

## News Release

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For Immediate Release

### **Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas Announces New Natural Gas Hedges for March Through October 2001**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma -- Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas Corp. (NYSE: LD) announced today that it has put in place price protection on 200,000 MMBtud of natural gas production for the period March through October 2001, by a combination of fixed-price swaps and costless collars.

The Company sold 100,000 MMBtud from March 1 through October 31 at an average fixed price of \$5.68. The Company also placed price protection on an additional 100,000 MMBtud for the period in the form of costless collars with an average floor price of \$5.00 and an average ceiling price of \$6.89. Summarized information for the contracts which will settle monthly against the Houston Ship Channel index is as follows:

<b>Month</b>	<b>MMBtud</b>	<b>Floor</b>	<b>Cap</b>
Mar-2001	100,000	\$7.423	\$9.308
Apr-2001	100,000	\$5.322	\$7.207
May-2001	100,000	\$4.634	\$6.519
Jun-2001	100,000	\$4.568	\$6.453
Jul-2001	100,000	\$4.550	\$6.435
Aug-2001	100,000	\$4.531	\$6.416
Sep-2001	100,000	\$4.532	\$6.379
Oct-2001	100,000	\$4.477	\$6.366

"We continue to be very optimistic about the fundamentals for natural gas demand. Based upon prices currently quoted in the NYMEX natural gas futures market for 2001, the Company's cash flow is expected to exceed \$500 million. The current market dynamics provide an excellent opportunity to add some additional price protection for our spring, summer and early fall gas production. Even if gas prices average higher than \$6.89 and the ceilings are triggered, we will have approximately 40% of our 2001 production unhedged," commented Mark Monroe, President and CEO.

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*This press release includes certain statements that may be deemed to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All statements made in this press release other than purely historical information are forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current expectations and are based on our historical operating trends, proved reserve and fixed-price contract positions and other currently available information. Forward-looking statements include statements about our future drilling plans and objectives and related exploration and development budgets and number and location of planned wells and statements regarding the quality of our properties and potential reserve and production levels. These statements may be preceded by or followed by or otherwise include the words "believes", "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "estimates", "projects", or similar expressions or statements that certain events "will" or "may" occur. These statements assume that no significant changes will occur in the operating environment for our oil and gas properties and that there will be no material acquisitions or divestitures except as otherwise described. The forward-looking statements are subject to all the risks and uncertainties incident to the acquisition, exploration, development and marketing of oil and natural gas reserves, including the risks described in this release and in our Annual Report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999. These risks include, but are not limited to, commodity price, counterparty, environmental, drilling, reserves, operations and production risks. We may also make material acquisitions or divestitures, modify our fixed-price contract positions or enter into financing transactions. None of these events can be predicted with certainty and are not taken into consideration in the forward-looking statements. Statements concerning fixed-price contract, interest rate swap and other financial instrument fair values and their estimated contribution to our future results of operations are based upon market information as of a specific date. This market information is often a function of significant judgment and estimation. Further, market prices for oil and gas and market interest rates are subject to significant volatility. For all of these reasons, our actual results may vary materially from the forward-looking statements and there is no assurance that the assumptions we have used are necessarily the most likely. We will not update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date the statement is made. Investors are cautioned that any such statements are not guarantees of future performance and that actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements.*

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Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas is one of the largest independent natural gas companies engaged in the acquisition, development, exploration, production and marketing of natural gas and crude oil in the United States. Internet address: <http://www.ldng.com>