

NISOURCE INC/DE  
Form 424B5  
April 09, 2013  
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File Nos. 333-170385 and 333-170385-01

**This preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell securities and are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**Subject to Completion, dated April 9, 2013**

**Preliminary Prospectus Supplement**

**(To Prospectus dated November 5, 2010)**

**\$**

**NiSource Finance Corp.**

**\$ % Notes due 20**

**Unconditionally Guaranteed by NiSource Inc.**

The Notes will mature on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. The Notes will bear interest at a rate of \_\_\_\_\_% per year. Interest on the Notes will be paid semi-annually in arrears on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of each year, beginning \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

At our option, we may redeem some or all of the Notes at any time and from time to time at the redemption prices described herein.

The Notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

The Notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all our other senior unsecured indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

**Investing in the Notes involves risks. See Risk Factors on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement.**

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Notes or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a

criminal offense.

	<b>Per Note</b>	<b>Total</b>
Price to Public (1)	%	\$
Underwriting Discount	%	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us (1)	%	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from April , 2013.

The Notes will constitute a new issue of securities without an established trading market. The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or quoted on any automated dealer quotation system. Currently, there is no market for the Notes.

We expect that delivery of the Notes will be made to investors through the book-entry delivery system of The Depository Trust Company on or about April , 2013.

*Joint Book-Running Managers*

**Barclays**

**Credit Suisse**

**J.P. Morgan**

The date of this prospectus supplement is April , 2013.

**Table of Contents****ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

This document is in two parts. The first is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering.

If the description of the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement or to which we or the underwriters have referred you. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. The information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein may only be accurate as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, prospects and results of operations may have changed since those dates.

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**SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights certain information contained in this prospectus supplement. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before purchasing the Notes. We urge you to read carefully the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the historical financial statements and notes to those financial statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should read carefully the Risk Factors section on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement and the Risk Factors and Note regarding forward-looking statements sections in NiSource's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 for more information about important risks that you should consider before investing in the Notes. References to NiSource refer to NiSource Inc., and references to NiSource Finance refer to NiSource Finance Corp. Unless the context requires otherwise, we, us or our refer collectively to NiSource and its subsidiaries, including NiSource Finance.*

**NiSource Inc.**

*Overview.* NiSource is an energy holding company whose subsidiaries provide natural gas, electricity and other products and services to approximately 3.8 million customers located within a corridor that runs from the Gulf Coast through the Midwest to New England. Our principal subsidiaries include Columbia Energy Group, a vertically-integrated natural gas distribution, transmission and storage holding company whose subsidiaries provide service to customers in the Midwest, the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast; Northern Indiana Public Service Company, a vertically-integrated natural gas and electric company providing service to customers in northern Indiana; and Columbia Gas of Massachusetts (formerly known as Bay State Gas Company), a natural gas distribution company serving customers in Massachusetts. NiSource derives substantially all its revenues and earnings from the operating results of its thirteen direct subsidiaries. Our primary business segments are:

gas distribution operations;

Columbia Pipeline Group; and

electric operations.

*Strategy.* We have established four key initiatives to build a platform for long-term, sustainable growth: commercial and regulatory initiatives; commercial growth and expansion of the gas transmission and storage business; financial management of the balance sheet; and process and expense management.

*Gas Distribution Operations.* Our natural gas distribution operations serve more than 3.3 million customers in seven states and operate approximately 58 thousand miles of pipeline. Through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Columbia Energy Group, we own five distribution subsidiaries that provide natural gas to approximately 2.2 million residential, commercial and industrial customers in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky and Maryland. We also distribute natural gas to approximately 798 thousand customers in northern Indiana through our subsidiary Northern Indiana Public Service Company. Additionally, our subsidiary Columbia Gas of Massachusetts distributes natural gas to approximately 303 thousand customers in Massachusetts.

*Columbia Pipeline Group.* Our Columbia Pipeline Group subsidiaries own and operate approximately 15 thousand miles of pipeline and operate one of the nation's largest underground natural gas storage systems, capable of storing approximately 637.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas. Through our subsidiaries Columbia Gas Transmission LLC, Columbia Gulf Transmission, LLC, NiSource Midstream Services, LLC, and Crossroads

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Pipeline Company, we own and operate an interstate pipeline network extending from the Gulf of Mexico to New York and the eastern seaboard. Together, these companies serve customers in 16 Northeastern, Mid-Atlantic, Midwestern and Southern states and the District of Columbia. Our subsidiary, NiSource Energy Ventures (NEVCO), manages the company's mineral rights positions in the Marcellus and Utica shale areas.

