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

### FORM 8-K

# **CURRENT REPORT**

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) May 7, 2008

#### STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 001-14129 (Commission File Number) 06-1437793 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

2187 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT (Address of principal executive offices)

06902 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (203) 328-7310

# Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

| Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

| Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

| Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

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

### ITEM 2.02. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

On May 7, 2008, Star Gas Partners, L.P., a Delaware partnership (the "Partnership"), issued a press release announcing its financial results for its fiscal second quarter ending March 31, 2008. A copy of the press release is furnished within this report as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this report is being furnished, and is not deemed as "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference in any filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless specifically stated so therein.

### ITEM 7.01. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

Exhibit 99.1 A copy of the Star Gas Partners, L.P. Press Release dated May 7, 2008.

# 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 hereunto duly authorized.

STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P.

By: Kestrel Heat, LLC (General Partner)

By: /s/ Richard F. Ambury
Name: Richard F. Ambury

Title: Chief Financial Officer

Principal Financial Officer Date: May 7, 2008

## Star Gas Partners, L.P. Reports Fiscal 2008 Second Quarter Results

STAMFORD, Conn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Star Gas Partners, L.P. (the "Partnership" or "Star") (NYSE: SGU), a home energy distributor and services provider specializing in heating oil, today announced financial results for its fiscal 2008 second quarter and the six-month period ended March 31, 2008.

#### Three months ended March 31, 2008, compared to three months ended March 31, 2007

The Partnership reported a 15.3 percent increase in total revenue to \$665.3 million, as an increase in home heating oil selling prices was reduced by a decline in home heating oil volume. Home heating oil volume declined to 169.4 million gallons, as the additional volume provided by acquisitions was more than offset by the effects of warmer temperatures, net customer attrition, conservation and other factors.

Home heating oil per gallon margins increased slightly as product costs reached new highs on 13 occasions during the second quarter of fiscal 2008.

Operating income decreased by \$33.7 million to \$49.1 million, as a decrease in product gross profit of \$19.2 million and an unfavorable change in the fair value of derivatives of \$20.3 million was reduced by lower operating costs (including depreciation, amortization and net service) of \$5.8 million.

Net income declined by \$33.3 million to \$41.6 million.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$13.9 million to \$57.8 million, as the additional EBITDA provided from acquisitions was more than offset by the reduction in EBITDA attributable to the decline in home heating oil volume. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure (see below reconciliation) that should not be considered as an alternative to net income (as an indicator of operating performance) or as an alternative to cash flow (as a measure of liquidity or ability to service debt obligations), but provides additional information for evaluating the Partnership's ability to make the Minimum Quarterly Distribution. The Partnership is not required to make the Minimum Quarterly Distribution until February 2009, for the quarter ending December 31, 2008.

Star Gas Partners Chief Executive Officer, Daniel P. Donovan, stated, "Home heating oil price records were set and reset 28 times during the first and second quarters of our fiscal year. We have experienced similar conditions in the past and, predictably, customers react by turning down the thermostat and seeking lower prices. There is always a lower price offer in the market and our employees are tasked with re-selling our customers on the value of the service we offer and, of course, responding appropriately to their price concerns.

"This is hard work and we are very proud of the job they have been doing. We have many competitors in each of our markets with most less than one percent our size. Lacking the resources to replace lost customers by acquiring other heating oil businesses, many of these smaller distributors are forced to use economically unsustainable price offers to retain or acquire new customers in times of market stress. We believe that the business retained or acquired in this way is of marginal value. Our preferred choice has been to fight as hard as we sensibly can through internal marketing efforts. We intend to continue pursuing an active acquisition program as another means of obtaining new accounts. Reflective of the market stress described above, our list of active acquisition prospects is longer than it has ever been. We will pursue the best of these opportunities aggressively. Our strong working capital position leaves us well prepared to do so," concluded Mr. Donovan.

#### Six months ended March 31, 2008, compared to six month ended March 31, 2007

The Partnership reported a 23.4 percent increase in total revenue to \$1.1 billion, as an increase in home heating oil selling prices was reduced by a decline in home heating oil volume. Home heating oil volume declined to 282.5 million gallons, as the additional volume provided by acquisitions and slightly colder temperatures was more than offset by the effects of net customer attrition, conservation and other factors.

Home heating oil margins were lower by approximately 1 cent per gallon.

