

Gevo, Inc.  
Form 10-Q  
August 07, 2012  
[Table of Contents](#)

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2012

or

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

Commission File Number 001-35073

**GEVO, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**87-0747704**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**345 Inverness Drive South, Building C, Suite 310**  
**Englewood, CO 80112**  
**(303) 858-8358**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including  
area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

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 (Section 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:

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company   
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

As of July 31, 2012, 39,328,052 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding.

**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**FORM 10-Q**

**FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2012**

**INDEX**

	<b>Page</b>
<b><u>PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Financial Statements</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (unaudited)</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, and for the period from June 9, 2005 (date of inception) to June 30, 2012 (unaudited)</u>	4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, and for the period from June 9, 2005 (date of inception) to June 30, 2012 (unaudited)</u>	5
<u>Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	8
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	24
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	35
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	36
<b><u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	36
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	37
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	65
Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	65
Item 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	65
Item 5. <u>Other Information</u>	66
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	66
<u>Signatures</u>	69

**Table of Contents****PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements.****GEVO, INC.****Consolidated Balance Sheets****(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****(unaudited)**

	June 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 38,602	\$ 94,225
Accounts receivable	1,129	2,938
Inventories	2,855	3,814
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,152	1,283
Margin deposit	593	474
Total current assets	44,331	102,734
Property, plant and equipment, net	69,680	28,777
Debt and equity offering costs, net	2,011	1,017
Deposits and other assets	1,473	502
Total assets	\$ 117,495	\$ 133,030
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 20,214	\$ 12,440
Current portion of secured debt, net of \$1,148 and \$969 discount at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively	12,158	3,491
Derivative liabilities	422	186
Total current liabilities <sup>1</sup>	32,794	16,117
Long-term portion of secured debt, net of \$1,176 and \$1,504 discount at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively	20,280	24,752
Other long-term liabilities	1,524	24
Total liabilities	54,598	40,893
Commitments and Contingencies		
<b>Stockholders Equity</b>		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share; 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value per share; 100,000,000 authorized; 26,970,221 and 26,382,058 shares issued and outstanding at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively	270	264
Additional paid-in capital	232,746	226,508
Deficit accumulated during development stage	(170,119)	(134,635)

Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Total stockholders' equity	62,897	92,137
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 117,495	\$ 133,030

- 1 Liabilities of Gevo, Inc.'s consolidated subsidiaries for which creditors do not have recourse to the general credit of Gevo, Inc. were \$8.4 million and \$4.5 million at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, and are recorded within current liabilities.  
**See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.**

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Consolidated Statements of Operations**

(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,		From June 9, 2005
	2012	2011	2012	2011	(Date of Inception)
					To
					June 30, 2012
<b>Revenue and cost of goods sold</b>					
Ethanol sales and related products, net	\$ 5,650	\$ 14,321	\$ 19,908	\$ 29,430	\$ 98,415
Grant revenue and research and development program revenue	1,377	212	1,991	384	5,534
Licensing revenue					138
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>7,027</b>	<b>14,533</b>	<b>21,899</b>	<b>29,814</b>	<b>104,087</b>
Cost of goods sold	8,510	13,637	23,520	28,830	97,554
Gross (loss) margin	(1,483)	896	(1,621)	984	6,533
<b>Operating expenses</b>					
Research and development	4,723	5,338	9,678	8,604	66,897
Selling, general and administrative	9,540	7,180	22,667	12,414	92,992
Other operating expenses		11		11	1,248
Total operating expenses	14,263	12,529	32,345	21,029	161,137
Loss from operations	(15,746)	(11,633)	(33,966)	(20,045)	(154,604)
<b>Other (expense) income</b>					
Interest expense	(450)	(851)	(1,537)	(1,743)	(10,116)
Interest and other income	19	18	19	68	740
Change in fair value of warrant liabilities				(29)	(2,852)
Total other expense	(431)	(833)	(1,518)	(1,704)	(12,228)
Net loss	(16,177)	(12,466)	(35,484)	(21,749)	(166,832)
Deemed dividend - amortization of beneficial conversion feature on Series D-1 preferred stock				(1,094)	(3,872)
Net loss attributable to Gevo, Inc. common stockholders	\$ (16,177)	\$ (12,466)	\$ (35,484)	\$ (22,843)	\$ (170,704)
	\$ (0.62)	\$ (0.48)	\$ (1.35)	\$ (1.15)	

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Net loss per share attributable to Gevo, Inc. common  
stockholders - basic and diluted

Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding - basic and diluted	26,242,940	25,852,185	26,299,746	19,798,261
---	------------	------------	------------	------------

**See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.**

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows****(in thousands)****(unaudited)**

	<b>Six Months Ended June 30,</b>		<b>From June 9, 2005</b>
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>(Date of Inception)</b>
			<b>To</b>
			<b>June 30, 2012</b>
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net loss	\$ (35,484)	\$ (21,749)	\$ (166,832)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:			
Non-cash stock-based compensation	5,460	3,082	24,006
Depreciation and amortization	1,639	2,176	11,931
Non-cash interest expense	806	422	3,887
Loss (gain) from change in fair value of derivatives	236	(394)	(183)
Loss from change in fair value of warrant liabilities		29	2,852
Other non-cash expenses		11	364
Changes in operating assets and liabilities (net of effects of acquisitions):			
Accounts receivable	1,809	475	870
Inventories	959	(2,645)	715
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	79	(170)	(569)
Margin deposit	(119)	(719)	299
Deposits and other assets	(180)		(270)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses, and long-term liabilities	368	(441)	9,135
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(24,427)</b>	<b>(19,923)</b>	<b>(113,795)</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment, net	(34,502)	(2,255)	(50,757)
Other	(647)		(700)
Acquisition of Agri-Energy, net of cash assumed			(24,936)
Restricted certificate of deposit			(79)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(35,149)</b>	<b>(2,255)</b>	<b>(76,472)</b>

See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.



**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Continued****(in thousands)****(unaudited)**

## Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	Six Months Ended June 30,		From June 9, 2005 (Date of Inception) To June 30, 2012
	2012	2011	
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Proceeds from issuance of secured long-term debt	5,000		41,578
Proceeds from issuance of common stock (excluding initial public offering)	664	9	905
Payments on secured debt	(1,241)	(920)	(9,531)
Deferred offering costs	(263)	(1,692)	(4,559)
Deposit on long-term debt	(144)		(451)
Debt issue costs	(53)		(1,517)
Other	(10)		(10)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock in initial public offering, net of discounts and commissions		114,704	114,704
Proceeds from issuance of convertible preferred stock			86,025
Proceeds from issuance of convertible promissory notes with warrants			3,000
Proceeds from the exercise of warrants			592
Payment of stock issuance costs			(1,867)
Net cash provided by financing activities	3,953	112,101	228,869
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(55,623)	89,923	38,602
Cash and cash equivalents			
Beginning of period	94,225	15,274	
Ending of period	\$ 38,602	\$ 105,197	\$ 38,602

**See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.**

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Continued****(in thousands)****(unaudited)**

## Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	Six Months Ended June 30,		From June 9, 2005 (Date of Inception) To June 30, 2012
	2012	2011	
<b>Supplemental disclosures of cash and non-cash investing and financing transactions</b>			
Non-cash purchase of property, plant & equipment	\$ 9,886	\$ 305	\$ 9,886
Warrants issued with secured long-term debt (grant date fair value)	\$ 120	\$	\$ 1,746
Cash paid for interest, net of amount capitalized	\$ 673	\$ 1,215	\$ 5,824
Warrants issued with convertible promissory notes	\$	\$	\$ 505
Deferred debt and equity offering costs	\$ 928	\$ 4,296	\$ 5,224
Conversion of preferred stock warrants to common stock warrants upon initial public offering and reclassification related liability to additional paid-in-capital	\$	\$ 2,063	\$ 2,063
Deemed dividend - amortization of beneficial conversion feature on Series D-1 preferred stock	\$	\$ 1,094	\$ 3,872
Fixed assets acquired using ICM, Inc. credit	\$	\$ 288	\$ 726
Promissory notes and accrued interest converted to Series C preferred stock	\$	\$	\$ 3,043
Issuance of Series C preferred stock upon exercise of warrant (amount reclassified from liability to equity)	\$	\$	\$ 1,458
Issuance of Series D-1 preferred stock to ICM in exchange for a credit against future services	\$	\$	\$ 1,000

**See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.**

---

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements****1. Nature of Business, Financial Condition and Basis of Presentation**

**Nature of Business** Gevo, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Gevo or the Company) is a renewable chemicals and next generation biofuels company focused on the development and commercialization of alternatives to petroleum-based products based on isobutanol produced from renewable feedstocks. Gevo, Inc. was incorporated in Delaware on June 9, 2005 (Inception). Gevo, Inc. formed Gevo Development, LLC (Gevo Development) on September 18, 2009 to finance and develop biorefineries through joint venture, tolling arrangements or direct acquisition (see Note 9). Gevo Development became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company on September 22, 2010. Gevo Development purchased Agri-Energy, LLC (Agri-Energy) on September 22, 2010. Through May 2012, Agri-Energy, a wholly owned subsidiary of Gevo Development, was engaged in the business of producing and selling ethanol and related products produced at its plant located in Luverne, Minnesota (the Agri-Energy Facility). The Company commenced the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility in 2011, and commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol at this facility in May 2012. Technical completion of the retrofit and the initial shipments of isobutanol from the Agri-Energy Facility are not expected until the third quarter of 2012.

At June 30, 2012, the Company is considered to be in the development stage as its primary activities, since Inception, have been conducting research and development, business development, business and financial planning, establishing its facilities including retrofitting the Agri-Energy Facility, recruiting personnel and raising capital. Successful completion of the Company's research and development programs, and ultimately, the attainment of profitable operations are dependent upon future events, including completion of its development activities resulting in sales of isobutanol or isobutanol-derived products and/or technology, obtaining adequate financing to complete its development activities, obtaining adequate financing to acquire access to and complete the retrofit of ethanol plants to isobutanol production, gaining market acceptance and demand for its products and services, and attracting and retaining qualified personnel.

Until May 24, 2012, when the Company commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol at the Agri-Energy Facility, the Company derived revenue from the sale of ethanol, distiller's grains and other related products produced as part of the ethanol production process at this facility. However, the production of ethanol is not the Company's intended business and its future profitability depends on its ability to produce and market isobutanol, not on continued production and sales of ethanol. Now that the Company has commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol, the Company does not expect to generate future significant revenues from the sale of ethanol at the Agri-Energy Facility. Accordingly, the historical operating results of Agri-Energy, and the operating results reported during the retrofit to isobutanol production, will not be indicative of future operating results for Agri-Energy or Gevo once commercial isobutanol production commences at this facility. Additionally, because the production of ethanol is not the Company's intended business, the Company will continue to report as a development stage company until it begins to generate revenue from the sale of isobutanol or other products that are or will become the Company's intended business.

**Financial Condition** The Company's unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates the realization of assets and the satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, the Company incurred a consolidated net loss of \$16.2 and \$35.5 million, respectively and had an accumulated deficit of \$170.1 million at June 30, 2012. The Company expects to incur future net losses as it continues to fund the development and commercialization of its product candidates.

The Company has funded its activities since Inception primarily through private placements of convertible preferred stock, the issuance of convertible and nonconvertible debt and proceeds raised through its public offerings. The Company expects to obtain funding through additional equity offerings and issuances of debt until it achieves positive cash flow from operations. The Company's cash and cash equivalents at June 30, 2012 totaled \$38.6 million. Management expects that cash on hand at June 30, 2012, combined with the additional cash received upon the closing of the Company's public offerings in July 2012 (see Note 16), will provide the Company with adequate funding for at least the next 12 months. There are no assurances that the Company will be able to raise additional funds, or achieve or sustain profitability or positive cash flow from operations. The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that may result from the Company's inability to raise sufficient funds or achieve profitability.

**Basis of Presentation** The unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company (which includes the accounts of its wholly-owned subsidiaries Gevo Development and Agri-Energy) have been prepared, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). Accordingly, they do not include all information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for complete financial statements. These statements reflect all normal and recurring adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Company at June 30, 2012 and for all periods presented. These statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

statements and notes thereto included under the heading "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" in Part II, Item 8 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as amended (the "Annual Report").

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The consolidated statements of operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and consolidated statements of cash flows for the six months ended June 30, 2012 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year. Refer to the economic conditions described under the heading "Risk Factors" in Part II, Item 1A of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and "Risk Factors Relating to our Business and Strategy" in Part I, Item 1A of the Company's Annual Report.

**2. Earnings Per Share**

Basic net loss per share is computed by dividing the net loss attributable to Gevo, Inc. common stockholders for the period by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net loss per share is computed by dividing net loss attributable to Gevo, Inc. common stockholders for the period by the weighted-average number of dilutive common shares outstanding during the period. Dilutive shares outstanding are calculated by adding to the weighted shares outstanding any potential (unissued) shares of common stock and warrants based on the treasury stock method.

Diluted net loss per share is the same as basic net loss per share for all periods presented because any potentially dilutive common shares were anti-dilutive. Such potentially dilutive shares are excluded from the computation of diluted net loss per share when the effect would be to reduce net loss per share. Therefore, in periods when a loss is reported, the calculation of basic and dilutive net loss per share results in the same value.

The table below sets forth potentially dilutive securities that are excluded from the calculation of diluted net loss per share during each period as the effect was anti-dilutive.

	<b>June 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Outstanding options to purchase common stock	3,300,936	3,359,800
Warrants to purchase common stock	1,229,998	1,086,785
Unvested restricted common stock	454,023	98,821
 Total	 4,984,957	 4,545,406

**3. Inventories**

The following table sets forth the components of the Company's inventory balances (in thousands).

	<b>June 30, 2012</b>	<b>December 31, 2011</b>
Raw materials		
Corn	\$ 1,762	\$ 2,408
Enzymes and other inputs	527	151
Finished goods		
Ethanol		349
Distiller's grains		17
Work in process	50	456
Spare parts	516	433
 Total inventories	 \$ 2,855	 \$ 3,814

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Included in cost of goods sold is depreciation of \$0.6 million and \$1.1 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, respectively, and \$0.5 million and \$1.0 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2011, respectively. Depreciation expense included in cost of goods sold from Inception to June 30, 2012 was \$3.7 million.

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****4. Property, Plant and Equipment**

The following table sets forth the Company's property, plant and equipment by classification (in thousands).

		June 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
Buildings, site improvements, plant machinery and equipment	10 years	\$ 20,480	\$ 20,359
Construction in progress		48,669	8,403
Lab equipment, furniture and fixtures and vehicles	5 years	5,176	4,035
Demonstration plant	2 years	3,597	3,597
Pilot plant	3 years	721	721
Computer, office equipment and software	3 years	1,359	614
Leasehold improvements	5 years	787	523
Land		410	410
Tools and support equipment	5 years	109	105
Total property, plant and equipment		81,308	38,767
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		(11,628)	(9,990)
Property, plant and equipment, net		\$ 69,680	\$ 28,777

The Company's construction in progress includes \$48.1 million of costs incurred in connection with the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility.

Through June 30, 2012, the Company capitalized interest incurred in connection with the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility. The Company capitalized \$1.0 million and \$1.3 million of incurred interest during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012. Incurred interest that was capitalized during the three and six months ended June 30, 2011 was not material.

**5. Derivative Instruments**

Since the acquisition of Agri-Energy on September 22, 2010, the Company's activities expose it to a variety of market risks, including the effects of changes in commodity prices. These financial exposures are monitored and managed by the Company as an integral part of its overall risk management program. The Company's risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial and commodities markets and seeks to reduce the potentially adverse effects that the volatility of these markets may have on its operating results.

The Company periodically enters into forward purchase contracts for corn to ensure supply and manage the price of this commodity. These transactions are considered to be derivatives and during the year ended December 31, 2011 the Company designated all of its forward purchase contracts for corn under the normal purchase and normal sales scope exception and therefore they were not marked to market during the three and six months ended June 30, 2011. For new contracts entered into beginning January 1, 2012, the Company did not apply the normal purchase and normal sales scope exception to its forward purchase contracts. Accordingly at June 30, 2012, the Company recorded these contracts at their fair market value which has been included as a component of derivative liability in the consolidated balance sheet. Changes in the fair market value of these contracts during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 have been recorded in cost of goods sold in the consolidated statements of operations.

The Company generally follows a policy of using exchange-traded futures contracts to reduce its net position in agricultural commodity inventories and forward cash purchase contracts to reduce price risk. Exchange-traded futures contracts are valued at market price and are

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

recorded as a derivative assets or liabilities in the consolidated balance sheet. Changes in market price are recorded in cost of goods sold.

The Company's derivatives do not include any credit risk related contingent features. At June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the Company had \$0.6 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, in a margin deposit account for its exchange-traded futures contracts. The Company has not designated any of its derivatives as hedges for financial accounting purposes.



**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The Company records realized gains or losses on its exchange-traded futures contracts as a component of cost of goods of sold. The Company incurred realized gains on its exchange-traded futures contracts of \$0.3 million during each of the three and six months ended June 30, 2012. The Company incurred realized gains/(losses) on its exchange-traded futures contracts of \$0.3 million, \$(0.5) million and \$(0.2) million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2011 and from Inception to June 30, 2012, respectively.

The following table summarizes the unrealized gains/(losses) of the Company's derivative instruments that were recorded in cost of goods sold in the consolidated statements of operations (in thousands).

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,		Inception to June 30,
	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Exchange-traded futures contracts	\$ (482)	\$ 285	\$ (234)	\$ 755	\$ 228
Forward purchase contracts	45		(2)	(361)	(45)

The following table represents the Company's net short positions of the Company's derivative instruments (in thousands).

Year of Expiration	June 30, 2012 Corn Net Short Position Bushels	December 31, 2011 Corn Net Short Position Bushels
2012	337	77

**6. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities**

The following table sets forth the components of the Company's accounts payable and accrued liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands).

	June 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
Accrued expenses - ICM, Inc.	\$ 8,499	\$ 1,634
Accrued legal-related expenses	4,649	1,455
Accounts payable - trade	2,538	6,193
Accrued employee compensation	2,389	941
Cargill license agreement	477	924
Other accrued liabilities	1,662	1,293
<b>Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 20,214</b>	<b>\$ 12,440</b>

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****7. Secured Long-Term Debt**

The following table sets forth the information pertaining to the Company's secured long-term debt included in the Company's consolidated balance sheets (in thousands).

	<b>June 30, 2012</b>	<b>December 31, 2011</b>
Lighthouse - Paid in June 2012	\$	\$ 1,241
TriplePoint - Matures August 2014	5,400	5,400
TriplePoint - Matures September 2014	13,500	13,500
TriplePoint - Matures October 2015	10,575	10,575
TriplePoint - Matures January 2016	5,287	
Secured debt	34,762	30,716
Less unamortized debt discounts	(2,324)	(2,473)
	32,438	28,243
Less current portion of secured debt	(12,158)	(3,491)
Long-term portion of secured debt	\$ 20,280	\$ 24,752

On December 18, 2006, the Company entered into a loan and security agreement, as amended, with Lighthouse Capital Partners V, LP (Lighthouse). As of June 30, 2012, the Company had repaid all outstanding amounts under its loan and security agreement with Lighthouse.

In January 2012, the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, Agri-Energy, borrowed \$5.0 million under the amended and restated loan and security agreement, dated October 20, 2011 (the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement), by and between Agri-Energy and TriplePoint Capital LLC (TriplePoint). The loan, which matures in January 2016, bears an interest rate of 11%. The Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement includes customary affirmative and negative covenants for agreements of this type and events of default. At June 30, 2012, the Company was in compliance with the financial covenants under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.

In June 2012, the Company entered into (i) an amendment (the Security Agreement Amendment) to the security agreement, by and between the Company and TriplePoint, dated as of September 22, 2010 (the Security Agreement), which secures the Company's guarantee of Agri-Energy's obligations under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, and (ii) an amendment (the Gevo Loan Amendment) to the loan and security agreement, dated August 5, 2010, by and between Company and TriplePoint (the Gevo Loan Agreement). In addition, concurrently with the execution of the Security Agreement Amendment and the Gevo Loan Amendment, Agri-Energy entered into an amendment to the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement. These amendments took effect upon the closing of a \$40.0 million convertible note offering that closed on July 5, 2012. See Note 16 for a discussion of the concurrent convertible note offering and sale of 12.5 million shares of common stock that closed on July 5, 2012.

These amendments, among other things: (i) permitted the issuance of the Company's 7.5% convertible senior notes due 2022 (the Notes); (ii) removed Agri-Energy's and the Company's options to elect additional interest-only periods upon the achievement of certain milestones; (iii) permit Agri-Energy to make dividend payments and distributions to the Company for certain defined purposes related to the Notes; (iv) add as an event of default the payment, repurchase or redemption of the Notes or of amounts payable in connection therewith other than certain permitted payments related to the Notes; (v) add a negative covenant whereby the Company may not incur any indebtedness other than as permitted under the Security Agreement; and (vi) add a prohibition on making any coupon make-whole payments in cash prior to the payment in full of all remaining outstanding obligations in full under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

See Note 16 for a description of events occurring subsequent to June 30, 2012 related to the early payoff of all amounts outstanding associated with the portion of the TriplePoint debt which was scheduled to mature in August 2014.

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****8. Significant Agreements*****Off-Take, Distribution and Marketing Agreements***

*International Off-Take and Distribution Agreement with Sasol* On July 29, 2011, the Company and Sasol Chemical Industries Limited ( Sasol ) entered into an international off-take agreement to market and distribute renewable isobutanol globally. The agreement has an initial term of three years and appoints Sasol as a non-exclusive distributor of high-purity isobutanol in North and South America and as the exclusive distributor for high-purity isobutanol for solvent and chemical intermediate applications in the rest of the world. Beginning upon the Company's first commercial sale of high-purity isobutanol, if Sasol desires to maintain its exclusive distribution rights, Sasol is obligated to either purchase certain minimum quantities of high-purity isobutanol or pay the Company applicable shortfall fees and the Company is obligated to either supply Sasol with certain minimum quantities of high-purity isobutanol or pay Sasol applicable shortfall fees. No amounts have been recorded under this agreement as of June 30, 2012.

*Exclusive Supply Agreement with LANXESS* On January 14, 2011, the Company entered into an exclusive supply agreement, as amended, with LANXESS Inc. ( LANXESS ) pursuant to which LANXESS has granted the Company an exclusive first right to supply LANXESS and its affiliates with certain of their requirements for biobased isobutanol during the term of the agreement. The Company's exclusive first right to supply biobased isobutanol to LANXESS and its affiliates will be subject to the terms of a supply agreement to be mutually agreed upon by the parties at a later date. Additionally, pursuant to the terms of the exclusive supply agreement the Company has granted LANXESS, subject to certain exceptions and conditions, (i) an exclusive first right to acquire its biobased isobutanol to produce isobutylene and butenes for use and sale in the field of chemicals, and (ii) an exclusive right to use the Company's isobutanol to produce butadiene and isobutylene for use in the production of polybutadiene and butyl rubber. The initial term of the mutual exclusivity is ten years, subject to mutual extension. No amounts have been incurred under this agreement as of June 30, 2012.

*Off-Take and Marketing Alliance Agreement and Renewable Fuels Supply Chain Agreement with Mansfield Oil Company* On August 12, 2011, the Company entered into a commercial off-take agreement with Mansfield Oil Company ( Mansfield ), to distribute isobutanol-based fuel into the petroleum market. The agreement allows Mansfield to blend the Company's isobutanol for its own use, and to be a distributor of the Company's isobutanol for a term of five years. The Company also entered into a three-year supply services agreement with C&N, a Mansfield subsidiary, which will provide supply chain services including logistics management, customer service support, invoicing and billing services. No amounts have been recorded under these agreements as of June 30, 2012.

*Ethanol Marketing Agreement with C&N, a subsidiary of Mansfield Oil Company* Substantially all ethanol sold through Agri-Energy from the date of acquisition through June 30, 2012 was sold to C&N pursuant to an ethanol purchase and marketing agreement. The ethanol purchase and marketing agreement with C&N was entered into on April 1, 2009 and automatically renews for subsequent one-year terms unless either party terminates the agreement 60 days before the end of a term. Under the terms of the agreement, C&N will market substantially all of Agri-Energy's ethanol production from the Agri-Energy Facility and will pay to Agri-Energy the gross sales price paid by the end customer less expenses and a marketing fee.

*Jet Fuel Supply Agreement with the Defense Logistics Agency (U.S. Air Force)* During September 2011, the Company was awarded a contract for the procurement of up to 11,000 gallons of biojet fuel for the purposes of certification and testing by the U.S. Air Force. The total contract value may be up to \$0.6 million. The term of the agreement is through December 30, 2012. Revenue is recognized upon the transfer of risk of loss and title to the U.S. Air Force. The Company recorded \$0.3 million and \$0.5 million of revenue under this award during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, respectively.

***Commercialization and Development Agreements***

*Development and Commercialization Agreements with ICM, Inc.* In October 2008, the Company signed development and commercialization agreements with ICM, Inc. ( ICM ).

Under the terms of the development agreement, the Company performs commercial-scale isobutanol production trials in ICM's research plant and facility in St. Joseph, Missouri, the demonstration plant. The Company is required to pay for or reimburse ICM for engineering fees,

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

equipment, plant modification costs, project fees and various operating expenses. In December 2011, the development agreement was amended to extend the term indefinitely. The development agreement, as amended, may be cancelled by either party with 30 days' written notice. The Company did not incur any capital expenditures with ICM relating to the demonstration plant during the three or six months ended June 30, 2012. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2011, the Company incurred \$0.4 million and \$0.6 million in capital expenditures with ICM relating to the demonstration plant.

---

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The commercialization agreement, as amended, is effective through October 15, 2018, and outlines the terms and fees under which ICM acts as the Company's exclusive provider of certain engineering and construction services. Also, under the commercialization agreement, the Company is ICM's exclusive technology partner for the production of butanols, pentanols and propanols from the fermentation of sugars.

