

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

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2012  
OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 1-11535



**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

27-1754839  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

2650 Lou Menk Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas  
(Address of principal executive offices)

76131-2830  
(Zip Code)

(800) 795-2673  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  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

Registrant meets the conditions set forth in General Instruction H (1) (a) and (b) of Form 10-Q and is therefore filing this Form 10-Q with the reduced disclosure format permitted by General Instruction H (2).

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**PART I**  
**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Financial Statements.**

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

(In millions)  
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Revenues	\$ 5,343	\$ 4,961	\$ 15,407	\$ 14,284
Operating expenses:				
Compensation and benefits	1,149	1,069	3,344	3,216
Fuel	1,089	1,089	3,286	3,124
Purchased services	601	571	1,784	1,667
Depreciation and amortization	475	454	1,408	1,350
Equipment rents	204	192	605	575
Materials and other	156	206	608	659
Total operating expenses	3,674	3,581	11,035	10,591
Operating income	1,669	1,380	4,372	3,693
Interest expense	157	142	460	416
Other expense, net	4	2	9	6
Income before income taxes	1,508	1,236	3,903	3,271
Income tax expense	571	470	1,463	1,208
Net income	\$ 937	\$ 766	\$ 2,440	\$ 2,063

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
(In millions)  
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Net income	\$ 937	\$ 766	\$ 2,440	\$ 2,063
Other comprehensive income:				
Change in amortization of accumulated actuarial losses, net of tax expense of \$1 million, \$0 million, \$3 million and \$0 million, respectively	2	—	6	—
Change in fuel hedge mark-to-market, net of tax benefit of \$0 million, \$20 million, \$7 million and \$21 million, respectively	—	(33)	(11)	(34)
Change in accumulated other comprehensive income of equity method investees	—	—	(3)	—
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	2	(33)	(8)	(34)
Total comprehensive income	\$ 939	\$ 733	\$ 2,432	\$ 2,029

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(In millions)  
(Unaudited)

	September 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,259	\$ 1,960
Accounts receivable, net	1,244	1,150
Materials and supplies	786	739
Current portion of deferred income taxes	239	295
Other current assets	130	121
Total current assets	4,658	4,265
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$1,443 and \$1,056, respectively	49,719	48,047
Goodwill	14,803	14,803
Intangible assets, net	1,191	1,420
Other assets	1,855	1,845
Total assets	\$ 72,226	\$ 70,380
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	\$ 3,191	\$ 3,143
Long-term debt due within one year	456	526
Total current liabilities	3,647	3,669
Deferred income taxes	16,061	15,637
Long-term debt	14,142	12,139
Intangible liabilities, net	1,285	1,496
Casualty and environmental liabilities	778	905
Pension and retiree health and welfare liability	732	769
Other liabilities	1,150	1,016
Total liabilities	37,795	35,631
Commitments and contingencies (see Notes 2, 6 and 7)		
Equity:		
Member's equity	34,642	34,952
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(211)	(203)
Total equity	34,431	34,749
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 72,226	\$ 70,380

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(In millions)  
(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net income	\$ 2,440	\$ 2,063
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,408	1,350
Deferred income taxes	481	1,098
Long-term casualty and environmental liabilities, net	(157)	(13)
Contribution to defined benefit pension plan	(36)	—
Other, net	(149)	(183)
Changes in current assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable, net	(93)	(181)
Materials and supplies	(47)	(60)
Other current assets	(47)	(92)
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	107	308
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,907	4,290
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Capital expenditures excluding equipment	(1,840)	(1,852)
Acquisition of equipment	(834)	(476)
Other, net	(216)	(168)
Net cash used for investing activities	(2,890)	(2,496)
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	2,500	1,500
Payments on long-term debt	(437)	(557)
Cash distributions	(2,750)	(2,750)
Other, net	(31)	(15)
Net cash used for financing activities	(718)	(1,822)
Increase (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	299	(28)
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Beginning of period	1,960	2,087
End of period	\$ 2,259	\$ 2,059
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION</b>		
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$ 554	\$ 514
Capital investments accrued but not yet paid	\$ 151	\$ 155
Income taxes paid, net of refunds	\$ 807	\$ (237)
Non-cash asset financing	\$ —	\$ 1

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**(In millions)**  
**(Unaudited)**

	<b>Member's Equity</b>	<b>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss</b>	<b>Total Equity</b>
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 34,952	\$ (203)	\$ 34,749
Cash distributions to Parent	(2,750)	—	(2,750)
Comprehensive income, net of tax	2,440	(8)	2,432
Balance at September 30, 2012	\$ 34,642	\$ (211)	\$ 34,431

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**

**1. Accounting Policies and Interim Results**

The Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, including the financial statements and notes thereto. Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC (BNSF) is a holding company that conducts no operating activities and owns no significant assets other than through its interests in its subsidiaries. The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of BNSF and its majority-owned subsidiaries, all of which are separate legal entities (collectively, the Company). BNSF's principal operating subsidiary is BNSF Railway Company (BNSF Railway). All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation was incorporated in the State of Delaware on December 16, 1994. On February 12, 2010, Berkshire Hathaway Inc., a Delaware corporation (Berkshire), acquired 100% of the outstanding shares of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation common stock that it did not already own. The acquisition was completed through the merger (the Merger) of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation with and into R Acquisition Company, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Berkshire (Merger Sub), with Merger Sub continuing as the surviving entity. In connection with the Merger, Merger Sub changed its name to "Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC" and remains an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Berkshire. Berkshire's cost of acquiring BNSF was pushed-down to establish a new accounting basis for BNSF beginning as of February 13, 2010. Earnings per share data has not been presented because BNSF has not issued stock or membership interests to the public.

The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations to be expected for the entire year. In the opinion of management, the unaudited financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments, except as disclosed) necessary for a fair statement of BNSF's consolidated financial position as of September 30, 2012, and the results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011.