During the first half of fiscal 2007, the Partnership recorded a benefit of \$4.3 million under its weather insurance contract. The Partnership did not record any benefit under its weather insurance contract in fiscal 2008.

Operating income decreased by \$12.3 million to \$79.2 million, as a favorable change in the fair value of derivative instruments of \$3.8 million was more than offset by an increase in total operating expenses (including depreciation, amortization and net service) of \$4.5 million and a reduction in product gross profit of \$11.6 million.

Net income declined by \$12.9 million to \$66.7 million.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$17.0 million to \$77.1 million, as the additional EBITDA provided from acquisitions was more than offset by the reduction in EBITDA attributable to the impacts of the decline in home heating oil volume, lower per gallon margins and lower weather insurance benefits.

**REMINDER**: Star Gas management will host a free webcast open to the general public and a conference call on May 8, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. (ET). The webcast is available at <a href="http://www.star-gas.com/MediaList.cfm">http://www.star-gas.com/MediaList.cfm</a>. The conference call dial-in is 706/634-8769.

Star Gas Partners, L.P., is the nation's largest retail distributor of home heating oil. Additional information is available by obtaining the Partnership's SEC filings at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a> and by visiting Star's website at <a href="https://www.star-gas.com">www.star-gas.com</a> where unitholders may request a hard copy of Star's complete audited financial statements free of charge.

#### Forward Looking Information

This news release includes "forward-looking statements" which represent the Partnership's expectations or beliefs concerning future events that involve risks and uncertainties, including those associated with the effect of weather conditions on our financial performance; the price and supply of home heating oil; the consumption patterns of our customers; our ability to obtain satisfactory gross profit margins; our ability to obtain new customers and retain existing customers; our ability to make strategic acquisitions; the impact of litigation; the continuing residual impact of the business process redesign project and our ability to address issues related to that project; our ability to contract for our current and future supply needs; natural gas conversions; future union relations and the outcome of current and future union negotiations; the impact of future environmental, health and safety regulations; the ability to attract and retain employees; customer creditworthiness; counterparty creditworthiness; marketing plans; and general economic conditions. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this news release are forward-looking statements. Without limiting the foregoing, the words "believe," "anticipate," "plan," "expect," "seek," "estimate" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Although the Partnership believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, it can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to be correct and actual results may differ materially from those projected as a result of certain risks and uncertainties. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Partnership's expectations ("Cautionary Statements") are disclosed in this news release and in the Partnership's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2007 and its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2008, including without limitation and

# STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| (in thousands)  | March 31,<br>2008 | September 30,<br>2007 |  |  |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
|   | (unaudited)       |                       |  |  |
| ASSETS  |                   |                       |  |  |
| Current assets  |                   |                       |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ 13,624         | \$ 112,886            |  |  |
| Receivables, net of allowance of \$12,255 and \$7,645, respectively | 265,472           | 78,923                |  |  |
| Inventories   | 64,473            | 85,968                |  |  |
| Fair asset value of derivative instruments                          | 22,188            | 14,510                |  |  |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets                           | 37,220            | 28,216                |  |  |
| Total current assets  | 402,977           | 320,503               |  |  |
| Property and equipment, net   | 39,404            | 41,721                |  |  |
| Long-term portion of accounts receivables                           | 956               | 1,362                 |  |  |
| Goodwill  | 181,524           | 181,496               |  |  |
| Intangibles, net  | 38,952            | 48,468                |  |  |
| Deferred charges and other assets, net                              | 7,314             | 8,554                 |  |  |
| Total assets  | \$ 671,127        | \$ 602,104            |  |  |
| LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL Current liabilities               |                   |                       |  |  |
| Accounts payable  | \$ 21,888         | \$ 18,797             |  |  |
| Revolving credit facility borrowings                                | 48,016            | 10,777                |  |  |
| Fair liability value of derivative instruments                      |                   | 5,312                 |  |  |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities                      | 68,671            | 65,444                |  |  |
| Unearned service contract revenue                                   | 40,219            | 37,219                |  |  |
| Customer credit balances  | 21,570            | 71,109                |  |  |
| Total current liabilities   | 200,364           | 197,881               |  |  |
| Long-term debt  | 173,848           | 173,941               |  |  |
| Other long-term liabilities   | 13,439            | 13,951                |  |  |
| Partners' capital   |                   |                       |  |  |
| Common unitholders  | 299,264           | 232,895               |  |  |
| General partner   | 156               | (129)                 |  |  |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss                                | (15,944)          | (16,435)              |  |  |
| Total partners' capital   | 283,476           | 216,331               |  |  |
| Total liabilities and partners' capital                             | \$ 671,127        | \$ 602,104            |  |  |

# STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

| (in thousands, except per unit data - unaudited)                |             | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |    |          | Six Months Ended<br>March 31, |           |    |          |
|---|-------------|---------------------------------|----|----------|-------------------------------|-----------|----|----------|
|   |             | 2008                            |    | 2007     |                               | 2008      |    | 2007     |
| Sales:  |             |                                 |    |          |                               |           |    |          |
| Product   | \$          | 620,916                         | \$ | 534,856  | \$                            | 1,021,956 | \$ | 815,258  |
| Installations and service                                       |             | 44,370                          |    | 42,068   |                               | 97,274    |    | 91,910   |
| Total sales   |             | 665,286                         |    | 576,924  |                               | 1,119,230 |    | 907,168  |
| Cost and expenses:  |             |                                 |    |          |                               |           |    |          |
| Cost of product   |             | 491,188                         |    | 385,922  |                               | 810,446   |    | 592,158  |
| Cost of installations and service                               |             | 45,288                          |    | 44,384   |                               | 97,862    |    | 94,858   |
| (Increase) decrease in the fair value of derivative instruments |             | 1,813                           |    | (18,462) |                               | (15,940)  |    | (12,147) |
| Delivery and branch expenses                                    |             | 66,802                          |    | 68,652   |                               | 124,754   |    | 115,146  |
| Depreciation and amortization expenses                          |             | 6,862                           |    | 7,316    |                               | 13,870    |    | 14,688   |
| General and administrative expenses                             |             | 4,193                           |    | 6,260    |                               | 9,039     |    | 10,948   |
| Operating income  |             | 49,140                          |    | 82,852   |                               | 79,199    |    | 91,517   |
| Interest expense  |             | (5,662)                         |    | (5,136)  |                               | (10,721)  |    | (10,244) |
| Interest income   |             | 1,401                           |    | 1,579    |                               | 2,853     |    | 3,373    |
| Amortization of debt issuance costs                             |             | (585)                           |    | (571)    |                               | (1,155)   |    | (1,141)  |
| Income before income taxes                                      |             | 44,294                          |    | 78,724   |                               | 70,176    |    | 83,505   |
| Income tax expense  |             | 2,737                           |    | 3,845    |                               | 3,522     |    | 3,910    |
| Net income  | \$          | 41,557                          | \$ | 74,879   | \$                            | 66,654    | \$ | 79,595   |
| General Partner's interest in net income                        |             | 178                             |    | 320      |                               | 285       |    | 340      |
| Limited Partners' interest in net income                        | \$          | 41,379                          | \$ | 74,559   | \$                            | 66,369    | \$ | 79,255   |
| Basic and Diluted income per Limited Partner Unit               | \$          | 0.55                            | \$ | 0.98     | \$                            | 0.88      | \$ | 1.05     |
| Weighted average number of Limited Partner units outstanding:   | <del></del> |                                 |    |          |                               |           |    |          |
| Basic and Diluted   |             | 75,774                          |    | 75,774   |                               | 75,774    |    | 75,774   |

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Earnings (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization from continuing operations (EBITDA).

The Partnership uses EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA as measures of liquidity and they are being included because the Partnership believes that they provide investors and industry analysts with additional information to evaluate the Partnership's ability to pay quarterly distributions. EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA are not recognized terms under generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and should not be considered as an alternative to net income/(loss) or net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities determined in accordance with GAAP. Because EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA as determined by the Partnership excludes some, but not all of the items that affect net income/(loss), it may not be comparable to EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA or similarly titled measures used by other companies. The following tables set forth (i) the calculation of EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA and dijusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA and operating activities.

#### STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF EBITDA AND ADJUSTED EBITDA (unaudited)

| (in thousands)  Income from continuing operations                 |    | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |          |  |  |  |  |
|---|----|---------------------------------|----------|--|--|--|--|
|   | 2  | 2008                            | 2007     |  |  |  |  |
|   | \$ | 41,557                          | 74,879   |  |  |  |  |
| Plus:   |    |                                 |          |  |  |  |  |
| Income tax expense  |    | 2,737                           | 3,845    |  |  |  |  |
| Amortization of debt issuance cost                                |    | 585                             | 571      |  |  |  |  |
| Interest expense, net   |    | 4,261                           | 3,557    |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization                                     |    | 6,862                           | 7,316    |  |  |  |  |
| EBITDA from continuing operations                                 |    | 56,002                          | 90,168   |  |  |  |  |
| (Increase) / decrease in the fair value of derivative instruments |    | 1,813                           | (18,462) |  |  |  |  |
| Adjusted EBITDA (a)   |    | 57,815                          | 71,706   |  |  |  |  |
| Add / (subtract)  |    |                                 |          |  |  |  |  |
| Income tax expense  |    | (2,737)                         | (3,845)  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest expense, net   |    | (4,261)                         | (3,557)  |  |  |  |  |
| Provision for losses on accounts receivable                       |    | 5,147                           | 2,653    |  |  |  |  |
| Increase in weather insurance contract                            |    | -                               | 2,895    |  |  |  |  |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities                        |    | (75,513)                        | (76,412) |  |  |  |  |
| Net cash used in operating activities                             | \$ | (19,549)                        | (6,560)  |  |  |  |  |
| Home heating oil gallons sold                                     |    | 169.365                         | 195.055  |  |  |  |  |

(a) Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as earnings from continuing operations before net interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, (increase) decrease in the fair value of derivatives, loss on debt redemption, goodwill impairment, and other non-cash and non-operating charges. Management believes the presentation of this measure is relevant and useful because it allows investors to view the Partnership's performance in a manner similar to the method management uses, and makes it easier to compare its results with other companies that have different financing and capital structures. In addition, this measure is consistent with the manner in which the Partnership's debt covenants in its material debt agreements are calculated and investors measure its overall performance and liquidity, including its ability to pay quarterly equity distributions, service its long-term debt and other fixed obligations and fund its capital expenditures and working capital requirements. This method of calculating Adjusted EBITDA may not be consistent with that of other companies and should be viewed in conjunction with measurements that are computed in accordance with GAAP.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Earnings (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization from continuing operations (EBITDA).

The Partnership uses EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA as measures of liquidity and they are being included because the Partnership believes that they provide investors and industry analysts with additional information to evaluate the Partnership's ability to pay quarterly distributions. EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA are not recognized terms under generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and should not be considered as an alternative to net income/(loss) or net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities determined in accordance with GAAP. Because EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA as determined by the Partnership excludes some, but not all of the items that affect net income/(loss), it may not be comparable to EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA or similarly titled measures used by other companies. The following tables set forth (i) the calculation of EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA, as so calculated, to cash provided by/(used in) operating activities.

#### STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF EBITDA AND ADJUSTED EBITDA (unaudited)

Six Months Ended March 31, (in thousands) 2008 2007 \$ 79,595 Income from continuing operations 66,654 \$ Income tax expense 3,522 3,910 Amortization of debt issuance cost 1.155 1.141 7,868 6,871 Interest expense, net 13,870 Depreciation and amortization 14,688 EBITDA from continuing operations 93 069 106 205 (Increase) / decrease in the fair value of derivative instruments (15,940)(12,147)Adjusted EBITDA (a) 77,129 94,058 Add / (subtract) Income tax expense (3.522)(3.910)(7,868)(6,871) Interest expense, net 4.605 Provision for losses on accounts receivable 6,857 (4,305)Increase in weather insurance contract Change in operating assets and liabilities (217,837)(111,022)(27,445) Net cash used in operating activities (145,241)Home heating oil gallons sold 282 518 294 336

(a) Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as earnings from continuing operations before net interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, (increase) decrease in the fair value of derivatives, loss on debt redemption, goodwill impairment, and other non-cash and non-operating charges. Management believes the presentation of this measure is relevant and useful because it allows investors to view the Partnership's performance in a manner similar to the method management uses, and makes it easier to compare its results with other companies that have different financing and capital structures. In addition, this measure is consistent with the manner in which the Partnership's debt covenants in its material debt agreements are calculated and investors measure its overall performance and liquidity, including its ability to pay quarterly equity distributions, service its long-term debt and other fixed obligations and fund its capital expenditures and working capital requirements. This method of calculating Adjusted EBITDA may not be consistent with that of other companies and should be viewed in conjunction with measurements that are computed in accordance with GAAP.

CONTACT: Star Gas Partners Investor Relations 203-328-7310 or Jaffoni & Collins Incorporated Robert Rinderman, Steven Hecht 212-835-8500 SGU@jcir.com