In addition to amounts recorded under the development and commercialization agreements noted above, the Company has also engaged ICM to perform engineering studies, plant evaluations and other services. In August 2011, the Company entered into a work agreement with ICM whereby ICM will provide engineering, procurement and construction services for the retrofit of ethanol plants.

The Company incurred capital expenditures with ICM relating to the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility to future isobutanol production of \$27.4 million and \$36.5 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, respectively, and \$0.7 million and \$1.0 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2011, respectively.

*Joint Research, Development, License and Commercialization Agreement with The Coca-Cola Company* During November 2011, the Company entered into a joint research, development, license and commercialization agreement with The Coca-Cola Company (Coca-Cola). During the first two years of the agreement, Coca-Cola will pay the Company a fixed price fee for a research program as defined in the agreement. The Company recognizes these fees as revenue over the performance period. The payments received are not refundable. The Company recognized \$0.3 million and \$0.6 million of revenue under this agreement during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012.

***License Agreements***

*License Agreement with Cargill, Incorporated* During February 2009, the Company entered into a license agreement with Cargill, Incorporated (Cargill) to obtain certain biological materials and license patent rights to use a biocatalyst owned by Cargill. Under the license agreement, Cargill has granted the Company an exclusive, royalty-bearing license, with limited rights to sublicense, to use the patent rights in a certain field, as defined in the license agreement.

The license agreement contains five milestone payments totaling approximately \$4.3 million that are payable after each milestone is completed. During 2009, two milestones were completed and the Company recorded the related milestone amounts, along with an up-front signing fee, totaling \$0.9 million, to research and development expense. During March 2010, the Company completed milestone number three and recorded the related milestone amount of \$2.0 million to research and development expense at its then-current present value of \$1.6 million because the milestone payment will be paid over a period greater than 12 months from the date that it was incurred. Milestones number four and five included in the license agreement representing potential payments of up to \$1.5 million have not been met as of June 30, 2012 and no amounts have been recorded as a liability for these milestones.

Upon commercialization of a product which uses Cargill's biological material or is otherwise covered by the patent rights under the license agreement, a royalty based on net sales is payable by the Company, subject to a minimum royalty amount per year, as defined in the license agreement, and up to a maximum amount per year.

The license agreement provides an option for Cargill to purchase a nonexclusive, royalty-bearing license for the use of a Company biocatalyst that utilizes the Cargill biological material or licensed patents for a royalty rate equal to the lowest rate offered to any third party.

The Company may terminate the license agreement at any time upon 90 days' written notice. Unless terminated earlier, the license agreement remains in effect until the later of December 31, 2025 and the date that no licensed patent rights remain.

***Other***

In June 2011, the Company announced that it had successfully produced fully renewable and recyclable polyethylene terephthalate (PET) in cooperation with Toray Industries, Inc. (Toray Industries). Working directly with Toray Industries, the Company employed prototypes of commercial operations from the petrochemical and refining industries to make para-xylene (PX) from isobutanol. Toray Industries used the Company's bio-PX and commercially available renewable mono ethylene glycol to produce fully renewable PET films and fibers. On June 1,

2012, the Company entered into a definitive agreement with Toray

---

**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Industries for the joint development of an integrated supply chain for the production of bio-PET. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement with Toray Industries, the Company received \$1.0 million which shall be used by the Company for the design, construction and/or operation of a pilot plant at the site of the hydrocarbon demonstration facility developed in conjunction with South Hampton Resources, Inc. in Silsbee, Texas (the Pilot Plant ). The Company anticipates producing bio-based PX (the Product ) at the Pilot Plant, some of which will be sold to Toray Industries. Toray Industries is obligated to purchase initial volumes of Product. Any excess Product that is produced can be sold to other third parties. In the event that the Company is unable to produce and deliver the Product to Toray Industries by December 31, 2013, the Company will be required to refund the \$1.0 million by January 31, 2014. The Company has included the \$1.0 million as a component of other long-term liabilities in the consolidated balance sheet as of June 30, 2012.

Within its research and development activities, the Company routinely enters into research and license agreements with various entities. Future royalty payments may apply under these license agreements if the technologies are used in future commercial products. In addition, the Company may from time to time make gifts to universities and other organizations to expand research activities in its fields of interest. Any amounts paid under these agreements are generally recorded as research and development expenses as incurred.

The Company has been awarded grants or cooperative agreements from a number of government agencies, including the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. National Science Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Army Research Labs and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Revenues recorded related to these grants and cooperative agreements are recorded within grant and research and development program revenue on the Company s statements of operations.

**9. Gevo Development**

Gevo, Inc. formed Gevo Development on September 18, 2009 to finance and develop biorefineries through joint venture, tolling arrangements or direct acquisition. Biorefinery plants accessed through Gevo Development are intended to be retrofitted using Gevo, Inc. s integrated fermentation technology to produce isobutanol.

Gevo, Inc. currently owns 100% of the outstanding equity interests of Gevo Development as a wholly owned subsidiary. Gevo Development has two classes of membership interests outstanding. Gevo, Inc. is the sole owner of the class A interests. Prior to September 22, 2010, CDP Gevo, LLC ( CDP ), was the sole owner of the class B interests, which comprise 10% of the outstanding equity interests of Gevo Development. In September 2010, Gevo, Inc. became the sole owner of Gevo Development by acquiring 100% of the class B interests in Gevo Development from CDP pursuant to an equity purchase agreement. In exchange for the class B interests, CDP received aggregate consideration of \$1.1 million.

The original issuance of the class B interests was considered to be a grant of non-employee stock-based compensation. As vesting of the awards was dependent on counterparty performance conditions (the acquisition and retrofit of a biorefinery plant), no compensation expense had been recorded prior to September 22, 2010 because the lowest aggregate fair value of the awards was zero. Upon the purchase of the class B interests on September 22, 2010, the Company recorded stock-based compensation of \$0.8 million, which reflected the amount paid during 2010 for the class B interests that were not dependent on counterparty performance. The Company paid \$0.1 million during each of the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011. The final payment of \$0.1 million made in January 2012 was dependent on the continued employment of the two co-managing directors of Gevo Development. The employment of the co-managing directors was terminated effective March 23, 2012 (for more information, see the description of the Amended and Restated Warrant Agreement below).

Gevo, Inc. made capital contributions to Gevo Development of \$20.6 million and \$20.8 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and \$0.9 million and \$2.8 million during the three and six months ended June 30, 2011. From Inception to June 30, 2012, Gevo, Inc. has made capital contributions of \$45.1 million to Gevo Development.



**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table sets forth the net loss incurred by Gevo Development (including Agri-Energy after September 22, 2010, the closing date of the acquisition) which has been fully allocated to Gevo, Inc.'s capital contribution account based upon its capital contributions (for the period prior to September 22, 2010) and 100% ownership (for the period after September 22, 2010).

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,		Inception To
	2012	2011	2012	2011	June 30, 2012
Gevo Development Net Loss	\$ 3,295	\$ 665	\$ 5,105	\$ 1,581	\$ 8,854

*Amended and Restated Warrant Agreement* The warrant agreement, as amended, details the terms upon which the Company has granted a warrant to CDP to purchase 858,000 shares of Gevo, Inc. common stock. The warrant agreement has an exercise price of \$2.70 per share which was the estimated fair value of a share of Gevo, Inc.'s common stock on the grant date. The warrant expires in September 2016, unless terminated earlier as provided in the agreement. The warrant shares were initially unvested and vested in increments upon the achievement of specific performance milestones.

On September 22, 2010, the beneficial owners of the equity interests of CDP became employees of Gevo, Inc. and the warrant agreement was amended and restated to provide that 50% of the warrant shares granted under such warrant agreement would vest on September 22, 2010. The remaining warrant shares vest over a two-year period beginning on September 22, 2010, subject to acceleration and termination in certain circumstances. The Company valued the warrant at \$14.0 million. Effective March 23, 2012, the employment of the beneficial owners of CDP was terminated. Pursuant to the terms of the warrant agreement, all unvested warrant shares became immediately vested and, as such, the Company recorded \$2.6 million of stock-based compensation expense during the six months ended June 30, 2012. During the six months ended June 30, 2011, the Company recorded \$0.9 million of stock-based compensation associated with this warrant agreement.

Since its formation, Gevo Development has been and continues to be considered a variable interest entity. Gevo, Inc., the primary beneficiary of Gevo Development, has both (i) the power to direct the activities of Gevo Development that most significantly impact Gevo Development's economic performance and (ii) the obligation to absorb losses of Gevo Development that could potentially be significant to Gevo Development or the right to receive benefits from Gevo Development that could potentially be significant to Gevo Development. As such, Gevo Development is consolidated. The accounts of Agri-Energy are consolidated within Gevo Development as a wholly owned subsidiary. As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Gevo Development does not have any assets that can be used only to settle obligations of Gevo Development. However, under the terms of the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement with TriplePoint, as amended, subject to certain limited exceptions, Agri-Energy is only permitted to pay dividends if certain conditions are satisfied. As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the creditors of Gevo Development have recourse to the general credit of Gevo, Inc. with the exception of \$8.4 million and \$4.5 million, respectively, which are recorded within current liabilities, which includes the liabilities of Agri-Energy. No gain or loss was recognized by the Company upon the initial consolidation of Gevo Development.

**10. Redfield Energy, LLC**

On June 15, 2011, Gevo Development entered into an isobutanol joint venture agreement (the *Joint Venture Agreement*) with Redfield Energy, LLC, a South Dakota limited liability company ( *Redfield* ), and executed the second amended and restated operating agreement of Redfield (together, the *Joint Venture Documents* ). Under the terms of the Joint Venture Documents, Gevo Development and Redfield have agreed to work together to retrofit Redfield's approximately 50 million gallon per year ethanol production facility located near Redfield, South Dakota (the *Redfield Facility* ) for the commercial production of isobutanol. Under the terms of the Joint Venture Agreement, Redfield has issued 100 Class G membership units in Redfield (the *Class G Units* ) to Gevo Development. Gevo Development is the sole holder of Class G units, which entitle Gevo Development to certain information and governance rights with respect to Redfield, including the right to appoint two members of Redfield's 11-member board of managers. The Class G units currently carry no interest in the allocation of profits, losses or other distributions of Redfield and no voting rights. Such rights will vest upon the commencement of commercial isobutanol production at the Redfield Facility, at which time Gevo Development anticipates consolidating Redfield's operations because Gevo anticipates it will control the activities that are most significant to the entity.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Gevo Development will be responsible for all costs associated with the retrofit of the Redfield Facility. Redfield will remain responsible for certain expenses incurred by the facility including certain repair and maintenance expenses and any costs necessary to ensure that the facility is in compliance with applicable environmental laws. The Company anticipates that the Redfield Facility will continue its current ethanol production activities during much of the retrofit. Once the retrofit assets have been installed, the ethanol production operations will be suspended to enable testing of the isobutanol production capabilities of the facility (the Performance Testing Phase ). During the Performance Testing Phase, Gevo Development will be entitled to receive all revenue generated by the Redfield Facility and will make payments to Redfield to cover the costs incurred by Redfield to operate the facility plus the profits, if

**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

any, that Redfield would have received if the facility had been producing ethanol during that period (the Facility Payments ). Gevo Development has also agreed to maintain an escrow fund during the Performance Testing Phase as security for its obligation to make the Facility Payments.

If certain conditions are met, commercial production of isobutanol at the Redfield Facility will begin upon the earlier of the date upon which certain production targets have been met or the date upon which the parties mutually agree that commercial isobutanol production at the Redfield Facility will be commercially viable at the then-current production rate. At that time, (i) Gevo Development will have the right to appoint a total of four members of Redfield's 11-member board of managers, and (ii) the voting and economic interests of the Class G units will vest and Gevo Development, as the sole holder of the Class G Units, will be entitled to a percentage of Redfield's profits, losses and distributions, to be calculated based upon the demonstrated isobutanol production capabilities of the Redfield Facility.

Gevo Development, or one of its affiliates, will be the exclusive marketer of all products produced by the Redfield Facility once commercial production of isobutanol has begun. Additionally, Gevo, Inc. will license the technology necessary to produce isobutanol at the Redfield Facility to Redfield, subject to the continuation of the marketing arrangement described above. In the event that the isobutanol production technology fails or Redfield is permanently prohibited from using such technology, Gevo Development will forfeit the Class G Units and lose the value of its investment in Redfield.

Gevo, Inc. entered into a guaranty effective as of June 15, 2011, pursuant to which it has unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed the payment by Gevo Development of any and all amounts owed by Gevo Development pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Joint Venture Agreement and certain other agreements that Gevo Development and Redfield expect to enter into in connection with the retrofit of the Redfield Facility.

The Company has begun the project engineering and permitting process of the Redfield retrofit. As of June 30, 2012, the Company has incurred \$0.4 million in costs for the retrofit of the Redfield Facility which have been recorded on the Company's consolidated balance sheet in deposits and other assets.

**11. Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company records expense during the vesting period for share-based payment awards granted to employees and non-employees. The following table sets forth the Company's stock-based compensation expense (in thousands).

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,		From June 9,
	2012	2011	2012	2011	2005 (Date of Inception) To June 30, 2012
Stock options and ESPP shares issued					
Research and development	\$ 210	\$ 233	\$ 390	\$ 392	\$ 2,059
Selling, general and administrative	877	472	1,443	721	6,084
Restricted stock issued					
Research and development	(507)	59	(26)	87	448
Selling, general and administrative	761	125	1,037	138	1,460
Warrant issued to CDP					
Selling, general and administrative		872	2,616	1,744	13,955
Non-cash stock-based compensation	1,341	1,761	5,460	3,082	24,006
Modified stock option awards					
Selling, general and administrative	231		890		1,500
Purchase of Class B interests of Gevo Development from CDP for cash					
Selling, general and administrative		74	74	148	1,144
Cash stock-based compensation	231	74	964	148	2,644
Total stock-based compensation	\$ 1,572	\$ 1,835	\$ 6,424	\$ 3,230	\$ 26,650

**12. Stockholders Equity**

The Company currently grants share-based payment awards under the Gevo, Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan ( 2010 Plan ) which was approved by its stockholders in February 2011. The Company has reserved 2,576,989 shares of common stock for issuance under the 2010 Plan and there were 1,089,706 shares and 1,665,802 shares available for grant as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

See Note 16 for a description of the Company's public offering of additional shares of common stock which was completed in July 2012.

**13. Commitments and Contingencies**

**Legal Matters** On January 14, 2011, Butamax Advanced Biofuels LLC ( Butamax ), a joint venture between BP Biofuels North America LLC and E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Co. ( DuPont ), filed a complaint (the Complaint ) in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:11-cv-00054-SLR, alleging that the Company is infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 7,851,188 (the 188 Patent ), entitled Fermentive Production of Four Carbon Alcohols. The 188 Patent, which has been assigned to Butamax, claims certain recombinant microbial host cells that produce isobutanol and methods for the production of isobutanol using such host cells. Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses. On March 25, 2011, the Company filed a response to the Complaint, denying Butamax's allegations of infringement and raising affirmative defenses.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

On August 11, 2011, Butamax amended the Complaint to include allegations that the Company is infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 7,993,889 (the 889 Patent ), also entitled Fermentive Production of Four Carbon Alcohols (the Amended Complaint ). The 889 Patent which has been assigned to Butamax, claims methods for producing isobutanol using certain recombinant yeast microorganisms expressing an engineered isobutanol biosynthetic pathway. The Company believes that the Amended Complaint is without merit and will continue to aggressively defend its freedom to operate. On September 22, 2011, Butamax filed a motion requesting a preliminary injunction with respect to the alleged infringement of the 889 Patent.

---

**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

On September 13, 2011, the Company filed an answer to the Amended Complaint in which the Company asserted counterclaims against Butamax and DuPont for infringement of U.S. Patent No. 8,017,375, entitled "Yeast Organism Producing Isobutanol at a High Yield" and U.S. Patent No. 8,017,376, entitled "Methods of Increasing Dihydroxy Acid Dehydratase Activity to Improve Production of Fuels, Chemicals, and Amino Acids," both of which were recently awarded to the Company by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The counterclaim seeks a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On September 22, 2011, Butamax filed a motion for preliminary injunction with respect to the alleged infringement by the Company of one or more claims made in the 889 Patent.

On January 24, 2012, the Company filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00070-SLR, alleging that Butamax and DuPont are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,101,808 (the 808 Patent) entitled "Recovery of Higher Alcohols from Dilute Aqueous Solutions." The 808 Patent claims methods to produce a C3-C6 alcohol, for example, isobutanol, through fermentation and to recover that alcohol from the fermentation medium. The Company is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On March 12, 2012, Butamax filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00298-SLR, alleging that the Company is infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,129,162, entitled "Ketol-Acid Reductoisomerase Using NADH." This complaint is in addition to the Amended Complaint discussed above. Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages, interest, costs and expenses, including attorney's fees. The Company believes that it has meritorious defenses to these claims and intends to vigorously defend this lawsuit.

On March 13, 2012, the Company filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00301-SLR, alleging that Butamax and DuPont are infringing U.S. Patent No. 8,133,715, entitled "Reduced By-Product Accumulation for Improved Production of Isobutanol" (the 715 Patent). The 715 Patent claims recombinant microorganisms, including yeast, with modifications for the improved production of isobutanol. The Company is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On April 10, 2012, the Company filed a complaint (the Gevo Complaint) in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00448-SLR, alleging that Butamax and DuPont are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,153,415 (the 415 Patent) entitled "Reduced By-Product Accumulation for Improved Production of Isobutanol." The 415 Patent claims technology which eliminates two pathways that compete for isobutanol pathway intermediates in yeast. The Company is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On April 17, 2012, the Company amended the Gevo Complaint to include allegations that Butamax and DuPont are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,158,404 (the 404 Patent) entitled "Reduced By-Product Accumulation for Improved Production of Isobutanol." The 404 Patent claims the reduction or elimination of important enzymes in a pathway in isobutanol-producing yeast. The Company is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On May 15, 2012, Butamax filed another complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00602-SLR, alleging that the Company is infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,178,328, entitled "Fermentive Production of Four Carbon Alcohols." Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages, interest, costs and expenses, including attorney's fees. The Company believe that it has meritorious defenses to these claims and intends to vigorously defend this lawsuit.

On June 19, 2012, the U.S. District Court of Delaware denied the motion for preliminary injunction which was filed by Butamax on September 22, 2011 with respect to the alleged infringement by the Company of one or more claims made in the 889 Patent. As is normal and customary in patent infringement actions of this nature, Butamax then filed a notice of appeal. In connection with their appeal, Butamax has also filed a motion with the United States District Court for the District of Delaware seeking a temporary order to limit the Company's activities with respect to the use of isobutanol while Butamax appeals the denial of its motion for preliminary injunction.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

On July 6, 2012, the U.S. Federal District Court in the District of Delaware issued the temporary order which states, in part, that the Company may not deliver, provide, distribute, ship, release or transfer in any way bio-based isobutanol produced at the Agri-Energy

---

**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Facility to any third party for any use or purpose related to the automotive fuel blending market while Butamax appeals the denial of its motion for preliminary injunction. The Company has filed an appeal of the temporary order. Under the temporary order, the Company remains free to operate in markets such as chemicals, jet fuel, marine fuel and small engine fuel.

On July 31, 2012, the Company filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, as Case No. 2:12-cv-00417, alleging that Butamax, DuPont, BP p.l.c., and BP Biofuels North America LLC are infringing U.S. Patent No. 8,232,089 entitled Cytosolic Isobutanol Pathway Localization for the Production of Isobutanol (the 089 Patent). The 089 Patent claims, among other things, a bio-engineered pathway that utilizes DHADs (dihydroxyacid dehydratases) which improves the efficiency of isobutanol production in yeast. The Company is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On August 6, 2012, the Company filed a motion for preliminary injunction with respect to the alleged infringement by Butamax and DuPont of one or more claims of the 715 Patent.

On August 6, 2012, Butamax filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:99-mc-09999, alleging that the Company is infringing U.S. Patent No. 8,222,017, entitled Ketol-Acid Reductoisomerase Using NADH. Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

Due to the very early stage of this litigation, the Company has determined that the possible loss or range of loss related to this litigation cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

**Guarantees and Indemnifications** In the ordinary course of its business, the Company makes certain indemnities, commitments, and guarantees under which it may be required to make payments in relation to certain transactions. The Company believes the fair value of these indemnification agreements is minimal and, as such, has not recorded any liability for these indemnities in the consolidated balance sheets.

The Company, as permitted under Delaware law and in accordance with its amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws, indemnifies its officers and directors for certain events or occurrences, subject to certain limits, while the officer or director is or was serving at the Company's request in such capacity. The duration of these indemnifications, commitments, and guarantees varies and, in certain cases, is indefinite. The maximum amount of potential future indemnification is unlimited; however, the Company has a director and officer insurance policy that may enable it to recover a portion of any future amounts paid. The Company accrues for losses for any known contingent liability, including those that may arise from indemnification provisions, when future payment is probable. No such losses have been recorded to date.



**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**14. Fair Value Measurements**

Accounting standards define fair value, outline a framework for measuring fair value, and detail the required disclosures about fair value measurements. Under these standards, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date in the principal or most advantageous market. Standards establish a hierarchy in determining the fair market value of an asset or liability. The fair value hierarchy has three levels of inputs, both observable and unobservable. Standards require the utilization of the highest possible level of input to determine fair value.

Level 1 inputs include quoted market prices in an active market for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 inputs are market data, other than Level 1, that are observable either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted market prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted market prices in an inactive market, and other observable information that can be corroborated by market data.

Level 3 inputs are unobservable and corroborated by little or no market data.

The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, and accounts payable approximate their respective fair values due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

Based on borrowing rates which management believes would currently be available to the Company for similar issues of debt, taking into account the current credit risk of the Company and other market factors, the carrying value of the Company's debt obligations approximate their fair value. The fair value of the Company's debt obligations was based upon Level 3 inputs.

The fair value of the Company's derivative instruments are derived based upon a market approach. The fair value of exchange-traded derivative instruments was \$(0.4) million and \$(0.2) million at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, and is based on Level 1 inputs using quoted market prices. The fair value of forward purchase contracts for corn was not material to the Company at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

At June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, there were no transactions measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis.

While the Company believes that its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, it recognizes that the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different estimate of fair value at the reporting date.

**15. Information on Business Segments**

The Company's chief operating decision maker is provided with and reviews the financial results of each of the Company's consolidated legal entities, Gevo, Gevo Development, and Agri-Energy. The Company organizes its business segments based on the nature of the products and services offered through each of the Company's consolidated legal entities. All revenue is earned, and all assets are held, in the U.S.

**Table of Contents****GEVO, INC.****Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The financial results of Gevo Development and Agri-Energy have been aggregated in the following table as this segment is currently responsible for the production of ethanol and related products and will be responsible for isobutanol and related products.

	<b>Three Months Ended June 30,</b>		<b>Six Months Ended June 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Gevo	\$ 1,377	\$ 212	\$ 1,991	\$ 384
Gevo Development / Agri-Energy	5,650	14,321	19,908	29,430
Consolidated	\$ 7,027	\$ 14,533	\$ 21,899	\$ 29,814
<b>Operating income (loss):</b>				
Gevo	\$ (12,612)	\$ (11,445)	\$ (29,823)	\$ (19,444)
Gevo Development / Agri-Energy	(3,134)	(188)	(4,143)	(601)
Consolidated	\$ (15,746)	\$ (11,633)	\$ (33,966)	\$ (20,045)
<b>Interest expense:</b>				
Gevo	\$ 271	\$ 357	\$ 557	\$ 736
Gevo Development / Agri-Energy	179	494	980	1,007
Consolidated	\$ 450	\$ 851	\$ 1,537	\$ 1,743
<b>Depreciation expense:</b>				
Gevo	\$ 323	\$ 649	\$ 589	\$ 1,150
Gevo Development / Agri-Energy	528	514	1,050	1,026
Consolidated	\$ 851	\$ 1,163	\$ 1,639	\$ 2,176
<b>Acquisitions of plant, property and equipment:</b>				
Gevo	\$ 698	\$ 476	\$ 1,352	\$ 793
Gevo Development / Agri-Energy	25,759	974	33,150	1,462
Consolidated	\$ 26,457	\$ 1,450	\$ 34,502	\$ 2,255

	<b>June 30, 2012</b>	<b>December 31, 2011</b>
<b>Total assets:</b>		
Gevo	\$ 79,713	104,843
Gevo Development / Agri-Energy	109,350	66,304
Intercompany eliminations	(71,568)	(38,117)

Consolidated	\$ 117,495	\$ 133,030
--------------	------------	------------

## 16. Subsequent Events

In July 2012, the Company issued and sold: (i) 12.5 million shares of its common stock at a price of \$4.95 per share; and (ii) \$45.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.5% convertible senior notes due 2022 (the Notes), in each case in a firm commitment underwritten public offering (the Equity Offering and the Note Offering, respectively, and together, the Offerings), pursuant to an effective Registration Statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-180097). The Company received proceeds from the Offerings of \$98.8 million, net of expenses and fees to underwriters.

The Notes will bear interest at a rate of 7.5% per annum, which shall be payable semi-annually in arrears on January 1 and July 1 of each year, beginning on January 1, 2013. The Notes will mature on July 1, 2022.

**Table of Contents**

**GEVO, INC.**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Holders may surrender their Notes, in integral multiples of \$1,000 principal amount, for conversion any time prior to the close of business on the third business day immediately preceding the maturity date. Upon conversion, the Company will deliver shares of its common stock at an initial conversion rate of 175.6697 shares for each \$1,000 in principal amount of Notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$5.69 per share of the Company's common stock). Such conversion rate is subject to adjustment in certain circumstances. In addition, if holders elect to convert some or all of their Notes on or after January 1, 2013 but prior to July 1, 2017, they will receive a coupon make-whole payment for the Notes being converted. The Company may pay any coupon make-whole payments either in cash or in shares of its common stock, at its election.