Certain prior year amounts in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows have been adjusted to correctly reflect the presentation of changes in accrued but unpaid capital items. The correction did not affect the Company's previously reported results of operations or financial position.

**2. Fuel**

Fuel costs represented 30 percent and 29 percent of total operating expenses during the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The Company may enter into fuel hedge instruments from time to time; however, the Company has not entered into any new derivative contracts subsequent to the Merger and all previously open derivatives expired by June 30, 2012. As of December 31, 2011, BNSF had existing fuel-derivative agreements covering approximately 36 million gallons.

**Derivative Activities**

The Company had formally documented the relationship between the hedging instrument and the hedged item, as well as the risk management objective and strategy for the use of the hedging instrument. This documentation included linking the derivatives that were designated as fair value or cash flow hedges to specific assets or liabilities on the balance sheet, commitments or forecasted transactions. The Company assessed at the time a derivative contract was entered into, and at least quarterly thereafter, whether the derivative item was effective in offsetting the changes in fair value or cash flows. Any change in fair value resulting from ineffectiveness, as defined by authoritative accounting guidance related to derivatives and hedging, was recognized in current period earnings. For derivative instruments that were designated and qualified as cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative instrument was recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss (AOCL) as a separate component of equity and reclassified into earnings in the period during which the hedge transaction affects earnings. Cash flows related to fuel derivatives are classified as operating activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

The maximum amount of loss the Company could have incurred from credit risk based on the gross fair value of derivative instruments in asset positions and the Company's net asset exposure to counterparty credit risk was \$0 million and \$24 million as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. As of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the amount recorded for derivative transactions, net of any master netting arrangements was the same amount as derivative positions presented gross of any master netting arrangements.



**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

The table below contains a summary of all derivative positions reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements, presented gross of any master netting arrangements (in millions):

<b>Fair Value of Derivative Instruments</b>			
<b>Asset Derivatives</b>			
	<b>September 30, 2012</b>	<b>December 31, 2011</b>	<b>Balance Sheet Location</b>
<b>Asset derivatives designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815-20</b>			
Fuel contracts	\$ —	\$ 24	Other current assets
Total asset derivatives designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815-20	\$ —	\$ 24	
Total asset derivatives	\$ —	\$ 24	

**The Effects of Derivative Instruments Gains and Losses  
for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2012 and 2011**

Derivatives in ASC 815-20 Cash Flow Hedging Relationships

	<b>Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) on Derivatives (Effective Portion)</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Fuel Contracts	\$ —	\$ (35)
Total derivatives	\$ —	\$ (35)

	<b>Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized from AOCL into Income</b>	<b>Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized from AOCL into Income (Effective Portion)</b>	
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Fuel Contracts	Fuel expense	\$ —	\$ 18
Total derivatives		\$ —	\$ 18

	<b>Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivatives</b>	<b>Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)<sup>a</sup></b>	
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Fuel Contracts	Fuel expense	\$ —	\$ (5)
Total derivatives		\$ —	\$ (5)

<sup>a</sup> No portion of the gain or (loss) was excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness for the periods then ended.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

**The Effects of Derivative Instruments Gains and Losses  
for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012 and 2011**

Derivatives in ASC 815-20 Cash Flow Hedging Relationships

	<b>Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) on Derivatives (Effective Portion)</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Fuel Contracts	\$ 7	\$ 20
Total derivatives	\$ 7	\$ 20

	<b>Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized from AOCL into Income</b>	<b>Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized from AOCL into Income (Effective Portion)</b>	
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Fuel Contracts	Fuel expense	\$ 25	\$ 75
Total derivatives		\$ 25	\$ 75

	<b>Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivatives</b>	<b>Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)<sup>a</sup></b>	
		<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Fuel Contracts	Fuel expense	\$ (3)	\$ (14)
Total derivatives		\$ (3)	\$ (14)

<sup>a</sup> No portion of the gain or (loss) was excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness for the periods then ended.

The Company utilized a market approach using the forward commodity price for the periods hedged to value its fuel-derivative swaps and costless collars. As such, the fair values of these instruments were classified as Level 2 valuations under authoritative accounting guidance related to fair value measurements.

Additional disclosure related to derivative instruments is included in Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

**3. Accounts Receivable, Net**

Accounts receivable, net consists of freight and other receivables, reduced by an allowance for bill adjustments and uncollectible accounts, based upon expected collectibility. At September 30, 2012, and December 31, 2011, \$50 million and \$39 million, respectively, of such allowances had been recorded.

At September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, \$38 million and \$31 million, respectively, of accounts receivable were greater than 90 days old.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**
**4. Other Intangible Assets and Liabilities**

Amortized intangible assets and liabilities were as follows (in millions):

	As of September 30, 2012		As of December 31, 2011	
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
Amortized intangible assets	\$ 2,013	\$ 822	\$ 2,013	\$ 593
Amortized intangible liabilities	\$ 2,056	\$ 771	\$ 2,056	\$ 560

Amortized intangible assets primarily consisted of internally developed software and franchise and customer assets. Amortized intangible liabilities primarily consisted of customer and shortline contracts which were in an unfavorable position at the date of Merger.

Amortized intangible assets and liabilities are amortized based on the estimated pattern in which the economic benefits are expected to be consumed or on a straight-line basis over their estimated economic lives.

