Center Coast Brookfield Midstream Focus Fund Quarterly Commentary – Q2 2025

Q2 2025 Energy Infrastructure Overview

Midstream equities, represented by the Alerian Midstream Energy Index (AMNA), returned -1.19% in Q2 2025. This underperformed the broader market's +10.94% return, as measured by the S&P 500 Index. Crude oil prices[1] declined by -8.91%.

The quarter was book-ended by substantial macro uncertainty relating to trade policy, crude oil oversupply concerns, and geopolitical conflict. Seemingly in conjunction with Liberation Day in early April, the OPEC+ coalition announced that it would accelerate adding oil supply into the market, an action that they would subsequently repeat in both May and June. Those headlines – the initial economic uncertainty from the tariff increases and the potential for rapidly increasing supply – drove crude down 16% in nearly one week's time.[2] Midstream equities were not immune and fell 13% over the same time frame.

The oil and gas industry had its first chance to respond to the elevated economic uncertainty during earnings season. The midstream sector by and large did not change 2025 outlooks at that time, although they did indicate a slowing in 2025 upstream activity would potentially impact 2026 more than 2025.

For upstream producers, however, it was more of a mixed bag. Some, particularly the supermajors, indicated that drilling plans would not change at crude price levels indicated by spot and futures markets seen throughout the second quarter. Anecdotally, management teams of these supermajor companies—which are the largest producers in the Permian Basin— have cited that even crude prices in the low $50s may not affect their drilling plans materially.[3]

Despite this, other large Permian producers did point to somewhat lower activity levels going forward. Perhaps the most notable example, in our view, came from one large independent producer, who in a May 5th letter to shareholders stated that: "As crude pricing moves lower for a period of time, as it has over the last month, we expect activity to slow and oil production to decline… As a result of these activity cuts, it is likely that U.S. onshore oil production has peaked and will begin to decline this quarter." It remains to be seen whether that prediction proves true or not, but the events of April and May did bring forward industry discussion on the trajectory of U.S. crude production, which before that had largely been assumed to be straight-line growth through the end of the decade.

By June, we were reminded once again how quickly narratives can change. The rapid escalation of hostilities between Israel and Iran saw crude oil prices spike to $75 per barrel, as markets started to price in some probability that Iran could retaliate by directly or indirectly closing tanker traffic through the

---

[1] Represented by West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil, USCRWTIC Index. Performance as of 6/30/25.
[2] By April 8, 2025. Source: Bloomberg
[3] Source: World Oil. *Exxon will push on with investments even if oil drops to $50, says CEO*, 5/28/2025

Strait of Hormuz. The Strait is a key artery for global oil trade and sees about 20% of global petroleum and liquefied natural gas ("LNG") volumes flow through it.[4]

However, just as quickly as hostilities seemingly began, a cease-fire was implemented, the Strait of Hormuz remained open, and the price of crude oil rapidly retreated back into the $65 per barrel range, where it ended the second quarter.[5]

The whiplash of the news cycle was certainly dramatic. This period served as another helpful reminder for us – as stewards of our investors' capital – that things can change rapidly, and balance within a portfolio remains important. As much as the crude-oriented midstream names were in the market's crosshairs in Q2, it was as recently as January when natural gas-oriented companies underperformed following's DeepSeek announcement, which sent shockwaves through markets.

We believe financial markets are still susceptible to "whiplash" and a news cycle that seems to be evolving more rapidly than that of the previous two years, and energy equities have tended to be more volatile the closer oil prices approach breakeven levels like we saw during the second quarter. Despite this, we find comfort that the overarching pillars that have driven solid performance for midstream equities this decade are still intact and have the potential to remain intact over the long-term:

- Expected near-term growth in natural gas demand from LNG and the domestic power sector
- Cash flow growth driven by volume growth and contractual benefits like inflation escalators
- Strong balance sheets, self-funding corporate finance models, and a diverse cash flow stream

Natural Gas Infrastructure Development Accelerating

We have been discussing the improving outlook for natural gas demand growth for several quarters now, and rapid commercial progress was made on several fronts during the second quarter. For example, The Williams Companies, Inc. (NYSE: WMB) announced a new 950 million cubic feet per day (mmcf/d) expansion of its Transco natural gas transmission pipeline to serve the Virgina power market starting in the 2030s.

