of 2014 is as follows (in thousands, except year and per share amounts):

| | Shares | Weighted - Average Exercise Price | Weighted - Average Remaining Contractual Life | Aggregate Intrinsic Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Number of shares under option: | | | | |
| Outstanding at beginning of year | 2,089 | \$ 40.47 | | |
| Granted | 469 | \$ 50.63 | | |
| Exercised | | | | |
| Canceled | | | | |
| Outstanding at July 5, 2014 | 2,558 | \$ 42.33 | 8.1 years | \$ 21,023 |
| Options exercisable at July 5, 2014 | 1,272 | \$ 40.28 | 7.2 years | \$ 13,037 |

For the 2014 stock option grant, the grant date fair value of \$17.48 per share was calculated using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Exercise price | \$ 50.63 |
| Expected dividend yield | 2.92% |
| Expected stock price volatility | 45.00% |
| Risk-free interest rate | 2.03% |
| Expected life (years) | 6.5 |

Stock options granted to employees who are eligible for retirement on the date of grant are expensed immediately since these awards vest upon retirement from the Company. Retirement, for purposes of vesting in these stock options, means termination of employment after satisfying age and years of service requirements. Similarly, stock options granted to employees who will become retirement-eligible prior to the end of the vesting term are expensed over the period through which the employee will become retirement-eligible. Compensation expense for stock options granted to employees who are not retirement-eligible is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. Compensation expense for stock options was \$7.6 million and \$8.4 million in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$7.6 million and \$8.6 million in the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively. As of July 5, 2014, unrecognized compensation expense related to options was \$0.6 million, which is expected to be recognized over 3 years.

Restricted Stock Units Nucor annually grants restricted stock units (RSUs) to key employees, officers and non-employee directors. The RSUs typically vest and are converted to common stock in three equal installments on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. A portion of the RSUs awarded to senior officers vest upon the officer's retirement. Retirement, for purposes of vesting in these units only, means termination of employment with approval of the Compensation and Executive Development Committee of the Board of Directors after satisfying age and years of service requirements. RSUs granted to non-employee directors are fully vested on the grant date and are payable to the non-employee director in the form of common stock after the termination of the director's service on the board of directors.

RSUs granted to employees who are eligible for retirement on the date of grant are expensed immediately, and RSUs granted to employees who will become retirement-eligible prior to the end of the vesting term are expensed over the period through which the employee will become retirement-eligible since these awards vest upon retirement from the Company. Compensation expense for RSUs granted to employees who are not retirement-eligible is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

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Cash dividend equivalents are paid to participants each quarter. Dividend equivalents paid on units expected to vest are recognized as a reduction in retained earnings.

The fair value of the RSUs is determined based on the closing stock price of Nucor's common stock on the day before the grant. A summary of Nucor's RSU activity for the first six months of 2014 is as follows (shares in thousands):

| | Shares | Grant Date Fair Value |
|--|------------|--------------------------|
| Restricted stock units: | | |
| Unvested at beginning of year | 1,122 | \$ 42.51 |
| Granted | 655 | \$ 50.63 |
| Vested | (704) | \$ 44.51 |
| Canceled | (8) | \$ 40.42 |
| Unvested at July 5, 2014 | 1,065 | \$ 46.19 |
| Shares reserved for future grants (stock options and RSUs) | 11,868 | |

Compensation expense for RSUs was \$17.6 million and \$18.1 million in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$22.5 million and \$22.2 million in the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively. As of July 5, 2014, unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested RSUs was \$39.2 million, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.8 years.

Restricted Stock Awards Nucor's Senior Officers Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP") and Annual Incentive Plan (the "AIP") authorize the award of shares of common stock to officers subject to certain conditions and restrictions.

The LTIP provides for the award of shares of restricted common stock at the end of each LTIP performance measurement period at no cost to officers if certain financial performance goals are met during the period. One-third of the LTIP restricted stock award vests upon each of the first three anniversaries of the award date or, if earlier, upon the officer's attainment of age 55 while employed by Nucor. Although participants are entitled to cash dividends and may vote such awarded shares, the sale or transfer of such shares is limited during the restricted period.

The AIP provides for the payment of annual cash incentive awards. An AIP participant may elect, however, to defer payment of up to one-half of an annual incentive award. In such event, the deferred AIP award is converted into common stock units and credited with a deferral incentive, in the form of additional common stock units, equal to 25% of the number of common stock units attributable to the deferred AIP award. Common stock units attributable to deferred AIP awards are fully vested. Common stock units credited as a deferral incentive vest upon the AIP participant's attainment of age 55 while employed by Nucor. Vested common stock units are paid to AIP participants in the form of shares of common stock following their termination of employment with Nucor.

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A summary of Nucor's restricted stock activity under the AIP and LTIP for the first six months of 2014 is as follows (shares in thousands):

| | Shares | Grant Date Fair Value |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
| Restricted stock awards and units: | | |
| Unvested at beginning of year | 73 | \$ 45.49 |
| Granted | 127 | \$ 50.35 |
| Vested | (133) | \$ 48.91 |
| Canceled | | |
| Unvested at July 5, 2014 | 67 | \$ 47.93 |
| Shares reserved for future grants | 1,111 | |

Compensation expense for common stock and common stock units awarded under the AIP and LTIP is recorded over the performance measurement and vesting periods based on the anticipated number and market value of shares of common stock and common stock units to be awarded. Compensation expense for anticipated awards based upon Nucor's financial performance, exclusive of amounts payable in cash, was \$1.9 million and \$1.5 million in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$3.1 million and \$3.3 million in the first six months of 2014 and 2013 respectively. At July 5, 2014, unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested restricted stock awards was \$1.1 million, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.0 years.

12. **EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN:** Nucor makes contributions to a Profit Sharing and Retirement Savings Plan for qualified employees based on the profitability of the Company. Nucor's expense for these benefits was \$22.0 million and \$13.1 million in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and was \$40.2 million and \$26.7 million in the first six months of 2014 and 2013, respectively. The related liability for these benefits is included in salaries, wages and related accruals.