Amortization of intangible assets and liabilities was as follows (in millions):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
Amortization of intangible assets	\$ 229	\$ 236
Amortization of intangible liabilities	\$ 211	\$ 221

Amortization of intangible assets and liabilities for the next five years is expected to approximate the following (in millions):

	Amortization of intangible assets	Amortization of intangible liabilities
Remainder of 2012	\$ 77	\$ 71
2013	\$ 306	\$ 252
2014	\$ 306	\$ 179
2015	\$ 54	\$ 115
2016	\$ 31	\$ 101

**5. Other Assets**

In July 2010, the Company entered into a low-income housing partnership (the Partnership) as the limited partner, holding a 99.9% interest in the Partnership. The Partnership is a variable interest entity (VIE), with the purpose of developing and operating low-income housing rental properties. Recovery of the Company's investment is accomplished through the utilization of low-income housing tax credits and the tax benefits of Partnership losses. The general partner, who holds a 0.1% interest in the Partnership, is an unrelated third party and is responsible for controlling and managing the business and financial operation of the Partnership. As the Company does not have the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the Partnership's economic performance, the Company is not the primary beneficiary and therefore, does not consolidate the Partnership. As of September 30, 2012, the assets of the unconsolidated Partnership totaled approximately \$490 million. The Company does not provide financial support to the Partnership that it was not previously contractually obligated to provide.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

The Company has accounted for its investment in the Partnership using the effective yield method. The risk of loss of the Company's investment in the Partnership is considered low as an affiliate of the general partner has provided certain guarantees of tax credits and minimum annual returns. The Company's maximum exposure to loss related to the Partnership is the unamortized investment balance. The following table provides information as of September 30, 2012 (in millions):

<b>Unamortized investment balance classified as Other Assets</b>	<b>Remaining commitments classified as Other Liabilities</b>	<b>Maximum exposure to loss</b>
\$ 453	\$ 148	\$ 453

Of the remaining commitments, \$130 million is due at the end of 2012 and \$18 million is due at the end of 2013.

**6. Debt****Notes and Debentures**

In August 2012, BNSF issued \$600 million of 3.050 percent debentures due September 1, 2022 and \$650 million of 4.375 percent debentures due September 1, 2042. The net proceeds from the sale of the debentures will be used for general corporate purposes, which may include but are not limited to working capital, capital expenditures, repayment of outstanding indebtedness and distributions.

In July and January 2012, the Board of Managers (the Board) of the Company authorized an additional \$1 billion and \$1.5 billion, respectively of debt securities that may be issued pursuant to the debt shelf registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). As of September 30, 2012, \$750 million remained authorized by the Board to be issued through the SEC debt shelf registration process.

In March 2012, BNSF issued \$625 million of 3.05 percent debentures due March 15, 2022 and \$625 million of 4.40 percent debentures due March 15, 2042. The net proceeds from the sale of the debentures will be used for general corporate purposes, which may include but are not limited to working capital, capital expenditures, repayment of outstanding indebtedness and distributions.

The Company is required to maintain certain financial covenants in conjunction with \$500 million of certain issued and outstanding junior subordinated notes. As of September 30, 2012, the Company was in compliance with these covenants. In the event of non-compliance, the Company would be required to pay any accrued and unpaid interest.

**Fair Value of Debt Instruments**

At September 30, 2012, and December 31, 2011, the fair value of BNSF's debt, excluding capital leases and unamortized gains on interest rate swaps, was \$15,483 million and \$12,947 million, respectively, while the book value, which also excludes capital leases and the associated unamortized fair value adjustment under acquisition method accounting related to capital leases and unamortized gains on interest rate swaps, was \$13,480 million and \$11,395 million, respectively. The fair value of BNSF's debt is primarily based on market value price models using observable market-based data for the same or similar issues, or on the estimated rates that would be offered to BNSF for debt of the same remaining maturities (Level 2 inputs). The fair value of the Company's cash equivalents approximates their carrying value due to the short-term maturities of these instruments.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

**Guarantees**

As of September 30, 2012, BNSF has not been called upon to perform under the guarantees specifically disclosed in this footnote and does not anticipate a significant performance risk in the foreseeable future.

Debt and other obligations of non-consolidated entities guaranteed by the Company as of September 30, 2012, were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Guarantees						Capitalized Obligations
	BNSF Ownership Percentage	Principal Amount Guaranteed	Maximum Future Payments	Maximum Recourse Amount <sup>a</sup>	Remaining Term (in years)		
Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.	0.5%	\$ 190	\$ 190	\$ —	Termination of Ownership	\$ 2	
Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP	—%	N/A <sup>d</sup>	N/A <sup>d</sup>	N/A <sup>d</sup>	5	\$ 8	
All other	—%	\$ 9	\$ 15	\$ —	Various	\$ —	

<sup>a</sup> Reflects the maximum amount the Company could recover from a third party other than the counterparty.

<sup>b</sup> Reflects capitalized obligations that are recorded on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet.

<sup>c</sup> Reflects the asset and corresponding liability for the fair value of these guarantees required by authoritative accounting guidance related to guarantees.

<sup>d</sup> There is no cap to the liability that can be sought from BNSF for BNSF's negligence or the negligence of the indemnified party. However, BNSF could receive reimbursement from certain insurance policies if the liability exceeds a certain amount.

***Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.***

Santa Fe Pacific Pipelines, Inc., an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of BNSF, has a guarantee in connection with its remaining special limited partnership interest in Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline Partners, L.P. (SFPP), a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P., to be paid only upon default by the partnership. All obligations with respect to the guarantee will cease upon termination of ownership rights, which would occur upon a put notice issued by BNSF or the exercise of the call rights by the general partners of SFPP.

***Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP***

In the third quarter of 2007, BNSF entered into an indemnity agreement with Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP (Chevron Phillips), granting certain rights of indemnity from BNSF, in order to facilitate access to a new storage facility. Under certain circumstances, payment under this obligation may be required in the event Chevron Phillips were to incur certain liabilities or other incremental costs resulting from trackage access.