We have been highlighting the ongoing pace of large-scale, long-duration expansions like this one for some time now. In our opinion, they signal that the power market will continue to need incremental natural gas supply for decades to come. We expect demand-pull projects like this have the potential to generate attractive returns well above costs of capital, supported by negotiated rates, and with long contract terms of 15-20 years. This project isn't unique to WMB and its Transco pipeline, either—there have been many similar projects of size, scope, and return announced over the last few years by several midstream companies, and we believe there will be more to come.

To boot, some other industry observers believe that we are still in the early stages of this development trend. A recent Wells Fargo Securities industry research note estimated that the gas pipeline expansions

[4] Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration. *About one-fifth of global liquefied natural gas trade flows through the Strait of Hormuz*, 6/24/2025
[5] Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration *Amid regional conflict, the Strait of Hormuz remains critical oil chokepoint*, 6/16/2025

that have been announced to date satisfy only 30% of the proposed large data centers they track.[6] While this is a major driver of incremental natural gas demand, it also complements ongoing growth from growing population centers, growing domestic industry, and demand from the liquefied natural gas (LNG) sector.

LNG exports are widely expected to be a major source of growth for long-term natural gas demand. The so-called "second wave" of LNG development is seeing its final projects start to enter service now through 2027, bringing a substantial chunk of near-term natural gas growth along with it, while a "third wave" is rapidly developing via a flurry of commitments that could bring additional growth throughout the next decade.

Facilities embedded in this third wave made some splashes during the second quarter, including a mix of positive final investment decisions (FIDs) at Louisiana LNG, owned by Woodside Energy Group LTD (NYSE: WDS), Corpus Christi LNG, owned by Cheniere Energy Inc. (NYSE: LNG), and contractual capacity announcements at Rio Grande LNG, owned by NextDecade Corporation (NASDAQ: NEXT) and Lake Charles LNG, owned by Energy Transfer LP (NYSE: ET). Finally, Venture Global (NYSE: VG) announced it had begun construction at its Calcasieu Pass 2 facility in Louisiana.

We believe it is important to note that this commercial and development activity occurred during the bouts of uncertainty described at the beginning of the letter, which, in our view, signal that the trends underpinning natural gas demand growth are long-term in nature and have the potential to progress unimpeded by turbulent policy or geopolitical developments.

Diverse Sector Cash Flows Mitigate Crude Oil Concerns

As we stated at the outset of the letter, recent crude price action has caused some producers to re-evaluate their production plans, particularly in the Permian Basin. A Dallas Fed Energy Survey released on July 2nd indicated that almost half of surveyed energy executives expected to complete fewer wells in 2025 than they had originally budgeted for, while another 34% indicated they were not expecting any changes. Unlike the strong long-term tailwinds for natural gas demand highlighted in the paragraph above, the events of the second quarter have potentially impacted crude oil (and associated gas) supply expectations out of the Permian.

As a result, the market has applied some scrutiny on the pace of future cash flow growth for midstream companies that tend to be more tethered to associated gas or crude oil volumes. While we acknowledge that some producers could scale back activity, as they have indicated, we believe there are two important mitigating factors for midstream providers who handle the natural gas and natural gas liquid (NGL) infrastructure needs of these producers.

One factor is the gas-to-oil-ratio ("GOR"), which has been steadily increasing in the Permian. This ratio describes the gas content that is pulled out of a well alongside the crude oil (what we refer to as "associated gas"). There are a few primary factors that have caused GORs to increase in recent years, but we believe the two most prominent ones are 1) as an existing well ages, the crude oil depletes faster in

---

[6] Source: Wells Fargo Securities. *Weekender: Tracking Mega Data Centers to Nearby Gas Pipelines*, 6/27/2025

the reservoir than the natural gas and 2) as the basin matures, second-tier acreage (which has to be increasingly drilled) has a gassier content. In fact, one midstream company stated that these dynamics have caused a 30% increase in the gas and NGL content of a Permian barrel of crude oil in 2025 relative to 2022[7]. As a result of these two factors, even in a flat crude oil environment, Permian associated gas would still be expected to grow at a low, single-digit annual growth rate.