13. **INTEREST EXPENSE (INCOME):** The components of net interest expense are as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Interest expense | \$ 45,878 | \$ 40,676 | \$ 87,771 | \$ 74,356 |
| Interest income | (1,487) | (1,448) | (2,639) | (2,637) |
| Interest expense, net | \$ 44,391 | \$ 39,228 | \$ 85,132 | \$ 71,719 |

14. **INCOME TAXES:** The effective tax rate for the second quarter of 2014 was 31.0% compared with 30.2% for the second quarter of 2013. The increase in the effective tax rate for the second quarter of 2014 as compared to the second quarter of 2013 is primarily due to the change in relative proportions of net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests to total pre-tax earnings between the periods. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is currently examining Nucor's 2012 federal income tax return. Management believes that the Company has adequately provided for any adjustments that may arise from this audit. Nucor has concluded U.S. federal income tax matters for years through 2009. The 2010, 2011, and 2013 tax years also are open to examination by the IRS. The tax years 2009 through 2013 remain open to examination by other major taxing jurisdictions to which Nucor is subject (primarily Canada and state and local jurisdictions).

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Current deferred tax assets included in other current assets were \$259.4 million at July 5, 2014 (\$255.5 million at December 31, 2013). Current deferred tax liabilities included in accrued expenses and other current liabilities were \$13.5 million at July 5, 2014 (\$14.6 million at December 31, 2013). Non-current deferred tax liabilities included in deferred credits and other liabilities were \$675.3 million at July 5, 2014 (\$676.2 million at December 31, 2013).

15. **STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:** The following tables reflect the changes in stockholders' equity attributable to both Nucor and the noncontrolling interests of Nucor's joint ventures, primarily Nucor-Yamato Steel Company, of which Nucor owns 51% (in thousands):

| | Attributable to Nucor Corporation | Attributable to Noncontrolling Interests | Total |
|---|---|---|--------------|
| Stockholders' equity at December 31, 2013 | \$ 7,645,769 | \$ 264,509 | \$ 7,910,278 |
| Total comprehensive income | 245,040 | 38,559 | 283,599 |
| Stock options | 7,617 | | 7,617 |
| Issuance of stock under award plans, net of forfeitures | 19,556 | | 19,556 |
| Amortization of unearned compensation | 400 | | 400 |
| Dividends declared | (237,560) | | (237,560) |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interests | | (37,877) | (37,877) |
| Stockholders' equity at July 5, 2014 | \$ 7,680,822 | \$ 265,191 | \$ 7,946,013 |

| | Attributable to Nucor Corporation | Attributable to Noncontrolling Interests | Total |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Stockholders' equity at December 31, 2012 | \$ 7,641,571 | \$ 243,803 | \$ 7,885,374 |
| Total comprehensive income | 103,839 | 47,064 | 150,903 |
| Stock options | 8,575 | | 8,575 |
| Issuance of stock under award plans, net of forfeitures | 18,789 | | 18,789 |
| Amortization of unearned compensation | 400 | | 400 |
| Dividends declared | (235,545) | | (235,545) |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interests | | (57,266) | (57,266) |
| Stockholders' equity at June 29, 2013 | \$ 7,537,629 | \$ 233,601 | \$ 7,771,230 |

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16. **ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME:** The following tables reflect the changes in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income by component (in thousands):

| | Three Month (13 week) Period Ended July 5, 2014 | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Gains and Losses on | | Adjustment to | |
| | Hedging Derivatives | Foreign Currency Gain (Loss) | Early Retiree Medical Plan | Total |
| April 5, 2014 | \$ (1,400) | \$ (50,915) | \$ 16,518 | \$ (35,797) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | 238 | 31,845 | | 32,083 |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income into earnings | (238) | | | (238) |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss) | | 31,845 | | 31,845 |
| July 5, 2014 | \$ (1,400) | \$ (19,070) | \$ 16,518 | \$ (3,952) |

| | Six Month (26 week) Period Ended July 5, 2014 | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Gains and Losses on | | Adjustment to | |
| | Hedging Derivatives | Foreign Currency Gain (Loss) | Early Retiree Medical Plan | Total |
| December 31, 2013 | \$ | \$ (7,438) | \$ 16,518 | \$ 9,080 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | (1,633) | (11,632) | | (13,265) |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income into earnings | 233 | | | 233 |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss) | (1,400) | (11,632) | | (13,032) |
| July 5, 2014 | \$ (1,400) | \$ (19,070) | \$ 16,518 | \$ (3,952) |

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| | Three Month (13 week) Period Ended June 29, 2013 | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|---|------------|
| | Gains and Losses on Hedging Derivatives | Foreign Currency Gain (Loss) | Adjustment to Early Retiree Medical Plan | Total |
| March 30, 2013 | \$ | \$ (4,332) | \$ 10,580 | \$ 6,248 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | | (15,582) | | (15,582) |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income into earnings | | | | |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss) | | (15,582) | | (15,582) |
| June 29, 2013 | \$ | \$ (19,914) | \$ 10,580 | \$ (9,334) |

| | Six Month (26 week) Period Ended June 29, 2013 | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--|------------|
| | Gains and Losses on Hedging Derivatives | Foreign Currency Gain (Loss) | Adjustment to Early Retiree Medical Plan | Total |
| December 31, 2012 | \$ | \$ 46,181 | \$ 10,580 | \$ 56,761 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications | | (66,095) | | (66,095) |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income into earnings | | | | |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss) | | (66,095) | | (66,095) |
| June 29, 2013 | \$ | \$ (19,914) | \$ 10,580 | \$ (9,334) |

17. **SEGMENTS:** Nucor reports its results in the following segments: steel mills, steel products and raw materials. The steel mills segment includes carbon and alloy steel in sheet, bars, structural and plate; steel foundation distributors; steel trading businesses; rebar distribution businesses; and Nucor's equity method investments in Duferdofin Nucor and NuMit. The steel products segment includes steel joists and joist girders, steel deck, fabricated concrete reinforcing steel, cold finished steel, steel fasteners, metal building systems, steel grating and expanded metal, and wire and wire mesh. The raw materials segment includes DJJ, a scrap broker and processor; Nu-Iron Unlimited and Nucor Steel Louisiana, two facilities that produce DRI used by the steel mills; our natural gas working interests; and Nucor's equity method investment in Hunter Ridge. The steel mills, steel products and raw materials segments are consistent with the way Nucor manages its business, which is primarily based upon the similarity of the types of products produced and sold by each segment.