On July 1, 2017, holders may require the Company to purchase all or a portion of their Notes at a purchase price in cash equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be purchased, plus any accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the purchase date. Beginning July 1, 2015, the Company may redeem for cash all or part of the Notes if the last reported sale price of the Company's common stock for 20 or more trading days in a period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the trading day immediately prior to the date the Company provides the notice of redemption exceeds 150% of the conversion price in effect on each such trading day. The redemption price will equal the sum of 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed, plus any accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. If a fundamental change occurs, holders may require the Company to repurchase all or a portion of their Notes at a cash repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the repurchase date. Beginning July 1, 2017, the Company may redeem for cash all or part of the Notes, at any time, and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed, plus any accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date.

In July 2012, in connection with issuance of the Notes, the Company used \$5.4 million of the proceeds from the Note Offering to pay in full the principal balance of the August 2010 debt issued by TriplePoint under the Gevo Loan Agreement.

## **Table of Contents**

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

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

*This report contains forward-looking statements. When used anywhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (this Report), the words expect, believe, anticipate, estimate, intend, plan and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements relate to future events or our future financial or operational performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievement to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties including those related to the achievement of advances in our technology platform, the success of our retrofit production model, our ability to gain market acceptance for our products, additional competition, changes in economic conditions and those described in documents we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), including this Report in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Risk Factors and subsequent reports on Form 10-Q. All forward-looking statements in this document are qualified entirely by the cautionary statements included in this document and such other filings. These risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from results expressed or implied by forward-looking statements contained in this document. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this document. We disclaim any undertaking to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based. Unless the context requires otherwise, in this Report the terms we, us, our and the Company refer to Gevo, Inc. and its wholly owned indirect subsidiaries, and their predecessors.*

*The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our unaudited consolidated financial statements and the related notes and other financial information appearing elsewhere in this Report. Readers are also urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made by us which attempt to advise interested parties of the factors which affect our business, including without limitation our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as amended (our Annual Report), including the disclosures made in Part I, Item 1A Risk Factors and the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in Part II, Item 8 Financial Statements and Supplementary Data, and the disclosures made in Part II, Item 1A Risk Factors of this Report.*

#### **Overview**

We are a renewable chemicals and next generation biofuels company. Our overall strategy is to commercialize bio-based alternatives to petroleum-based products using a combination of synthetic biology and chemical technology. In order to implement this strategy, we are taking a building block approach. Initially, we intend to produce and sell isobutanol from renewable feedstocks. Isobutanol is a four carbon alcohol that can be sold directly for use as a specialty chemical in the production of solvents, paints, and coatings or as a value-added fuel blendstock. Isobutanol can also be converted into butenes using straightforward dehydration chemistry deployed in the refining and petrochemicals industries today. The convertibility of isobutanol into butenes is important because butenes are primary hydrocarbon building blocks used in the production of lubricants, rubber, plastics, fibers, other polymers and hydrocarbon fuels.

We believe that products derived from our isobutanol will be drop-in products, which means that our customers will be able to replace petroleum-based intermediate products with isobutanol-based intermediate products without modification to their equipment or production processes. The final products produced from our isobutanol-based intermediate products will be chemically and visually identical to those produced from petroleum-based intermediate products, except that they will contain carbon from renewable sources. Customer interest in our isobutanol is primarily driven by our cost-efficient production route and our isobutanol's potential to serve as a cost-effective, environmentally sensitive alternative to the petroleum-based intermediate products that they currently use. We believe that at every step of the value chain, renewable products that are chemically identical to the incumbent petrochemical products will have lower market adoption hurdles because the infrastructure and applications for such products already exist. In addition, we believe that products made from bio-based isobutanol will be subject to less cost volatility than the petroleum-based products in use today.

In order to produce and sell isobutanol made from renewable sources, we have developed the Gevo Integrated Fermentation Technology® (GIFT®), an integrated technology platform for the efficient production and separation of isobutanol. GIFT® consists of two components, proprietary biocatalysts, which convert sugars derived from multiple renewable feedstocks into isobutanol through fermentation, and a proprietary separation unit, which is designed to continuously separate isobutanol from water during the fermentation process. We developed our technology platform to be compatible with the existing approximately 23 billion gallons per year of global operating ethanol production capacity, as estimated by the Renewable Fuels Association. GIFT® is designed to allow



---

## **Table of Contents**

relatively low capital expenditure retrofits of existing ethanol facilities, enabling a rapid and cost-efficient route to isobutanol production from the fermentation of renewable feedstocks. We believe that our cost-efficient production route will enable rapid deployment of our technology platform and allow our isobutanol and the products produced from it to be economically competitive with many of the petroleum-based products used in the chemicals and fuels markets today.

We expect that the combination of our efficient proprietary technology, our marketing focus on providing drop-in substitutes for incumbent petrochemical products and our relatively low capital investment retrofit approach will mitigate many of the historical issues associated with the commercialization of renewable chemicals and fuels.

In September 2009, Gevo, Inc. formed Gevo Development, LLC ( Gevo Development ) to develop isobutanol production assets using GIFT. Gevo Development has a flexible business model and aims to secure access to existing ethanol capacity either through joint venture, tolling arrangements or direct acquisition.

For financial reporting purposes, we have determined that we have two operating segments. Our Gevo, Inc. segment is responsible for all research and development activities related to the future production of isobutanol, maintaining and protecting our intellectual property portfolio, developing future markets for our isobutanol and providing corporate oversight services. Our second segment is comprised of Gevo Development and Agri-Energy, LLC ( Agri-Energy ) which is currently responsible for the production of isobutanol, ethanol and related products.

At June 30, 2012, we are considered to be in the development stage as our primary activities, since incorporation, have been conducting research and development, business development, business and financial planning, establishing our facilities, recruiting personnel and raising capital. Successful completion of our research and development program, and ultimately, the attainment of profitable operations are dependent upon future events, including completion of our development activities resulting in sales of isobutanol or isobutanol-derived products and/or technology, obtaining adequate financing to complete our development activities, obtaining adequate financing to acquire access to and complete the retrofit of ethanol plants to isobutanol production, gaining market acceptance and demand for our products and services, and attracting and retaining qualified personnel.

### ***Agri-Energy***

In September 2010, we acquired a 22 million gallon per year ( MGPY ) ethanol production facility in Luverne, Minnesota (the Agri-Energy Facility ). In partnership with ICM Inc. ( ICM ), we commenced the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility in 2011, and commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol at this facility in May 2012. Technical completion of the retrofit and the initial shipments of isobutanol from the Agri-Energy Facility are not expected until the third quarter of 2012. The Agri-Energy Facility is a traditional dry-mill facility, which means that it uses dry-milled corn as a feedstock. The retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility includes a number of additional capital costs that are unique to the design of the facility, including additional equipment necessary to switch between ethanol and isobutanol production, modifications to increase the potential production capacity of GIFT® at the Agri-Energy Facility and the establishment of an enhanced yeast seed train to accelerate the adoption of improved yeast at the Agri-Energy Facility and at future plants. Further, total capital expenditures at the Agri-Energy Facility include upfront design and engineering expenses, plant modifications identified as necessary during start-up production of isobutanol as well as sales tax on equipment and capitalized interest. The enhanced yeast seed train will allow us to maintain direct oversight over our yeast material and provide on-site yeast production in the future. We incurred approximately \$19.0 million associated with design features for expanded capacity and the enhanced yeast seed train plus approximately \$3.6 million for sales tax and capitalized interest. We do not anticipate installing an advanced yeast seed train at each future retrofit site. As of June 30, 2012, we have incurred total capital costs of approximately \$48.1 million on the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility. In the event that we encounter significant production challenges during the start-up of isobutanol production, we believe that we will have the ability, subject to regulatory factors, to switch from isobutanol production back to ethanol production. We believe that the ability to switch between isobutanol and ethanol production mitigates, depending on market conditions, certain significant risks associated with start-up operations for isobutanol production. While we believe we will have the ability to reverse the retrofit and switch between ethanol and isobutanol production at the Agri-Energy Facility, there is no guarantee that this will be the case.

Until May 24, 2012, when we commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol at the Agri-Energy Facility, we derived revenue from the sale of ethanol, distiller's grains and other related products produced as part of the ethanol production process at this facility. Continued ethanol production during the retrofit process allowed us to retain local staff for the future operation of the plant, maintain the equipment and generate cash flow. However, the production of ethanol is not our intended business and our future profitability depends on our ability to produce and market isobutanol, not on continued production and sales of ethanol. Now that we have commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol, we do not expect to generate future significant revenues from the sale of ethanol at the Agri-Energy Facility. Accordingly, the historical operating results of Agri-Energy and the operating results reported during the retrofit to isobutanol production will not be indicative of future operating results for Agri-Energy or Gevo once commercial isobutanol production commences at this facility.





---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Revenues, Cost of Goods Sold and Operating Expenses**

#### ***Revenues***

During the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, we derived revenue from the sale of ethanol, distiller's grains and other products produced as part of the ethanol production process.

Our grant and research and development program revenue consists of the following: (i) revenues relating to government research grants and cooperative agreements; (ii) research services; and (iii) the procurement of our products for purposes of certification and testing.

#### ***Cost of Goods Sold and Gross Margin***

Our cost of goods sold includes costs incurred in conjunction with the initial start-up operations for the production of isobutanol at the Agri-Energy Facility and costs directly associated with our ethanol production process such as costs for direct materials, direct labor and certain plant overhead costs. Direct materials consist of corn feedstock, denaturant and process chemicals. Direct labor includes compensation of personnel directly involved in the operation of the Agri-Energy Facility. Plant overhead costs primarily consist of plant utilities and plant depreciation. Cost of goods sold is mainly affected by the cost of corn and natural gas. Corn is the most significant raw material cost. We purchase natural gas to power steam generation in the ethanol production process and to dry the distiller's grains. We enter into forward purchase contracts and exchange-traded futures contracts associated with corn. Accordingly, our cost of goods sold also includes gains or losses and/or changes in fair value from our forward purchase contracts and exchange-traded futures contracts. See discussion of accounting for derivatives below under the heading **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**.

Our gross margin is defined as our total revenues less our cost of goods sold.

#### ***Research and Development***

Our research and development costs consist of expenses incurred to identify, develop and test our technologies for the production of isobutanol and the development of downstream applications thereof. Research and development expense includes personnel costs (including stock-based compensation), consultants and related contract research, facility costs, supplies, depreciation and amortization expense on property, plant and equipment used in product development, license fees paid to third parties for use of their intellectual property and patent rights and other overhead expenses incurred to support our research and development programs. Research and development expenses also include upfront fees and milestone payments made under licensing agreements and payments for sponsored research and university research gifts to support research at academic institutions.

#### ***Selling, General and Administrative***

Selling, general and administrative expenses consist of personnel costs (including stock-based compensation), consulting and service provider expenses (including patent counsel-related costs), legal fees, marketing costs, corporate insurance costs, occupancy-related costs, depreciation and amortization expenses on property, plant and equipment not used in our product development programs or recorded in cost of goods sold, travel and relocation and hiring expenses. Following completion of our initial public offering in February 2011, we experienced a significant increase in certain selling, general and administrative expenses, such as, additional compliance costs to operate as a public company. We expect to continue to incur these costs to comply with the corporate governance, internal control and similar requirements applicable to public companies, as well as increased costs for insurance, costs related to the hiring of additional personnel and payment to outside consultants, attorneys and accountants.

We also record selling, general and administrative expenses for the operations of the Agri-Energy Facility that include administrative and oversight, labor, insurance and other operating expenses.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ( US GAAP ) and include our accounts and the accounts of our wholly owned subsidiaries, Gevo Development and Agri-Energy. The preparation of our unaudited consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates, assumptions and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the applicable periods. Management bases its estimates, assumptions and judgments on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to



## **Table of Contents**

be reasonable under the circumstances. Different assumptions and judgments would change the estimates used in the preparation of our unaudited consolidated financial statements, which, in turn, could change the results from those reported. Our management evaluates its estimates, assumptions and judgments on an ongoing basis.

The accounting policies and estimates, which we believe are critical and require the use of complex judgment in their application, are those related to: (i) stock-based compensation; (ii) revenue recognition; (iii) cost of goods sold and derivatives; and (iv) impairment of long-lived assets. Except as noted below, our critical accounting estimates and policies have not changed from those reported under the heading Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Part II, Item 7 of our Annual Report.

### ***Cost of Goods Sold and Derivatives***

Our activities expose us to a variety of market risks, including the effects of changes in commodity prices. These financial exposures are monitored and managed by our management as an integral part of our overall risk-management program. Our risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial and commodities markets and seeks to reduce the potentially adverse effects that the volatility of these markets may have on our cost of goods sold and operating results.

We enter into forward purchase contracts for corn to be used in the production of ethanol. During 2011 we used the normal purchases and normal sales scope exception guidance of US GAAP for our forward purchase contracts and, as a result, they were not marked to market during 2011. To qualify for the normal purchases and normal sales scope exception, a contract must provide for the purchase or sale of commodities in quantities that are expected to be used or sold over a reasonable period of time in the normal course of operations. For new contracts entered into beginning January 1, 2012, we did not apply the normal purchases and normal sale scope exception to our forward purchase contracts and, as a result, we began to record forward purchase contracts at fair value. The changes in fair value associated with our forward purchase contracts which have been included as a component of cost of goods sold in our consolidated statements of operations were not material during the three and six months ended June 30, 2012.

We also enter into exchange-traded futures contracts for corn as a means of managing exposure to changes in corn prices. These contracts are recorded as a derivative asset or liability- on our consolidated balance sheets at fair value. Changes in the fair value during a reporting period are recognized as cost of goods sold in our consolidated statements of operations.

Both our forward purchase and exchange-traded futures contracts are considered to be derivatives and they do not include any credit risk related contingent features. We have not entered into these derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes, and we have not designated any of our derivatives as hedges for financial accounting purposes.

**Table of Contents****Result of Operations**

*Comparison of the three months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands)*

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Change	
	2012	2011	Amount	Percent
<b>Revenue and cost of goods sold</b>				
Ethanol sales and related products, net	\$ 5,650	\$ 14,321	\$ (8,671)	(61%)
Grant and research and development program revenue	1,377	212	1,165	N/M
Total revenues	7,027	14,533	(7,506)	(52%)
Cost of goods sold	8,510	13,637	(5,127)	(38%)
Gross margin	(1,483)	896	(2,379)	(266%)
<b>Operating expenses</b>				
Research and development	4,723	5,338	(615)	(12%)
Selling, general and administrative	9,540	7,191	2,349	33%
Total operating expenses	14,263	12,529	1,734	14%
Loss from operations	(15,746)	(11,633)	(4,113)	(35%)
<b>Other (expense) income</b>				
Interest expense	(450)	(851)	401	47%
Interest and other income	19	18	1	6%
Total other expense	(431)	(833)	402	48%
Net loss	\$ (16,177)	\$ (12,466)	\$ (3,711)	(30%)

N/M Not meaningful

*Revenues* In May 2012, we suspended the production of ethanol at our Agri-Energy Facility in advance of the conversion of that facility to the production of isobutanol. As a result, revenue from the sale of ethanol during the three months ended June 30, 2012 decreased compared with the same period in 2011. Also contributing to the decline in ethanol revenue during the three months ended June 30, 2012 was an overall decline in the market price of ethanol.

The increase in grant and research and development program revenue primarily resulted from agreements with the following entities which were entered into subsequent to June 30, 2011: (i) the U.S. Air Force; (ii) The Coca-Cola Company; and (iii) United States Department of Agriculture (the USDA ).

*Cost of goods sold and gross margin* Our cost of goods sold decreased during the three months ended June 30, 2012 primarily as a result of our suspension of ethanol production at the Agri-Energy Facility in early May 2012 in preparation for the conversion of that facility to the production of isobutanol. Cost of goods sold during the three months ended June 30, 2012 was also impacted by higher costs of corn and \$1.5 million in costs incurred in conjunction with the initial start-up operations at the Agri-Energy Facility.

*Research and development* The decrease in research and development expenses during the three months ended June 30, 2012 primarily resulted from the following decreases: (i) \$1.1 million associated with laboratory costs (which includes consultant and consumable costs) and other costs associated with the operation of our demonstration facility; and (ii) \$0.6 million in stock-based compensation. These items were partially offset by an increase of \$0.8 million in salary and compensation-related expenses due to our increased headcount in support of retrofit activities for the initial production of isobutanol at our Agri-Energy Facility.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

*Selling, general and administrative* The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses during the three months ended June 30, 2012 primarily resulted from the following increases: (i) \$1.8 million in legal-related expenses including expenses in support of our ongoing litigation with Butamax Advanced Biofuels, LLC ( Butamax ), a joint venture between BP Biofuels North American LLC and E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company ( DuPont ); (ii) \$0.7 million in salary and compensation-related expenses primarily resulting from severance-related expenses due to the departure of one of our Executive Vice Presidents during the second quarter of 2012; and (iii) \$0.3 million in stock-based compensation expense. These items were partially offset by a decrease of \$0.5 million in office and other general and administrative expenses.

**Table of Contents**

*Interest and other expense* Interest expense decreased during the three months ended June 30, 2012 as we capitalized more of the interest that we incurred during the current quarter to construction in progress. During the three months ended June 30, 2012, we capitalized \$1.0 million of incurred interest compared with less than \$0.1 million during the same period in 2011.

*Comparison of the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands)*

	Six Months Ended June 30,		Increase (Decrease)	
	2012	2011	Amount	Percent
<b>Revenue and cost of goods sold</b>				
Ethanol sales and related products, net	\$ 19,908	\$ 29,430	\$ (9,522)	(32%)
Grant and research and development program revenue	1,991	384	1,607	N/M
Total revenues	21,899	29,814	(7,915)	(27%)
Cost of goods sold	23,520	28,830	(5,310)	(18%)
Gross margin	(1,621)	984	(2,605)	(265%)
<b>Operating expenses</b>				
Research and development	9,678	8,604	1,074	12%
Selling, general and administrative	22,667	12,425	10,242	82%
Total operating expenses	32,345	21,029	11,316	54%
Loss from operations	(33,966)	(20,045)	(13,921)	69%
<b>Other (expense) income</b>				
Interest expense	(1,537)	(1,772)	235	13%
Interest and other income	19	68	(49)	(72%)
Total other expense	(1,518)	(1,704)	186	11%
Net loss	(35,484)	(21,749)	(13,735)	(63%)
Deemed dividend - amortization of beneficial conversion feature on Series D-1 preferred stock		(1,094)	1,094	100%
Net loss attributable to Gevo, Inc. common stockholders	\$ (35,484)	\$ (22,843)	\$ (12,641)	(55%)

N/M Not meaningful

*Revenues* In May 2012, we suspended the production of ethanol at our Agri-Energy Facility in advance of the conversion of that facility to isobutanol production. As a result, revenue from the sale of ethanol during the six months ended June 30, 2012 decreased compared with the same period in 2011. Also contributing to the decline in ethanol revenue during the six months ended June 30, 2012 was an overall decline in the market price of ethanol.

The increase in grant and research and development program revenue primarily resulted from agreements with the following entities which were entered into subsequent to June 30, 2011: (i) the U.S. Air Force; (ii) The Coca-Cola Company; and (iii) the USDA.

*Cost of goods sold and gross margin* Our cost of goods sold decreased during the six months ended June 30, 2012 primarily as a result of our suspension of ethanol production at the Agri-Energy Facility in early May 2012 in preparation for the conversion of that facility to the production of isobutanol. Cost of goods sold during the six months ended June 30, 2012 was also impacted by higher costs of corn and \$1.5 million in costs incurred in conjunction with the initial start-up operations at the Agri-Energy Facility.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

*Research and development* The increase in research and development expenses during the six months ended June 30, 2012 primarily resulted from a \$1.8 million increase in salary and compensation-related expenses due to our increased headcount in support of retrofit activities for the initial production of isobutanol at our Agri-Energy Facility. This was partially offset by a \$0.5 million decrease in laboratory costs and other costs associated with use of our demonstration facility in the six months ended June 30, 2011, costs which were not repeated in the six months ended June 30, 2012.

---

## **Table of Contents**

*Selling, general and administrative* The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses during the six months ended June 30, 2012 primarily resulted from the following increases: (i) \$4.4 million in legal-related expenses primarily attributable to our on-going legal matters with Butamax; (ii) \$3.3 million in stock-based compensation expense primarily due to accelerating the vesting of equity awards upon the departure of three of our Executive Vice Presidents; and (iii) \$2.3 million in salary and compensation-related expenses primarily resulting from severance related expenses due to the departure of three of our Executive Vice Presidents and from our increased headcount.

*Interest and other expense* Interest expense decreased during the six months ended June 30, 2012 as we capitalized more of the interest we incurred to construction in progress. During the six months ended June 30, 2012, we capitalized \$1.3 million of incurred interest compared with \$0.1 million during the same period in 2011. This was partially offset by an increase in interest incurred as we issued debt in \$10 million and \$5.0 million of debt in October 2011 and January 2012, respectively.

*Deemed dividend amortization of beneficial conversion feature on Series D-1 preferred stock* We incurred a deemed dividend amortization of beneficial conversion feature on our Series D-1 preferred stock of \$1.1 million during the six months ended June 30, 2011 related to our issuance of our Series D-1 preferred stock between March and May of 2010. Upon the closing of our initial public offering on February 14, 2011, all outstanding shares of our preferred stock, including our Series D-1 preferred stock, were automatically converted into shares of common stock. Following the closing of our initial public offering, no additional amortization of the beneficial conversion feature relating to our Series D-1 preferred stock has been recorded.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

From inception to June 30, 2012, we have funded our operations primarily through the sale of preferred equity securities, borrowings under our secured debt financing arrangements, revenues earned and the net proceeds from our initial public offering. To date, we have not generated significant revenues from the sale of isobutanol.

On February 14, 2011, we completed our initial public offering issuing 8,222,500 shares of common stock at an offering price of \$15.00 per share, resulting in net proceeds of \$110.4 million, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and other offering costs.

As of June 30, 2012, our cash and cash equivalents totaled \$38.6 million. In July 2012, we issued and sold: (i) 12.5 million shares of common stock; and (ii) \$45.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.5% convertible senior notes due 2022 (the Notes), in each case in a firm commitment underwritten public offering (the Equity Offering and the Note Offering, respectively, and together, the Offerings). We received proceeds from the Offerings of \$93.3 million, net of expenses and fees to underwriters. We used \$5.4 million of the proceeds from the Note Offering to pay in full the principal balance of the August 2010 debt issued by TriplePoint Capital LLC (TriplePoint) under the Gevo Loan Agreement (as defined below). Based on our current level of operations and anticipated growth, we believe that our existing cash and cash equivalents on hand at June 30, 2012, combined with funding from the Offerings, will provide funds for ongoing operations, planned capital expenditures and working capital requirements for at least the next 12 months.

On December 18, 2006, we entered into a loan and security agreement, as amended, with Lighthouse Capital Partners V, LP (Lighthouse). As of June 30, 2012, we had repaid all outstanding amounts under our loan and security agreement with Lighthouse.

Possible future joint ventures, tolling arrangements or acquisitions involving ethanol plant assets for retrofit to isobutanol production are subject to our raising additional capital through future equity or debt issuances. Successful completion of our research and development program and the attainment of profitable operations are dependent upon future events, including completion of our development activities resulting in sales of isobutanol or isobutanol-derived products and/or technology, achieving market acceptance and demand for our products and services and attracting and retaining qualified personnel.

We will require additional funding to achieve our goal of producing and selling approximately 350 million gallons of isobutanol in 2015.



**Table of Contents**

The following table sets forth the major sources and uses of cash for each of the periods set forth below (in thousands):

	<b>Six Months Ended June 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (24,427)	\$ (19,923)
Net cash used in investing activities	(35,149)	(2,255)
Net cash provided by financing activities	3,953	112,101

**Operating Activities**

Our primary uses for cash from operating activities are personnel-related expenses and research and development-related expenses including costs incurred under development agreements, for licensing of technology and for the operation of our demonstration production facilities.

During the six months ended June 30, 2012, we used \$24.4 million in cash from operating activities primarily resulting from a net loss of \$27.3 million excluding the impact of \$8.1 million in non-cash expenses. This was partially offset by a decrease in receivables and inventory which increased cash by \$2.8 million and which was primarily the result of the suspension of the production of ethanol at our Agri-Energy Facility in May 2012.

Cash used in operating activities of \$19.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2011 reflected our net loss of \$21.7 million and changes in operating assets and liabilities of \$3.5 million, partially offset by non-cash charges totaling \$5.3 million. Non-cash charges primarily included depreciation and amortization of \$2.2 million, stock-based compensation of \$3.1 million and non-cash interest expense and amortization of debt discounts of \$0.4 million, which were offset by a gain in derivative assets of \$0.4 million. The net use of cash from our operating assets and liabilities of \$3.5 million primarily reflected an increase in inventories at Agri-Energy due to increases in the cost of corn and bushels on hand.

**Investing Activities**

During the six months ended June 30, 2012, we used \$35.1 million in cash from investing activities primarily due to the acquisition of \$34.5 million in property and equipment, which includes \$32.8 million associated with our ongoing retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility to isobutanol production which is recorded as construction in progress. Additionally, we used \$0.6 million for the purchase of patents and planning work associated with the retrofit of the Redfield Facility (as defined below).

During the six months ended June 30, 2011, cash used in investing activities was \$2.3 million for capital expenditures, including \$1.3 million relating to our retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility to isobutanol production which is recorded as construction in progress.

**Financing Activities**

During the six months ended June 30, 2012, we generated \$4.0 million in cash from financing activities primarily resulting from the following: (i) \$4.9 million borrowed under the amended and restated loan and security agreement, dated October 20, 2011 (the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement), by and between Agri-Energy and TriplePoint, net of issue costs; and (ii) \$0.7 million from the exercise of stock options. The proceeds from the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement were directed to the continued retrofit of our Agri-Energy Facility. Partially offsetting these sources of cash was \$1.2 million in principal payments on our secured debt resulting in payment in full of amounts owed to Lighthouse, \$0.3 million in offering costs and a \$0.1 million deposit provided to TriplePoint.

During the six months ended June 30, 2011, cash provided by financing activities was \$112.1 million, primarily due to the net proceeds from our initial public offering, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and other offering expenses paid during the period, less principal repayments of \$0.9 million on our debt with Lighthouse.