***All Other***

As of September 30, 2012, BNSF guaranteed \$9 million of debt. These guarantees expire between 2012 and 2026.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)*****Indemnities***

In the ordinary course of business, BNSF enters into agreements with third parties that include indemnification clauses. The Company believes that these clauses are generally customary for the types of agreements in which they are included. At times, these clauses may involve indemnification for the acts of the Company, its employees and agents, indemnification for another party's acts, indemnification for future events, indemnification based upon a certain standard of performance, indemnification for liabilities arising out of the Company's use of leased equipment or other property, or other types of indemnification. Despite the uncertainty whether events which would trigger the indemnification obligations would ever occur, the Company does not believe that these indemnity agreements will have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, financial position or liquidity. Additionally, the Company believes that, due to lack of historical payment experience, the fair value of indemnities cannot be estimated with any amount of certainty. However, the fair value of any such amount would be immaterial to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Agreements that contain unique circumstances, particularly agreements that contain guarantees that indemnify for another party's acts, are disclosed separately, if appropriate. Unless separately disclosed above, no fair value liability related to indemnities has been recorded in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Variable Interest Entities - Leases**

BNSF Railway has entered into various equipment lease transactions in which the structure of the lease contains VIEs. These VIEs were created solely for the lease transactions and have no other activities, assets or liabilities outside of the lease transactions. In some of the arrangements, BNSF Railway has the option to purchase some or all of the equipment at a fixed-price, thereby creating variable interests for BNSF Railway in the VIEs. The future minimum lease payments associated with the VIE leases were approximately \$4 billion as of September 30, 2012.

In the event the leased equipment is destroyed, BNSF Railway is obligated to either replace the equipment or pay a fixed loss amount. The inclusion of the fixed loss amount is a standard clause within equipment lease arrangements. Historically, BNSF Railway has not incurred significant losses related to this clause. As such, it is not anticipated that the maximum exposure to loss would materially differ from the future minimum lease payments.

BNSF Railway does not provide financial support to the VIEs that it was not previously contractually obligated to provide.

BNSF Railway maintains and operates the equipment based on contractual obligations within the lease arrangements, which set specific guidelines consistent within the industry. As such, BNSF Railway has no control over activities that could materially impact the fair value of the leased equipment. BNSF Railway does not hold the power to direct the activities of the VIEs and therefore does not control the ongoing activities that have a significant impact on the economic performance of the VIEs. Additionally, BNSF Railway does not have the obligation to absorb losses of the VIEs or the right to receive benefits of the VIEs that could potentially be significant to the VIEs. Depending on market conditions, the fixed-price purchase options could potentially provide benefit to the Company; however, any benefits potentially received from a fixed-price purchase option are expected to be minimal. Based on these factors, BNSF Railway is not the primary beneficiary of the VIEs. As BNSF Railway is not the primary beneficiary and the VIE leases are classified as operating leases, there are no assets or liabilities related to the VIEs recorded in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet.

**7. Commitments and Contingencies****Personal Injury**

Personal injury claims, including asbestos claims and employee work-related injuries and third-party injuries (collectively, other personal injury), are a significant expense for the railroad industry. Personal injury claims by BNSF Railway employees are subject to the provisions of the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA) rather than state workers' compensation laws. FELA's system of requiring the finding of fault, coupled with unscheduled awards and reliance on the jury system, contributed to increased expenses in past years. Other proceedings include claims by non-employees for punitive as well as compensatory damages. A few proceedings purport to be class actions. The variability present in settling these claims, including non-employee personal injury and matters in which punitive damages are alleged, could result in increased expenses in future years. BNSF has implemented a number of safety programs designed to reduce the number of personal injuries as well as the associated claims and personal injury expense.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

Other than the fair value adjustments recorded in the application of acquisition method accounting related to the Merger, as discussed in Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, BNSF records an undiscounted liability for personal injury claims when the expected loss is both probable and reasonably estimable. The liability and ultimate expense projections are estimated using standard actuarial methodologies. Liabilities recorded for unasserted personal injury claims are based on information currently available. Due to the inherent uncertainty involved in projecting future events such as the number of claims filed each year, developments in judicial and legislative standards and the average costs to settle projected claims, actual costs may differ from amounts recorded. Expense accruals and any required adjustments are classified as materials and other in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

***Asbestos***

The Company is party to a number of personal injury claims by employees and non-employees who may have been exposed to asbestos. The heaviest exposure for BNSF employees was due to work conducted in and around the use of steam locomotive engines that were phased out between the years of 1950 and 1967. However, other types of exposures, including exposure from locomotive component parts and building materials, continued after 1967 until they were substantially eliminated at BNSF by 1985.

BNSF assesses its unasserted asbestos liability exposure on an annual basis during the third quarter. BNSF determines its asbestos liability by estimating its exposed population, the number of claims likely to be filed, the number of claims that will likely require payment and the estimated cost per claim. Estimated filing and dismissal rates and average cost per claim are determined utilizing recent claim data and trends.

During the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, the Company analyzed recent filing and payment trends to ensure the assumptions used by BNSF to estimate its future asbestos liability were reasonable. In the third quarter of 2012, management recorded a decrease in expense of \$15 million due primarily to favorable settlements. In the third quarter of 2011, management determined that the liability remained appropriate and no change was recorded. The Company plans to update its study again in the third quarter of 2013.

Throughout the year, BNSF monitors actual experience against the number of forecasted claims and expected claim payments and will record adjustments to the Company's estimates as necessary.

Based on BNSF's estimate of the potentially exposed employees and related mortality assumptions, it is anticipated that unasserted asbestos claims will continue to be filed through the year 2050. The Company recorded an amount for the full estimated filing period through 2050 because it had a relatively finite exposed population (former and current employees hired prior to 1985), which it was able to identify and reasonably estimate and about which it had obtained reliable demographic data (including age, hire date and occupation) derived from industry or BNSF specific data that was the basis for the study. BNSF projects that approximately 60, 80 and 95 percent of the future unasserted asbestos claims will be filed within the next 10, 15 and 25 years, respectively.