Net interest expense, other income, profit sharing expense, stock-based compensation and changes in the LIFO reserve are shown under Corporate/eliminations. Corporate assets primarily include cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, allowances to eliminate intercompany profit in inventory, fair value of natural gas hedges, deferred income tax assets, federal and state income taxes receivable, the LIFO reserve and investments in and advances to affiliates.

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Nucor's results by segment were as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Net sales to external customers: | | | | |
| Steel mills | \$ 3,674,140 | \$ 3,197,433 | \$ 7,281,904 | \$ 6,465,587 |
| Steel products | 1,035,923 | 937,104 | 1,910,092 | 1,726,451 |
| Raw materials | 581,012 | 531,051 | 1,207,523 | 1,024,322 |
| | \$ 5,291,075 | \$ 4,665,588 | \$ 10,399,519 | \$ 9,216,360 |

Intercompany sales:

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Steel mills | \$ 742,200 | \$ 639,425 | \$ 1,451,066 | \$ 1,272,145 |
| Steel products | 26,542 | 30,855 | 48,042 | 50,127 |
| Raw materials | 2,443,492 | 2,183,495 | 4,971,498 | 4,346,983 |
| Corporate/eliminations | (3,212,234) | (2,853,775) | (6,470,606) | (5,669,255) |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |

Earnings (loss) before income taxes and noncontrolling interests:

| | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Steel mills | \$ 368,138 | \$ 237,102 | \$ 685,935 | \$ 509,360 |
| Steel products | 42,612 | 32,073 | 44,332 | 20,149 |
| Raw materials | (9,635) | 12,218 | (1,276) | 13,754 |
| Corporate/eliminations | (159,250) | (129,061) | (279,625) | (237,603) |
| | \$ 241,865 | \$ 152,332 | \$ 449,366 | \$ 305,660 |

| | July 5, 2014 | Dec. 31, 2013 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Segment assets: | | |
| Steel mills | \$ 8,572,357 | \$ 8,365,023 |
| Steel products | 2,999,733 | 2,861,403 |
| Raw materials | 3,952,359 | 3,956,913 |
| Corporate/eliminations | (213,561) | 19,944 |
| | \$ 15,310,888 | \$ 15,203,283 |

18. **EARNINGS PER SHARE:** The computations of basic and diluted net earnings per share are as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Basic net earnings per share: | | | | |
| Basic net earnings | \$ 147,041 | \$ 85,145 | \$ 258,072 | \$ 169,934 |
| Earnings allocated to participating securities | (487) | (419) | (878) | (805) |
| Net earnings available to common stockholders | \$ 146,554 | \$ 84,726 | \$ 257,194 | \$ 169,129 |
| Average shares outstanding | 319,693 | 318,903 | 319,597 | 318,796 |

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| | | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Basic net earnings per share | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.27 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.53 |
| Diluted net earnings per share: | | | | |
| Diluted net earnings | \$ 147,041 | \$ 85,145 | \$ 258,072 | \$ 169,934 |
| Earnings allocated to participating securities | (487) | (419) | (878) | (805) |
| Net earnings available to common stockholders | \$ 146,554 | \$ 84,726 | \$ 257,194 | \$ 169,129 |
| Diluted average shares outstanding: | | | | |
| Basic shares outstanding | 319,693 | 318,903 | 319,597 | 318,796 |
| Dilutive effect of stock options and other | 288 | 120 | 275 | 138 |
| | 319,981 | 319,023 | 319,872 | 318,934 |
| Diluted net earnings per share | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.27 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.53 |

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The following stock options were excluded from the computation of diluted net earnings per share because their effect would have been anti-dilutive (in thousands, except per share amounts):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Anti-dilutive stock options: | | | | |
| Weighted average shares | | 546 | | 276 |
| Weighted average exercise price | \$ | \$ 44.51 | \$ | \$ 44.51 |

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Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Certain statements made in this quarterly report are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The words believe, expect, project, will, should, could and similar expressions are intended to identify those forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements reflect the Company's best judgment based on current information, and although we base these statements on circumstances that we believe to be reasonable when made, there can be no assurance that future events will not affect the accuracy of such forward-looking information. As such, the forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results may vary materially from the projected results and expectations discussed in this report. Factors that might cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to: (1) the sensitivity of the results of our operations to prevailing steel prices and changes in the supply and cost of raw materials, including pig iron, iron ore and scrap steel; (2) availability and cost of electricity and natural gas which could negatively affect our cost of steel production or could result in a delay or cancellation of existing or future drilling within our natural gas working interest drilling programs; (3) critical equipment failures and business interruptions; (4) market demand for steel products, which, in the case of many of our products, is driven by the level of nonresidential construction activity in the U.S.; (5) competitive pressure on sales and pricing, including pressure from imports and substitute materials; (6) impairment in the recorded value of inventory, equity investments, fixed assets, goodwill or other long-lived assets; (7) uncertainties surrounding the global economy, including the severe economic downturn in construction markets and excess world capacity for steel production; (8) fluctuations in currency conversion rates; (9) U.S. and foreign trade policy affecting steel imports or exports; (10) significant changes in laws or government regulations affecting environmental compliance, including legislation and regulations that result in greater regulation of greenhouse gas emissions that could increase our energy costs and our capital expenditures and operating costs or cause one or more of our permits to be revoked or make it more difficult to obtain permit modifications; (11) the cyclical nature of the steel industry; (12) capital investments and their impact on our performance; and (13) our safety performance.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this report, as well as the audited consolidated financial statements, Risk Factors and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contained in Nucor's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Overview

Nucor and its affiliates manufacture steel and steel products. Nucor also produces direct reduced iron (DRI) for use in its steel mills. Through The David J. Joseph Company and its affiliates (DJJ), the Company also processes ferrous and nonferrous metals and brokers ferrous and nonferrous metals, pig iron, hot briquetted iron (HBI) and DRI. Most of Nucor's operating facilities and customers are located in North America, but increasingly, Nucor is doing business outside of North America as well. Nucor's operations include several international trading and sales companies that buy and sell steel and steel products manufactured by the Company and others. Nucor is North America's largest recycler, using scrap steel as the primary raw material in producing steel and steel products.