**Agri-Energy Retrofit**

In September 2010, we acquired the Agri-Energy Facility that we are currently retrofitting to produce isobutanol. As of June 30, 2012, we have incurred total capital costs of approximately \$48.1 million on the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility. The retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility includes a number of additional capital costs that are unique to the design of the facility, including additional equipment necessary to switch between ethanol and isobutanol production, modifications to increase the potential production capacity of GIFT<sup>®</sup> at the Agri-Energy Facility and the establishment of an enhanced yeast seed train to accelerate the adoption of improved yeast at the Agri-Energy Facility and at future plants. Further, total capital expenditures at the Agri-Energy Facility include upfront design and engineering expenses, plant modifications identified as

necessary during start-up production of isobutanol as well as sales tax on equipment and capitalized interest.

---

**Table of Contents**
***Redfield Energy, LLC***

On June 15, 2011, we entered into an isobutanol joint venture agreement (the *Joint Venture Agreement*) with Redfield Energy, LLC, a South Dakota limited liability company ( *Redfield* ) and executed the second amended and restated operating agreement of Redfield (together, the *Joint Venture Documents* ). Under the terms of the Joint Venture Documents, we have agreed to work with Redfield to retrofit Redfield's approximately 50 MGPY ethanol production facility located near Redfield, South Dakota (the *Redfield Facility* ) for the commercial production of isobutanol. Under the terms of the Joint Venture Agreement, Redfield has issued 100 Class G membership units in Redfield (the *Class G Units* ) to our wholly-owned subsidiary, Gevo Development. Gevo Development is the sole holder of Class G units, which entitle Gevo Development to certain information and governance rights with respect to Redfield, including the right to appoint two members of Redfield's 11-member board of managers. The Class G units currently carry no interest in the allocation of profits, losses or other distributions of Redfield and no voting rights. Such rights will vest upon the commencement of commercial isobutanol production at the Redfield Facility, at which time we anticipate consolidating Redfield's operations because we anticipate we will control the activities that are most significant to the entity.

We will be responsible for all costs associated with the retrofit of the Redfield Facility. Redfield will remain responsible for certain expenses incurred by the facility including certain repair and maintenance expenses and any costs necessary to ensure that the facility is in compliance with applicable environmental laws. We anticipate that the Redfield Facility will continue its current ethanol production activities during much of the retrofit. Once the retrofit assets have been installed, the ethanol production operations will be suspended to enable testing of the isobutanol production capabilities of the facility (the *Performance Testing Phase* ). During the Performance Testing Phase, we will be entitled to receive all revenue generated by the Redfield Facility and will make payments to Redfield to cover the costs incurred by Redfield to operate the facility plus the profits, if any, that Redfield would have received if the facility had been producing ethanol during that period (the *Facility Payments* ). We have also agreed to maintain an escrow fund during the Performance Testing Phase as security for our obligation to make the Facility Payments.

If certain conditions are met, commercial production of isobutanol at the Redfield Facility will begin upon the earlier of the date upon which certain production targets have been met or the date upon which the parties mutually agree that commercial isobutanol production at the Redfield Facility will be commercially viable at the then-current production rate. At that time, (i) we will have the right to appoint a total of four members of Redfield's 11-member board of managers, and (ii) the voting and economic interests of the Class G units will vest and Gevo Development, as the sole holder of the Class G Units, will be entitled to a percentage of Redfield's profits, losses and distributions, to be calculated based upon the demonstrated isobutanol production capabilities of the Redfield Facility.

Gevo Development, or one of its affiliates, will be the exclusive marketer of all products produced by the Redfield Facility once commercial production of isobutanol at the Redfield Facility has begun. Additionally, we will license the technology necessary to produce isobutanol at the Redfield Facility to Redfield, subject to the continuation of the marketing arrangement described above. In the event that the isobutanol production technology fails or Redfield is permanently prohibited from using such technology, we will forfeit the Class G Units and lose the value of our investment in Redfield.

Gevo, Inc. entered into a guaranty effective as of June 15, 2011, pursuant to which it has unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed the payment by Gevo Development of any and all amounts owed by Gevo Development pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Joint Venture Agreement and certain other agreements that Gevo Development and Redfield expect to enter into in connection with the retrofit of the Redfield Facility.

We have begun the project engineering and permitting process of the retrofit of the Redfield Facility. As of June 30, 2012, we have incurred \$0.4 million in planning-related costs for the retrofit of the Redfield Facility, which has been recorded on our balance sheet in deposits and other assets.

***Cargill, Incorporated***

During February 2009, we entered into a license agreement with Cargill, Incorporated ( *Cargill* ) to obtain certain biological materials and license patent rights to use yeast biocatalyst owned by Cargill. Under the agreement, Cargill has granted us an exclusive, royalty-bearing license, with limited rights to sublicense, to use the patent rights in a certain field, as defined in the agreement. The agreement contains five milestone payments totaling approximately \$4.3 million that are payable after each milestone is completed.

## **Table of Contents**

During 2009, two milestones were completed and we recorded the related milestone amounts, along with an up-front signing fee, totaling \$0.9 million to research and development expense. During March 2010, we completed milestone number three and recorded the related milestone amount of \$2.0 million to research and development expense at its then-current present value of \$1.6 million because the milestone payment is being paid over a period greater than twelve months from the date that it was incurred. Milestones number four and five included in the license agreement representing potential payments of up to \$1.5 million have not been met as of June 30, 2012 and no amount has been recorded as a liability for these milestones. Upon commercialization of a product which uses Cargill's biological material or is otherwise covered by the patent rights under this agreement, a royalty based on net sales is payable by us, subject to a minimum royalty amount per year, as defined in the agreement, and up to a maximum amount per year. We may terminate this agreement at any time upon 90 days' written notice. Unless terminated earlier, the agreement remains in effect until the later of December 31, 2025 and the date that no licensed patent rights remain.

### ***Sasol Chemical Industries Limited***

On July 29, 2011, we entered into an international off-take and distribution agreement with Sasol Chemical Industries Limited ( Sasol ) to market and distribute renewable isobutanol globally. The agreement has an initial term of three years and appoints Sasol as a non-exclusive distributor of high-purity isobutanol in North and South America and as the exclusive distributor for high-purity isobutanol for solvent and chemical intermediate applications in the rest of the world. Beginning upon our first commercial sale of high-purity isobutanol, if Sasol desires to maintain its exclusive distribution rights, Sasol is obligated to either purchase certain minimum quantities of high-purity isobutanol or pay us applicable shortfall fees and we are obligated to either supply Sasol with certain minimum quantities of high-purity isobutanol or pay Sasol applicable shortfall fees. No amounts have been recorded under this agreement as of June 30, 2012.

### ***Toray Industries, Inc.***

In June 2011, we announced that we had successfully produced fully renewable and recyclable polyethylene terephthalate ( PET ) in cooperation with Toray Industries, Inc. ( Toray Industries ). Working directly with Toray Industries, we employed prototypes of commercial operations from the petrochemical and refining industries to make para-xylene ( PX ) from isobutanol. Toray Industries used our bio-PX and commercially available renewable mono ethylene glycol to produce fully renewable PET films and fibers. Additionally, on June 1, 2012, we entered into a definitive agreement with Toray Industries for the joint development of an integrated supply chain for the production of bio-PET. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement with Toray Industries, we received \$1.0 million which we will use for the design, construction and/or operation of a pilot plant in Silsbee, Texas (the Pilot Plant ). We anticipate producing bio-based PX (the Product ) at the Pilot Plant, some of which will be sold to Toray Industries. Toray Industries is obligated to purchase initial volumes of Product. Any excess Product that is produced can be sold to other third parties. In the event we are unable to produce and deliver the Product to Toray Industries by December 31, 2013, we will be required to refund the \$1.0 million by January 31, 2014.

### ***Secured Long-Term Debt***

*Lighthouse Loan and Security Agreement.* On December 18, 2006, we entered into a loan and security agreement, as amended, with Lighthouse. As of June 30, 2012, we have repaid all outstanding amounts under our loan and security agreement with Lighthouse.

*Gevo Loan Agreement.* In August 2010, concurrent with the execution of the agreement to acquire Agri-Energy, we entered into a loan and security agreement with TriplePoint (the Gevo Loan Agreement ), pursuant to which we borrowed \$5.0 million. The Gevo Loan Agreement includes customary affirmative and negative covenants for agreements of this type and events of default, including, disposing of certain assets, granting or otherwise allowing the imposition of a lien against certain assets, incurring certain amounts of additional indebtedness, or acquiring or merging with another entity, excluding Agri-Energy, unless we receive the prior approval of TriplePoint. The aggregate amount outstanding under the Gevo Loan Agreement bears interest at a rate equal to 13%, is subject to an end-of-term payment equal to 8% of the amount borrowed and is secured by substantially all of the assets of Gevo, Inc., other than our intellectual property. This loan is also secured by substantially all of the assets of Agri-Energy. Additionally, under the terms of each of (i) the Gevo Loan Agreement and (ii) Gevo, Inc.'s guarantee of Agri-Energy's obligations under the Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement described below, we are prohibited from granting a security interest in our intellectual property assets to any other entity until both TriplePoint loans are paid in full. The loan matures on August 31, 2014. At June 30, 2012, we were in compliance with the debt covenants under the Gevo Loan Agreement.

In July 2012, we used \$5.4 million of the proceeds from the Note Offering that was completed in July 2012 to pay in full, the principal balance of the August 2010 debt issued by TriplePoint under the Gevo Loan Agreement.

*Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.* In August 2010, Gevo Development borrowed \$12.5 million from TriplePoint to finance its acquisition of Agri-Energy. In September 2010, upon completion of the acquisition, the loan and security agreement was amended to make Agri-Energy the borrower under the facility. This loan and security agreement (the Original Agri-Energy Loan



---

**Table of Contents**

Agreement ) includes customary affirmative and negative covenants for agreements of this type and events of default. The aggregate amount outstanding under the Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement bears interest at a rate equal to 13% and is subject to an end-of-term payment equal to 8% of the amount borrowed. The loan is secured by the equity interests of Agri-Energy held by Gevo Development and substantially all the assets of Agri-Energy. The loan matures on September 1, 2014. The loan is guaranteed by Gevo, Inc. pursuant to a continuing guaranty executed by Gevo, Inc. in favor of TriplePoint, which is secured by substantially all of the assets of Gevo, Inc., other than its intellectual property.

*Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.* In October 2011, Agri-Energy entered into the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement with TriplePoint which amends and restates the Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement. The Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement includes customary affirmative and negative covenants for agreements of this type and events of default. The Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement provides Agri-Energy with additional term loan facilities of up to \$15.0 million (the New Loan ) (which amount is in addition to the existing \$12.5 million term loan (the Existing Loan ) provided under the Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, which Existing Loan remains in place under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement), the proceeds of which will be used to pay a portion of the costs, expenses, and other amounts associated with the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility to produce isobutanol. The Existing Loan matures on September 1, 2014. The aggregate amount outstanding under the Existing Loan bears interest at a rate equal to 13% and is subject to an end-of-term payment equal to 8% of the amount borrowed. The aggregate amount outstanding under the New Loan bears interest at a rate of 11% and is subject to an end-of-term payment equal to 5.75% of the amount borrowed. Any borrowings under the New Loan that are in excess of 50% of the amount incurred for the retrofit the Agri-Energy Facility must be immediately repaid to TriplePoint.

On October 20, 2011, Agri-Energy borrowed a portion of the New Loan in the amount of \$10.0 million under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement (the October Loan ). The October Loan matures on October 31, 2015 with the last monthly amortization payment due on the date of such advance. On January 6, 2012, Agri-Energy borrowed an additional \$5.0 million (the January Loan ) under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, bringing the total borrowed under the New Loan at June 30, 2012 to \$15.0 million. The January Loan portion of the New Loan matures on December 31, 2015 with the last monthly amortization payment due on the date of such advance. Upon our request and the additional approval of TriplePoint, we may borrow an additional \$5.0 million under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement increasing the maximum size of the New Loan to \$20.0 million. The New Loan is in addition to the Existing Loan. At June 30, 2012, we were in compliance with the debt covenants under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.

The Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement provides that Agri-Energy will secure all of its obligations under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement and any other loan documents by granting to TriplePoint a security interest in and lien upon all or substantially all of its assets. Gevo, Inc. has guaranteed Agri-Energy's obligations under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement. As additional security, concurrently with the execution of the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, (i) Gevo Development entered into a limited recourse continuing guaranty in favor of TriplePoint, (ii) Gevo Development entered into an amended and restated limited recourse membership interest pledge agreement in favor of TriplePoint, pursuant to which it pledged the membership interests of Agri-Energy as collateral to secure the obligations under its guaranty and (iii) Gevo, Inc. entered into an amendment to its security agreement with TriplePoint (the Gevo Security Agreement ), which secures its guarantee of Agri-Energy's obligations (including up to \$32.5 million in term loans) under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.

Additionally, concurrent with the execution of the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, we entered into a warrant agreement with TriplePoint pursuant to which TriplePoint is entitled to purchase up to 188,442 shares of our common stock on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the warrant agreement, at a price per share of \$7.96, subject to adjustment. The warrants may be exercised until October 20, 2018.

Principal payments due under the foregoing loan agreements with TriplePoint begin during the third quarter of 2012.

*June Amendments.* In June 2012, the Company entered into (i) an amendment (the Security Agreement Amendment ) to the Gevo Security Agreement and (ii) an amendment (the Gevo Loan Amendment ) to the Gevo Loan Agreement. In addition, concurrently with the execution of the Security Agreement Amendment and the Gevo Loan Amendment, Agri-Energy entered into an amendment to the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.

These amendments, among other things: (i) permitted the issuance of the Company's 7.5% convertible senior notes due 2022 (the Notes ); (ii) removed Agri-Energy's and the Company's options to elect additional interest-only periods upon the achievement of certain milestones (iii) permit Agri-Energy to make dividend payments and distributions to the Company for certain defined purposes related to the Notes; (iv) add as an event of default the payment, repurchase or redemption of the Notes or of amounts

**Table of Contents**

payable in connection therewith other than certain permitted payments related to the Notes; (v) add a negative covenant whereby the Company may not incur any indebtedness other than as permitted under the Security Agreement; and (vi) add a prohibition on making any coupon make-whole payments in cash prior to the payment in full of all remaining outstanding obligations in full under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement.

**Contractual Obligations and Commitments**

The following table sets forth our future commitments arising from our contractual obligations, including the contractual obligations associated with the July 2012 issuance of convertible debt (in thousands).

	Less than				Total
	1 year	1 - 3 years	3 - 5 years	5+ Years	
Principal debt payments (1)	\$ 7,906	\$ 18,421	\$ 3,035	\$ 45,000	\$ 74,362
Interest payments on debt (2)	4,660	9,088	6,815	18,563	39,126
Software license agreement (3)	148	310	329		787
Operating leases (4)	556				556
Payments due under Cargill license agreement (5)	500				500
Base fee due to South Hampton Resources, Inc. (6)	163	13			176
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 13,933</b>	<b>\$ 27,832</b>	<b>\$ 10,179</b>	<b>\$ 63,563</b>	<b>\$ 115,507</b>

- (1) Principal debt payments include amounts due to TriplePoint under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement and \$45.0 million of Notes issued in July 2012. The table also reflects the fact that \$5.4 million of the proceeds from the Note Offering that was completed in July 2012 were used to pay in full, the principal balance of the August 2010 debt issued by TriplePoint under the Gevo Loan Agreement.
- (2) Interest payments due to TriplePoint under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement and interest on the Notes issued in July 2012.
- (3) Amounts due under a software license agreement with a six year term.
- (4) Commitments for operating leases primarily relate to our leased facility in Englewood, Colorado.
- (5) During March 2010, we completed milestone number three under our license agreement with Cargill which is being paid as \$2.0 million over eight quarters beginning January 1, 2011.
- (6) In accordance with our pilot plant processing agreement with South Hampton Resources, Inc. we are obligated to pay \$12,500 per month for the remainder of the initial term of the agreement which ends in July 2013.

The table above reflects only payment obligations that are fixed and determinable. The above amounts exclude potential payments to be made under our license and other agreements that are based on the achievement of future milestones or royalties on product sales.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We did not have during the periods presented, and we do not currently have, any relationships with unconsolidated entities, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities, established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes.

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.**

During the three months ended June 30, 2012, there were no material changes in our market risk exposure. For a discussion of our market risk associated with interest rates and commodity prices as of December 31, 2011, see Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk in Part II, Item 7A of our Annual Report.

**Table of Contents****Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**

(a) *Conclusion regarding the effectiveness of disclosure controls and procedures* An evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures has been performed under the supervision of, and with the participation of, our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer. Based on that evaluation, our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, has concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at June 30, 2012.

(b) *Changes in internal control over financial reporting* There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended June 30, 2012 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.**

**Legal Matters** On January 14, 2011, Butamax Advanced Biofuels LLC ( Butamax ), a joint venture between BP Biofuels North America LLC and E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Co. ( DuPont ), filed a complaint (the Complaint ) in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:11-cv-00054-SLR, alleging that we are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 7,851,188 (the 188 Patent ), entitled Fermentive Production of Four Carbon Alcohols. The 188 Patent, which has been assigned to Butamax, claims certain recombinant microbial host cells that produce isobutanol and methods for the production of isobutanol using such host cells. Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney s fees and expenses. On March 25, 2011, we filed a response to the Complaint, denying Butamax s allegations of infringement and raising affirmative defenses.

On August 11, 2011, Butamax amended the Complaint to include allegations that we are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 7,993,889 (the 889 Patent ), also entitled Fermentive Production of Four Carbon Alcohols (the Amended Complaint ). The 889 Patent, which has been assigned to Butamax, claims methods for producing isobutanol using certain recombinant yeast microorganisms expressing an engineered isobutanol biosynthetic pathway. We believe that the Amended Complaint is without merit and will continue to aggressively defend our freedom to operate. On September 22, 2011, Butamax filed a motion requesting a preliminary injunction with respect to the alleged infringement of the 889 Patent.

On September 13, 2011, we filed an answer to the Amended Complaint in which we asserted counterclaims against Butamax and DuPont for infringement of U.S. Patent No. 8,017,375, entitled Yeast Organism Producing Isobutanol at a High Yield and U.S. Patent No. 8,017,376, entitled Methods of Increasing Dihydroxy Acid Dehydratase Activity to Improve Production of Fuels, Chemicals, and Amino Acids, both of which were recently awarded to us by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The counterclaim seeks a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney s fees and expenses.

On January 24, 2012, we filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00070-SLR, alleging that Butamax and DuPont are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,101,808 (the 808 Patent ) entitled Recovery of Higher Alcohols from Dilute Aqueous Solutions. The 808 Patent claims methods to produce a C3-C6 alcohol for example, isobutanol through fermentation and to recover that alcohol from the fermentation medium. We are seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney s fees and expenses.

On March 12, 2012, Butamax filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00298-SLR, alleging that we are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,129,162, entitled Ketol-Acid Reductoisomerase Using NADH. This complaint is in addition to the Amended Complaint discussed above. Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages, interest, costs and expenses, including attorney s fees. We believe that we have meritorious defenses to these claims and intend to vigorously defend this lawsuit.

On March 13, 2012, we filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00301-SLR, alleging that Butamax and DuPont are infringing U.S. Patent No. 8,133,715, entitled Reduced By-Product Accumulation for Improved Production of Isobutanol (the 715 Patent ). The 715 Patent claims recombinant microorganisms, including yeast, with modifications for the improved production of isobutanol. We are seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney s fees and expenses.

On April 10, 2012, we filed a complaint (the Gevo Complaint ) in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00448-SLR, alleging that Butamax and DuPont are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,153,415 (the 415



## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Patent ) entitled Reduced By-Product Accumulation for Improved Production of Isobutanol. The 415 Patent claims technology which eliminates two pathways that compete for isobutanol pathway intermediates in yeast. We are seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney s fees and expenses.

---

## **Table of Contents**

On April 17, 2012, we amended the Gevo Complaint to include allegations that Butamax and DuPont are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,158,404 (the "404 Patent") entitled "Reduced By-Product Accumulation for Improved Production of Isobutanol." The 404 Patent claims the reduction or elimination of important enzymes in a pathway in isobutanol-producing yeast. We are seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On May 15, 2012, Butamax filed another complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:12-cv-00602-SLR, alleging that we are infringing one or more claims made in U.S. Patent No. 8,178,328, entitled "Fermentive Production of Four Carbon Alcohols." Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages, interest, costs and expenses, including attorney's fees. We believe that we have meritorious defenses to these claims and intend to vigorously defend this lawsuit.

On June 19, 2012, the U.S. District Court of Delaware denied the motion for preliminary injunction which was filed by Butamax on September 22, 2011 with respect to the alleged infringement by us of one or more claims made in the "889 Patent." As is normal and customary in patent infringement actions of this nature, Butamax then filed a notice of appeal. In connection with their appeal, Butamax has also filed a motion with the United States District Court for the District of Delaware seeking a temporary order to limit our activities with respect to the use of isobutanol while Butamax appeals the denial of its motion for preliminary injunction.

On July 6, 2012, the U.S. Federal District Court in the District of Delaware issued the temporary order which states, in part, that we may not deliver, provide, distribute, ship, release or transfer in any way bio-based isobutanol produced at the Agri-Energy Facility to any third party for any use or purpose related to the automotive fuel blending market while Butamax appeals the denial of its motion for preliminary injunction. We have filed an appeal of the temporary order. Under the temporary order, we remain free to operate in markets such as chemicals, jet fuel, marine fuel and small engine fuel.

On July 31, 2012, we filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, as Case No. 2:12-cv-00417, alleging that Butamax, DuPont, BP p.l.c., and BP Biofuels North America LLC are infringing U.S. Patent No. 8,232,089 entitled "Cytosolic Isobutanol Pathway Localization for the Production of Isobutanol (the "089 Patent"). The "089 Patent claims, among other things, a bio-engineered pathway that utilizes DHADs (dihydroxyacid dehydratases) which improves the efficiency of isobutanol production in yeast. We are seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

On August 6, 2012, we filed a motion for preliminary injunction with respect to the alleged infringement by Butamax and DuPont of one or more claims of the "715 Patent."

On August 6, 2012, Butamax filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, as Case No. 1:99-mc-09999, alleging that we are infringing U.S. Patent No. 8,222,017, entitled "Ketol-Acid Reductoisomerase Using NADH." Butamax is seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, damages and costs, including attorney's fees and expenses.

Due to the very early stage of this litigation, we have determined that the possible loss or range of loss related to this litigation cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

*You should carefully consider the risks described below before investing in our publicly-traded securities. The risks described below are not the only ones facing us. Our business is also subject to the risks that affect many other companies, such as competition, technological obsolescence, labor relations, general economic conditions, geopolitical changes and international operations. Additional risks not currently known to us or that we currently believe are immaterial also may impair our business operations and our liquidity. The risks described below could cause our actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements we have made in this Report, the information incorporated herein by reference and those forward-looking statements we may make from time to time.*

### **Certain Risks Related to Our Business and Strategy.**

***We are a development stage company with a history of net losses, and we may not achieve or maintain profitability.***

We have incurred net losses since our inception, including losses of \$35.5 million, \$48.2 million, \$40.1 million and \$19.9 million in the six months ended June 30, 2012 and fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. As of June 30, 2012, we had an accumulated deficit of \$170.1 million. We expect to incur losses and negative cash flow from operating activities for the foreseeable future. We are a development stage company and, to date, our revenues have been extremely limited and we have not generated significant revenues from the sale of isobutanol. Prior to September 2010, our revenues were primarily derived from government grants and cooperative agreements. From

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

the completion of our acquisition of Agri-Energy in September 2010 until the commencement of our retrofit start-up operations in May 2012, we had generated revenue from the sale of ethanol and related products. Now that we have commenced start-up operations for the production of isobutanol, we do not expect to generate future revenues from the sale of ethanol at the Agri-Energy Facility. If our existing grants and cooperative agreements are canceled prior to the expected end dates or we are unable to obtain new grants and cooperative agreements, our revenues could be adversely affected. Furthermore, we expect to spend significant amounts on further development of our technology, acquiring or otherwise gaining access to ethanol plants and retrofitting them for isobutanol production, marketing, general and administrative expenses associated with our

---

## **Table of Contents**

planned growth and management of operations as a public company. In addition, the cost of preparing, filing, prosecuting, maintaining and enforcing patent, trademark and other intellectual property rights and defending ourselves against claims by others that we may be violating their intellectual property rights may be significant.

In particular, over time, the costs of our litigation with Butamax has been and may continue to be significant (as described further in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, and other reports that we have filed with the SEC). As a result, even if our revenues increase substantially, we expect that our expenses will exceed revenues for the foreseeable future. We do not expect to achieve profitability during the foreseeable future, and may never achieve it. If we fail to achieve profitability, or if the time required to achieve profitability is longer than we anticipate, we may not be able to continue our business. Even if we do achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain or increase profitability on a quarterly or annual basis.

***Our retrofits of the Agri-Energy Facility and the Redfield Facility will be our first commercial retrofits and, as a result, our production of isobutanol could be delayed or we could experience significant cost overruns in comparison to our current estimates.***

In September 2010, we acquired ownership of an ethanol production facility, the Agri-Energy Facility in Luverne, Minnesota, and in June 2011, we acquired access to a second ethanol production facility, the Redfield Facility in Redfield, South Dakota, pursuant to our joint venture with Redfield. We intend to retrofit both facilities to produce isobutanol. Cost overruns or other unexpected difficulties could cause the retrofits to cost more than we anticipate, which could increase our need for such funding. Such funds may not be available when we need them, on terms that are acceptable to us or at all, which could delay our initial commercial production of isobutanol. If additional funding is not available to us, or not available on terms acceptable to us, it could force us to use significantly more of our own funds than planned, limiting our ability to acquire access to or retrofit additional ethanol plants. Such a result could reduce the scope of our business plan and have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

***Our ability to compete may be adversely affected if we are unsuccessful in defending against any claims by competitors or others that we are infringing upon their intellectual property rights, such as if Butamax is successful in its lawsuits alleging that we are infringing its patents for the production of isobutanol using certain microbial host cells.***

The various bioindustrial markets in which we plan to operate are subject to frequent and extensive litigation regarding patents and other intellectual property rights. In addition, many companies in intellectual property-dependent industries, including the renewable energy industry, have employed intellectual property litigation as a means to gain an advantage over their competitors. As a result, we may be required to defend against claims of intellectual property infringement that may be asserted by our competitors against us and, if the outcome of any such litigation is adverse to us, it may affect our ability to compete effectively. Currently, we are defending against three lawsuits filed by Butamax alleging that we have infringed patents for certain recombinant microbial host cells that produce isobutanol and methods for the production of isobutanol using such host cells and a patent covering a modified *Pseudomonas* KARI enzyme. The litigation with Butamax is dynamic. We have filed complaints alleging infringement of certain of our patents by Butamax and we anticipate that additional patents involving the isobutanol production process that are issued to Butamax, its members or us will be involved in litigation. The trial for the earliest-filed Butamax litigation is currently scheduled for April 2013 and additional trials are currently scheduled for July 2014.