***Other Personal Injury***

BNSF estimates its other personal injury liability claims and expense quarterly based on the covered population, activity levels and trends in frequency and the costs of covered injuries. Estimates include unasserted claims except for certain repetitive stress and other occupational trauma claims that allegedly result from prolonged repeated events or exposure. Such claims are estimated on an as-reported basis because the Company cannot estimate the range of reasonably possible loss due to other non-work related contributing causes of such injuries and the fact that continued exposure is required for the potential injury to manifest itself as a claim. BNSF has not experienced any significant adverse trends related to these types of claims in recent years.

BNSF monitors quarterly actual experience against the number of forecasted claims to be received, the forecasted number of claims closing with payment and expected claim payments. Adjustments to the Company's estimates are recorded quarterly as necessary or more frequently as new events or revised estimates develop.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

The following tables summarize the activity in the Company's accrued obligations for asbestos and other personal injury matters (in millions):

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Beginning balance	\$ 511	\$ 561
Accruals	(5)	19
Payments	(33)	(23)
Ending balance	\$ 473	\$ 557

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Beginning balance	\$ 540	\$ 575
Accruals	45	62
Payments	(112)	(80)
Ending balance	\$ 473	\$ 557

At September 30, 2012, \$105 million was included in current liabilities. In addition, defense and processing costs, which are recorded on an as-reported basis, were not included in the recorded liability. The Company is primarily self-insured for personal injury claims.

Because of the uncertainty surrounding the ultimate outcome of personal injury claims, it is reasonably possible that future costs to settle personal injury claims may range from approximately \$425 million to \$540 million. However, BNSF believes that the \$473 million recorded at September 30, 2012, is the best estimate of the Company's future obligation for the settlement of personal injury claims.

The amounts recorded by BNSF for personal injury liabilities were based upon currently known facts. Future events, such as the number of new claims to be filed each year, the average cost of disposing of claims, as well as the numerous uncertainties surrounding personal injury litigation in the United States, could cause the actual costs to be higher or lower than projected.

Although the final outcome of personal injury matters cannot be predicted with certainty, considering among other things the meritorious legal defenses available and liabilities that have been recorded, it is the opinion of BNSF that none of these items, when finally resolved, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or liquidity. However, the occurrence of a number of these items in the same period could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations in a particular quarter or fiscal year.

***BNSF Insurance Company***

The Company has a consolidated, wholly-owned subsidiary, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Insurance Company, Ltd. (BNSF IC) that provides insurance coverage for certain risks, FELA claims, railroad protective and force account insurance claims and certain excess general liability and property coverage, and certain other claims which are subject to reinsurance. BNSF IC has entered into annual reinsurance treaty agreements with several other companies. The treaty agreements insure workers compensation, general liability, auto liability and FELA risk. In accordance with the agreements, BNSF IC cedes a portion of its FELA exposure through the treaty and assumes a proportionate share of the entire risk. Each year BNSF IC reviews the objectives and performance of the treaty to determine its continued participation in the treaty. The treaty agreements provide for certain protections against the risk of treaty participants' non-performance. On an on-going basis, BNSF and/or the treaty manager reviews the credit-worthiness of each of the participants. BNSF does not believe its exposure to treaty participants' non-performance is material at this time. BNSF IC typically invests in time deposits and money market accounts. At September 30, 2012, there was \$477 million related to these third-party investments, which were classified as cash and cash equivalents on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet, as compared with \$500 million at December 31, 2011.



**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)****Environmental**

The Company's operations, as well as those of its competitors, are subject to extensive federal, state and local environmental regulation. BNSF's operating procedures include practices to protect the environment from the risks inherent in railroad operations, which frequently involve transporting chemicals and other hazardous materials. Additionally, many of BNSF's land holdings are and have been used for industrial or transportation-related purposes or leased to commercial or industrial companies whose activities may have resulted in discharges onto the property. As a result, BNSF is subject to environmental cleanup and enforcement actions. In particular, the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), also known as the Superfund law, as well as similar state laws, generally impose joint and several liability for cleanup and enforcement costs on current and former owners and operators of a site without regard to fault or the legality of the original conduct. BNSF has been notified that it is a potentially responsible party (PRP) for study and cleanup costs at Superfund sites for which investigation and remediation payments are or will be made or are yet to be determined (the Superfund sites) and, in many instances, is one of several PRPs. In addition, BNSF may be considered a PRP under certain other laws. Accordingly, under CERCLA and other federal and state statutes, BNSF may be held jointly and severally liable for all environmental costs associated with a particular site. If there are other PRPs, BNSF generally participates in the cleanup of these sites through cost-sharing agreements with terms that vary from site to site. Costs are typically allocated based on such factors as relative volumetric contribution of material, the amount of time the site was owned or operated and/or the portion of the total site owned or operated by each PRP.

BNSF is involved in a number of administrative and judicial proceedings and other mandatory cleanup efforts for 258 sites, including 19 Superfund sites, at which it is participating in the study or cleanup, or both, of alleged environmental contamination.

Liabilities for environmental cleanup costs are recorded when BNSF's liability for environmental cleanup is probable and reasonably estimable. Subsequent adjustments to initial estimates are recorded as necessary based upon additional information developed in subsequent periods. Environmental costs include initial site surveys and environmental studies as well as costs for remediation of sites determined to be contaminated.

BNSF estimates the ultimate cost of cleanup efforts at its known environmental sites on an annual basis during the third quarter. Ultimate cost estimates for environmental sites are based on current estimated percentage to closure ratios, possible remediation workplans and estimates of the costs and likelihood of each possible outcome, historical payment patterns, and benchmark patterns developed from data accumulated from industry and public sources, including the Environmental Protection Agency and other governmental agencies. These factors incorporate into the estimates experience gained from cleanup efforts at other similar sites.