The second mitigating factor applies to the diverse nature of the cash flows the midstream sector generates. As we have stated before, we believe natural gas demand is set to grow for many years to come, and we have highlighted several new projects and customer commitments over the last two years that support that view. If the Permian were to grow at a slower rate, we would expect there to be an incremental "call" on natural gas-oriented basins, such as the Haynesville, to satisfy the growing demand—above and beyond what we currently expect today.

Because our investment universe largely consists of diversified midstream companies, we believe a potential crude oil growth slow-down may actually benefit some companies in our portfolio that have exposure to gas-oriented basins. This is why maintaining a balanced allocation and risk-focused approach are core components of our investment philosophy.

Conclusion

As we continue to navigate the volatility of 2025, we believe the long-term fundamental drivers for midstream remain intact. The lower leverage profile of our constituents relative to history, along with an ability to fund both dividends and capex from free cash flow, could continue to provide management teams insulation from share price and interest rate volatility as they execute on growth plans. With attractive dividends and valuations still below 10-year averages[8] we believe the industry continues to offer a compelling investment opportunity for long-term investors. As always, we appreciate your investment.

Q2 2025 Performance Summary: Total Return (Net of Fees)

- **Focus Fund (CCCNX): -2.78%**
- Alerian Midstream Energy Index (AMNAX): -1.19%
- Alerian MLP Index (AMZX): -4.91%
- S&P 500 Index (SPX): +10.94%

The Focus Fund (as represented by CCCNX) underperformed its benchmark (the AMNA Index) by 1.59% in the first quarter of 2025.

Class / Benchmark	1 Month	3 Months	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception
Class I	3.01%	-2.78%	3.67%	23.92%	23.19%	25.52%	4.37%	5.24%
AMNAX (USD)	2.51%	-1.19%	5.08%	30.79%	22.92%	25.95%	N/A	N/A

[7] Source: Enterprise Products Partners Investor Presentation, May 2025
[8] Source: Wells Fargo Securities. *Midstream Monthly Outlook: July 2025*, July 2, 2025

AMZX (USD)	2.56%	-4.91%	7.06%	13.16%	26.08%	27.94%	5.60%	6.37%
SPX (USD)	5.09%	10.94%	6.20%	15.16%	19.69%	16.63%	13.63%	13.75%

Performance data quoted represents past performance; past performance does not guarantee future results. Since inception performance shown from December 31, 2010. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance of the Fund may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month end may be obtained by calling 855.244.4859 or by clicking here. Class A has a gross expense ratio of 1.51% and a net expense ratio of 1.46%. Class C has a gross expense ratio of 2.24% and a net expense ratio of 2.21%. Class I has a gross expense ratio of 1.24% and a net expense ratio of 1.21%. As reflected in the Fund's current prospectus and assuming a full year of fund operations. The advisor has contractually agreed to waive fees and/or reimburse fund expenses through January 28, 2026. There is no guarantee that such waiver /reimbursement will be continued after that date.

Returns for Class I Shares prior to February 5, 2018 reflect the performance of the Predecessor Fund's Institutional Class Shares

On March 25, 2021, the Board of Trustees of Brookfield Investment Funds, on behalf of Center Coast Brookfield Midstream Focus Fund, approved a proposal to close the Fund's Class I Shares (the "Legacy Class I Shares"). Following the close of business on April 30, 2021, shareholders holding the Legacy Class I Shares had their shares automatically converted (the "Conversion") into the Fund's Class Y Shares (the "Legacy Class Y Shares"). Following the Conversion, the Fund's Legacy Class Y Shares were renamed "Class I Shares" (the "new Class I Shares"). As a result of the Conversion, the Fund's new Class I Shares adopted the Legacy Class Y Shares' performance and accounting history.