Our involvement in litigation, interferences, opposition proceedings or other intellectual property proceedings inside and outside of the U.S. may divert management time from focusing on business operations, could cause us to spend significant amounts of money and may have no guarantee of success. Any current and future intellectual property litigation also could force us to do one or more of the following:

stop selling, incorporating, manufacturing or using our products that use the subject intellectual property;

obtain from a third party asserting its intellectual property rights, a license to sell or use the relevant technology, which license may not be available on reasonable terms, or at all;

redesign those products or processes, such as our process for producing isobutanol, that use any allegedly infringing or misappropriated technology, which may result in significant cost or delay to us, or which redesign could be technically infeasible; or

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

pay damages, including the possibility of treble damages in a patent case if a court finds us to have willfully infringed certain intellectual property rights.

We are aware of a significant number of patents and patent applications relating to aspects of our technologies filed by, and issued to, third parties, including, but not limited to Butamax. We cannot assure you that we will ultimately prevail if any of this third-party intellectual property is asserted against us or that we will ultimately prevail in the patent infringement litigation with Butamax.

---

## **Table of Contents**

***Following completion of its retrofit to isobutanol production, the Agri-Energy Facility will be our first commercial isobutanol production facility, and, as a result, our production of isobutanol could be delayed or we could experience significant cost overruns in comparison to our current estimates of production costs or be unable to produce planned quantities of isobutanol.***

In May 2012, we announced that we had commenced start-up operations for the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility to isobutanol production. However, technical completion of the retrofit and the initial shipments of isobutanol from the Agri-Energy Facility are not expected until the third quarter of 2012 and we expect that production volumes during start-up operations will be lower than the projected nameplate capacity for isobutanol production at the facility. We project that the Agri-Energy Facility will be able to produce isobutanol at a run rate of approximately one million gallons per month by the end of 2012 and will reach full production capacity run rates by the end of 2013. However, we may encounter unexpected production challenges during the completion of the retrofit and the projected ramp up in production rates. Any such production challenges may prevent us from producing significant quantities of isobutanol or may significantly increase our cost to produce isobutanol.

While we have designed the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility to allow the capability to switch between isobutanol and ethanol production, which may, subject to regulatory factors and depending on market conditions, mitigate certain significant risks associated with start-up operations for isobutanol production, there can be no assurance that we will be able to revert to ethanol production. Even if we are able to revert to ethanol production, the facility may produce ethanol less efficiently or in lower volumes than it did prior to the retrofit and such ethanol production may not generate positive economic returns. If we are unable to produce isobutanol at the volumes, rates and costs that we expect and are unable to revert back to ethanol production at full capacity, we would be unable to match the facility's historical economic performance and our business, financial condition and results of operations would be materially adversely affected.

***We may not be successful in the development of individual steps in, or an integrated process for, the production of commercial quantities of isobutanol from plant feedstocks in a timely or economic manner, or at all.***

As of the date of this Report, we have not produced commercial quantities of isobutanol and we may not be successful in doing so. The production of isobutanol requires multiple integrated steps, including:

obtaining the plant feedstocks;

treatment with enzymes to produce fermentable sugars;

fermentation by organisms to produce isobutanol from the fermentable sugars;

distillation of the isobutanol to concentrate and separate it from other materials;

purification of the isobutanol; and

storage and distribution of the isobutanol.

Our future success depends on our ability to produce commercial quantities of isobutanol in a timely and economic manner. Our biocatalysts have not yet produced commercial volumes of isobutanol. While we have produced isobutanol using our biocatalysts at the demonstration facility and at the Agri-Energy Facility, such production was not at full scale. We have focused the majority of our research and development efforts on producing isobutanol from dextrose and challenges remain in achieving substantial production volumes with other sugars, like corn mash. The risk of contamination and other problems rise as we increase the scale of our isobutanol production. If we are unable to successfully manage these risks, we may encounter difficulties in achieving our target isobutanol production yield, rate, concentration or purity at a commercial scale, which could delay or increase the costs involved in commercializing our isobutanol production. In addition, we have limited experience sourcing large quantities of feedstocks and we have no experience storing and/or distributing significant volumes of isobutanol. The technological and logistical challenges associated with each of the processes involved in production, sale and distribution of isobutanol are extraordinary, and we may not be able to resolve any difficulties that arise in a timely or cost effective manner, or at all. Even if we are

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

successful in developing an economical process for converting plant feedstocks into commercial quantities of isobutanol, we may not be able to adapt such process to other biomass raw materials, including cellulosic biomass.

Prior to the Agri-Energy Facility retrofit, which is currently underway, neither we nor ICM had ever built (through retrofit or otherwise) or operated a commercial isobutanol facility. We assume that we understand how the engineering and process characteristics of the one MGPY demonstration facility will scale up to larger facilities, but these assumptions may prove to be incorrect. Accordingly, we cannot be certain that we can manufacture isobutanol in an economical manner in commercial quantities. If our costs to build large-scale commercial isobutanol facilities are significantly higher than we expect or if we fail to manufacture isobutanol economically on a commercial scale or in commercial volumes, our commercialization of isobutanol and our business, financial condition and results of operations will be materially adversely affected.

---

## **Table of Contents**

***We may not be able to successfully identify and acquire access to additional ethanol production facilities suitable for efficient retrofitting, or acquire access to sufficient capacity to be commercially viable or meet customer demand.***

Our strategy currently includes accessing and retrofitting, either independently or with potential development partners, existing ethanol facilities for the production of large quantities of isobutanol for commercial distribution and sale. We have acquired one 22 MGPY ethanol production facility and we have acquired access to one 50 MGPY ethanol production facility pursuant to our joint venture with Redfield. We plan to acquire additional production capacity to enable us to produce and sell approximately 350 MGPY of isobutanol in 2015. We may not find development partners with whom we can implement this growth strategy, and we may not be able to identify facilities suitable for joint venture, acquisition or lease.

Even if we successfully identify a facility suitable for efficient retrofitting, we may not be able to acquire access to such facility in a timely manner, if at all. The owners of the ethanol facility may reach an agreement with another party, refuse to consider a joint venture, acquisition or lease, or demand more or different consideration than we are willing to provide. In particular, if the profitability of ethanol production increases, plant owners may be less likely to consider modifying their production, and thus may be less willing to negotiate with us or agree to allow us to retrofit their facilities for isobutanol production. We may also find that it is necessary to offer special terms, incentives and/or rebates to owners of ethanol facilities that allow us to access and retrofit their facilities before our production technology has been proven on a commercial scale. Even if the owners of a facility are interested in reaching an agreement that grants us access to the plant, negotiations may take longer or cost more than we expect, and we may never achieve a final agreement. Further, we may not be able to raise capital on acceptable terms, or at all, to finance our joint venture, acquisition, participation or lease of facilities.

Even if we are able to access and retrofit several facilities, we may fail to access enough capacity to be commercially viable or meet the volume demands or minimum requirements of our customers, including pursuant to definitive supply or distribution agreements that we may enter into, which may subject us to monetary damages. For example, under the terms of our international off-take and distribution agreement with Sasol, we are required to pay certain shortfall fees if we are not able to supply Sasol with certain minimum quantities of product. Failure to acquire access to sufficient capacity in a timely manner and on favorable terms may slow or stop our commercialization process, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***Once we acquire access to ethanol facilities, we may be unable to successfully retrofit them to produce isobutanol, or we may not be able to retrofit them in a timely and cost-effective manner.***

For each ethanol production facility to which we acquire access, we will be required to obtain numerous regulatory approvals and permits to retrofit and operate the facility. These include such items as a modification to the air permit, fuel registration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ( EPA ), ethanol excise tax registration and others. These requirements may not be satisfied in a timely manner, or at all. Later-enacted federal and state governmental requirements may also substantially increase our costs or delay or prevent the completion of a retrofit, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

No two ethanol facilities are exactly alike, and each retrofit will require individualized engineering and design work. There is no guarantee that we or any contractor we retain will be able to successfully design a commercially viable retrofit, or properly complete the retrofit once the engineering plans are completed. Prior to the Agri-Energy Facility retrofit, which is currently underway, neither we nor ICM had ever built, via retrofit or otherwise, a full-scale commercial isobutanol facility. Despite our experience with the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility, our estimates of the capital costs that we will need to incur to retrofit a commercial-scale ethanol facility may prove to be inaccurate, and each retrofit may cost materially more to engineer and build than we currently anticipate. For example, our estimates assume that each plant we retrofit will be performing at full production capacity, and we may need to expend substantial sums to repair underperforming facilities prior to retrofit.

Our retrofit design was developed in cooperation with ICM and is based on ICM technology. There is no guarantee that our retrofit design will be compatible with existing ethanol facilities that do not utilize ICM technology. Before we can retrofit such facilities, we may need to modify them to be compatible with our retrofit design. This may require significant additional expenditure of time and money, and there is no guarantee such modification will be successful.



---

**Table of Contents**

Furthermore, the retrofit of acquired facilities will be subject to the risks inherent in the build-out of any manufacturing facility, including risks of delays and cost overruns as a result of factors that may be out of our control, such as delays in the delivery of equipment and subsystems or the failure of such equipment to perform as expected once delivered. In addition, we will depend on third-party relationships in expanding our isobutanol production capacity and such third parties may not fulfill their obligations to us under our arrangements with them. Delays, cost-overruns or failures in the retrofit process will slow our commercial production of isobutanol and harm our performance.

Though our retrofit design for the Agri-Energy Facility includes the capability to switch between isobutanol and ethanol production, we may be unable to successfully revert to ethanol production after we begin retrofit of an ethanol facility, or the facility may produce ethanol less efficiently or in lower volumes than it did before the retrofit. In addition, we may be unable to secure the necessary regulatory approvals and permits to switch between isobutanol and ethanol production in a timely manner, or at all. Thus, if we fail to achieve commercial levels of isobutanol production at a retrofitted facility, we may be unable to rely on ethanol production as an alternative revenue source, which could have a material adverse effect on our prospects.

***Our facilities and process may fail to produce isobutanol at the volumes, rates and costs we expect.***

Some or all of the facilities we choose to retrofit may be in locations distant from corn or other feedstock sources, which could increase our feedstock costs or prevent us from acquiring sufficient feedstock volumes for commercial production. General market conditions might also cause increases in feedstock prices, which could likewise increase our production costs.

Even if we secure access to sufficient volumes of feedstock, the facilities we retrofit for isobutanol production may fail to perform as expected. The equipment and subsystems installed during the retrofit may never operate as planned. Our systems may prove incompatible with the original facility, or require additional modification after installation. Our biocatalyst may perform less efficiently than it did in testing, if at all. Contamination of plant equipment may require us to replace our biocatalyst more often than expected, or cause our fermentation process to yield undesired or harmful by-products. Likewise, our feedstock may contain contaminants like wild yeast, which naturally ferments feedstock into ethanol. The presence of contaminants, such as wild yeast, in our feedstock could reduce the purity of the isobutanol that we produce and require us to invest in more costly isobutanol separation processes or equipment. Unexpected problems may force us to cease or delay production and the time and costs involved with such delays may prove prohibitive. Any or all of these risks could prevent us from achieving the production throughput and yields necessary to achieve our target annualized production run rates and/or to meet the volume demands or minimum requirements of our customers, including pursuant to definitive supply or distribution agreements that we may enter into, which may subject us to monetary damages. For example, under the terms of our international off-take and distribution agreement with Sasol, we are required to pay certain shortfall fees if we are not able to supply Sasol with certain minimum quantities of product. Failure to achieve these rates or meet these minimum requirements, or achieving them only after significant additional expenditures, could substantially harm our commercial performance.

***We may be unable to produce isobutanol in accordance with customer specifications.***

Even if we produce isobutanol at our targeted rates, we may be unable to produce isobutanol that meets customer specifications. If we fail to meet specific product or volume specifications contained in a supply agreement, the customer may have the right to seek an alternate supply of isobutanol and/or terminate the agreement completely, and we could be required to pay shortfall fees or otherwise be subject to damages. A failure to successfully meet the specifications of our potential customers could decrease demand, and significantly hinder market adoption of our products.

***We lack significant experience operating commercial-scale ethanol and isobutanol facilities, and may encounter substantial difficulties operating commercial plants or expanding our business.***

We have very limited experience operating a commercial ethanol facility and no experience operating a commercial isobutanol facility. Accordingly, we may encounter significant difficulties operating at a commercial scale. We believe that our future facilities will, like the Agri-Energy Facility, be able to continue producing ethanol during much of the retrofit process. We will need to successfully administer and manage this production. Though ICM and the employees of Agri-Energy and Redfield are experienced in the operation of ethanol facilities, and our future development partners or the entities that we acquire may likewise have such experience, we may be unable to manage ethanol-producing operations, especially given the possible complications associated with a simultaneous retrofit. Once we complete a commercial retrofit, operational difficulties may increase, because neither we nor anyone else has experience operating a pure isobutanol fermentation facility at a commercial scale. The skills and knowledge gained in operating commercial ethanol facilities or small-scale isobutanol plants may prove insufficient for successful operation of a large-scale isobutanol facility, and we may be required to expend significant time and money to develop our capabilities in isobutanol facility operation. We may also need to hire new employees or contract with third parties to help manage our operations, and our performance will suffer if we are unable to hire qualified parties or if they perform poorly.



---

**Table of Contents**

We may face additional operational difficulties as we further expand our production capacity. Integrating new facilities with our existing operations may prove difficult. Rapid growth, resulting from our operation of, or other involvement with, isobutanol facilities or otherwise, may impose a significant burden on our administrative and operational resources. To effectively manage our growth and execute our expansion plans, we will need to expand our administrative and operational resources substantially and attract, train, manage and retain qualified management, technicians and other personnel. We may be unable to do so. Failure to meet the operational challenges of developing and managing increased isobutanol production, or failure to otherwise manage our growth, may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***We may have difficulty adapting our technology to commercial-scale fermentation, which could delay or prevent our commercialization of isobutanol.***

While we have succeeded, at the demonstration plant, in reaching our commercial fermentation performance targets for isobutanol concentration, fermentation productivity and isobutanol yield, we have not accomplished this in a commercial plant environment. We are currently optimizing our yeast biocatalyst in anticipation of its integration into commercial facilities, but this process, if it succeeds at all, may take longer or cost more than expected. Our yeast biocatalyst may not be able to meet the commercial performance targets at a commercial-scale retrofitted plant in a timely manner, or ever. In addition, the risk of contamination and other problems may increase at commercial-scale isobutanol production facilities, which could negatively impact our cost of production. If we encounter difficulties in scaling up our production, our commercialization of isobutanol and our business, financial condition and results of operations will be materially adversely affected.

***We may have difficulties gaining market acceptance and successfully marketing our isobutanol to customers, including chemical producers and refiners.***

A key component of our business strategy is to market our isobutanol to chemical producers and refiners. We have no experience marketing isobutanol on a commercial scale and we may fail to successfully negotiate marketing agreements in a timely manner or on favorable terms. If we fail to successfully market our isobutanol to refiners and chemical producers, our business, financial condition and results of operations will be materially adversely affected.

We also intend to market our isobutanol to chemical producers for use in making various chemicals such as isobutylene, a type of butene that can be produced through the dehydration of isobutanol. Although a significant market currently exists for isobutylene produced from petroleum, which is widely used in the production of plastics, specialty chemicals, alkylate for gasoline blending and high octane aviation fuel, no one has successfully created isobutylene on a commercial scale from bio-based isobutanol. Therefore, to gain market acceptance and successfully market our isobutanol to chemical producers, we must show that our isobutanol can be converted into isobutylene at a commercial scale. As no company currently dehydrates commercial volumes of isobutanol into isobutylene, we must demonstrate the large-scale feasibility of the process and reach agreements with companies that are willing to invest in the necessary dehydration infrastructure. Failure to reach favorable agreements with these companies, or the inability of their plants to convert isobutanol into isobutylene at sufficient scale, will slow our development in the chemicals market and could significantly affect our profitability.

Obtaining market acceptance in the chemicals industry is complicated by the fact that many potential chemicals industry customers have invested substantial amounts of time and money in developing petroleum-based production channels. These potential customers generally have well-developed manufacturing processes and arrangements with suppliers of chemical components, and may display substantial resistance to changing these processes. Pre-existing contractual commitments, unwillingness to invest in new infrastructure, distrust of new production methods and lengthy relationships with current suppliers may all slow market acceptance of isobutanol.

No market currently exists for isobutanol as a fuel or fuel blendstock. Therefore, to gain market acceptance and successfully market our isobutanol to refiners, we must effectively demonstrate the commercial advantages of using isobutanol over other biofuels and blendstocks, as well as our ability to produce isobutanol reliably on a commercial scale at a sufficiently low cost. We must show that isobutanol is compatible with existing infrastructure and does not damage pipes, engines, storage facilities or pumps. We must also overcome marketing and lobbying efforts by producers of other biofuels and blendstocks, including ethanol, many of whom may have greater resources than we do. If the markets for isobutanol as a fuel or fuel blendstock do not develop as we currently anticipate, or if we are unable to penetrate these markets successfully, our revenue and revenue growth rate, if any, could be materially and adversely affected.

---

## **Table of Contents**

We believe that consumer demand for environmentally sensitive products will drive demand among large brand owners for renewable hydrocarbon sources. One of our marketing strategies is to leverage this demand to obtain commitments from large brand owners to purchase products made from our isobutanol by third parties. We believe these commitments will, in turn, promote chemicals industry demand for our isobutanol. If consumer demand for environmentally sensitive products fails to develop at sufficient scale or if such demand fails to drive large brand owners to seek sources of renewable hydrocarbons, our revenue and growth rate could be materially and adversely affected.

***We may face substantial delay in getting regulatory approvals for use of our isobutanol in the fuels and chemicals markets, which could substantially hinder our ability to commercialize our products.***

Commercialization of our isobutanol will require approvals from state and federal agencies. Before we can sell isobutanol as a fuel or fuel blendstock directly to large petroleum refiners, we must receive EPA fuel certification. We are currently conducting Tier 1 EPA testing, and the approval process may require significant time. Approval can be delayed for years, and there is no guarantee of receiving it. Additionally, California requires that fuels meet both its fuel certification requirements and a separate state low-carbon fuel standard. Any delay in receiving approval will slow or prevent the commercialization of our isobutanol for fuel markets, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Before any biofuel we produce receives a renewable identification number ( RIN ), we must register it with the EPA and receive approval that it meets specified regulatory requirements. Delay or failure in developing a fuel that meets the standards for advanced and cellulosic biofuels, or delays in receiving the desired RIN, will make our fuel less attractive to refiners, blenders, and other purchasers, which could harm our competitiveness.

With respect to the chemicals markets, we plan to focus on isobutanol production and sell to companies that can convert our isobutanol into other chemicals, such as isobutylene. However, should we later decide to produce these other chemicals ourselves, we may face similar requirements for EPA and other regulatory approvals. Approval, if ever granted, could be delayed for substantial amounts of time, which could significantly harm the development of our business and prevent the achievement of our goals.

Our isobutanol fermentation process utilizes a genetically modified organism which, when used in an industrial process, is considered a new chemical under the EPA's Toxic Substances Control Act ( TSCA ). The TSCA requires us to comply with the EPA's Microbial Commercial Activity Notice process to operate plants producing isobutanol using our biocatalysts. The TSCA's new chemicals submission policies may change and additional government regulations may be enacted that could prevent or delay regulatory approval of our isobutanol production.

There are various third-party certification organizations, such as ASTM International ( ASTM ) and Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., involved in standard-setting regarding the transportation, dispensing and use of liquid fuel in the U.S. and abroad. These organizations may change the current standards and additional requirements may be enacted that could prevent or delay approval of our products. The process of seeking required approvals and the continuing need for compliance with applicable standards may require the expenditure of substantial resources, and there is no guarantee that we will satisfy these standards in a timely manner, if ever.

In addition, to retrofit ethanol facilities and operate the retrofitted plants to produce isobutanol, we will need to obtain and comply with a number of permit requirements. As a condition to granting necessary permits, regulators may make demands that could increase our retrofit or operations costs, and permit conditions could also restrict or limit the extent of our operations, which could delay or prevent our commercial production of isobutanol. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to meet all regulatory requirements or obtain and comply with all necessary permits to complete our planned ethanol plant retrofits, and failure to satisfy these requirements in a timely manner, or at all, could have a substantial negative effect on our performance.

We are in negotiations, facilitated by the Air Transport Association of America ( ATA ) with several major passenger and cargo airlines for potential commitments by several ATA member airlines to purchase jet fuel manufactured by third parties from our isobutanol. Jet fuels must meet various statutory and regulatory requirements before they may be used in commercial aviation. In the U.S., the use of specific jet fuels is regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration ( FAA ). Rather than directly approving specific fuels, the FAA certifies individual aircraft for flight. This certification includes authorization for an aircraft to use the types of fuels specified in its flight manual. To be included in an aircraft's flight manual, the fuel must meet standards set by ASTM. The current

---

**Table of Contents**

ASTM requirements do not permit the use of jet fuel derived from isobutanol, and we will need to give ASTM sufficient data to justify creating a new standard applicable to alcohol-to-jet ( ATJ ). Though our work testing isobutanol-based ATJ with the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory has provided us with data we believe ASTM will take into consideration, the process of seeking required approvals and the continuing need for compliance with applicable statutes and regulations will require the expenditure of substantial resources. Failure to obtain regulatory approval in a timely manner, or at all, could have a significant negative effect on our operations.

***We may be unable to successfully negotiate final, binding terms related to our current non-binding isobutanol supply and distribution agreements, which could harm our commercial prospects.***

We have engaged in negotiations with a number of companies, and have agreed to preliminary terms regarding supplying isobutanol or the products derived from it to various companies for their use or further distribution, including LANXESS, Toray Industries, United Airlines and TOTAL PETROCHEMICALS. However, as of June 30, 2012, we are not party to any final, definitive supply or distribution agreements for our isobutanol, other than our exclusive supply agreement with LANXESS, our international off-take and distribution agreement with Sasol, our commercial off-take agreement with Mansfield, our joint development agreement with Toray Industries and our contract from the Defense Logistics Agency. We may be unable to negotiate final terms with other companies in a timely manner, or at all, and there is no guarantee that the terms of any final agreement will be the same or similar to those currently contemplated in our preliminary agreements. Final terms may include less favorable pricing structures or volume commitments, more expensive delivery or purity requirements, reduced contract durations and other adverse changes. Delays in negotiating final contracts could slow our initial isobutanol commercialization, and failure to agree to definitive terms for sales of sufficient volumes of isobutanol could prevent us from growing our business. To the extent that terms in our initial supply and distribution contracts may influence negotiations regarding future contracts, the failure to negotiate favorable final terms related to our current preliminary agreements could have an especially negative impact on our growth and profitability. Additionally, as we have yet to produce or supply commercial volumes of isobutanol to any customer, we have not demonstrated that we can meet the production levels contemplated in our current non-binding supply agreements. If our production scale-up proceeds more slowly than we expect, or if we encounter difficulties in successfully completing plant retrofits, potential customers, including those with whom we have current letters of intent, may be less willing to negotiate definitive supply agreements, or demand terms less favorable to us, and our performance may suffer.

***Even if we are successful in producing isobutanol on a commercial scale, we may not be successful in negotiating sufficient supply agreements for our production.***

We expect that many of our customers will be large companies with extensive experience operating in the fuels or chemicals markets. As a development stage company, we lack commercial operating experience, and may face difficulties in developing marketing expertise in these fields. Our business model relies upon our ability to successfully negotiate and structure long-term supply agreements for the isobutanol we produce. Many of our potential customers may be more experienced in these matters than we are, and we may fail to successfully negotiate these agreements in a timely manner or on favorable terms which, in turn, may force us to slow our production, delay our acquiring and retrofitting of additional plants, dedicate additional resources to increasing our storage capacity and/or dedicate resources to sales in spot markets. Furthermore, should we become more dependent on spot market sales, our profitability will become increasingly vulnerable to short-term fluctuations in the price and demand for petroleum-based fuels and competing substitutes.

***Our isobutanol may encounter physical or regulatory issues, which could limit its usefulness as a fuel blendstock.***

In the fuel blendstock market, isobutanol can be used in conjunction with, or as a substitute for, ethanol and other widely-used fuel oxygenates, and we believe our isobutanol will be physically compatible with typical gasoline engines. However, there is a risk that under actual engine conditions, isobutanol will face significant limitations, making it unsuitable for use in high percentage gasoline blends. Additionally, current regulations limit fuel blends to low percentages of isobutanol, and also limit combination isobutanol-ethanol blends. Government agencies may maintain or even increase the restrictions on isobutanol fuel blends. As we believe that the potential to use isobutanol in higher percentage blends than is feasible for ethanol will be an important factor in successfully marketing isobutanol to refiners, a low blend wall could significantly limit commercialization of isobutanol as a fuel blendstock.