Annual studies do not include: (i) contaminated sites of which the Company is not aware; (ii) additional amounts for third-party tort claims, which arise out of contaminants allegedly migrating from BNSF property, due to a limited number of sites; or (iii) natural resource damage claims. BNSF estimates third-party tort claims on a site by site basis when the liability for such claims is probable and reasonably estimable. BNSF's recorded liability for third-party tort claims as of September 30, 2012, was \$16 million.

On a quarterly basis, BNSF monitors actual experience against the forecasted remediation and related payments made on existing sites and conducts ongoing environmental contingency analyses, which consider a combination of factors including independent consulting reports, site visits, legal reviews and analysis of the likelihood of other PRP's participation in, and their ability to pay for, cleanup. Adjustments to the Company's estimates will continue to be recorded as necessary based on developments in subsequent periods. Additionally, environmental accruals, which are classified as materials and other in the Consolidated Statements of Income, include amounts for newly identified sites or contaminants, third-party claims and legal fees incurred for defense of third-party claims and recovery efforts.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

The following tables summarize the activity in the Company's accrued obligations for environmental matters (in millions):

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Beginning balance	\$ 533	\$ 565
Accruals	(2)	31
Payments	(51)	(13)
Ending balance	\$ 480	\$ 583

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Beginning balance	\$ 570	\$ 578
Accruals	(13)	41
Payments	(77)	(36)
Ending balance	\$ 480	\$ 583

At September 30, 2012, \$70 million was included in current liabilities.

In the second and third quarters of 2012, settlements with various parties resulted in reductions in expense of approximately \$15 million and \$10 million, respectively.

During the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, the Company analyzed recent data and trends to ensure the assumptions used by BNSF to estimate its future environmental liability were reasonable. As a result of this study, in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, management recorded an additional expense of \$3 million and \$29 million as of the respective June 30 measurement dates. The Company plans to update its study again in the third quarter of 2013.

BNSF's environmental liabilities are not discounted. BNSF anticipates that the majority of the accrued costs at September 30, 2012, will be paid over the next ten years, and no individual site is considered to be material.

Liabilities recorded for environmental costs represent BNSF's best estimate of its probable future obligation for the remediation and settlement of these sites and include both asserted and unasserted claims. Although recorded liabilities include BNSF's best estimate of all probable costs, without reduction for anticipated recoveries from third parties, BNSF's total cleanup costs at these sites cannot be predicted with certainty due to various factors such as the extent of corrective actions that may be required, evolving environmental laws and regulations, advances in environmental technology, the extent of other parties' participation in cleanup efforts, developments in ongoing environmental analyses related to sites determined to be contaminated and developments in environmental surveys and studies of contaminated sites.

Because of the uncertainty surrounding these factors, it is reasonably possible that future costs for environmental liabilities may range from approximately \$370 million to \$650 million. However, BNSF believes that the \$480 million recorded at September 30, 2012, is the best estimate of the Company's future obligation for environmental costs.

Although the final outcome of these environmental matters cannot be predicted with certainty, it is the opinion of BNSF that none of these items, when finally resolved, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or liquidity. However, the occurrence of a number of these items in the same period could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations in a particular quarter or fiscal year.

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

**Other Claims and Litigation**

In addition to asbestos, other personal injury and environmental matters discussed above, BNSF and its subsidiaries are also parties to a number of other legal actions and claims, governmental proceedings and private civil suits arising in the ordinary course of business, including those related to disputes and complaints involving certain transportation rates and charges. Some of the legal proceedings include claims for punitive as well as compensatory damages, and a few proceedings purport to be class actions. Although the final outcome of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, considering among other things the meritorious legal defenses available and liabilities that have been recorded along with applicable insurance, BNSF currently believes that none of these items, when finally resolved, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or liquidity. However, an unexpected adverse resolution of one or more of these items could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations in a particular quarter or fiscal year.

**8. Employment Benefit Plans**

Components of the net cost for the periods presented below for certain employee benefit plans were as follows (in millions):

<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>Pension Benefits</b>	
	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Service cost	\$ 10	\$ 8
Interest cost	25	26
Expected return on plan assets	(30)	(30)
Amortization of net loss	3	—
Net cost recognized	\$ 8	\$ 4

<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>Pension Benefits</b>	
	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Service cost	\$ 29	\$ 24
Interest cost	75	77
Expected return on plan assets	(89)	(90)
Amortization of net loss	8	—
Net cost recognized	\$ 23	\$ 11

<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits</b>	
	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Interest cost	\$ 4	\$ 4
Net cost recognized	\$ 4	\$ 4

<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits</b>	
	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Service cost	\$ 1	\$ 1
Interest cost	10	11
Amortization of net loss	1	—
Net cost recognized	\$ 12	\$ 12

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) - (Continued)**

The Company is not required to make contributions to the BNSF Retirement Plan in 2012; however, the Company made a discretionary contribution of \$36 million in January 2012.

**9. Related Party Transactions**

The companies identified as affiliates of BNSF include Berkshire and its subsidiaries. During both the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, the Company declared and paid cash distributions of \$2.75 billion to its parent company. For the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, the Company received a tax refund of \$0 million and \$426 million from Berkshire and made tax payments of \$681 million and \$173 million to Berkshire, respectively.

**10. Comprehensive Income**

Other comprehensive income refers to revenues, expenses, gains and losses that under generally accepted accounting principles are included in comprehensive income, a component of equity within the Consolidated Balance Sheets, rather than net income on the Consolidated Statements of Income. Under existing accounting standards, other comprehensive income may include, among other things, unrecognized gains and losses and prior service credit related to pension and other postretirement benefit plans and accounting for derivative financial instruments, which qualify for cash flow hedge accounting.