*Electric Operations.* Through our subsidiary Northern Indiana Public Service Company, we generate, transmit and distribute electricity to approximately 458 thousand customers in 20 counties in the northern part of Indiana and engage in electric wholesale and transmission transactions. Northern Indiana Public Service Company operates three coal-fired electric generating stations. The three operating facilities have a net capability of 2,540 megawatts. Northern Indiana Public Service Company also owns and operates Sugar Creek, a combined cycle gas turbine plant with a 535 megawatt capacity rating, four gas-fired generating units located at Northern Indiana's coal-fired electric generating stations with a net capability of 206 megawatts and two hydroelectric generating plants with a net capability of 10 megawatts. These facilities provide for a total system operating net capability of 3,291 megawatts. Northern Indiana Public Service Company's transmission system, with voltages from 69,000 to 345,000 volts, consists of 2,800 circuit miles. Northern Indiana Public Service Company is interconnected with five neighboring electric utilities. During the year ended December 31, 2012, Northern Indiana Public Service Company generated 74.1% and purchased 25.9% of its electric requirements.

**NiSource Finance Corp.**

NiSource Finance is a wholly-owned special purpose finance subsidiary of NiSource that engages in financing activities to raise funds for the business operations of NiSource and its subsidiaries. NiSource Finance's obligations under the Notes will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by NiSource. NiSource Finance was incorporated in March 2000 under the laws of the State of Indiana.

Our executive offices are located at 801 East 86th Avenue, Merrillville, Indiana 46410, telephone: (877) 647-5990.

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**The Offering**

Issuer	NiSource Finance Corp.
Securities Offered	\$ ,000,000 aggregate principal amount of % Notes due 20 .
Guarantee	NiSource Inc. will fully and unconditionally guarantee all the obligations of NiSource Finance under the Notes.
Maturity Date	The Notes will mature on , 20 .
Interest Rate	The interest rate on the Notes will be % per annum.
Interest Payment Dates	Interest on the Notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on and of each year, commencing , 2013.
Optional Redemption	Prior to , 20 , we may redeem some or all of the Notes at any time at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date and (2) a make-whole amount based on the yield of a comparable U.S. Treasury security plus % . On or after , 20 , we may redeem some or all of the Notes at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. See the Supplemental Description of the Notes Optional Redemption section of this prospectus supplement for more information.
Ranking	<p>The Notes will be senior, unsecured obligations of NiSource Finance ranking equally in right of payment with other senior indebtedness of NiSource Finance.</p> <p>The guarantees will be senior, unsecured obligations of NiSource, ranking equally in right of payment with other senior indebtedness of NiSource. Because NiSource is a holding company that derives substantially all of its income from operating subsidiaries, the guarantee will effectively be subordinated to debt and preferred stock at the subsidiary level.</p> <p>The Indenture does not limit the amount of debt that NiSource Finance, NiSource or any of its subsidiaries may incur.</p>
Limitation on Liens	Subject to certain exceptions, neither NiSource Finance, NiSource nor any subsidiary of NiSource other than a utility may issue, assume or guarantee any secured debt, except intercompany indebtedness, without also securing the Notes, unless the total amount of

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all of the secured debt would not exceed 10% of our consolidated net tangible assets.

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Use of Proceeds	The net proceeds to us from the sale of the Notes, after deducting the underwriting discount but before deducting other fees and expenses related to the offering, will be approximately \$        million. We intend to use the net proceeds from the offering to repay short-term borrowings under our commercial paper program and for general corporate purposes. See the Use of Proceeds section of this prospectus supplement for more information.
Conflict of Interest	Because 5% or more of the net proceeds may be paid to one or more underwriters participating in this offering or their affiliates, there is a conflict of interest under Rule 5121 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Accordingly, this offering will be made in compliance with the applicable provisions of Rule 5121. See the Use of Proceeds and Underwriting Conflict of Interest sections of this prospectus supplement for more information.
Additional Notes	We may, without the consent of the holders of the Notes, create and issue additional Notes of a series ranking equally with the Notes in all respects, including having the same CUSIP number, so that such additional Notes would be consolidated and form a single series with the Notes and would have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise as the Notes. See the Supplemental Description of the Notes section of this prospectus supplement for more information.