Nucor reports its results in three segments: steel mills, steel products and raw materials. In the steel mills segment, Nucor produces sheet steel (hot and cold-rolled), plate steel, structural steel (wide-flange beams, beam blanks, H-piling and sheet piling) and bar steel (blooms, billets, concrete reinforcing bar, merchant bar and special bar quality). Nucor manufactures steel principally from scrap steel and scrap steel substitutes using electric arc furnaces, continuous casting and automated rolling mills. The steel mills segment also includes Nucor's equity method investments in Duferdofin Nucor and NuMit, as well as Nucor's steel trading businesses and rebar distribution businesses. In the steel products segment, Nucor produces steel joists and joist girders, steel deck, fabricated concrete reinforcing steel, cold-finished steel, steel fasteners, metal building systems, steel grating and expanded metal, and wire and wire mesh. In the raw materials segment, Nucor produces DRI; brokers ferrous and nonferrous metals, pig iron, HBI and DRI; supplies ferro-alloys; and processes ferrous and nonferrous scrap metal. The raw materials segment also includes certain equity method investments including our natural gas drilling working interests.

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We continue to be pleased with the progress of our new direct reduced iron plant in St. James Parish, Louisiana. The Louisiana DRI plant underwent a three week outage in the second quarter to implement adjustments that will improve yield and conversion costs. The Louisiana DRI plant has continued to exceed our volume expectations while producing excellent quality DRI units.

In March, a jury in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas returned a verdict of \$52.0 million in damages against Nucor and five other co-defendants, jointly and severally, in an antitrust lawsuit brought by plaintiff MM Steel, LP, a steel plate service center located in Houston. The amount was trebled to \$160.8 million (inclusive of costs and attorneys' fees) under the federal antitrust laws in a judgment awarded by the court on June 1, 2014. Nucor has appealed the judgment to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and believes that MM Steel, LP's claims against Nucor are meritless and that Nucor acted entirely within its legal rights. Nucor believes that the likelihood that the judgment will be affirmed is not probable, and, accordingly, we have not recorded any reserves or contingencies related to this legal matter.

The average utilization rates of all operating facilities in the steel mills, steel products and raw materials segments were approximately 77%, 61% and 64%, respectively, in the first six months of 2014 compared with 73%, 56% and 61%, respectively, in the first six months of 2013.

Results of Operations

Net Sales Net sales to external customers by segment for the second quarter and first six months of 2014 and 2013 were as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | % Change | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | % Change |
| Steel mills | \$ 3,674,140 | \$ 3,197,433 | 15 % | \$ 7,281,904 | \$ 6,465,587 | 13 % |
| Steel products | 1,035,923 | 937,104 | 11 % | 1,910,092 | 1,726,451 | 11 % |
| Raw materials | 581,012 | 531,051 | 9 % | 1,207,523 | 1,024,322 | 18 % |
| Net sales | \$ 5,291,075 | \$ 4,665,588 | 13 % | \$ 10,399,519 | \$ 9,216,360 | 13 % |

Net sales for the second quarter of 2014 increased 13% over the second quarter of 2013. Average sales price per ton increased 4% from \$799 in the second quarter of 2013 to \$831 in the second quarter of 2014, while total tons shipped to outside customers increased 9% over the same period last year.

Net sales for the first six months of 2014 increased 13% over the first six months of 2013. Average sales price per ton increased 4% from \$798 in the first half of 2013 to \$828 in the first half of 2014, while total tons shipped to outside customers increased 9% over last year.

In the steel mills segment, production and sales tons were as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | % Change | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | % Change |
| Steel production | 5,324 | 4,892 | 9 % | 10,518 | 9,710 | 8 % |
| Outside steel shipments | 4,646 | 4,274 | 9 % | 9,246 | 8,608 | 7 % |
| Inside steel shipments | 831 | 751 | 11 % | 1,663 | 1,492 | 11 % |
| Total steel shipments | 5,477 | 5,025 | 9 % | 10,909 | 10,100 | 8 % |

Net sales for the steel mills segment increased 15% over the second quarter of 2013 due to a 6% increase in the average sales price per ton from \$746 to \$789, and a 9% increase in tons shipped to outside customers. Our sheet, bar, structural and plate products all experienced higher average sales

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prices in the second quarter of 2014 compared with the second quarter of 2013 due to stronger demand and new product offerings. Volumes for sheet products also increased during the second quarter in part due to supply disruptions at some of our domestic competitors. Steel mill sales were negatively impacted by a planned three week outage at Nucor-Yamato Steel related to a capital project that will expand its sheet piling production capabilities. The outage resulted in lower shipments for structural steel in the second quarter of 2014 as compared with the first quarter of 2014. Though average sales prices increased for the steel mills segment in the second quarter of 2014 compared to the second quarter of 2013, imports continued to apply downward pressure on pricing during the second quarter of 2014, preventing a larger increase in average sales prices from occurring. In its most recent monthly report, the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System reported a 31.8% increase in year-to-date 2014 U.S. imports of steel mill products from the same period in 2013.

The 13% increase in sales from the first half of 2014 to the first half of 2013 in the steel mills segment was attributable to the 7% increase in tons sold to outside customers and the 5% increase in average sales price per ton from \$751 in the first half of 2013 to \$786 in the first half of 2014.

Tonnage data for the steel products segment is as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 weeks) Ended | | | Six Months (26 weeks) Ended | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | % Change | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | % Change |
| Joist sales | 97 | 91 | 7% | 189 | 162 | 17% |
| Deck sales | 101 | 83 | 22% | 188 | 152 | 24% |
| Cold finish sales | 133 | 124 | 7% | 271 | 246 | 10% |
| Fabricated concrete reinforcing steel sales | 321 | 280 | 15% | 560 | 508 | 10% |

The 11% increase in the steel products segment's sales for the second quarter of 2014 over the second quarter of 2013 was due to an 11% increase in volume that was partially offset by a slight decrease in average sales price per ton from \$1,374 to \$1,367. The 11% increase in the steel products segment's sales for the first half of the year was due to a 12% increase in volume partially offset by a 1% decrease in average sales price per ton from \$1,377 to \$1,358. The improvement in sales for the steel products segment in the second quarter and first half of 2014 compared with the same periods in the prior year is due to improving conditions in the nonresidential construction markets. Though conditions in the nonresidential constructions markets have improved, the improvements are from historically low levels. Sales for the steel products segment in the second quarter of 2014 increased from the first quarter of 2014 due to higher volumes resulting from improved weather conditions from the harsh conditions experienced in the first quarter of 2014.

