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**News Release**

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For Immediate Release

## **Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas Provides Update on South Texas Activity**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma -- Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas Corp. (NYSE: LD) today provided an update on its successful drilling program in South Texas. The Company initiated its drilling program in Lavaca County, Texas in 1996 targeting the Lower Wilcox formation. Since the program's inception, the Company has participated in 30 wells, 28 of which have been successfully completed as producers. These wells have developed over 245 Bcf of gross reserves (85 Bcf net).

Currently, the Company's net production from the area is approximately 34 million cubic feet per day. Upon completion in early March of certain enhancements to a natural gas gathering system in the area, net production volumes are expected to increase by approximately seven million per day. Additionally, the Company is currently drilling four wells and completing two wells. By year-end, the Company expects to have drilled a total of seven exploratory and fifteen development wells in the Lavaca County area.

A notable Lower Wilcox discovery, the Sibley Estate #4, was recently completed producing 10 million cubic feet of natural gas per day at a flowing tubing pressure of 9,000 psi. The Company owns a 52.5% working interest in this well, with Lundberg Operating Company, et al and partner Hallwood Petroleum owning a combined 35% and Seisgen Exploration, Inc. owning 12.5%. An offset to the Sibley Estate #4, in which Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas owns an 87.5% working interest, is presently drilling below 12,500 feet.

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