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**RISK FACTORS**

*Investing in the Notes involves risk. Please see the Risk Factors and Note regarding forward-looking statements sections in NiSource's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. In addition, the risks described below could result in a decrease in the value of the Notes and your investment therein.*

**The Notes and guarantees are obligations of NiSource Finance and NiSource, respectively, and not of our operating subsidiaries and will be effectively subordinated to the claims of the operating subsidiaries' creditors.**

The Notes and guarantees are obligations of NiSource Finance and NiSource, respectively, and not of our other subsidiaries. NiSource is a holding company and, accordingly, we conduct substantially all of our operations through our operating subsidiaries. NiSource Finance is a consolidated finance subsidiary, which has no independent operations other than its financing activities. As a result, our cash flow and our ability to service our debt, including the Notes, depend upon the earnings of our operating subsidiaries and on the distribution of earnings, loans or other payments by such subsidiaries to NiSource and NiSource Finance.

Our operating subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and have no obligation to pay any amounts due on the Notes or to provide us with funds for our payment obligations, whether by dividends, distributions, loans or other payments. In addition, any payment of dividends, distributions, loans or advances by our subsidiaries to us could be subject to statutory or contractual restrictions. Payments to us by our operating subsidiaries will also be contingent upon such subsidiaries' earnings and business considerations. As of December 31, 2012 our operating subsidiaries (which do not include NiSource Finance, NiSource Capital Markets, Inc. and NiSource Development Company) had approximately \$788.6 million of indebtedness.

Our right to receive any assets of any of our subsidiaries upon their liquidation or reorganization, and therefore the rights of the holders of the Notes to participate in those assets, will be effectively subordinated to the claims of that subsidiary's creditors. In addition, even if we were a creditor of any of our subsidiaries, our rights as a creditor would be subordinate to any security interest in the assets of our subsidiaries and any indebtedness of our subsidiaries senior to that held by us. If any of our subsidiaries were to issue preferred stock in the future, the Notes would similarly be effectively subordinated to the rights of the preferred stockholders.

**There is no prior public market for the Notes, and we cannot assure you that any public market will develop or be sustained after the offering.**

The Notes will constitute a new issue of securities without an established trading market. We have been advised by the underwriters that they may make a market in the Notes, but they have no obligation to do so and may discontinue market making at any time without providing notice. There can be no assurance that a market for the Notes will develop or, if it does develop, that it will continue. If an active public market does not develop, the market price and liquidity of the Notes may be adversely affected. Furthermore, we do not intend to apply for listing of the Notes on any securities exchange or automated quotation system.

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**INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document that NiSource has filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that NiSource files with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement will automatically modify and supersede the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that the subsequently filed information modifies or supersedes the existing information. We incorporate by reference the following documents filed with the SEC:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012;

our Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 25, 2013; and

any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ) until we sell all of the securities offered by this prospectus supplement.

You may request a copy of any of these filings at no cost by writing to or telephoning us at the following address and telephone number: Robert E. Smith, NiSource Inc., 801 East 86th Avenue, Merrillville, Indiana 46410, telephone: (877) 647-5990.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds to us from the sale of the Notes, after deducting the underwriting discount but before deducting other fees and expenses related to the offering, will be approximately \$ million. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering (1) to repay short-term borrowings under our commercial paper program having a weighted average annual interest rate of 0.95% as of April 4, 2013, and (2) for general corporate purposes. As of April 4, 2013, the outstanding amount of short term borrowings under our commercial paper program was \$509.9 million. Affiliates of one or more of the underwriters may hold our commercial paper and may, in such capacities, receive a portion of the net proceeds from this offering through the repayment of borrowings outstanding under our commercial paper program. See the Underwriting Conflict of Interest section of this prospectus supplement for more information.

**Table of Contents****CAPITALIZATION**

The following table shows our capitalization and short-term indebtedness at December 31, 2012 (1) on an actual consolidated basis and (2) on a consolidated basis as adjusted to reflect (i) the issuance and sale of \$ million principal amount of the Notes and (ii) the use of the net proceeds as set forth under Use of Proceeds in this prospectus supplement. This table should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes for the year ended December 31, 2012 incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. See Incorporation by Reference in this prospectus supplement.

	<b>December 31, 2012</b>	
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>As Adjusted(1)</b>
	<b>(in millions)</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 36.3	\$
Short-term borrowings (including current portion of long-term debt)	\$ 1,284.1	\$
Long-term debt (excluding amounts due within one year)	\$ 6,819.1	\$
Common stockholders' equity	\$ 5,554.3	\$
<b>Total capitalization</b>	<b>\$ 12,373.4</b>	<b>\$</b>

(1) Assumes that all proceeds are used to repay short-term borrowings.