The sales for the raw materials segment increased 9% from the second quarter of 2013 and 18% from the first half of 2013 primarily due to increased volumes at our natural gas drilling working interests and DJJ's recycling and brokerage businesses. In the second quarter of 2014, approximately 79% of outside sales in the raw materials segment were from the brokerage operations of DJJ and approximately 12% of the outside sales were from the scrap processing facilities (83% and 14%, respectively, in the second quarter of 2013). In the first half of 2014, approximately 78% of outside sales for the raw materials segment were from the brokerage operations and approximately 14% of outside sales were from the scrap processing facilities of DJJ (84% and 13%, respectively, in the first half of 2013).

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Gross Margins For the second quarter of 2014, Nucor recorded gross margins of \$415.9 million (8%), compared with \$313.1 million (7%) in the second quarter of 2013. The gross margin was impacted by a 4% increase in average sales price per ton and a 9% increase in tons shipped to outside customers, along with the following factors:

In the steel mills segment, the average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton used increased 2% from \$377 in the second quarter of 2013 to \$384 in the second quarter of 2014; however, metal margin per ton also increased from the second quarter of 2013 due to the increase in average selling prices and volumes. The average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton decreased 4% from \$398 in the first quarter of 2014 to \$384 in the second quarter of 2014; however, metal margins per ton also increased from the first quarter of 2014. Metal margin is the difference between the selling price of steel and the cost of scrap and scrap substitutes.

Scrap prices are driven by the global supply and demand for scrap and other iron based raw materials used to make steel. Scrap prices experienced a gradual decline during the second quarter of 2014 with low volatility. As we begin the third quarter, we expect continued low volatility in scrap prices.

Nucor's gross margins can be significantly impacted by the application of the LIFO method of accounting. LIFO charges or credits for interim periods are based on management's current estimates of both inventory costs and quantities at year-end. The actual amounts will likely differ from these estimated amounts, and such differences may be significant. Annual charges or credits are largely based on the relative changes in cost and quantities year-over-year, primarily within raw material inventory in the steel mills segment. No LIFO charge or credit was recorded for the second quarter of 2014 or 2013.

Gross margins in the steel products segment increased in the second quarter of 2014 over the second quarter of 2013 and first quarter of 2014 due in large part to the improving conditions in the nonresidential construction markets. Though conditions in the nonresidential construction markets are improving, the improvement is from historically low levels. Our deck, rebar, cold finish, and building systems operations experienced margin improvement in the second quarter of 2014 compared with the second quarter of 2013. Our joist, deck, rebar and building systems operations experienced margin improvement in the second quarter of 2014 compared with the first quarter of 2014.

Steel mill energy costs increased \$1 per ton in the second quarter of 2014 over the second quarter of 2013 due to increased natural gas and electricity unit costs.

Our Nucor Steel Louisiana DRI facility experienced significant operational losses, including start-up costs of \$19.4 million in the second quarter of 2014 compared with start-up costs of \$5.4 million in the second quarter of 2013, which negatively impacted gross margins.

For the first half of 2014, Nucor recorded gross margins of \$793.1 million (8%), compared to \$616.3 million (7%) in the first half of 2013. The gross margin was impacted by a 4% increase in average sales price per ton and a 9% increase in shipments to external customers in the first six months of 2014 as compared to the first six months of 2013. Gross margins were also impacted by the following factors:

In the steel mills segment, the average scrap and scrap substitute cost per ton used increased 3% from \$378 in the first half of 2013 to \$391 in the first half of 2014; however, metal margins also increased.

Gross margins in the steel products segment increased in the first half of 2014 over the first half of 2013 for the reasons described above.

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Gross margins were negatively impacted by a \$14.5 million and \$18.0 million LIFO charge in the first half of 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Energy costs increased approximately \$3 per ton in the first half of 2014 over the first half of 2013 due mainly to increased natural gas and electricity unit costs stemming from the harsh weather conditions in the first quarter of 2014 that drove up energy demand and costs.

The Nucor Steel Louisiana DRI facility experienced significant operational losses, including start-up costs of \$40.1 million in the first half of 2014 compared with start-up costs of \$9.2 million in the first half of 2013.

Within the raw materials segment, DJJ's gross margins for the first half of 2014 improved significantly over the first half of 2013, particularly within DJJ's recycling business. Third party sales volumes and margins have improved significantly year-over-year despite the impact of recent price declines in both ferrous and nonferrous markets.

Marketing, Administrative and Other Expenses The major component of marketing, administrative and other expenses is profit sharing and other incentive compensation costs. These costs, which are based upon and fluctuate with Nucor's financial performance, increased \$8.9 million in the second quarter of 2014 compared to the second quarter of 2013, and increased \$14.9 million in the first half of 2014 compared to the first half of 2013, due to the increased profitability of the Company. Profit sharing and other incentive compensation costs increased \$16.2 million in the second quarter of 2014 compared to the first quarter of 2014 due to the annual restricted stock unit grant and the stock option grant that occurred in the second quarter of 2014.

Included in marketing, administrative and other expenses in the first half of 2014 is a \$9.0 million charge related to the disposal of assets within the steel mill segment (none in the first half of 2013).

Equity in Earnings of Unconsolidated Affiliates Equity method investment earnings, including amortization expense and other purchase accounting adjustments, were \$3.2 million and \$1.6 million in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively, and \$7.7 million and \$0.4 million in the first half of 2014 and 2013, respectively. The increase in the equity method investment earnings is primarily due to a decrease in losses at Duferdofin Nucor S.r.l. and higher equity method earnings at NuMit LLC during both the second quarter and the first half of 2014 compared with the respective prior year periods.

In the fourth quarter of 2013, Nucor assessed its equity investment in Duferdofin Nucor for impairment due to the protracted challenging steel market conditions in Europe. After completing its assessment, the Company determined that the estimated fair value exceeded its carrying amount and that there was no need for impairment. Steel market conditions in Europe have continued to be challenging through the first half of 2014, and, therefore, it is reasonably possible that material deviation of future performance from the estimates used in our most recent valuation could result in further impairment of our investment in Duferdofin Nucor. Nucor recorded a \$30.0 million impairment charge against its investment in Duferdofin Nucor in the second quarter of 2012.