Q2 2025 Individual Fund Contributors & Detractors vs. the Index (AMNAX)

		Ticker	Rel. Weight (%)	Focus vs. AMNAX Index Relative Attribution
Top Contributors	1	GLNG	2.02	0.22
	2	OKE	(0.97)	0.20
	3	PBA / PPL CN	(3.87)	0.11
	4	ET	4.96	0.11
	5	DTM	0.67	0.11
Bottom Contributors	5	LNG	(2.04)	(0.17)
	4	WMB	(2.64)	(0.21)
	3	TRP	(3.41)	(0.23)
	2	KMI	(5.05)	(0.32)
	1	ENB	(5.99)	(0.36)

Holdings are as of the date shown above, may change at any time and are not recommendations to buy or sell any security.

Relative Contributors vs. the AMNA Index

- An allocation to Golar LNG (NYSE: GLNG), which is not in the AMNA benchmark, was a positive contributor on the quarter.
- A slight underweight to ONEOK, Inc. (NYSE: OKE) was a positive attributor on the quarter as OKE exhibits high correlation to crude oil prices.

Relative Detractors vs. the AMNA Index

- An underweight allocation to two large Canadian companies, Enbridge Inc. (NYSE: ENB) and TC Energy (NYSE: TRP) was the largest negative attributor on the quarter
- An underweight allocation to gas transporters Kinder Morgan Inc. (NYSE: KMI) and The Williams Companies (NYSE: WMB) was a detractor on the quarter, partially offset by a positive contribution from an overweight allocation to DT Midstream (NYSE: DTM)

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

 is an SEC-registered investment adviser and represents the Public Securities Group ("PSG") of Brookfield Asset Management Inc., providing global listed real assets strategies including real estate equities, infrastructure equities, multi-strategy real asset solutions and real asset debt. PSG manages separate accounts, registered funds and opportunistic strategies for institutional and individual clients, including financial institutions, public and private pension plans, insurance companies, endowments and foundations, sovereign wealth funds and high net worth investors. PSG is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Brookfield Asset Management, Inc., a leading global alternative asset manager.

The Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses must be considered carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important information about the investment company, and it may be obtained by calling 855.244.4859 or visiting brookfield.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

The information in this presentation is not, and is not intended as investment advice, an indication of trading intent or holdings or the prediction of investment performance. Views and information expressed herein are subject to change at any time. Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC disclaims any responsibility to update such views and/or information. This information is deemed to be from reliable sources; however, Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC does not warrant its completeness or accuracy. This presentation is not intended to, and does not constitute, an offer or solicitation to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any security, product, investment advice or service (nor shall any security, product, investment advice or service be offered or sold) in any jurisdiction in which Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC is not licensed to conduct business, and/or an offer, solicitation, purchase or sale would be unavailable or unlawful.

There is no assurance that such events or projections will occur, and actual outcomes may be significantly different than those shown here.
Opinions expressed herein are current opinions of Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC, including its subsidiaries and affiliates, and are subject to change without notice. Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC, including its subsidiaries and affiliates, assume no responsibility to update such information or to notify client of any changes. Any outlooks, forecasts or portfolio weightings presented herein are as of the date appearing on this material only and are also subject to change without notice.

Top Holdings as of 6/30/2025:
Energy Transfer LP (14.0%), MPLX LP (12.8%), Enterprise Product Partners (11.1%), Plains All American Pipeline (9.5%), Williams Cos Inc/The (8.5%). The most recent list of publicly available holdings can be found here.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Mutual fund investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Investing in Master Limited Partnerships ("MLPs") involves additional risks as compared to the risks of investing in common stock, including risks related to cash flow, dilution and voting rights. The Fund's investments are concentrated in the energy infrastructure industry with an emphasis on securities issued by MLPs, which may increase volatility. Energy infrastructure companies are subject to risks specific to the industry such as fluctuations in commodity prices, reduced volumes of natural gas or other energy commodities, environmental hazards, changes in the macroeconomic or the regulatory environment or extreme weather. MLPs may trade less frequently than larger companies due to their smaller capitalizations which may result in erratic price movement or difficulty in buying or selling. The Fund invests in small and mid-cap companies, which involve additional risks such as limited liquidity and greater volatility.

Additional management fees and other expenses are associated with investing in MLPs. Additionally, investing in MLPs involves material income tax risks and certain other risks. Actual results, performance or events may be affected by, without limitation, (1) general economic conditions, (2) performance of financial markets, (3) interest rate levels, (4) changes in laws and regulations and (5) changes in the policies of governments and/or regulatory authorities.