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The following are ratios of our earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
	2.39	2.07	1.97	1.87	2.25

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of income from continuing operations before income taxes plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest on all indebtedness (before allowance for borrowed funds used during construction), amortization of debt expense, the portion of rental expenses on operating leases deemed to be representative of the interest factor and preferred stock dividend requirements of consolidated subsidiaries.

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Please read the following information concerning the Notes in conjunction with the statements under "Description of the Debt Securities" in the accompanying prospectus, which the following information supplements and, if there are any inconsistencies, supersedes. The following description is not complete. The Notes will be issued under the Indenture, dated as of November 14, 2000, that we have entered into with The Bank of New York Mellon (as successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank), as trustee. The Indenture is described in the accompanying prospectus and is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement under which the Notes are being offered and sold.

**Maturity, Interest and Payment**

The Notes will mature on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, subject to earlier redemption at our option as described under "Optional Redemption." The Notes will bear interest at a rate of \_\_\_\_\_% per annum from and including April \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, payable semi-annually in arrears on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of each year, beginning \_\_\_\_\_, 2013. Interest payable on each interest payment date for the Notes will be paid to the persons in whose name the Notes are registered at the close of business on each \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (whether or not a business day).

If an interest payment date falls on a day that is not a business day, interest will be payable on the next succeeding business day with the same force and effect as if made on such interest payment date. Interest on the Notes will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year, consisting of twelve 30-day months.

**Optional Redemption**

Prior to \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ (the date that is \_\_\_\_\_ months prior to the stated maturity of the Notes), we may redeem some or all of the Notes at any time at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date and (2) the Make-Whole Amount. On or after \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, we may redeem some or all of the Notes at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date.

The following definitions apply to the Notes:

*Make-Whole Amount* means the sum, as determined by a Quotation Agent, of the present values of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed, together with scheduled payments of interest (exclusive of interest to the redemption date) from the redemption date to the maturity date of the Notes, in each case discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis, assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months, at the Adjusted Treasury Rate, plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed to the redemption date.

*Adjusted Treasury Rate* means, with respect to any redemption date, (i) the yield, under the heading which represents the average for the immediately preceding week, appearing in the most recently published statistical release designated "H.15 (519)" or any successor publication which is published weekly by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and which establishes yields on actively traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to constant maturity under the caption "Treasury Constant Maturities," for the maturity corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue (if no maturity is within three months before or after the remaining term of the Notes, yields for the two published maturities most closely corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue shall be determined and the Adjusted Treasury Rate shall be interpolated or extrapolated from such yields on a straight line basis, rounding to the nearest month) or (ii) if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per year equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity of the

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Comparable Treasury Issue assuming a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date, in each case calculated on the third business day preceding the redemption date, plus %.

*Comparable Treasury Issue* means the United States Treasury security selected by the Quotation Agent as having a maturity comparable to the remaining term from the redemption date to the maturity date of the Notes that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of the Notes.

*Quotation Agent* means the Reference Treasury Dealer selected by us.

*Reference Treasury Dealer* means a primary U.S. Government securities dealer selected by us.

*Comparable Treasury Price* means, with respect to any redemption date, if clause (ii) of the definition of Adjusted Treasury Rate is applicable, the average of three, or such lesser number as is obtained by us, Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date.

*Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations* means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by a Reference Treasury Dealer, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue, expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount, quoted in writing to us by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

## **Selection and Notice of Redemption**

If we are redeeming less than all the Notes at any time, the trustee will select the Notes to be redeemed using a method it considers fair and appropriate.

We will redeem Notes in increments of \$1,000. We will cause notices of redemption to be mailed by first-class mail at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of Notes to be redeemed at its registered address.

If any Note is to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption that relates to that Note will state the portion of the principal amount thereof to be redeemed. We will issue a Note in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the original Note in the name of the holder thereof upon cancellation of the original Note. Notes called for redemption will become due on the date fixed for redemption. On or after the redemption date, interest will cease to accrue on Notes or portions of them called for redemption.

## **Forms and Denominations**

The Notes will be issued as one or more global securities in the name of a nominee of The Depository Trust Company and will be available only in book-entry form. See Description of the Debt Securities Book-Entry Issuance in the accompanying prospectus. The Notes will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

## **Additional Notes**

We may, without the consent of the holders of the Notes, create and issue additional Notes ranking equally with the Notes in all respects, including having the same CUSIP number, so that such additional Notes would be consolidated and form a single series with the Notes and would have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise as the Notes. No additional Notes may be issued if an Event of Default under the Indenture has occurred and is continuing with respect to the Notes.