Interest Expense (Income) Net interest expense for the second quarter and first half of 2014 and 2013 was as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Interest expense | \$ 45,878 | \$ 40,676 | \$ 87,771 | \$ 74,356 |
| Interest income | (1,487) | (1,448) | (2,639) | (2,637) |
| Interest expense, net | \$ 44,391 | \$ 39,228 | \$ 85,132 | \$ 71,719 |

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In the second quarter of 2014, gross interest expense increased 13% from the second quarter of 2013 due to a 23% increase in average debt outstanding. Gross interest income increased 3% due mainly to increases in average investments outstanding.

In the first half of 2014, gross interest expense increased 18% from the first half of 2013 due to a 22% increase in average debt outstanding. Gross interest income remained flat between the first half of 2014 and 2013.

Earnings Before Income Taxes and Noncontrolling Interests Earnings before income taxes and noncontrolling interests by segment for the second quarter and first half of 2014 and 2013 were as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months (13 Weeks) Ended | | Six Months (26 Weeks) Ended | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 | July 5, 2014 | June 29, 2013 |
| Steel mills | \$ 368,138 | \$ 237,102 | \$ 685,935 | \$ 509,360 |
| Steel products | 42,612 | 32,073 | 44,332 | 20,149 |
| Raw materials | (9,635) | 12,218 | (1,276) | 13,754 |
| Corporate/eliminations | (159,250) | (129,061) | (279,625) | (237,603) |
| | \$ 241,865 | \$ 152,332 | \$ 449,366 | \$ 305,660 |

Earnings before income taxes and noncontrolling interests in the steel mills segment for the second quarter and first six months of 2014 increased significantly from the second quarter and first six months of 2013 due to higher sales volume, higher average sales prices and higher metal margins resulting from factors discussed above. Our recent capital project expansions have allowed us to broaden our product offerings and market share, particularly in the special bar quality, cold rolled and galvanized sheet and plate steel products. These higher value product offerings benefited the profitability of the steel mills segment in the second quarter and first half of 2014. Structural steel shipments and earnings were negatively impacted by the planned three week outage at Nucor-Yamato Steel related to a capital project that will expand its sheet piling production capabilities. The improved results of the steel mills segment were achieved despite imports being at levels not seen since 2006. Earnings before income taxes and noncontrolling interests in the steel mills segment for the second quarter of 2014 increased from the first quarter of 2014 due to higher average sales prices, higher volumes and higher metal margins. Market conditions improved in the second quarter of 2014 as the weather conditions improved from the severe conditions experienced in the first quarter of 2014.

The profitability of the steel mills segment in the second quarter and first half of 2014 also benefited from improved results from the NuMit and Duferdofin Nucor equity method investments as compared with the respective prior year periods. Partially offsetting these factors were the increased energy costs and a \$9.0 million charge related to the disposal of assets within the steel mills segment in the first half of 2014 (none in the first half of 2013).

In the steel products segment, earnings before income taxes and noncontrolling interests increased significantly from the second quarter and first half of 2013. Profitability at our deck, rebar, cold finish and building systems operations increased in the second quarter and first half of 2014 compared with the respective periods in the prior year. The steel products segment has benefited from the improving conditions in the nonresidential construction markets. Though conditions in the nonresidential construction markets are improving, the improvement is from historically low levels. Earnings before income taxes and noncontrolling interests in the steel products segment increased significantly from the first quarter of 2014 due to typical seasonality that occurs in the second quarter as improved weather conditions benefit nonresidential construction markets. This seasonality was exacerbated in the current year due to extreme weather conditions that were experienced in the first quarter of 2014.

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The decrease in profitability of our raw materials segment for the second quarter and first half of 2014 as compared to the second quarter and first half of 2013 is due primarily to increased operational losses, which included increased start-up costs, at our new Louisiana DRI facility. The Louisiana DRI plant underwent a three week outage in the second quarter to implement adjustments that will improve yield and conversion costs. Partially offsetting the losses at the Louisiana DRI plant was increased profitability from DJJ's brokerage and scrap processing operations due to increased volumes and margin improvement, and increased profitability from our natural gas working interest drilling investment.

Noncontrolling Interests Noncontrolling interests represent the income attributable to the noncontrolling partners of Nucor's joint ventures, primarily Nucor-Yamato Steel Company (NYS), of which Nucor owns 51%. The decrease in earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests in the second quarter of 2014 as compared to the second quarter of 2013 was primarily attributable to a planned three week outage this quarter associated with a capital project. The decrease in earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests in the first half of 2014 from the first half of 2013 is mainly the result of lower selling prices and margins in the first quarter of 2014 compared with the first quarter of 2013 and the planned three week outage mentioned above. Selling prices and margins at NYS in the second quarter of 2014 increased over both the first quarter of 2014 and the second quarter of 2013. Under the NYS limited partnership agreement, the minimum amount of cash to be distributed each year to the partners is the amount needed by each partner to pay applicable U.S. federal and state income taxes. In the first six months of 2013, the amount of cash distributed to noncontrolling interest holders exceeded the earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests based on mutual agreement of the general partners; however, the cumulative amount of cash distributed to partners was less than the cumulative net earnings of the partnership.

Provision for Income Taxes Nucor had an effective tax rate of 31.0% in the second quarter of 2014 compared with 30.2% in the second quarter of 2013. The expected rate for the full year of 2014 will be approximately 32.3% compared with 26.0% for the full year of 2013. The increase in the effective tax rate for the second quarter of 2014 as compared to the second quarter of 2013 is primarily due to the change in relative proportions of net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests to total pre-tax earnings between the periods. The increase in the expected rate for the full year of 2014 as compared to the full year of 2013 is due to a charge of \$12.8 million which is primarily related to tax legislation changes in the state of New York during the first quarter of 2014 and the \$21.3 million favorable non-cash out-of-period adjustment to deferred tax balances in the fourth quarter of 2013.

We estimate that in the next twelve months our gross uncertain tax positions, which totaled \$68.5 million at July 5, 2014 exclusive of interest, could decrease by as much as \$12.2 million as a result of the expiration of the statute of limitations, substantially all of which would impact the effective tax rate.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is currently examining Nucor's 2012 federal income tax return. Management believes that the Company has adequately provided for any adjustments that may arise from this audit. Nucor has concluded U.S. federal income tax matters for years through 2009. The 2010, 2011, and 2013 tax years also are open to examination by the IRS. The tax years 2009 through 2013 remain open to examination by other major taxing jurisdictions to which Nucor is subject (primarily Canada and state and local jurisdictions).