---

**Table of Contents**

***Our isobutanol may be less compatible with existing refining and transportation infrastructure than we believe, which may hinder our ability to market our product on a large scale.***

We developed our business model based on our belief that our isobutanol is fully compatible with existing refinery infrastructure. For example, when making isobutanol blends, we believe that gasoline refineries will be able to pump our isobutanol through their pipes and blend it in their existing facilities without damaging their equipment. If our isobutanol proves unsuitable for such handling, it will be more expensive for refiners to use our isobutanol than we anticipate, and they may be less willing to adopt it as a fuel blendstock, forcing us to seek alternative purchasers.

Likewise, our plans for marketing our isobutanol are based upon our belief that it will be compatible with the pipes, tanks and other infrastructure currently used for transporting, storing and distributing gasoline. If our isobutanol or products incorporating our isobutanol cannot be transported with this equipment, we will be forced to seek alternative transportation arrangements, which will make our isobutanol and products produced from our isobutanol more expensive to transport and less appealing to potential customers. Reduced compatibility with either refinery or transportation infrastructure may slow or prevent market adoption of our isobutanol, which could substantially harm our performance.

Most of the ethanol plants we initially plan to retrofit use dry-milled corn as a feedstock. We plan to sell, as animal feed, the isobutanol distiller's grains (iDGs) left as a co-product of fermenting isobutanol from dry-milled corn. We believe that this will enable us to offset a significant portion of the expense of purchasing corn for fermentation. We are currently approved to sell iDGs into animal feed through a self-assessed Generally Regarded As Safe process via third party scientific review. In order to improve the value of our iDGs, we are also in the process of obtaining U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for the marketing of our iDGs. We believe obtaining FDA approval will increase the value of our iDGs by offering customers of our iDGs further assurance of the safety of our iDGs. FDA testing and approval can take a significant amount of time, and there is no guarantee that we will ever receive such approval. If FDA approval is delayed or never obtained, or if we are unable to secure market acceptance for our iDGs, our net cost of production will increase, which may hurt our operating results.

***Our development strategy relies heavily on our relationship with ICM.***

We rely heavily upon our relationship with ICM. In October 2008, we entered into a development agreement and a commercialization agreement with ICM, each of which has since been amended. Pursuant to the terms of the development agreement, ICM engineers helped us install the equipment necessary to test and develop our isobutanol fermentation process at ICM's one MGPY ethanol demonstration facility, and ICM agreed to assist us in running and maintaining the converted plant. We have been using the demonstration plant to improve our biocatalysts and to develop processes for commercial-scale production of isobutanol. Under the commercialization agreement, as amended, ICM serves as our exclusive engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor for the retrofit of ethanol plants, and we serve as ICM's exclusive technology partner for the production of butanols, pentanols and propanols from the fermentation of sugars. In August 2011, we entered into a work agreement with ICM. Pursuant to the terms of the work agreement, ICM provides EPC services for the retrofit of ethanol plants.

Because ICM has designed a significant number of the current operating ethanol production facilities in the U.S., we believe that our exclusive alliance with ICM will provide us with a competitive advantage and allow us to more quickly achieve commercial-scale production of isobutanol. However, ICM may fail to fulfill its obligations to us under our agreements and under certain circumstances, such as a breach of confidentiality by us, can terminate the agreements. In addition, ICM may assign the agreements without our consent in connection with a change of control. Since adapting our technology to commercial-scale production of isobutanol and then retrofitting ethanol plants to use our technology is a major part of our commercialization strategy, losing our exclusive alliance with ICM would slow our technological and commercial development. It could also force us to find a new contractor with less experience than ICM in designing and building ethanol plants, or to invest the time and resources necessary to retrofit plants on our own. Such retrofits may be less successful than if performed by ICM engineers, and retrofitted plants might operate less efficiently than expected. This could substantially hinder our ability to expand our production capacity, and could severely impact our performance. If ICM fails to fulfill its obligations to us under our agreements and our competitors obtain access to ICM's expertise, our ability to realize continued development and commercial benefits from our alliance could be affected. Accordingly, if we lose our exclusive alliance with ICM, if ICM terminates or breaches its agreements with us, or if ICM assigns its agreements with us to a competitor of ours or to a third party that is not willing to work with us on the same terms or commit the same resources, our business and prospects could be harmed.

---

**Table of Contents**

*We may require substantial additional financing to achieve our goals, and a failure to obtain this capital when needed or on acceptable terms could force us to delay, limit, reduce or terminate our development and commercialization efforts.*

Since our inception, most of our resources have been dedicated to research and development, as well as demonstrating the effectiveness of our technology. We believe that we will continue to expend substantial resources for the foreseeable future on further developing our technologies, developing future markets for our isobutanol and accessing facilities necessary for the production of isobutanol on a commercial scale. These expenditures will include costs associated with research and development, accessing existing ethanol plants, retrofitting the plants to produce isobutanol, obtaining government and regulatory approvals, acquiring or constructing storage facilities and negotiating supply agreements for the isobutanol we produce. In addition, other unanticipated costs may arise. Because the costs of developing our technology at a commercial scale are highly uncertain, we cannot reasonably estimate the amounts necessary to successfully commercialize our production.

To date, we have funded our operations primarily through equity offerings, issuances of debt, and borrowings under our secured debt financing arrangements. Based on our current plans and expectations, we will require additional funding to achieve our goal of producing and selling approximately 350 million gallons of isobutanol in 2015. In addition, the cost of preparing, filing, prosecuting, maintaining and enforcing patent, trademark and other intellectual property rights and defending against claims by others that we may be violating their intellectual property rights, including the current litigation with Butamax, may be significant. Moreover, our plans and expectations may change as a result of factors currently unknown to us, and we may need additional funds sooner than planned. We may also choose to seek additional capital sooner than required due to favorable market conditions or strategic considerations.

Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including:

the timing of, and costs involved in developing our technologies for commercial-scale production of isobutanol;

the timing of, and costs involved in accessing existing ethanol plants;

the timing of, and costs involved in retrofitting the plants we access with our technologies;

the costs involved in establishing an enhanced yeast seed train;

the cost of operating, maintaining and increasing production capacity of the retrofitted plants;

our ability to negotiate agreements supplying suitable biomass to our plants, and the timing and terms of those agreements;

the timing of, and the costs involved in developing adequate storage facilities for the isobutanol we produce;

our ability to gain market acceptance for isobutanol as a specialty chemical, gasoline blendstock and as a raw material for the production of hydrocarbons;

our ability to negotiate supply agreements for the isobutanol we produce, and the timing and terms of those agreements;

our ability to negotiate sales of our isobutanol for commercial-scale production of butenes and other industrially useful chemicals and fuels, and the timing and terms of those sales;

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

our ability to sell the iDGs left as a co-product of fermenting isobutanol from corn as animal feedstock;

our ability to establish and maintain strategic partnerships, licensing or other arrangements and the timing and terms of those arrangements; and

the cost of preparing, filing, prosecuting, maintaining, defending and enforcing patent, trademark and other intellectual property claims, including litigation costs and the outcome of such litigation.

Additional funds may not be available when we need them, on terms that are acceptable to us, or at all. If needed funds are not available to us on a timely basis, we may be required to delay, limit, reduce or terminate:

our research and development activities;

our plans to access and/or retrofit existing ethanol facilities;

our production of isobutanol at retrofitted plants; and/or

our activities in developing storage capacity and negotiating supply agreements that may be necessary for the commercialization of our isobutanol production.



---

## **Table of Contents**

***Raising additional capital may cause dilution to our existing stockholders, restrict our operations or require us to relinquish rights to our technologies.***

We may seek additional capital through a combination of public and private equity offerings, debt financings, strategic partnerships and licensing arrangements. To the extent that we raise additional capital through the sale or issuance of equity, warrants or convertible debt securities, your ownership interest will be diluted, and the terms of such securities may include liquidation or other preferences that adversely affect your rights as a stockholder. If we raise capital through debt financing, it may involve agreements that include covenants limiting or restricting our ability to take certain actions, such as incurring additional debt, making capital expenditures or declaring dividends. If we raise additional funds through strategic partnerships or licensing agreements with third parties, we may have to relinquish valuable rights to our technologies, or grant licenses on terms that are not favorable to us. If we are unable to raise additional funds when needed, we may be required to delay, limit, reduce or terminate our development and commercialization efforts.

***Our quarterly operating results may fluctuate in the future. As a result, we may fail to meet or exceed the expectations of research analysts or investors, which could cause our stock price to decline.***

Our financial condition and operating results have varied significantly in the past and may continue to fluctuate from quarter to quarter and year to year in the future due to a variety of factors, many of which are beyond our control. Factors relating to our business that may contribute to these fluctuations are described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, and other reports that we have filed with the SEC. Accordingly, the results of any prior quarterly or annual periods should not be relied upon as indications of our future operating performance.

***Fluctuations in the price of corn and other feedstocks may affect our cost structure.***

Our approach to the biofuels and chemicals markets will be dependent on the price of corn and other feedstocks that will be used to produce isobutanol. A decrease in the availability of plant feedstocks or an increase in the price may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and operating results. At certain levels, prices may make these products uneconomical to use and produce, as we may be unable to pass the full amount of feedstock cost increases on to our customers.

The price and availability of corn and other plant feedstocks may be influenced by general economic, market and regulatory factors. These factors include weather conditions, farming decisions, government policies and subsidies with respect to agriculture and international trade, and global demand and supply. The significance and relative impact of these factors on the price of plant feedstocks is difficult to predict, especially without knowing what types of plant feedstock materials we may need to use.

***Fluctuations in the price and availability of natural gas may harm our performance.***

The ethanol facilities we are retrofitting or plan to retrofit to produce isobutanol, including the Agri-Energy Facility in Luverne, Minnesota, and the Redfield Facility in Redfield, South Dakota, use significant amounts of natural gas to produce ethanol. After retrofit with our GIFT<sup>®</sup> technology, these facilities will continue to require natural gas to produce isobutanol. Accordingly, our business is dependent upon natural gas supplied by third parties. Should the price of natural gas increase, our performance could suffer. Likewise, disruptions in the supply of natural gas could have a material impact on our business and results of operations.

***Fluctuations in petroleum prices and customer demand patterns may reduce demand for biofuels and bio-based chemicals.***

We anticipate marketing our biofuel as an alternative to petroleum-based fuels. Therefore, if the price of oil falls, any revenues that we generate from biofuel products could decline, and we may be unable to produce products that are a commercially viable alternative to petroleum-based fuels. Additionally, demand for liquid transportation fuels, including biofuels, may decrease due to economic conditions or otherwise. We will encounter similar risks in the chemicals industry, where declines in the price of oil may make petroleum-based hydrocarbons less expensive, which could reduce the competitiveness of our bio-based alternatives.

***Changes in the prices of distiller's grains and iDGs could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition.***

From September 2010 through May 2012, we sold distiller's grains as a co-product from the production of ethanol at the Agri-Energy Facility in Luverne, Minnesota and we may sell distiller's grains produced by other ethanol facilities that we acquire in the future. We also plan to sell the iDGs that will be produced as a co-product of our commercial isobutanol production. Distiller's grains and iDGs compete with other animal feed products, and decreases in the prices of these other products could decrease the



---

**Table of Contents**

demand for and price of distiller's grains and iDGs. Additionally, we have not yet produced commercial iDGs and, as such, there is a risk that our iDGs may not meet market requirements. If the price of distiller's grains and iDGs decreases or our iDGs do not meet market requirements, our revenue from the sale of distiller's grains and iDGs could suffer, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition.

***To the extent that we produce ethanol at accessed plants before commencing isobutanol production, we will be vulnerable to fluctuations in the price of and cost to produce ethanol.***

We believe that, like the Agri-Energy Facility, the other ethanol production facilities we access will continue to produce ethanol during most of the retrofit process. In most cases, we expect to obtain income from this ethanol production. Our earnings from ethanol revenue will be dependent on the price of, demand for and cost to produce ethanol. Decreases in the price of ethanol, whether caused by decreases in gasoline prices, changes in regulations, seasonal fluctuations or otherwise, will reduce our revenues, while increases in the cost of production will reduce our margins. Many of these risks, including fluctuations in feedstock costs and natural gas costs, are identical to risks we will face in the production of isobutanol. To the extent that ethanol production costs increase or price decreases, earnings from ethanol production could suffer, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

***Reductions or changes to existing regulations and policies may present technical, regulatory and economic barriers, all of which may significantly reduce demand for biofuels or our ability to supply isobutanol.***

The market for biofuels is heavily influenced by foreign, federal, state and local government regulations and policies concerning the petroleum industry. For example, in 2007, the U.S. Congress passed an alternative fuels mandate that required nearly 14 billion gallons of liquid transportation fuels sold in 2011 to come from alternative sources, including biofuels, a mandate that grows to 36 billion gallons by 2022. Of this amount, a minimum of 21 billion gallons must be advanced biofuels. In the U.S. and in a number of other countries, these regulations and policies have been modified in the past and may be modified again in the future. Any reduction in mandated requirements for fuel alternatives and additives to gasoline may cause demand for biofuels to decline and deter investment in the research and development of biofuels. Market uncertainty regarding future policies may also affect our ability to develop new biofuels products or to license our technologies to third parties. Any inability to address these requirements and any regulatory or policy changes could have a material adverse effect on our biofuels business, financial condition and results of operations. Our other potential bioindustrial products may be subject to additional regulations.

Additionally, like the ethanol facilities that we retrofit, our isobutanol plants will emit greenhouse gases. Any changes in state or federal emissions regulations, including the passage of cap-and-trade legislation or a carbon tax, could limit our production of isobutanol and iDGs and increase our operating costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***If we engage in additional acquisitions, we will incur a variety of costs and may potentially face numerous risks that could adversely affect our business and operations.***

If appropriate opportunities become available, we expect to acquire businesses, assets, technologies or products to enhance our business in the future. In connection with any future acquisitions, we could:

issue additional equity securities which would dilute our current stockholders;

incur substantial debt to fund the acquisitions; or

assume significant liabilities.

Acquisitions involve numerous risks, including problems integrating the purchased operations, technologies or products, unanticipated costs and other liabilities, diversion of management's attention from our core business, adverse effects on existing business relationships with current and/or prospective partners, customers and/or suppliers, risks associated with entering markets in which we have no or limited prior experience and potential loss of key employees. Other than our acquisition of Agri-Energy, we have not engaged in acquisitions in the past, and do not have experience in managing the integration process. Therefore, we may not be able to successfully integrate any businesses, assets, products, technologies or personnel that we might acquire in the future without a significant expenditure of operating, financial and management resources, if at all. The integration process could divert management time from focusing on operating our business, result in a decline in employee morale and cause retention issues to arise from changes in compensation, reporting relationships, future prospects or the direction of

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

the business. In addition, we may acquire companies that have insufficient internal financial controls, which could impair our ability to integrate the acquired company and adversely impact our financial reporting. If we fail in our integration efforts with respect to acquisitions and are unable to efficiently operate as a combined organization, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

---

**Table of Contents**

*If we engage in additional joint ventures, we will incur a variety of costs and may potentially face numerous risks that could adversely affect our business and operations.*

If appropriate opportunities become available, we expect to enter into joint ventures with the owners of existing ethanol production facilities in order to acquire access to additional isobutanol production capacity. We currently anticipate that in each such joint venture, the ethanol producer would contribute access to its existing ethanol production facility and we would be responsible for retrofitting such facility to produce isobutanol. Upon completion of the retrofit, and in some cases the attainment of certain performance targets, both parties to the joint venture would receive a portion of the profits from the sale of isobutanol, consistent with our business model. In connection with these joint ventures, we could incur substantial debt to fund the retrofit of the accessed facilities and we could assume significant liabilities.

Realizing the anticipated benefits of joint ventures, including projected increases to production capacity and additional revenue opportunities, involves a number of potential challenges. The failure to meet these challenges could seriously harm our financial condition and results of operations. Joint ventures are complex and time-consuming and we may encounter unexpected difficulties or incur unexpected costs related to such arrangements, including:

difficulties negotiating joint venture agreements with favorable terms and establishing relevant performance metrics;

difficulties completing the retrofits of the accessed facilities using our integrated fermentation technology;

the inability to meet applicable performance targets related to the production of isobutanol;

difficulties obtaining the permits and approvals required to produce and sell our products in different geographic areas;

complexities associated with managing the geographic separation of accessed facilities;

diversion of management attention from ongoing business concerns to matters related to the joint ventures;

difficulties maintaining effective relationships with personnel from different corporate cultures; and

the inability to generate sufficient revenue to offset retrofit costs.

Additionally, our joint venture partners may have liabilities or adverse operating issues that we fail to discover through due diligence prior to entering into the joint ventures. In particular, to the extent that our joint venture partners failed to comply with or otherwise violated applicable laws or regulations, or failed to fulfill their contractual obligations, we may suffer financial harm and/or reputational harm for these violations or otherwise be adversely affected.

Our joint venture partners may have significant amounts of existing debt and may not be able to service their existing debt obligations, which could cause the failure of a specific project and the loss by us of any investment we have made to retrofit the facilities owned by the joint venture partner. In addition, if we are unable to meet specified performance targets related to the production of isobutanol at a facility owned by one of our joint venture partners, we may never become eligible to receive a portion of the profits of the joint venture and may be unable to recover the costs of retrofitting the facility.

Additionally, we plan to be the sole marketer for all isobutanol and co-products produced using our proprietary technology including, without limitation, all isobutanol that is produced by any facilities that we access via joint venture. Marketing agreements can be very complex and the obligations that we assume as the sole marketer of isobutanol may be time consuming. We have no experience marketing isobutanol on a commercial scale and we may fail to successfully negotiate marketing agreements in a timely manner or on favorable terms. If we fail to

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

successfully market the isobutanol produced using our proprietary technology to refiners and chemical producers, our business, financial condition and results of operations will be materially adversely affected.

***If we lose key personnel, including key management personnel, or are unable to attract and retain additional personnel, it could delay our product development programs and harm our research and development efforts, we may be unable to pursue partnerships or develop our own products and it may trigger an event of default under our loan agreements with TriplePoint.***

Our business is complex and we intend to target a variety of markets. Therefore, it is critical that our management team and employee workforce are knowledgeable in the areas in which we operate. The loss of any key members of our management, including our named executive officers, or the failure to attract or retain other key employees who possess the requisite expertise for the conduct of our business, could prevent us from developing and commercializing our products for our target markets and entering into partnerships or licensing arrangements to execute our business strategy. In addition, the loss of any key scientific staff, or the failure to attract or retain other key scientific employees, could prevent us from developing and commercializing our products for our target

---

**Table of Contents**

markets and entering into partnerships or licensing arrangements to execute our business strategy. We may not be able to attract or retain qualified employees in the future due to the intense competition for qualified personnel among biotechnology and other technology-based businesses, particularly in the advanced biofuels area, or due to the limited availability of personnel with the qualifications or experience necessary for our renewable chemicals and advanced biofuels business. If we are not able to attract and retain the necessary personnel to accomplish our business objectives, we may experience staffing constraints that will adversely affect our ability to meet the demands of our partners and customers in a timely fashion or to support our internal research and development programs. In particular, our product and process development programs are dependent on our ability to attract and retain highly skilled scientists. Competition for experienced scientists and other technical personnel from numerous companies and academic and other research institutions may limit our ability to do so on acceptable terms. Additionally, certain changes in our management could trigger an event of default under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, and we could be forced to pay the outstanding balance of the loan(s) in full. All of our employees are at-will employees, which means that either the employee or we may terminate their employment at any time.

Our planned activities will require additional expertise in specific industries and areas applicable to the products and processes developed through our technology platform or acquired through strategic or other transactions, especially in the end markets that we seek to penetrate. These activities will require the addition of new personnel, and the development of additional expertise by existing personnel. The inability to attract personnel with appropriate skills or to develop the necessary expertise could impair our ability to grow our business.

*Our ability to compete may be adversely affected if we do not adequately protect our proprietary technologies or if we lose some of our intellectual property rights through costly litigation or administrative proceedings.*

Our success will depend in part on our ability to obtain patents and maintain adequate protection of our intellectual property covering our technologies and products and potential products in the U.S. and other countries. We have adopted a strategy of seeking patent protection in the U.S. and in certain foreign countries with respect to certain of the technologies used in or relating to our products and processes. As such, as of June 30, 2012, we exclusively licensed rights to 101 issued patents and filed patent applications in the U.S. and in various foreign jurisdictions, and we owned rights to approximately 329 issued patents and filed patent applications in the U.S. and in various foreign jurisdictions. When and if issued, patents would expire at the end of their term and any patent would only provide us commercial advantage for a limited period of time, if at all. Our patent applications are directed to our enabling technologies and to our methods and products which support our business in the advanced biofuels and renewable chemicals markets. We intend to continue to apply for patents relating to our technologies, methods and products as we deem appropriate.

Only nine of the patent applications that we have filed in the U.S. or in any foreign jurisdictions, and only certain of the patent applications filed by third parties in which we own rights, have been issued. A filed patent application does not guarantee a patent will issue and a patent issuing does not guarantee its validity, nor does it give us the right to practice the patented technology or commercialize the patented product. Third parties may have or obtain rights to blocking patents that could be used to prevent us from commercializing our products or practicing our technology. The scope and validity of patents and success in prosecuting patent applications involve complex legal and factual questions and, therefore, issuance, coverage and validity cannot be predicted with any certainty. Patents issuing from our filed applications may be challenged, invalidated or circumvented. Moreover, third parties could practice our inventions in secret and in territories where we do not have patent protection. Such third parties may then try to sell or import products made using our inventions in and into the U.S. or other territories and we may be unable to prove that such products were made using our inventions. Additional uncertainty may result from implementation of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, enacted in September 2011, as well as other potential patent reform legislation passed by the U.S. Congress and from legal precedent as handed down by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court, as they determine legal issues concerning the scope, validity and construction of patent claims. Because patent applications in the U.S. and many foreign jurisdictions are typically not published until 18 months after filing, or in some cases not at all, and because publication of discoveries in the scientific literature often lags behind the actual discoveries, there is additional uncertainty as to the validity of any patents that may issue and the potential for blocking patents coming into force at some future date. Accordingly, we cannot ensure that any of our currently filed or future patent applications will result in issued patents, or even if issued, predict the scope of the claims that may issue in our and other companies patents. Given that the degree of future protection for our proprietary rights is uncertain, we cannot ensure that (i) we were the first to make the inventions covered by each of our filed applications, (ii) we were the first to file patent applications for these inventions, (iii) the proprietary technologies we develop will be patentable, (iv) any patents issued will be broad enough in scope to provide commercial advantage and prevent circumvention, and (v) competitors and other parties do not have or will not obtain patent protection that will block our development and commercialization activities.

---

**Table of Contents**

These concerns apply equally to patents we have licensed, which may likewise be challenged, invalidated or circumvented, and the licensed technologies may be obstructed from commercialization by competitors' blocking patents. In addition, we generally do not control the patent prosecution and maintenance of subject matter that we license from others. Generally, the licensors are primarily or wholly responsible for the patent prosecution and maintenance activities pertaining to the patent applications and patents we license, while we may only be afforded opportunities to comment on such activities. Accordingly, we are unable to exercise the same degree of control over licensed intellectual property as we exercise over our own intellectual property and we face the risk that our licensors will not prosecute or maintain it as effectively as we would like.

In addition, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy or otherwise obtain and use our products or technology. Monitoring unauthorized use of our intellectual property is difficult, particularly where, as here, the end products reaching the market generally do not reveal the processes used in their manufacture, and particularly in certain foreign countries where the local laws may not protect our proprietary rights as fully as in the U.S., so we cannot be certain that the steps we have taken in obtaining intellectual property and other proprietary rights will prevent unauthorized use of our technology. If competitors are able to use our technology without our authorization, our ability to compete effectively could be adversely affected. Moreover, competitors and other parties such as universities may independently develop and obtain patents for technologies that are similar to or superior to our technologies. If that happens, the potential competitive advantages provided by our intellectual property may be adversely affected. We may then need to license these competing technologies, and we may not be able to obtain licenses on reasonable terms, if at all, which could cause material harm to our business. Accordingly, litigation may be necessary for us to assert claims of infringement, enforce patents we own or license, protect trade secrets or determine the enforceability, scope and validity of the intellectual property rights of others.

Our commercial success also depends in part on not infringing patents and proprietary rights of third parties, and not breaching any licenses or other agreements that we have entered into with regard to our technologies, products and business. We cannot be certain that patents have not or will not issue to third parties that could block our ability to obtain patents or to operate our business as we would like, or at all. There may be patents in some countries that, if valid, may block our ability to commercialize products in those countries if we are unsuccessful in circumventing or acquiring rights to these patents. There may also be claims in patent applications filed in some countries that, if granted and valid, may also block our ability to commercialize products or processes in these countries if we are unable to circumvent or license them.

As is commonplace in the biotechnology industries, some of our directors, employees and consultants are or have been employed at, or associated with, companies and universities that compete with us or have or will develop similar technologies and related intellectual property. While employed at these companies, these employees, directors and consultants may have been exposed to or involved in research and technology similar to the areas of research and technology in which we are engaged. Though we have not received such a complaint, we may be subject to allegations that we, our directors, employees or consultants have inadvertently or otherwise used, misappropriated or disclosed alleged trade secrets or confidential or proprietary information of those companies. Litigation may be necessary to defend against such allegations and the outcome of any such litigation would be uncertain.

Under some of our research agreements, our partners share joint rights in certain intellectual property we develop. For example, under our development agreement with ICM, we have exclusive rights to all intellectual property developed within the defined scope of the project, but all other intellectual property developed pursuant to the agreement is to be jointly owned. Such provisions may limit our ability to gain commercial benefit from some of the intellectual property we develop, and may lead to costly or time-consuming disputes with parties with whom we have commercial relationships over rights to certain innovations.

If any other party has filed patent applications or obtained patents that claim inventions also claimed by us, we may have to participate in interference, derivation or other proceedings declared by the United States Patent and Trademark Office to determine priority of invention and, thus, the right to the patents for these inventions in the U.S. These proceedings could result in substantial cost to us even if the outcome is favorable. Even if successful, such a proceeding may result in the loss of certain claims. Even successful outcomes of such proceedings could result in significant legal fees and other expenses, diversion of management time and efforts and disruption in our business. Uncertainties resulting from initiation and continuation of any patent or related litigation could harm our ability to compete.