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**CERTAIN ERISA CONSIDERATIONS**

The following is a summary of certain considerations associated with the purchase of Notes by employee benefit plans that are subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ( ERISA ), plans, individual retirement accounts and other arrangements that are subject to Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), or provisions under any federal, state, local non-U.S. or other laws or regulations that are similar to such provisions of ERISA or the Code, and entities whose underlying assets are considered to include plan assets of such plans, accounts and arrangements (each, a Plan ).

**General Fiduciary Matters**

ERISA and the Code impose certain duties on persons who are fiduciaries of a Plan subject to Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (an ERISA Plan ) and prohibit certain transactions involving the assets of an ERISA Plan and its fiduciaries or other interested parties. Under ERISA and the Code, any person who exercises any discretionary authority or control over the management or administration of such an ERISA Plan or the management or disposition of the assets of such an ERISA Plan, or who renders investment advice for a fee or other compensation to such an ERISA Plan, is generally considered to be a fiduciary of the ERISA Plan.

In considering an investment in the Notes of a portion of the assets of any Plan, a fiduciary should determine whether the investment is in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the Plan and the applicable provisions of ERISA, the Code or any similar law relating to a fiduciary's duties to the Plan including, without limitation, the prudence, diversification, delegation of control and prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA, the Code and any other applicable similar laws.

**Prohibited Transaction Issues**

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code prohibit ERISA Plans from engaging in specified transactions involving plan assets with persons or entities who are parties in interest, within the meaning of ERISA, or disqualified persons, within the meaning of Section 4975 of the Code, unless an exemption is available. A party in interest or disqualified person who engages in a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to excise taxes and other penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Code. In addition, the fiduciary of the ERISA Plan that engages in such a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Code. The acquisition, holding or disposition (including by way of redemption) of Notes by an ERISA Plan with respect to which NiSource, NiSource Finance or an underwriter is considered a party in interest or a disqualified person may constitute or result in a direct or indirect prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, unless the investment is acquired, held and disposed of in accordance with an applicable statutory, class or individual prohibited transaction exemption. In this regard, the U.S. Department of Labor has issued prohibited transaction class exemptions, or PTCEs, that may apply to the acquisition and holding of the Notes. These class exemptions include PTCE 84-14, respecting transactions determined by independent qualified professional asset managers; PTCE 90-1, respecting transactions involving insurance company pooled separate accounts; PTCE 91-38, respecting transactions involving bank collective investment funds; PTCE 95-60, respecting transactions involving life insurance company general accounts; and PTCE 96-23, respecting transactions determined by in-house asset managers. In addition, the statutory exemption (the Statutory Exemption ) under Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA or Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code for certain prohibited transactions between an ERISA Plan and a person or entity that is a party in interest to such ERISA Plan solely by reason of providing services to the ERISA Plan or an affiliation with such a service provider (other than a party in interest that is a fiduciary with respect to the assets of the ERISA Plan involved in the transaction, or an affiliate of such a fiduciary), provided that the ERISA Plan pays no more than, and receives no less than, adequate consideration in connection with the transaction, may be applicable to the acquisition, holding and disposition of the Notes. There can be no assurance that all of the conditions for relief under any of the foregoing exemptions will be satisfied in connection with a particular ERISA Plan's acquisition, holding or disposition of the Notes, or that such relief will be available for all prohibited transactions that might arise in connection with a particular ERISA Plan's investment in the Notes.



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Because of the foregoing, the Notes should not be acquired by any person investing plan assets of any Plan, unless the purchase, holding and disposition (including by way of redemption) of the Notes will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under ERISA and the Code or a violation of any applicable similar laws.

**Representation**

By acceptance of a Note, each purchaser and subsequent transferee of a Note will be deemed to have represented and warranted that either (i) no portion of the assets used by such purchaser or transferee to acquire and hold the Note constitutes assets of any Plan, or (ii) the purchase, holding and disposition (including by way of redemption) of the Note by such purchaser or transferee will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or violate any applicable similar laws.

The foregoing discussion is general in nature and is not intended to be all-inclusive. Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is particularly important that fiduciaries, or other persons considering purchasing the Notes on behalf of, or with the assets of, any Plan consult with their counsel regarding the potential applicability of ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code and any similar laws to such investment and whether an exemption would be applicable to the purchase, holding and disposition (including by way of redemption) of the Notes.