Net Earnings Attributable to Nucor Stockholders and Return on Equity Nucor reported consolidated net earnings of \$147.0 million, or \$0.46 per diluted share, in the second quarter of 2014 compared with consolidated net earnings of \$85.1 million, or \$0.27 per diluted share, in the second quarter of 2013. Net earnings attributable to Nucor stockholders as a percentage of net sales were 3% and 2% in the second quarter of 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Nucor reported consolidated net earnings of \$258.1 million, or \$0.80 per diluted share, in the first half of 2014, compared to consolidated net earnings of \$169.9 million, or \$0.53 per diluted share, in the first half of 2013. Net earnings attributable to Nucor stockholders as a percentage of net sales was 2% in both the first half of 2014 and 2013. Return on average stockholders' equity was approximately 7% and 4% in the first half of 2014 and 2013, respectively.

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Outlook We currently expect to see a stronger improvement in earnings for the third quarter of 2014. Although non-residential construction markets remain at historically low levels, they are improving at a moderate pace. We therefore expect further increased operating profits in our downstream products businesses. Steel mill profitability is also expected to improve in the third quarter of 2014 as our Nucor-Yamato Steel division has no planned outage and sheet and plate margins continue to benefit from positive pricing trends. We also expect improvement in the performance of the Louisiana DRI facility in the third quarter, with profitable performance anticipated by the end of the year.

Nucor's largest exposure to market risk is via our steel mills and steel products segments. Our largest single customer in the first half of 2014 represented approximately 5% of sales and consistently pays within terms. In the raw materials segment, we are exposed to price fluctuations related to the purchase of scrap steel and iron ore. Our exposure to market risk is mitigated by the fact that our steel mills use a significant portion of the products of this segment.

Liquidity and capital resources

Cash provided by operating activities was \$443.3 million in the first half of 2014, compared with cash provided by operating activities of \$485.0 million in the first half of 2013. The year-over-year decrease is primarily due to changes in operating assets and liabilities, which were (\$257.5) million in the first half of 2014 compared with (\$81.6) million in the first half of 2013. The change in operating assets and liabilities was partially offset by higher net earnings which included increased levels of depreciation expense. The funding of our working capital increased over the prior year period due mainly to increases in accounts receivable and inventories and a decrease in accounts payable. Accounts receivable increased due to increased outside shipments in the second quarter of 2014 over the fourth quarter of 2013, as well as an increase in the sales price per ton during that same period. There was also an increase in cash used to purchase inventory during the first half of 2014 as inventory tons on hand increased approximately 3% from year-end 2013 to the end of the second quarter of 2014 resulting from improved customer demand. Cash used to purchase inventories decreased from year-end 2012 to the end of the second quarter of 2013 as inventory tons on hand decreased slightly and scrap cost per ton in ending inventory decreased. The decrease in cash used to fund accounts payable during the first half of 2014 is due to a significant decrease in accrued plant and equipment purchases and a decrease in scrap cost per ton in ending inventory from year-end 2013 to the end of the second quarter. Partially offsetting the net decrease in cash from changes in operating assets and liabilities was the \$79.6 million increase in net earnings from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014. The higher net earnings included \$68.0 million of additional depreciation expense over the first half of 2013. The increase in depreciation expense is primarily due to the completion of our DRI facility in Louisiana and additional assets related to our natural gas drilling working interests.

The current ratio was 3.2 at the end of the second quarter of 2014 and 3.3 at year-end 2013. Accounts receivable and inventories increased 14% and 5%, respectively, since year-end, while sales for the second quarter of 2014 increased by 8% from the fourth quarter of 2013. In the second quarter of 2014, total accounts receivable turned approximately every five weeks and inventories turned approximately every seven weeks, which is consistent with the second quarter of 2013 turnover. The current ratio was also impacted by a 23% decrease in cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments from year-end 2013. The decrease in cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments is primarily attributable to their use in capital project spending and the payment of dividends.

Cash used in investing activities increased \$232.3 million over the prior year period. The largest factor contributing to the increase in cash used in investing activities was the net decrease of \$330.6 million in proceeds from the sale of investments and restricted investments (net of purchases) and changes in restricted cash from 2013. Additionally, cash used to fund several small acquisitions was \$38.5 million in the first half of 2014 compared with none in 2013. Partially offsetting those changes was a \$174.5 million decrease in capital expenditures in large part due to the completion of our Louisiana DRI facility and reduced spending with our natural gas working interest drilling program.

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Cash used in financing activities decreased by \$278.5 million from the first half of 2013 due primarily to the repayment of a \$250.0 million note in June 2013.

Nucor's conservative financial practices have served us well in the past and are serving us well today. Our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments position remains strong at \$1.17 billion as of July 5, 2014. Our \$1.5 billion revolving credit facility is undrawn and does not expire until August 2018. We believe our financial strength is a key strategic advantage among domestic steel producers, particularly during recessionary business cycles. We carry the highest credit ratings of any metals and mining company in North America, with an A rating from Standard and Poor's and a Baa1 rating from Moody's. Based upon these factors, we expect to continue to have adequate access to the capital markets at a reasonable cost of funds for liquidity purposes when needed. Our credit ratings are dependent, however, upon a number of factors, both qualitative and quantitative, and are subject to change at any time. The disclosure of our credit ratings is made in order to enhance investors' understanding of our sources of liquidity and the impact of our credit ratings on our cost of funds.

Our credit facility includes only one financial covenant, which is a limit of 60% on the ratio of funded debt to total capitalization. In addition, the credit facility contains customary non-financial covenants, including a limit on Nucor's ability to pledge the Company's assets and a limit on consolidations, mergers and sales of assets. As of July 5, 2014, our funded debt to total capital ratio was 36%, and we were in compliance with all other covenants under our credit facility. No borrowings were outstanding under the credit facility as of July 5, 2014.

In challenging market conditions such as we are experiencing today, our financial strength allows a number of capital preservation options. Nucor's robust capital investment and maintenance practices give us the flexibility to reduce spending by prioritizing our capital projects, potentially rescheduling certain projects, and selectively allocating capital to investments with the greatest impact on our long-term earnings power. Capital expenditures for 2014 are projected to be approximately \$600 million compared to \$1.2 billion in 2013. The decrease in projected 2014 capital expenditures is primarily due to decreased capital expenditures related to our DRI facility in Louisiana and the suspension of drilling new natural gas wells associated with our drilling program that was announced in the fourth quarter of 2013.