***Our government grants are subject to uncertainty, which could harm our business and results of operations.***

We have received various government grants, including a cooperative agreement, to complement and enhance our own resources. We may seek to obtain government grants and subsidies in the future to offset all or a portion of the costs of retrofitting existing ethanol manufacturing facilities and the costs of our research and development activities. We cannot be certain that we will be able to secure any such government grants or subsidies. Any of our existing grants or new grants that we may obtain may be terminated, modified or recovered by the granting governmental body under certain conditions.





---

## **Table of Contents**

We may also be subject to audits by government agencies as part of routine audits of our activities funded by our government grants. As part of an audit, these agencies may review our performance, cost structures and compliance with applicable laws, regulations and standards. Funds available under grants must be applied by us toward the research and development programs specified by the granting agencies, rather than for all of our programs generally. If any of our costs are found to be allocated improperly, the costs may not be reimbursed and any costs already reimbursed may have to be refunded. Accordingly, an audit could result in an adjustment to our revenues and results of operations.

***We have received funding from U.S. government agencies, which could negatively affect our intellectual property rights.***

Some of our research has been funded by grants from U.S. government agencies. When new technologies are developed with U.S. government funding, the government obtains certain rights in any resulting patents and technical data, generally including, at a minimum, a nonexclusive license authorizing the government to use the invention or technical data for noncommercial purposes. U.S. government funding must be disclosed in any resulting patent applications, and our rights in such inventions will normally be subject to government license rights, periodic progress reporting, foreign manufacturing restrictions and march-in rights. March-in rights refer to the right of the U.S. government, under certain limited circumstances, to require us to grant a license to technology developed under a government grant to a responsible applicant or, if we refuse, to grant such a license itself. March-in rights can be triggered if the government determines that we have failed to work sufficiently towards achieving practical application of a technology or if action is necessary to alleviate health or safety needs, to meet requirements of federal regulations or to give preference to U.S. industry. If we breach the terms of our grants, the government may gain rights to the intellectual property developed in our related research. The government's rights in our intellectual property may lessen its commercial value, which could adversely affect our performance.

***We may not be able to enforce our intellectual property rights throughout the world.***

The laws of some foreign countries do not protect intellectual property rights to the same extent as federal and state laws in the U.S. Many companies have encountered significant problems in protecting and enforcing intellectual property rights in certain foreign jurisdictions. The legal systems of certain countries, particularly certain developing countries, do not favor the enforcement of patents and other intellectual property protection, particularly those relating to bioindustrial technologies. This could make it difficult for us to stop the infringement of our patents or misappropriation of our other intellectual property rights. Proceedings to enforce our patents and other proprietary rights in foreign jurisdictions could result in substantial costs and divert our efforts and attention from other aspects of our business. Accordingly, our efforts to enforce our intellectual property rights in such countries may be inadequate to obtain a significant commercial advantage from the intellectual property that we develop.

***If our biocatalysts, or the genes that code for our biocatalysts, are stolen, misappropriated or reverse engineered, others could use these biocatalysts or genes to produce competing products.***

Third parties, including our contract manufacturers, customers and those involved in shipping our biocatalysts, may have custody or control of our biocatalysts. If our biocatalysts, or the genes that code for our biocatalysts, were stolen, misappropriated or reverse engineered, they could be used by other parties who may be able to reproduce these biocatalysts for their own commercial gain. If this were to occur, it would be difficult for us to discover or challenge this type of use, especially in countries with limited intellectual property protection.

***Confidentiality agreements with employees and others may not adequately prevent disclosures of trade secrets and other proprietary information.***

We rely in part on trade secret protection to protect our confidential and proprietary information and processes. However, trade secrets are difficult to protect. We have taken measures to protect our trade secrets and proprietary information, but these measures may not be effective. We require new employees and consultants to execute confidentiality agreements upon the commencement of an employment or consulting arrangement with us. These agreements generally require that all confidential information developed by the individual or made known to the individual by us during the course of the individual's relationship with us be kept confidential and not disclosed to third parties. These agreements also generally provide that know-how and inventions conceived by the individual in the course of rendering services to us shall be our exclusive property. Nevertheless, these agreements may not be enforceable, our proprietary information may be disclosed, third parties could reverse engineer our biocatalysts and others may independently develop substantially equivalent proprietary information and techniques or otherwise gain access to our trade

**Table of Contents**

secrets. Costly and time-consuming litigation could be necessary to enforce and determine the scope of our proprietary rights, and failure to obtain or maintain trade secret protection could adversely affect our competitive business position. In addition, an unauthorized breach in our information technology systems may expose our trade secrets and other proprietary information to unauthorized parties.

***We may face substantial competition, which could adversely affect our performance and growth.***

We may face substantial competition in the markets for isobutanol, plastics, fibers, rubber, other polymers and hydrocarbon fuels. Our competitors include companies in the incumbent petroleum-based industry as well as those in the nascent biorenewable industry. The incumbent petroleum-based industry benefits from a large established infrastructure, production capability and business relationships. The incumbents' greater resources and financial strength provide significant competitive advantages that we may not be able to overcome in a timely manner. Academic and government institutions may also develop technologies, which will compete with us in the chemicals, solvents and blendstock markets.

The biorenewable industry is characterized by rapid technological change. Our future success will depend on our ability to maintain a competitive position with respect to technological advances. Technological development by others may impact the competitiveness of our products in the marketplace. Competitors and potential competitors who have greater resources and experience than we do may develop products and technologies that make ours obsolete or may use their greater resources to gain market share at our expense.

In the production of isobutanol, we face competition from DuPont, which has announced plans to develop and market isobutanol through Butamax, a joint venture with BP. Additionally, a number of companies including Cathay Industrial Biotech, Ltd., Green Biologics Ltd., METabolic Explorer, S.A., TetraVita Bioscience, Inc. and Cobalt Technologies, Inc. are developing n-butanol production capability from a variety of renewable feedstocks.

In the plastics, fibers, rubber and other polymers markets, we face competition from incumbent petroleum-derived products, other renewable isobutanol producers and renewable n-butanol producers. Our competitive position versus the incumbent petroleum-derived products and other renewable butanol producers may not be favorable. Petroleum-derived products have dominated the market for many years and there is substantial existing infrastructure for production from petroleum sources, which may impede our ability to establish a position in these markets. Other isobutanol and n-butanol companies may develop technologies that prove more effective than our isobutanol production technology, or such companies may be more adept at marketing their production. Additionally, one small company in France, Global Bioenergies, S.A., is pursuing the production of isobutylene from renewable carbohydrates directly. Since conversion of isobutanol to butenes such as isobutylene is a key step in producing many plastics, fibers, rubber and other polymers from our isobutanol, this direct production of renewable isobutylene, if successful, could limit our opportunities in these markets.

In the gasoline blendstock market, we will compete with renewable ethanol producers (including those working to produce ethanol from cellulosic feedstocks), producers of alkylate from petroleum and producers of other blendstocks, all of whom may reduce our ability to obtain market share or maintain our price levels. For example, Coskata, Inc. is developing a hybrid thermochemical-biocatalytic process to produce ethanol from a variety of feedstocks. If any of these competitors succeed in producing blendstocks more efficiently, in higher volumes or offering superior performance than our isobutanol, our financial performance may suffer. Furthermore, if our competitors have more success marketing their products or reach development or supply agreements with major customers, our competitive position may also be harmed.

In the production of other cellulosic biofuels, key competitors include Shell Oil Company, BP, DuPont-Danisco Cellulosic Ethanol LLC, Abengoa Bioenergy, S.A., POET, LLC, ICM, Mascoma Corporation, Range Fuels Inc., Inbicon A/S, INEOS New Planet BioEnergy LLC, Coskata, Inc., Archer Daniels Midland Company, BlueFire Ethanol, Inc., KL Energy Corporation, ZeaChem Inc., Iogen Corporation, Qteros, Inc., AE Biofuels, Inc. and many smaller start-up companies. If these companies are successful in establishing low cost cellulosic ethanol or other fuel production, it could negatively impact the market for our isobutanol as a gasoline blendstock.

In the markets for the hydrocarbon fuels that we plan to produce from our isobutanol, we will face competition from the incumbent petroleum-based fuels industry. The incumbent petroleum-based fuels industry makes the vast majority of the world's gasoline, jet and diesel fuels and blendstocks. It is a mature industry with a substantial base of infrastructure for the production and distribution of petroleum-derived products. The size, established infrastructure and significant resources of many companies in this industry may put us at a substantial competitive disadvantage, and delay or prevent the establishment and growth of our business in the market for hydrocarbon fuels.

---

**Table of Contents**

Biofuels companies may also provide substantial competition in the hydrocarbon fuels market. With respect to production of renewable gasoline, biofuels competitors are numerous and include both large established companies and numerous start-ups. For example, Virent Energy Systems, Inc. has developed a process for making gasoline and gasoline blendstocks and Kior, Inc. has developed a technology platform to convert biomass into renewable crude oil. Many other competitors may do so as well. In the jet fuel market, we will face competition from companies such as Synthetic Genomics, Inc., Solazyme, Inc., Sapphire Energy, Inc. and Exxon-Mobil Corporation that are pursuing production of jet fuel from algae-based technology. LS9, Inc. ( LS9 ) and others are also targeting production of jet fuels from renewable biomass. We may also face competition from companies working to produce jet fuel from hydrogenated fatty acid methyl esters. In the diesel fuels market, competitors such as Amyris Inc. and LS9 have developed technologies for production of alternative hydrocarbon diesel fuel.

In the plastics, fibers, rubber and other polymers markets and the hydrocarbon fuels market, we expect to face vigorous competition from existing technologies. The companies we may compete with may have significantly greater access to resources, far more industry experience and/or more established sales and marketing networks. Additionally, since we do not plan to produce most of these products directly, we depend on the willingness of potential customers to purchase and convert our isobutanol into their products. These potential customers generally have well-developed manufacturing processes and arrangements with suppliers of the chemical components of their products and may have a resistance to changing these processes and components. These potential customers frequently impose lengthy and complex product qualification procedures on their suppliers, influenced by consumer preference, manufacturing considerations such as process changes and capital and other costs associated with transitioning to alternative components, supplier operating history, regulatory issues, product liability and other factors, many of which are unknown to, or not well understood by, us. Satisfying these processes may take many months or years. If we are unable to convince these potential customers that our isobutanol is comparable or superior to the alternatives that they currently use, we will not be successful in entering these markets and our business will be adversely affected.

We also face challenges in marketing our isobutanol. Though we intend to enhance our competitiveness through partnerships and joint development agreements, some competitors may gain an advantage by securing more valuable partnerships for developing their hydrocarbon products than we are able to obtain. Such partners could include major petrochemical, refiner or end-user companies. Additionally, petrochemical companies may develop alternative pathways for hydrocarbon production that may be less expensive, and may utilize more readily available infrastructure than that used to convert our isobutanol into hydrocarbon products.

We plan to enter into partnerships through which we will sell significant volumes of our isobutanol to partners who will convert it into useful hydrocarbons or use it as a fuel or fuel blendstock. However, if any of these partners instead negotiate supply agreements with other buyers for the isobutanol they purchase from us, or sell it into the open market, they may become competitors of ours in the field of isobutanol sales. This could significantly reduce our profitability and hinder our ability to negotiate future supply agreements for our isobutanol, which could have an adverse effect on our performance.

Our ability to compete successfully will depend on our ability to develop proprietary products that reach the market in a timely manner and are technologically superior to and/or are less expensive than other products on the market. Many of our competitors have substantially greater production, financial, research and development, personnel and marketing resources than we do. In addition, certain of our competitors may also benefit from local government subsidies and other incentives that are not available to us. As a result, our competitors may be able to develop competing and/or superior technologies and processes, and compete more aggressively and sustain that competition over a longer period of time than we could. Our technologies and products may be rendered obsolete or uneconomical by technological advances or entirely different approaches developed by one or more of our competitors. As more companies develop new intellectual property in our markets, the possibility of a competitor acquiring patent or other rights that may limit our products or potential products increases, which could lead to litigation. Furthermore, to secure purchase agreements from certain customers, we may be required to enter into exclusive supply contracts, which could limit our ability to further expand our sales to new customers. Likewise, major potential customers may be locked into long-term, exclusive agreements with our competitors, which could inhibit our ability to compete for their business.

In addition, various governments have recently announced a number of spending programs focused on the development of clean technologies, including alternatives to petroleum-based fuels and the reduction of carbon emissions. Such spending programs could lead to increased funding for our competitors or a rapid increase in the number of competitors within those markets.

---

## **Table of Contents**

Our limited resources relative to many of our competitors may cause us to fail to anticipate or respond adequately to new developments and other competitive pressures. This failure could reduce our competitiveness and market share, adversely affect our results of operations and financial position and prevent us from obtaining or maintaining profitability.

***The terms of the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement and the indenture governing the Notes may restrict our ability to engage in certain transactions.***

In August 2010, we entered into the Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement under which our wholly owned subsidiary, Gevo Development, borrowed \$12.5 million to finance its acquisition of Agri-Energy. In October 2011, the Original Agri-Energy Loan Agreement was amended to provide Agri-Energy with additional term loan facilities of up to \$15.0 million to pay a portion of the costs, expenses, and other amounts associated with the retrofit of Agri-Energy Facility to produce isobutanol. Pursuant to the terms of the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement, we cannot engage in certain actions, including disposing of certain assets, granting or otherwise allowing the imposition of a lien against certain assets, incurring certain kinds of additional indebtedness or acquiring or merging with other entities unless we receive the prior approval of TriplePoint. If TriplePoint does not consent to any of the actions that we desire to take, we could be prohibited from engaging in transactions which could be beneficial to our business and our stockholders or could be forced to pay the outstanding balance of the loan in full. As of July 5, 2012, the aggregate outstanding principal and final payments under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement was approximately \$29.4 million.

With respect to the Notes, if a fundamental change occurs prior to the maturity date of the Notes, holders of the Notes will have the right, at their option, to require us to repurchase all or a portion of their Notes. In addition, if a fundamental change occurs prior to the maturity date of Notes, we will in some cases be required to increase the conversion rate for a holder that elects to convert its Notes in connection with such fundamental change. In addition, the indenture governing the Notes prohibits us from engaging in certain mergers or acquisitions unless, among other things, the surviving entity assumes our obligations under the Notes. These and other provisions could prevent or deter a third party from acquiring us, even where the acquisition could be beneficial to you.

***Business interruptions could delay us in the process of developing our products and could disrupt our sales.***

We are vulnerable to natural disasters and other events that could disrupt our operations, such as riots, civil disturbances, war, terrorist acts, floods, infections in our laboratory or production facilities or those of our contract manufacturers and other events beyond our control. We do not have a detailed disaster recovery plan. In addition, we may not carry sufficient business interruption insurance to compensate us for losses that may occur. Any losses or damages we incur could have a material adverse effect on our cash flows and success as an overall business. Furthermore, ICM may terminate our commercialization agreement if a force majeure event interrupts our operations for a specified period of time.

***We engage in hedging transactions, which could harm our business.***

We currently engage in hedging transactions to offset some of the effects of volatility in commodity prices. We expect to engage in similar transactions once we begin commercial isobutanol production. We generally follow a policy of using exchange-traded futures contracts to reduce our net position in agricultural commodity inventories and forward cash purchase contracts to manage price risk. Hedging activities may cause us to suffer losses, such as if we purchase a position in a declining market or sell a position in a rising market. Furthermore, hedging exposes us to the risk that the other party to a hedging contract defaults on its obligation. We may vary the hedging strategies we undertake, which could leave us more vulnerable to increases in commodity prices or decreases in the prices of isobutanol, distiller's grains, iDGs or ethanol. Losses from hedging activities and changes in hedging strategy could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

***Ethical, legal and social concerns about genetically engineered products and processes, and similar concerns about feedstocks grown on land that could be used for food production, could limit or prevent the use of our products, processes and technologies and limit our revenues.***

Some of our processes involve the use of genetically engineered organisms or genetic engineering technologies. Additionally, our feedstocks may be grown on land that could be used for food production, which subjects our feedstock sources to food versus fuel concerns. If we are not able to overcome the ethical, legal and social concerns relating to genetic engineering or food versus fuel, our products and processes may not be accepted. Any of the risks discussed below could result in increased expenses, delays or other impediments to our programs or the public acceptance and commercialization of products and processes dependent on our technologies or inventions.



---

**Table of Contents**

Our ability to develop and commercialize one or more of our technologies, products, or processes could be limited by the following factors:

public attitudes about the safety and environmental hazards of, and ethical concerns over, genetic research and genetically engineered products and processes, which could influence public acceptance of our technologies, products and processes;

public attitudes regarding, and potential changes to laws governing ownership of genetic material, which could harm our intellectual property rights with respect to our genetic material and discourage others from supporting, developing or commercializing our products, processes and technologies;

public attitudes and ethical concerns surrounding production of feedstocks on land which could be used to grow food, which could influence public acceptance of our technologies, products and processes;

governmental reaction to negative publicity concerning genetically engineered organisms, which could result in greater government regulation of genetic research and derivative products; and

governmental reaction to negative publicity concerning feedstocks produced on land which could be used to grow food, which could result in greater government regulation of feedstock sources.

The subjects of genetically engineered organisms and food versus fuel have received negative publicity, which has aroused public debate. This adverse publicity could lead to greater regulation and trade restrictions on imports of genetically engineered products or feedstocks grown on land suitable for food production.

The biocatalysts that we develop have significantly enhanced characteristics compared to those found in naturally occurring enzymes or microbes. While we produce our biocatalysts only for use in a controlled industrial environment, the release of such biocatalysts into uncontrolled environments could have unintended consequences. Any adverse effect resulting from such a release could have a material adverse effect on our business and financial condition, and we may be exposed to liability for any resulting harm.

***Compliance with stringent laws and regulations may be time consuming and costly, which could adversely affect the commercialization of our biofuels products.***

Any biofuels developed using our technologies will need to meet a significant number of regulations and standards, including regulations imposed by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the EPA, the FAA, various state agencies and others. Any failure to comply, or delays in compliance, with the various existing and evolving industry regulations and standards could prevent or delay the commercialization of any biofuels developed using our technologies and subject us to fines and other penalties.

***We use hazardous materials in our business and we must comply with environmental laws and regulations. Any claims relating to improper handling, storage or disposal of these materials or noncompliance with applicable laws and regulations could be time consuming and costly and could adversely affect our business and results of operations.***

Our research and development processes involve the use of hazardous materials, including chemical, radioactive and biological materials. Our operations also produce hazardous waste. We cannot eliminate entirely the risk of accidental contamination or discharge and any resultant injury from these materials. Federal, state and local laws and regulations govern the use, manufacture, storage, handling and disposal of, and human exposure to, these materials. We may be sued for any injury or contamination that results from our use or the use by third parties of these materials, and our liability may exceed our total assets. Although we believe that our activities conform in all material respects with environmental laws, there can be no assurance that violations of environmental, health and safety laws will not occur in the future as a result of human error, accident, equipment failure or other causes. Compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations may be expensive, and the failure to comply with past, present, or future laws could result in the imposition of fines, third-party property damage, product liability and personal injury claims, investigation and remediation costs, the suspension of production or a cessation of operations, and our liability may exceed our total assets. Liability under environmental laws can be joint and several and without regard to comparative fault. Environmental laws

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

could become more stringent over time imposing greater compliance costs and increasing risks and penalties associated with violations, which could impair our research, development or production efforts and harm our business.



---

## **Table of Contents**

***As isobutanol has not previously been used as a commercial fuel in significant amounts, its use subjects us to product liability risks, and we may have difficulties obtaining product liability insurance.***

Isobutanol has not previously been used as a commercial fuel and research regarding its impact on engines and distribution infrastructure is ongoing. Though we intend to test our isobutanol further before its commercialization, there is a risk that it may damage engines or otherwise fail to perform as expected. If isobutanol degrades the performance or reduces the lifecycle of engines, or causes them to fail to meet emissions standards, market acceptance could be slowed or stopped, and we could be subject to product liability claims. Furthermore, due to isobutanol's lack of commercial history as a fuel, we are uncertain as to whether we will be able to acquire product liability insurance on reasonable terms, or at all. A significant product liability lawsuit could substantially impair our production efforts and could have a material adverse effect on our business, reputation, financial condition and results of operations.

***We may not be able to use some or all of our net operating loss carry-forwards to offset future income.***

In general, under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, a corporation that undergoes an ownership change is subject to limitation on its ability to utilize its pre-change net operating loss carry-forwards, or net operating losses, to offset future taxable income. We may have experienced one or more ownership changes in prior years, and the issuance of shares in connection with our initial public offering may itself have triggered an ownership change; hence, our ability to utilize our net operating losses to offset income if we attain profitability may be limited. In addition, these loss carry-forwards expire at various times over the next 20 years. We believe that it is more likely than not that these carry-forwards will not result in any material future tax savings.

***Enacted and proposed changes in securities laws and regulations have increased our costs and may continue to increase our costs in the future.***

In recent years, there have been several changes in laws, rules, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure, including the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Dodd-Frank Act), the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and various other new regulations promulgated by the SEC and rules promulgated by the national securities exchanges.

The Dodd-Frank Act, enacted in July 2010, expands federal regulation of corporate governance matters and imposes requirements on publicly-held companies, including us, to, among other things, provide stockholders with a periodic advisory vote on executive compensation and also requires compensation committee reforms and enhanced pay-for-performance disclosures. While some provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act are effective upon enactment, others will be implemented upon the SEC's adoption of related rules and regulations. The scope and timing of the adoption of such rules and regulations is uncertain and accordingly, the cost of compliance with the Dodd-Frank Act is also uncertain.

These and other new or changed laws, rules, regulations and standards are, or will be, subject to varying interpretations in many cases due to their lack of specificity. As a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies, which could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices. Our efforts to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards are likely to continue to result in increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. Further, compliance with new and existing laws, rules, regulations and standards may make it more difficult and expensive for us to maintain director and officer liability insurance, and we may be required to accept reduced coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain coverage. Members of our board of directors and our principal executive officer and principal financial officer could face an increased risk of personal liability in connection with the performance of their duties. As a result, we may have difficulty attracting and retaining qualified directors and executive officers, which could harm our business. We continually evaluate and monitor regulatory developments and cannot estimate the timing or magnitude of additional costs we may incur as a result.

***If we fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls, we might not be able to report our financial results accurately or prevent fraud; in that case, our stockholders could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which would harm our business and could negatively impact the price of our stock.***

Effective internal controls are necessary for us to provide reliable financial reports and prevent fraud. In addition, Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Section 404) requires us to evaluate and report on our internal control over financial reporting and have our chief executive officer and chief financial officer certify as to the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports. The process of implementing our internal controls and complying with Section 404 is expensive and time consuming, and requires significant attention of management. We cannot be certain that these measures will ensure that we implement and maintain adequate



---

## **Table of Contents**

controls over our financial processes and reporting in the future. Even if we conclude that our internal control over financial reporting provides reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect fraud or misstatements. Failure to implement required new or improved controls, or difficulties encountered in their implementation, could harm our results of operations or cause us to fail to meet our reporting obligations.

Our management has concluded that there are no material weaknesses in our internal controls over financial reporting as of June 30, 2012. However, there can be no assurance that our controls over financial processes and reporting will be effective in the future or that additional material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in our internal controls will not be discovered in the future. If we, or our independent registered public accounting firm, discover a material weakness, the disclosure of that fact, even if quickly remedied, could reduce the market's confidence in our financial statements and harm our stock price. In addition, a delay in compliance with Section 404 could subject us to a variety of administrative sanctions, including SEC action, ineligibility for short form resale registration, the suspension or delisting of our common stock from the stock exchange on which it is listed and the inability of registered broker-dealers to make a market in our common stock, which would further reduce our stock price and could harm our business.

### **Certain Risks Related to Owning Our Securities.**

***We incurred significant indebtedness when we sold the Notes and we may incur additional indebtedness in the future. The indebtedness created by the sale of the Notes and any future indebtedness we incur exposes us to risks that could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.***

As of July 5, 2012, the aggregate outstanding principal and final payments under the Amended Agri-Energy Loan from TriplePoint was approximately \$29.4 million. In addition, we incurred \$45 million of senior indebtedness when we sold the Notes in July 2012. We may also incur additional long-term indebtedness or obtain additional working capital lines of credit to meet future financing needs. Our indebtedness could have significant negative consequences for our business, results of operations and financial condition, including:

increasing our vulnerability to adverse economic and industry conditions;

limiting our ability to obtain additional financing;

requiring the dedication of a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our indebtedness, thereby reducing the amount of our cash flow available for other purposes;

limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business; and

placing us at a possible competitive disadvantage with less leveraged competitors and competitors that may have better access to capital resources.

We cannot assure you that we will continue to maintain sufficient cash reserves or that our business will generate cash flow from operations at levels sufficient to permit us to pay principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness, or that our cash needs will not increase. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow or otherwise obtain funds necessary to make required payments, or if we fail to comply with the various requirements of our existing indebtedness, the Notes or any indebtedness which we may incur in the future, we would be in default, which would permit the holders of the Notes and such other indebtedness to accelerate the maturity of the Notes and such other indebtedness and could cause defaults under the Notes and such other indebtedness. Any default under the Notes or such other indebtedness could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

---

**Table of Contents**

*We may incur substantially more debt or take other actions which would intensify the risks discussed above.*

We and any current and future subsidiaries of ours may incur substantial additional debt in the future, subject to the specified limitations in our existing financing documents and the indenture governing the Notes. Under the terms of the indenture governing the Notes, we will not be restricted from incurring additional debt, securing future debt, recapitalizing our debt or taking a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the indenture governing the Notes and that could have the effect of diminishing our ability to make payments on the Notes when due. If new debt is added to our or any of our subsidiaries' debt levels, the risks described in this Certain Risks Related to Owning our Securities section could intensify.

*Our stock price may be volatile, and your investment in our securities could suffer a decline in value. We expect that the trading value of the Notes will be significantly affected by the price of our common stock.*

The market price of shares of our common stock has experienced significant price and volume fluctuations. For example, since February 19, 2011, when we became a public company, the closing sales price for one share of our common stock has reached a high of \$26.36 and a low of \$3.57. The market price of our common stock, as well as the general level of interest rates and our credit quality, will likely significantly affect the market price of the Notes. This may result in significantly greater volatility in the trading value of the Notes than would be expected for nonconvertible debt securities we may issue.