The following table provides the components of accumulated other comprehensive loss (in millions):

	September 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
Unrecognized prior service credit and actuarial losses, net of tax (see Note 8)	\$ (207)	\$ (213)
Fuel hedge mark-to-market, net of tax (see Note 2)	—	11
Accumulated other comprehensive loss of equity method investees	(4)	(1)
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss	\$ (211)	\$ (203)

**11. Accounting Pronouncements**

No pronouncements materially affecting the Company's financial statements have been issued since the filing of the Company's 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**Item 2. Management’s Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations.**

Management’s narrative analysis relates to the results of operations of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC and its majority-owned subsidiaries (collectively BNSF, Registrant or Company). The principal operating subsidiary of BNSF is BNSF Railway Company (BNSF Railway) through which BNSF derives substantially all of its revenues. The following narrative analysis should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying notes.

The following narrative analysis of results of operations includes a comparative analysis of the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011.

**Results of Operations**

**Revenues Summary**

The following tables present BNSF’s revenue information by business group:

	<b>Revenues (in millions)</b>		<b>Cars / Units (in thousands)</b>	
	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Consumer Products	\$ 4,904	\$ 4,403	3,581	3,406
Industrial Products	3,681	3,014	1,255	1,115
Coal	3,611	3,658	1,623	1,676
Agricultural Products	2,726	2,767	761	787
Total Freight Revenues	14,922	13,842	7,220	6,984
Other Revenues	485	442		
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 15,407	\$ 14,284		

	<b>Average Revenue Per Car / Unit</b>	
	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Consumer Products	\$ 1,369	\$ 1,293
Industrial Products	2,933	2,703
Coal	2,225	2,183
Agricultural Products	3,582	3,516
Total Freight Revenues	\$ 2,067	\$ 1,982

**Fuel Surcharges**

Freight revenues include both revenue for transportation services and fuel surcharges. BNSF’s fuel surcharge program is intended to recover its incremental fuel costs when fuel prices exceed a threshold fuel price. Fuel surcharges are calculated differently depending on the type of commodity transported. BNSF has two standard fuel surcharge programs – Percent of Revenue and Mileage-Based. In addition, in certain commodities, fuel surcharge is calculated using a fuel price from a time period that can be up to 60 days earlier. In a period of volatile fuel prices or changing customer business mix, changes in fuel expense and fuel surcharge may significantly differ.

The following table presents fuel surcharge and fuel expense information (in millions):

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Total fuel expense <sup>a</sup>	\$ 3,286	\$ 3,124
BNSF fuel surcharges	\$ 2,080	\$ 1,971

<sup>a</sup> Total fuel expense includes locomotive and non-locomotive fuel as well as gains and losses from fuel derivatives, which do not impact the fuel surcharge program.

***Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012, vs the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011***

**Revenues**

Revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2012, were \$15,407 million, up 8 percent as compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2011. The increase in revenues is due to the following changes in underlying trends in revenues:

- Average revenue per car / unit increased for all business units as a result of increased rate per car / unit.

In addition to an increase in average revenue per car / unit, the following changes in underlying trends in volumes also impacted the change in revenues:

- Consumer Products unit volumes increased primarily due to higher domestic intermodal volumes as a result of highway conversion to rail and higher automotive volumes due to increased North American auto sales.
- Industrial Products unit volumes increased primarily due to increased shipments of petroleum products and of construction products, principally sand.
- Coal unit volumes decreased primarily due to a decrease in coal demand as a result of low natural gas prices, a mild winter and spring and high utility stockpiles.
- Agricultural Products unit volumes decreased primarily due to a decrease in wheat and corn exports, partially offset by higher soybeans and domestic corn shipments.

**Expenses**

Operating expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2012, were \$11,035 million, an increase of \$444 million, or 4 percent, as compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2011. A significant portion of this increase is due to the following changes in underlying trends in expenses:

- Increased unit volumes and inflation contributed to the increase in compensation and benefits expense, partially offset by weather-related costs in 2011.
- Fuel expense increased due to higher fuel prices and volume, partially offset by improved efficiency in 2012 and severe weather conditions in 2011.
- Purchased services increased due to higher volume-related costs, including purchased transportation for BNSF Logistics, a wholly-owned third-party logistics company, and increased equipment maintenance costs, partially offset by weather impacts in 2011.
- There were no significant changes in underlying trends for depreciation and amortization, equipment rents and materials and other expense.
- Interest expense increased due to a higher average debt balance.
- The effective tax rate was 37.5 percent and 36.9 percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The 2012 effective tax rate includes a favorable federal audit settlement and the 2011 effective tax rate includes favorable state tax law changes.

## **Forward-Looking Information**

To the extent that statements made by the Company relate to the Company's future economic performance or business outlook, projections or expectations of financial or operational results, or refer to matters that are not historical facts, such statements are "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws.

Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties, and actual performance or results may differ materially. For a discussion of material risks and uncertainties that the Company faces, see the discussion in Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Economic and industry conditions:** material adverse changes in economic or industry conditions, both in the United States and globally; volatility in the capital or credit markets including changes affecting the timely availability of and cost of capital; changes in customer demand, effects of adverse economic conditions affecting shippers or BNSF's supplier base, and effects due to more stringent regulatory policies such as the regulation of carbon dioxide emissions that could reduce the demand for coal or governmental tariffs or subsidies that could affect the demand for grain, the impact of low natural gas prices on coal demand for electric power plants, changes in fuel prices and other key materials and disruptions in supply chains for these materials; competition and consolidation within the transportation industry; and changes in crew availability, labor and benefits costs and labor difficulties, including stoppages affecting either BNSF's operations or customers' abilities to deliver goods to BNSF for shipment.

- **Legal, legislative and regulatory factors:** developments and changes in laws and regulations, including those affecting train operations or the marketing of services; the ultimate outcome of shipper and rate claims subject to adjudication; or claims, investigations or litigation alleging violations of the antitrust laws; increased economic regulation of the rail industry through legislative action and revised rules and standards applied by the U.S. Surface Transportation Board in various areas including rates and services; developments in environmental investigations or proceedings with respect to rail operations or current or past ownership or control of real property or properties owned by others impacted by BNSF operations; losses resulting from claims and litigation relating to personal injuries, asbestos and other occupational diseases; the release of hazardous materials, environmental contamination and damage to property; regulation, restrictions or caps, or other controls of diesel emissions that could affect operations or increase costs; the availability of adequate insurance to cover the risks associated with operations.