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Subject to conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, we have agreed to sell all, but not less than all, the Notes to the underwriters, and the underwriters have severally and not jointly agreed to purchase the principal amount of the Notes set forth opposite its name in the following table:

<b>Underwriter</b>	<b>Principal Amount of Notes</b>
Barclays Capital Inc.	\$
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC	\$
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	\$
	\$

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the Notes if any are purchased. The underwriting agreement also provides that if an underwriter defaults the purchase commitments of non-defaulting underwriters may be increased or the offering of Notes may be terminated.

The underwriters propose to offer the Notes initially at the public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to certain dealers at that price less a selling concession of % of the principal amount per Note. The underwriters may allow and those certain dealers may reallow a discount of % of the principal amount per Note on sales to certain other dealers. After the initial public offering of the Notes, the public offering price and other selling terms may be changed.

We estimate that our total expenses for this offering, excluding the underwriting discount, will be approximately \$150,000.

The Notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. One or more of the underwriters intends to make a secondary market for the Notes. However, they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue making a secondary market for the Notes at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to how liquid the trading market for the Notes will be.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended or contribute to payments which the underwriters may be required to make in that respect.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act.

Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specific maximum.

Over-allotment involves sales by the underwriters of Notes in excess of the principal amount of Notes the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position.

Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the Notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. A short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the Notes in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

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Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the Notes originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing transaction or a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

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These stabilizing transactions, syndicate-covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the Notes or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the Notes. As a result, the price of the Notes may be higher than the prices that might otherwise exist in the open market. The underwriters are not required to engage in these transactions and these transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

## **Other Relationships**

Certain of the underwriters and their affiliates have provided and in the future may continue to provide investment banking, commercial banking, corporate trust and other financial services, including the provision of credit facilities, to us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of business for which they have received and will receive customary compensation.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own accounts and for the accounts of their customers, and such investments and securities activities may involve our securities and/or instruments. Certain of the underwriters and their affiliates that have a lending relationship with us routinely hedge their credit exposure to us consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such underwriters and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities, including potentially the Notes offered hereby. Any such short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the Notes offered hereby. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect to such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

## **Conflict Of Interest**

We intend to use a portion of the net proceeds to us from the sale of the Notes to repay short-term borrowings under our commercial paper program. Affiliates of one or more of the underwriters may hold our commercial paper. Because 5% or more of the net proceeds may be paid to one or more underwriters participating in this offering or their affiliates, there is a conflict of interest under Rule 5121 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Accordingly, this offering will be made in compliance with the applicable provisions of Rule 5121. Any underwriter participating in the offering that receives 5% or more of the net proceeds will not confirm any sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without first receiving specific written approval for the transaction from those accounts. See the Use of Proceeds section of this prospectus supplement for more information.

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**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the Notes will be passed upon for us by Schiff Hardin LLP, Chicago, Illinois. The underwriters have been represented by Hunton & Williams LLP, New York, New York.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements and related financial statement schedules, incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference from NiSource Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K, and the effectiveness of NiSource Inc. and subsidiaries' internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

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PROSPECTUS

**NiSource Inc.**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Guarantees of Debt Securities**

**Warrants**

**Stock Purchase Contracts**

**Stock Purchase Units**

**NiSource Finance Corp.**

**Debt Securities**

**Guaranteed as Set Forth in this Prospectus by NiSource Inc.**

**Warrants**

NiSource Inc. may offer, from time to time, in amounts, at prices and on terms that it will determine at the time of offering, any or all of the following:

shares of common stock;

shares of preferred stock, in one or more series;

warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock; and

stock purchase contracts to purchase common stock, either separately or in units with the debt securities described below or U.S. Treasury securities.

NiSource Finance Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of NiSource, may offer from time to time in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined at the time of the offering:

one or more series of its debt securities; and

warrants to purchase debt securities.

NiSource will fully and unconditionally guarantee the obligations of NiSource Finance under any debt securities issued under this prospectus or any prospectus supplement.

We will provide specific terms of these securities, including their offering prices, in prospectus supplements to this prospectus. The prospectus supplements may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

We may offer these securities to or through underwriters, through dealers or agents, directly to you or through a combination of these methods. You can find additional information about our plan of distribution for the securities under the heading Plan of Distribution beginning on page 18 of this prospectus. We will also describe the plan of distribution for any particular offering of these securities in the applicable prospectus supplement. This prospectus may not be used to sell our securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is November 5, 2010.

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