We cannot predict whether the price of our common stock or interest rates will rise or fall. A variety of factors may have a significant effect on our stock price, including:

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our financial condition and operating results;

the position of our cash and cash equivalents;

actual or anticipated changes in our growth rate relative to our competitors;

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our competitors' operating results or changes in their growth rate;

announcements of technological innovations by us, our partners or our competitors;

announcements by us, our partners or our competitors of significant acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments;

the entry into, modification or termination of licensing arrangements, marketing arrangements, and/or research, development, commercialization, supply, off-take or distribution arrangements;

additions or losses of customers;

additions or departures of key management or scientific personnel;

competition from existing products or new products that may emerge;

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

issuance of new or updated research reports by securities or industry analysts;

fluctuations in the valuation of companies perceived by investors to be comparable to us;

litigation involving us, our general industry or both;

disputes or other developments related to proprietary rights, including patents, litigation matters and our ability to obtain patent protection for our technologies;

changes in existing laws, regulations and policies applicable to our business and products, including the Renewable Fuel Standard ( RFS ) program, and the adoption of or failure to adopt carbon emissions regulation;

announcements or expectations of additional financing efforts;

sales of our common stock by us or our stockholders;

share price and volume fluctuations attributable to inconsistent trading volume levels of our shares;

general market conditions in our industry; and

general economic and market conditions, including the recent financial crisis.

---

## **Table of Contents**

Furthermore, the stock markets have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected and continue to affect the market prices of equity securities of many companies. These fluctuations often have been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations, as well as general economic, political and market conditions such as recessions, interest rate changes or international currency fluctuations, may negatively impact the market price of shares of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance, and cause the value of your investment to decline. Because the Notes are convertible into our common stock, volatility or depressed prices of our common stock could have an adverse effect on the trading price of the Notes. Holders who receive common stock upon conversion of the Notes also will be subject to the risk of volatility and depressed prices of our common stock. In addition, the existence of the Notes may encourage short selling in our common stock by market participants because the conversion of the Notes could depress the price of our common stock.

Additionally, in the past, companies that have experienced volatility in the market price of their stock have been subject to securities class action litigation. We may be the target of this type of litigation in the future. Securities litigation against us could result in substantial costs and divert our management's attention from other business concerns, which could seriously harm our business.

The price of our common stock also could be affected by possible sales of common stock by investors who view the Notes as a more attractive means of equity participation in us and by hedging or arbitrage activity involving our common stock that we expect to develop as a result of the issuance of the Notes. The hedging or arbitrage could, in turn, affect the trading prices of the Notes, or any common stock that holders receive upon conversion of the Notes.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could occur at any time. These sales, or the perception in the market that the holders of a large number of shares of common stock intend to sell shares, could reduce the market price of our common stock. Stockholders as of July 31, 2012 who own more than 5% of our outstanding common stock, which consists of eight stockholders, beneficially own, collectively, approximately 61% of our outstanding common stock. If one or more of them were to sell a substantial portion of the shares they hold, it could cause our stock price to decline.

In addition, as of June 30, 2012, there were 3,300,936 shares subject to outstanding options that are or will become eligible for sale in the public market to the extent permitted by any applicable vesting requirements and Rules 144 and 701 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). Moreover, certain holders of our outstanding common stock (including shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants) have rights, subject to some conditions, to require us to file registration statements covering their shares and to include their shares in registration statements that we may file for ourselves or other stockholders.

We registered 6,751,194 shares of common stock, which are reserved for issuance under our stock incentive plans and our employee stock purchase plan. These shares can be freely sold in the public market upon issuance and once vested.

### ***We may not have the ability to pay interest on the Notes or to repurchase or redeem the Notes.***

The Notes bear interest at a rate of 7.5% per year, payable in cash semi-annually in arrears on January 1 and July 1 of each year, commencing in 2013. If a fundamental change occurs, holders of the Notes may require us to repurchase, for cash, all or a portion of their Notes. If we elect to redeem the Notes prior to their maturity, the redemption price of any Notes redeemed by us will be paid for in cash. Our ability to pay the interest on the Notes, to repurchase or redeem the Notes, to refinance our indebtedness and to fund working capital needs and planned capital expenditures depends on our ability to generate cash flow in the future. To some extent, this is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative and regulatory factors and other factors that are beyond our control. We cannot assure you that we will continue to maintain sufficient cash reserves or that our business will continue to generate cash flow from operations at levels sufficient to permit us to pay the interest on the Notes, to repurchase or redeem the Notes or to pay cash upon conversion of the Notes, or that our cash needs will not increase. In addition, any such repurchase or redemption of the Notes, even if such action would be in our best interests, may result in a default under the agreements governing our current indebtedness with TriplePoint unless we are able to obtain TriplePoint's consent prior to the taking of such action.

Our failure to repurchase tendered Notes at a time when the repurchase is required by the indenture would constitute a default under the Notes and would permit holders of the Notes to accelerate our obligations under the Notes. Such default may also lead to a default under the agreements governing any of our current and future indebtedness. If the repayment of the related indebtedness were to be accelerated after any applicable notice or grace periods, we may not have sufficient funds to repay such indebtedness and repurchase the Notes or make cash payments upon conversions thereof.

If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations in the future to service our indebtedness and meet our other needs, we may have to refinance all or a portion of our indebtedness, obtain additional financing, reduce expenditures or sell assets that we deem necessary to

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

our business. We cannot assure you that any of these measures would be possible or that any additional financing could be obtained on favorable terms, or at all. The inability to obtain additional financing on commercially reasonable terms could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, which could cause the value of your investment to decline.

---

**Table of Contents**

***Future issuances of our common stock or instruments convertible into our common stock, including in connection with conversions of Notes, and hedging activities by holders of the Notes may materially and adversely affect the price of our common stock and the Notes.***

Other than lock-up provisions that apply through September 27, 2012, we are not restricted from issuing additional shares of our common stock or other instruments convertible into our common stock. If we issue additional shares of common stock or instruments convertible into common stock, it may materially and adversely affect the price of our common stock. In addition, the conversion of some or all of the Notes may dilute the ownership interests of existing stockholders, and any sales in the public market of any of our common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock. Moreover, the anticipated conversion of the Notes into shares of our common stock could depress the trading price of our common stock.

If a holder of our Notes elects to convert some or all of their Notes on or after January 1, 2013 and prior to July 1, 2017, such holder will be entitled to receive a coupon make-whole payment for the Notes being converted. We have the option to issue our common stock to any converting holder in lieu of making the coupon make-whole payment in cash. If we elect to issue our common stock for such payment, then the stock will be valued at 90% of the simple average of the daily volume weighted average prices of our common stock for the 10 trading days ending on and including the trading day immediately preceding the conversion date. Given that the agreements governing our secured indebtedness with TriplePoint prohibit us from paying, repurchasing or redeeming the Notes or making cash payments in respect of the coupon make-whole amount upon a conversion, we may be unable to make such payment in cash. If we elect to issue our common stock for such payment, this may cause significant additional dilution to our existing stockholders.

The price of our common stock also could be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the Notes as a more attractive means of equity participation in our company and by hedging or arbitrage trading activity that we expect to develop involving our common stock by holders of the Notes.

***We may not be permitted, by the agreements governing our secured indebtedness, to repurchase the Notes.***

If a fundamental change occurs, the holders of the Notes may require us to repurchase all or a portion of their Notes for cash at a repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be repurchased, plus any accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the repurchase date. However, the agreements governing our secured indebtedness with TriplePoint prohibit us from paying, repurchasing or redeeming the Notes or any amounts payable in connection with a fundamental change or at our option. In the event that a fundamental change occurs at a time when we are prohibited from repurchasing the Notes, we would need to seek the consent of TriplePoint to repurchase the Notes from the holders or we would otherwise be risking an event of default under our agreements with TriplePoint. If we were to not obtain such a consent, compliance with the terms of the Notes would trigger an event of default under our indebtedness with TriplePoint.

***Although the Notes are referred to as senior notes, the Notes are unsecured and are effectively subordinated to our secured indebtedness and effectively subordinated to all liabilities of our subsidiaries from time to time outstanding.***

The Notes are obligations only of Gevo, Inc. and are to be guaranteed by our subsidiaries or secured by any of our or their properties or assets. The Notes are effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness and effectively subordinated to all existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries, including trade payables. Our subsidiaries are separate legal entities and have no obligation to pay any amounts due pursuant to the Notes. Our subsidiaries conduct a significant amount of our business, and may incur significant liabilities in connection with such business. As of July 5, 2012, our subsidiaries had indebtedness and other obligations in the principal amount of approximately \$29.4 million. These amounts of indebtedness structurally rank senior to the Notes.

In any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding, holders of our secured debt may assert rights against any assets securing such debt in order to receive full payment of the debt before those assets may be used to pay the holders of the Notes. In such an event, we may not have sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all of the Notes. At July 5, 2012, on a consolidated basis, we had approximately \$29.4 million in aggregate principal amount of secured indebtedness outstanding. In addition, our senior secured indebtedness to TriplePoint prohibits us from making payments on the Notes that are not regularly scheduled payments.



---

**Table of Contents**

*We have made only limited covenants in the indenture for the Notes, and these limited covenants may not protect the value of your investment.*

The indenture for the Notes does not:

require us to maintain any financial ratios or specific levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flows or liquidity and, accordingly, does not protect holders of the Notes in the event that we experience significant adverse changes in our financial condition or results of operations;

limit our subsidiaries' ability to incur indebtedness that would effectively rank senior to the Notes;

limit our ability to incur secured indebtedness that would effectively rank senior to the Notes or indebtedness that is equal in right of payment to the Notes;

restrict our subsidiaries' ability to issue securities that would be senior to the common stock of our subsidiaries held by us;

restrict our ability to repurchase our securities;

restrict our ability to pledge our assets or those of our subsidiaries; or

restrict our ability to make investments or to pay dividends or make other payments in respect of our common stock or other securities ranking junior to the Notes.

Furthermore, the indenture for the Notes contains only limited protections in the event of a change in control. We could engage in many types of transactions, such as acquisitions, refinancings or recapitalizations, that could substantially affect our capital structure and the value of the Notes and our common stock but would not constitute a fundamental change that permits holders to require us to repurchase their Notes.

***Holders of Notes are not entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock, but will be subject to all changes made with respect to such rights.***

Holders of Notes are not entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock (including, without limitation, voting rights and rights to receive any dividends or other distributions on our common stock), but holders of Notes will be subject to all changes affecting our common stock. For example, if an amendment is proposed to our certificate of incorporation or bylaws requiring stockholder approval and the record date for determining the stockholders of record entitled to vote on the amendment occurs prior to a holder's conversion of its Notes, such holder will not be entitled to vote on the amendment, although such holder will nevertheless be subject to any changes affecting our common stock that result from such amendment.

***The adjustment to the conversion rate for Notes converted in connection with a make-whole fundamental change may not adequately compensate holders of the Notes for the lost option value of the Notes as a result of such transaction.***

If a make-whole fundamental change occurs prior to maturity of the Notes, under certain circumstances, we will increase the conversion rate by a number of additional shares of our common stock for Notes converted in connection with such make-whole fundamental change. The increase in the conversion rate will be determined based on the date on which the specified corporate transaction constituting the make-whole fundamental change becomes effective and the price paid (or deemed paid) per share of our common stock in such transaction. The adjustment to the conversion rate for Notes converted in connection with a make-whole fundamental change may not adequately compensate holders of the Notes for any lost value of the Notes as a result of such transaction. In addition, if the price of our common stock in the transaction is greater than \$20.00 per share or less than \$4.95 per share (in each case, subject to adjustment), no adjustment will be made to the conversion rate.

## Edgar Filing: Gevo, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Our obligation to increase the conversion rate upon the occurrence of a make-whole fundamental change could be considered a penalty, in which case the enforceability thereof would be subject to general principles of reasonableness of economic remedies.

*The conversion rate of the Notes may not be adjusted for all dilutive events.*

The conversion rate of the Notes is subject to adjustment for certain events, including, but not limited to, the issuance of stock dividends on our common stock, the issuance of certain rights, options or warrants, distributions of capital stock, indebtedness, or assets, cash dividends and certain issuer tender or exchange offers. However, the conversion rate will not be adjusted for other

## **Table of Contents**

events, such as a third-party tender or exchange offer or an issuance of common stock or securities convertible or exercisable into common stock, that may adversely affect the trading price of the Notes or the consideration issued upon conversion thereof. An event that adversely affects the value of the Notes may occur, and that event may not result in an adjustment to the conversion rate.

*Some significant restructuring transactions may not constitute a fundamental change, in which case we would not be obligated to offer to repurchase the Notes.*

Upon the occurrence of a fundamental change, holders have the right to require us to repurchase their Notes. However, the fundamental change provisions will not afford protection to holders of Notes in the event of other transactions that could adversely affect the Notes. For example, transactions such as leveraged recapitalizations, refinancings, restructurings or acquisitions initiated by us may not constitute a fundamental change requiring us to repurchase the Notes. In the event of any such transaction, holders would not have the right to require us to repurchase their Notes, even though each of these transactions could increase the amount of our indebtedness or otherwise adversely affect our capital structure or any credit ratings, thereby adversely affecting the value of the Notes.

*Holders of the Notes may not be able to accelerate the maturity of the Notes if we fail to make our SEC filings in a timely manner.*

The indenture governing the Notes requires us to furnish our SEC filings to the trustee no more than 15 days after the date on which we would have been required to file them with the SEC. The indenture also requires us to comply with certain filing requirements as set forth in the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. However, the indenture does not require us to file any such reports on a timely basis with the SEC. Accordingly, holders of Notes may not be able to accelerate the maturity of the Notes if we fail to make our SEC filings in a timely manner.

*We cannot assure you that an active trading market will be maintained for the Notes. You may be unable to sell your Notes at the price you desire or at all.*

We do not intend to apply for listing of the Notes on any securities exchange or to arrange for quotation on any interdealer quotation system. We have been informed by the underwriters that purchased the Notes that they intend to make a market in the Notes. However, the underwriters may cease their market-making in their sole discretion at any time without notice. In addition, the liquidity of the trading market in the Notes, and the market price quoted for these Notes, may be adversely affected by, among other things:

changes in the overall market for debt securities;

changes in our financial performance or prospects;

the prospects for companies in our industry generally;

the number of holders of the Notes;

the interest of securities dealers in making a market for the Notes;

the time remaining to the maturity of the Notes;

the outstanding amount of the Notes;

the market price and volatility of our common stock; and

prevailing interest rates.

Historically, the market for convertible debt has been subject to disruptions that have caused volatility in prices. It is possible that the market for the Notes will be subject to disruptions that may have a negative effect on holders of the Notes, regardless of our operating results, financial performance or prospects.

As a result, we cannot assure you that an active trading market will be maintained for the Notes. If an active trading market is not maintained, the market price and liquidity of the Notes may be adversely affected. In that case, investors in the Notes may not be able to sell the Notes at a particular time or at a favorable price.

---

**Table of Contents**

***Any adverse rating of the Notes may cause their trading price to fall.***

We do not intend to seek a rating on the Notes. However, if a rating service were to rate the Notes and if such rating service were to lower its rating on the Notes below the rating initially assigned to the Notes or otherwise announce its intention to put the Notes on credit watch, the trading price of the Notes could decline.

***Developments in the convertible debt markets may adversely affect the market value of the Notes.***

We expect that many investors in, and potential purchasers of, the Notes will employ, or seek to employ, a convertible arbitrage strategy with respect to the Notes. Investors that employ a convertible arbitrage strategy with respect to convertible debt instruments typically implement that strategy by selling short the common stock underlying the Notes and dynamically adjusting their short position while they hold the Notes. As a result, any specific rules regulating short selling of securities or other governmental action that interferes with the ability of market participants to effect short sales in our common stock could adversely affect the ability of investors in, or potential purchasers of, the Notes to conduct the convertible arbitrage strategy that we believe they will employ, or seek to employ, with respect to the Notes. This could, in turn, adversely affect the market price and liquidity of the Notes.

***Holders of the Notes may be subject to tax if we make or fail to make certain adjustments to the conversion rate of the Notes even if they do not receive a corresponding cash distribution.***

The conversion rate of the Notes is subject to adjustment in certain circumstances, including the payment of cash dividends. If the conversion rate is adjusted as a result of a distribution that is taxable to our common stockholders, such as a cash dividend, holders of the Notes may be deemed to have received a dividend subject to U.S. federal income tax even if they have not received any cash. In addition, a failure to adjust (or to adequately adjust) the conversion rate after an event that increases a Note holder's proportionate interest in our assets and earnings could be treated as a deemed taxable dividend to the Note holder. If a make-whole fundamental change occurs prior to the maturity date of the Notes, under some circumstances, we will increase the conversion rate for Notes converted in connection with the make-whole fundamental change. Such increase may also be treated as a distribution subject to U.S. federal income tax as a dividend.

***We are subject to anti-takeover provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws and under Delaware law that could delay or prevent an acquisition of the Company, even if the acquisition would be beneficial to our stockholders.***

Provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws may delay or prevent an acquisition of the Company. Among other things, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws provide for a board of directors that is divided into three classes with staggered three-year terms, provide that all stockholder action must be effected at a duly called meeting of the stockholders and not by a consent in writing, and further provide that only our board of directors may call a special meeting of the stockholders. These provisions may also frustrate or prevent any attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management by making it more difficult for stockholders to replace members of our board of directors, who are responsible for appointing the members of our management team. Furthermore, because we are incorporated in Delaware, we are governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which prohibits, with some exceptions, stockholders owning in excess of 15% of our outstanding voting stock from merging or combining with us. Finally, our charter documents establish advance notice requirements for nominations for election to our board of directors and for proposing matters that can be acted upon at stockholder meetings. Although we believe these provisions together provide an opportunity to receive higher bids by requiring potential acquirers to negotiate with our board of directors, they would apply even if an offer to acquire the Company may be considered beneficial by some stockholders.

***Concentration of ownership among our existing officers, directors and principal stockholders may prevent other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions and depress our stock price.***

Our affiliates who held our common stock as of July 31, 2012 together control approximately 34% of our outstanding common stock, with a single stockholder (Khosla Ventures I, L.P. and its affiliates) controlling approximately 18% of our outstanding common stock. If these officers, directors and principal stockholders or a group of our principal stockholders act together, they will be able to exert a significant degree of influence over our management and affairs and control matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors and approval of mergers or other business combination transactions. The interests of this concentration of ownership may not always coincide with our interests or the interests of other stockholders. For instance, officers, directors and principal stockholders, acting together, could cause us to enter into transactions or agreements that we would not otherwise consider. Similarly, this concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of the Company otherwise favored by our other stockholders. This concentration of ownership could depress our stock price.



---

## **Table of Contents**

*If securities or industry analysts do not publish research or reports about our business, or publish negative reports about our business, our stock price and trading volume could decline. The trading market for our common stock will be influenced by the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us or our business.*

We do not have any control over these analysts. If one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our stock or change their opinion of our stock, our stock price would likely decline which in turn would likely cause a decline in the value of the Notes. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of the Company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which could cause our stock price and Note price to decline or the trading volume of our common stock to decline.

*We do not anticipate paying cash dividends, and accordingly, stockholders must rely on stock appreciation for any return on their investment.*

Under the terms of our Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement with TriplePoint, subject to certain limited exceptions, Agri-Energy is only permitted to pay dividends if the following conditions are satisfied: (i) the retrofit of the Agri-Energy Facility is complete and the facility is producing commercial volumes of isobutanol, (ii) its net worth is greater than or equal to \$10.0 million, and (iii) no event of default has occurred and is continuing under the agreement. Agri-Energy is also permitted to make dividends and distributions to Gevo, Inc. for certain defined purposes related to the Notes. Accordingly, even if we decide to pay cash dividends in the future, we may not be able to access cash generated by Agri-Energy if amounts are then outstanding pursuant to the Amended Agri-Energy Loan Agreement. We have never paid cash dividends on our common stock and we do not expect to pay cash dividends on our common stock at any time in the foreseeable future. The future payment of dividends directly depends upon our future earnings, capital requirements, financial requirements and other factors that our board of directors will consider. As a result, only appreciation of the price of our common stock, which may never occur, will provide a return to stockholders. Investors seeking cash dividends should not invest in our common stock.

### **Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.**

#### *Sales of Unregistered Securities*

None.

#### *Use of Proceeds from Public Offering of Common Stock*

On February 14, 2011, we closed our initial public offering. The offer and sale of 8,222,500 shares of our common stock in the initial public offering were registered under the Securities Act pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-168792), which was declared effective by the SEC on February 8, 2011. The principal underwriters of the initial public offering were UBS Securities LLC, Piper Jaffray & Co. and Citigroup Global Markets Inc. We raised approximately \$110.4 million in net proceeds after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions of \$8.6 million and other offering costs of \$4.3 million. There has been no material change in the planned use of proceeds from our initial public offering as described in our final prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b). Since April 1, 2011, the approximate point in time where we began to use cash from our initial public offering, we have used \$47.4 million in cash for operations, including working capital needs, as well as \$42.4 million in cash for acquisition of property, plant and equipment. We have and intend to continue to invest the remaining funds in demand deposit accounts or short-term investment-grade securities.

#### **Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers.**

We did not repurchase any shares during the second quarter of 2012. Additionally, there were no sales of unregistered equity securities during the second quarter of 2012.

### **Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.**

None.

### **Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.**

None.





**Table of Contents****Item 5. Other Information.**

None.

**Item 6. Exhibits.**

Exhibit Number	Description	Previously Filed			Exhibit	Filed Herewith
		Form	File No.	Filing Date		
2.1 *	Acquisition Agreement by and among Gevo Development, LLC, Agri-Energy, LLC, Agri-Energy Limited Partnership, CORN-er Stone Ethanol Management, Inc. and CORN-er Stone Farmers Cooperative, dated August 5, 2010.	S-1	333-168792	November 4, 2010	2.1	
2.2*	Equity Purchase Agreement, by and among Gevo, Inc., CDP Gevo, LLC, Gevo Development, LLC, Michael A. Slaney and David N. Black, dated August 5, 2010.	S-1	333-168792	October 1, 2010	2.2	
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Gevo, Inc.	10-K	001-35073	March 29, 2011	3.1	
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Gevo, Inc.	10-K	001-35073	March 29, 2011	3.2	
4.1	Form of the Gevo, Inc. Common Stock Certificate.	S-1	333-168792	January 19, 2011	4.1	
4.2	Fifth Amended and Restated Investors Rights Agreement, dated March 26, 2010.	S-1	333-168792	August 12, 2010	4.2	
4.3	Stock Issuance and Stockholder s Rights Agreement, by and between Gevo, Inc. and California Institute of Technology, dated July 12, 2005.	S-1	333-168792	August 12, 2010	4.3	
4.4	Amended and Restated Warrant to purchase shares of Common Stock issued to CDP Gevo, LLC, dated September 22, 2010.	S-1	333-168792	October 1, 2010	4.4	
4.5	Warrant to purchase shares of Preferred Stock, issued to Virgin Green Fund I, L.P., dated January 18, 2008.	S-1	333-168792	August 12, 2010	4.10	
4.6	Plain English Warrant Agreement No. 0647-W-01, by and between Gevo, Inc. and TriplePoint Capital LLC, dated August 5, 2010.	S-1	333-168792	October 1, 2010	4.11	
4.7	Plain English Warrant Agreement No. 0647-W-02, by and between Gevo, Inc. and TriplePoint Capital LLC, dated August 5, 2010.	S-1	333-168792	October 1, 2010	4.12	
4.8	Plain English Warrant Agreement No. 0647-W-03, by and between Gevo, Inc. and TriplePoint Capital LLC, dated October 20, 2011.	8-K	001-35073	October 26, 2011	10.7	

**Table of Contents**

Exhibit Number	Description	Previously Filed			Filed	
		Form	File No.	Filing Date	Exhibit	Herewith
4.9	Indenture, dated as of July 5, 2012, between Gevo, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee	8-K	001-35073	July 5, 2012	4.1	
4.10	First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of July 5, 2012, to the Indenture dated as of July 5, 2012, by and among Gevo, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee	8-K	001-35073	July 5, 2012	4.2	
10.1	Amendment No. 1 to Employment Agreement, by and between Gevo, Inc. and Brett Lund, dated April 5, 2012	8-K	001-35073	April 9, 2012	10.1	
10.2	Second Amendment to the Plain English Security Agreement, made and entered into as of June 29, 2012, by and among Gevo, Inc. and TriplePoint Capital LLC	8-K	001-35073	July 5, 2012	10.1	
10.3	Second Amendment to Plain English Growth Capital Loan and Security Agreement, made and entered into as of June 29, 2012, by and between Gevo, Inc. and TriplePoint Capital LLC	8-K	001-35073	July 5, 2012	10.2	
10.4	First Amendment to Amended and Restated Plain English Growth Capital Loan and Security Agreement, made and entered into as of June 29, 2012, by and between Agri-Energy, LLC and TriplePoint Capital LLC	8-K	001-35073	July 5, 2012	10.3	
31.1	Section 302 Certification of the Principal Executive Officer.					X
31.2	Section 302 Certification of the Principal Financial Officer.					X
32.1	Section 906 Certification of the Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer.					X
101#	Financial statements from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Gevo, Inc. for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2012, formatted in XBRL: (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (iv) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.					X

\* Certain schedules and exhibits referenced in this document have been omitted in accordance with Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K. A copy of any omitted schedule and/or exhibit will be furnished supplementally to the SEC upon request. Certain portions have been omitted pursuant to a confidential treatment request. Omitted information has been filed separately with the SEC.

**Table of Contents**

# Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, this interactive data file is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, is deemed not filed for purposes of section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.

**Table of Contents**

**SIGNATURES**

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

Gevo, Inc.

By: /s/ MARK SMITH  
Mark Smith

*Chief Financial Officer*

*(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)*

Date: August 7, 2012