- **Operating factors:** changes in operating conditions and costs; operational and other difficulties in implementing positive train control technology, including increased compliance or operational costs or penalties; restrictions on development and expansion plans due to environmental concerns; constraints due to the nation's aging infrastructure; disruptions to BNSF Railway's technology network (including computer systems, communications equipment and software), such as cybersecurity intrusions, misappropriation of assets or sensitive information, corruption of data or operations disruptions; as well as natural events such as severe weather, fires, floods and earthquakes or man-made or other disruptions of BNSF Railway's or other railroads' operating systems, structures, or equipment including the effects of acts of terrorism on the Company's system or other railroads' systems or other links in the transportation chain.

The Company cautions against placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which reflect its current beliefs and are based on information currently available to it as of the date a forward-looking statement is made. The Company undertakes no obligation to revise forward-looking statements to reflect future events, changes in circumstances, or changes in beliefs. In the event the Company does update any forward-looking statement, no inference should be made that the Company will make additional updates with respect to that statement, related matters, or any other forward-looking statements.

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**

Based on their evaluation as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q, BNSF's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that BNSF's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by BNSF in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to BNSF's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Additionally, as of the end of the period covered by this report, BNSF's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that there have been no changes in BNSF's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during BNSF's third fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, BNSF's internal control over financial reporting.



**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**

**PART II OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 6. Exhibits.**

See Index to Exhibits on page E-1 for a description of the exhibits filed as part of this report.



**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES****Exhibit Index**

<u>Exhibit Number and Description</u>	<u>Incorporated by Reference (if applicable)</u>			
	<u>Form</u>	<u>File Date</u>	<u>File No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
3.1 Certificate of Formation dated November 2, 2009.	8-K	2/16/2010	001-11535	3.1
3.2 Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC, dated as of February 12, 2010.	8-K	2/16/2010	001-11535	3.2
3.3 Written Consent of sole member of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC, dated April 8, 2010, amending and restating certain sections of the Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC dated as of February 12, 2010.	8-K	4/14/2010	001-11535	3.2
4.1 Eleventh Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 23, 2012, to Indenture dated as of December 1, 1995 between Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee	8-K	8/23/2012	001-11535	4.1
4.2 Certificate of Determination as to the terms of BNSF's 3.050% Debentures due September 1, 2022 and 4.375% Debentures due September 1, 2042	8-K	8/23/2012	001-11535	4.2
<a href="#">12.1 Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.*</a>				
<a href="#">31.1 Principal Executive Officer's Certifications Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.*</a>				
<a href="#">31.2 Principal Financial Officer's Certifications Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.*</a>				
<a href="#">32.1 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350 (Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002).*</a>				

	<u>Exhibit Number and Description</u>	<u>Incorporated by Reference (if applicable)</u>			
		<u>Form</u>	<u>File Date</u>	<u>File No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
101	eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) documents submitted electronically:  101.INS - XBRL Instance Document 101.SCH - XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document 101.CAL - XBRL Extension Calculation Linkable Document 101.DEF - XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkable Document 101.LAB - XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase 101.PRE - XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document  The following unaudited information from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC Form 10-Q for the nine months ended September 30, 2012, formatted in XBRL includes: (i) the Consolidated Statements of Income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, (ii) the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flow for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity as of September 30, 2012, (v) the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, and (vi) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. *				

Certain instruments defining the rights of the holders of long-term debt of the Company and of its subsidiaries, involving a total amount of indebtedness not in excess of 10 percent of the total assets of the Company and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis, have not been filed as exhibits. The Company hereby agrees to furnish a copy of any of these agreements to the SEC upon request.

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\* Filed herewith

**BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE, LLC and SUBSIDIARIES**  
**COMPUTATION OF RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**  
(In millions, except ratio amounts)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Earnings:</b>		
Income before income taxes	\$ 3,903	\$ 3,271
<b>Add:</b>		
Interest and other fixed charges, excluding capitalized interest	460	416
Reasonable approximation of portion of rent under long-term operating leases representative of an interest factor	148	184
Distributed income of investees accounted for under the equity method	5	4
Amortization of capitalized interest	1	—
<b>Less:</b>		
Equity in earnings of investments accounted for under the equity method	10	13
<b>Total earnings available for fixed charges</b>	<b>\$ 4,507</b>	<b>\$ 3,862</b>
<b>Fixed charges:</b>		
Interest and fixed charges	\$ 478	\$ 428
Reasonable approximation of portion of rent under long-term operating leases representative of an interest factor	148	184
<b>Total fixed charges</b>	<b>\$ 626</b>	<b>\$ 612</b>
<b>Ratio of earnings to fixed charges</b>	<b>7.20x</b>	<b>6.31x</b>

**Principal Executive Officer's Certifications  
Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Matthew K. Rose, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods covered by this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 2, 2012

/s/ Matthew K. Rose  
Matthew K. Rose  
Chairman and  
Chief Executive Officer

**Principal Financial Officer's Certifications  
Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Thomas N. Hund, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods covered by this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 2, 2012

/s/ Thomas N. Hund  
Thomas N. Hund  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

**Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350**  
(Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002)

**Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2012, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), the undersigned, Matthew K. Rose, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, and Thomas N. Hund, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, each hereby certifies that, to his knowledge on the date hereof:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: November 2, 2012

/s/ Matthew K. Rose

/s/ Thomas N. Hund

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**Matthew K. Rose**  
**Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**

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**Thomas N. Hund**  
**Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer**

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC and will be retained by Burlington Northern Santa Fe, LLC and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.