In June 2014, Nucor's board of directors declared a quarterly cash dividend on Nucor's common stock of \$0.37 per share payable on August 11, 2014 to stockholders of record on June 30, 2014. This dividend is Nucor's 165th consecutive quarterly cash dividend.

Funds provided from operations, cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and new borrowings under our existing credit facilities are expected to be adequate to meet future capital expenditure and working capital requirements for existing operations for at least the next 24 months.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

In the ordinary course of business, Nucor is exposed to a variety of market risks. We continually monitor these risks and develop appropriate strategies to manage them.

Interest Rate Risk - Nucor manages interest rate risk by using a combination of variable-rate and fixed-rate debt. Nucor also occasionally makes use of interest rate swaps to manage net exposure to interest rate changes. Management does not believe that Nucor's exposure to interest rate market risk has significantly changed since December 31, 2013. There were no interest rate swaps outstanding at July 5, 2014.

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Commodity Price Risk In the ordinary course of business, Nucor is exposed to market risk for price fluctuations of raw materials and energy, principally scrap steel, other ferrous and nonferrous metals, alloys and natural gas. We attempt to negotiate the best prices for our raw materials and energy requirements and to obtain prices for our steel products that match market price movements in response to supply and demand.

Natural gas produced by Nucor's working interest drilling program is being sold to third parties to offset its exposure to changes in the price of gas consumed by its Louisiana DRI facility. In addition to its natural gas needs at the new DRI facility in Louisiana, Nucor is also a substantial consumer of natural gas at its steel mill operations. In future years, we expect that the natural gas produced through the drilling program will be sufficient to cover Nucor's demand at all of its steel mills in the United States plus the demand of its two DRI plants or, alternatively, at three DRI plants, if additional capacity were to be added. However, the natural gas production from the working interest drilling program currently does not completely cover the natural gas usage at our operating facilities. For the six months ended July 5, 2014, the volume of natural gas sold from our natural gas working interest drilling program was approximately 72% of the volume of natural gas purchased for consumption in our domestic steelmaking facilities and our DRI facility in Louisiana.

Our natural gas working interest drilling program is affected by changes in natural gas prices in an inverse manner to natural gas costs at our DRI and steel mill operations. As natural gas prices increase, our increased energy costs at our DRI and steel mill operations is somewhat mitigated by increased profit from sales of natural gas to third party customers from our natural gas drilling program. Likewise, as natural gas prices decrease, we experience decreased energy costs at our DRI and steel mill operations, but we also experience decreased profit from our natural gas drilling program.

The impact of low natural gas prices associated with our drilling program is limited by the existence of a drilling suspension clause. Nucor is contractually obligated to drill a minimum number of wells per year under the terms of our agreements with Encana; however, we have the right to suspend drilling of new wells at any time after January 1, 2015, if market pricing falls below a pre-established threshold. In the fourth quarter of 2013, Nucor and Encana agreed to temporarily suspend drilling new natural gas wells. This joint decision was made due to the current weak natural gas pricing environment. We believe this pause demonstrates the flexibility of our partnership with Encana to react to market conditions to the mutual benefit of both parties while still allowing us to better manage our exposure to natural gas pricing volatility at our operating divisions that consume natural gas.

Nucor also periodically uses derivative financial instruments to hedge a portion of our exposure to price risk related to natural gas purchases used in the production process and to hedge a portion of our scrap, aluminum and copper purchases and sales. Gains and losses from derivatives designated as hedges are deferred in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income on the condensed consolidated balance sheets and recognized into earnings in the same period as the underlying physical transaction. At July 5, 2014, accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income included \$1.4 million in unrealized net-of-tax losses for the fair value of these derivative instruments. Changes in the fair values of derivatives not designated as hedges are recognized in earnings each period. The following table presents the negative effect on pre-tax earnings of a hypothetical change in the fair value of derivative instruments outstanding at July 5, 2014, due to an assumed 10% and 25% change in the market price of each of the indicated commodities (in thousands):

| Commodity Derivative | 10% Change | 25% Change |
|----------------------|------------|------------|
| Natural gas | \$ 455 | \$ 1,136 |
| Aluminum | 2,129 | 5,323 |
| Copper | 278 | 694 |

Any resulting changes in fair value would be recorded as adjustments to other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax, or recognized in net earnings, as appropriate. These hypothetical losses would be partially offset by the benefit of lower prices paid or higher prices received for the physical commodities.

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Foreign Currency Risk Nucor is exposed to foreign currency risk through its operations in Canada, Europe, Trinidad and Colombia. We periodically use derivative contracts to mitigate the risk of currency fluctuations.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the evaluation date.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended July 5, 2014 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

On April 19, 2012, MM Steel LP filed an action against Nucor and five other co-defendants in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas and has asserted violations of federal antitrust law. On March 25, 2014, the jury returned a verdict of \$52.0 million in damages against all defendants jointly and severally, which amount was subject to trebling under the federal antitrust laws. On June 1, 2014, the court awarded a judgment jointly and severally against the defendants totaling \$160.8 million after trebling and including costs and attorneys' fees. Although the Company has filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the ultimate resolution of the case is uncertain.

We are from time to time a party to various other lawsuits, claims and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. With respect to all such lawsuits, claims and proceedings, we record reserves when it is probable a liability has been incurred and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. We do not believe that any of these proceedings, individually or in the aggregate, would be expected to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes in Nucor's risk factors from those included in Nucor's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

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Item 6. Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Description of Exhibit |
|-------------|--|
| 10 | Nucor Corporation Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on March 25, 2014) (#) |
| 10.1 | Form of Award Agreement for Annual Stock Option Grants (#) |
| 10.2 | Employment Agreement of Chad Utermark (#) |
| 12 | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges |
| 31 | Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a), as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 31.1 | Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a), as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32 | Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.1 | Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 101 | Financial statements from the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Nucor Corporation for the quarter ended July 5, 2014, filed on August 13, 2014, formatted in XBRL: (i) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings, (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iv) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (v) the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. |

(#) Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

SIGNATURES

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

NUCOR CORPORATION

By: /s/ James D. Frias
James D. Frias

Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer

and Executive Vice President

Dated: August 13, 2014

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NUCOR CORPORATION

List of Exhibits to Form 10-Q July 5, 2014

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