Unlike most other open-end mutual funds, the Fund will be taxable as a regular corporation, or "C" corporation. Consequently, the Fund will accrue and pay federal, state and local income taxes on its

taxable income, if any, at the Fund level, which will ultimately reduce the returns that the shareholder would have otherwise received.

Additionally, on a daily basis the Fund's net asset value per share ("NAV") will include a deferred tax expense (which reduces the Fund's NAV) or asset (which increases the Fund's NAV, unless offset by a valuation allowance). To the extent the Fund has a deferred tax asset, consideration is given as to whether or not a valuation allowance is required. The Fund's deferred tax expense or asset is based on estimates that could vary dramatically from the Fund's actual tax liability/benefit and, therefore, could have a material impact on the Fund's NAV.

This material is provided for general and educational purposes only, and is not intended to provide legal, tax or investment advice or to avoid legal penalties that may be imposed under U.S. federal tax laws. Investors should contact their own legal or tax advisors to learn more about the rules that may affect individual situations.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The Center Coast Brookfield MLP Focus Fund is managed by Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC.

The Fund is not required to make distributions and in the future could decide not to make such distributions or not to make distributions at a rate that over time is similar to the distribution rate it receives from the MLPs in which it invests. It is expected that a portion of the distributions will be considered tax deferred return of capital (ROC). ROC is tax deferred and reduces the shareholder's cost basis (until the cost basis reaches zero); and when the Fund shares are sold, if the result is a gain, it would then be taxable to the shareholder at the capital gains rate. Any portion of distributions that are not considered ROC are expected to be characterized as qualified dividends for tax purposes. Qualified dividends are taxable in the year received and do not serve to reduce the shareholder's cost basis. The portion of the Fund's distributions that are considered ROC may vary materially from year to year.

Accordingly, there is no guarantee that future distributions will maintain the same classification for tax purposes as past distributions. An investment in the Fund may not receive the same tax advantages as a direct investment in the MLP. Because deferred tax liability is reflected in the daily NAV, the MLP Fund's after-tax performance could differ significantly from the underlying assets even if the pre-tax performance is closely tracked.

INDEX PROVIDER DISCLOSURES

Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC does not own or participate in the construction, or day-to-day management of the indices referenced in this document. The index information provided is for your information only and does not imply or predict that a Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC product will achieve similar results. This information is subject to change without notice.

An investor cannot invest directly in an index, and the index performance referenced in this document does not reflect the deduction of any fees, expenses, sales charges, or taxes. The index sponsors permit use of their indices and related data on an "As Is" basis, makes no warranties regarding same, does not guarantee the suitability, quality, accuracy, timeliness, and/ or completeness of their index or any data included in, related to, or derived therefrom, and assumes no liability in connection with the use of the foregoing. The index sponsors have no liability for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, punitive, consequential, or other damages (including loss profits). The index sponsors do not sponsor, endorse, or recommend Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC or any of its products or services.
There may be material factors relevant to any such comparison such as differences in the volatility, and regulatory and legal restrictions between the indices shown and the strategy.

INDEX DEFINITIONS

The Alerian MLP Index is the leading gauge of energy infrastructure Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs). The capped, float-adjusted, capitalization-weighted index, whose constituents earn the majority of their cash flow from midstream activities involving energy commodities, is disseminated real-time on a price-return basis (AMZ) and on a total-return basis (AMZX).

The Alerian Midstream Energy Index is a broad-based composite of North American energy infrastructure companies. The capped, float-adjusted, capitalization-weighted index, whose constituents earn the majority of their cash flow from midstream activities involving energy commodities, is disseminated real-time on a price-return basis (AMNA) and on a total-return basis (AMNAX).
The S&P 500 Index is an equity index of 500 widely held, large-capitalization U.S. companies.

The above-mentioned indexes do not reflect deductions for fees, expenses or taxes. The indexes are unmanaged and cannot be purchased directly by investors. Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only and does not predict or depict the performance of any investment.

Quasar Distributors, LLC, is the distributor of Center Coast Brookfield Midstream Focus Fund and Brookfield Public Securities Group LLC is the Investment Advisor.