

United States Natural Gas Fund, LP  
Form 424B3  
November 29, 2007

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Registration No. 333-147164**

## **PROSPECTUS**

# **United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**

## **50,000,000 Units**

United States Natural Gas Fund, LP, a Delaware limited partnership, is a commodity pool that will issue units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange. United States Natural Gas Fund, LP is referred to as USNG throughout this document. The investment objective of USNG is for the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana, as measured by the changes in the price of the futures contract on natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contract that is the next month contract to expire, less USNG's expenses. This is a best efforts offering. USNG will continuously offer creation baskets consisting of 100,000 units to authorized purchasers through ALPS Distributors, Inc., which is the marketing agent. A list of USNG's current authorized purchasers will be available from the marketing agent. Authorized purchasers will pay a transaction fee of \$1,000 for each order to create one or more baskets. There are no arrangements to place funds in an escrow, trust, or similar account. This is a continuous offering and will not terminate until all of the registered units have been sold. Our units are listed on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol **UNG**.

Authorized purchasers may purchase creation baskets of 100,000 units. The per unit price of units on a particular day will be the total net asset value of USNG calculated shortly after the close of the New York Stock Exchange on that day divided by the number of issued and outstanding units.

Authorized purchasers will be the only persons that may place orders to create and redeem baskets. An authorized purchaser is under no obligation to create or redeem baskets, and an authorized purchaser is under no obligation to offer to the public units of any baskets it does create. Authorized purchasers that do offer to the public units from the baskets they create will do so at per-unit offering prices that are expected to reflect, among other factors, the trading price of the units on the American Stock Exchange, the net asset value of USNG at the time the authorized purchaser purchased the creation basket and the net asset value at the time of the offer of the units to the public, the supply of and demand for units at the time of sale, and the liquidity of the natural gas futures contract market and the market for other natural gas-related investments. The prices of units offered by authorized purchasers are expected to fall between USNG's net asset value and the trading price of the units on the American Stock Exchange at the time of sale. The difference between the price paid by authorized purchasers as underwriters and the price paid to such authorized purchasers by investors will be deemed underwriting compensation. Units initially comprising the same basket but offered by authorized purchasers to the public at different times may have different offering prices. Units trade in the secondary market on the American Stock Exchange. Units may trade in the secondary market at prices that are lower or higher relative to their net asset value per unit. The amount of the discount or premium in the trading price relative to the net asset value per unit may be influenced by various factors, including the number of investors who seek to purchase or sell units in the secondary market and the liquidity of the natural gas futures contract market and the market for other natural gas-related investments. Authorized purchasers will not be required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of units.

**USNG is not a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and is not subject to regulation under such Act.**

Some of the risks of investing in USNG include:

Investing in natural gas interests subjects USNG to the risks of the natural gas industry which could result in large fluctuations in the price of USNG's units.

If certain correlations do not exist, then investors may not be able to use USNG as a cost-effective way to invest indirectly in natural gas or as a hedge against the risk of loss in natural gas-related transactions.

USNG does not expect to make cash distributions.

USNG and its general partner may have conflicts of interest, which may permit them to favor their own interests to your detriment.

**Investing in USNG involves other significant risks. See What Are the Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in USNG? starting on page 12.**

**NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ( SEC ) NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THE SECURITIES OFFERED IN THIS PROSPECTUS, OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.**

**THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION ( CFTC ) HAS NOT PASSED UPON THE MERITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THIS POOL NOR HAS IT PASSED ON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.**

**This Prospectus is in two parts: a disclosure document and a statement of additional information. These parts are bound together, and both contain important information.**

|   | Per Unit | Per Basket      |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Price of the units in the first basket(s) sold* | \$ 43.29 | \$ 4,329,000.00 |

\*Based on closing net asset value on November 2, 2007. The price may vary based on net asset value in effect on a particular day.

**The date of this Prospectus is November 21, 2007.**

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## **COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION RISK DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER WHETHER YOUR FINANCIAL CONDITION PERMITS YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A COMMODITY POOL. IN SO DOING, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT FUTURES AND OPTIONS TRADING CAN QUICKLY LEAD TO LARGE LOSSES AS WELL AS GAINS. SUCH TRADING LOSSES CAN SHARPLY REDUCE THE NET ASSET VALUE OF THE POOL AND CONSEQUENTLY THE VALUE OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE POOL. IN ADDITION, RESTRICTIONS ON REDEMPTIONS MAY AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO WITHDRAW YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE POOL.**

**FURTHER, COMMODITY POOLS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SUBSTANTIAL CHARGES FOR MANAGEMENT, ADVISORY AND BROKERAGE FEES. IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THOSE POOLS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO THESE CHARGES TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL TRADING PROFITS TO**

**AVOID DEPLETION OR EXHAUSTION OF THEIR ASSETS. THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT CONTAINS A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF EACH EXPENSE TO BE CHARGED THIS POOL BEGINNING ON PAGE 68 AND A STATEMENT OF THE PERCENTAGE RETURN NECESSARY TO BREAK EVEN, THAT IS, TO RECOVER THE AMOUNT OF YOUR INITIAL INVESTMENT, ON PAGE 5.**

**THIS BRIEF STATEMENT CANNOT DISCLOSE ALL THE RISKS AND OTHER FACTORS NECESSARY TO EVALUATE YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS COMMODITY POOL. THEREFORE, BEFORE YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS COMMODITY POOL, YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY STUDY THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT, INCLUDING THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPAL RISK FACTORS OF THIS INVESTMENT, BEGINNING ON PAGE 12.**

**YOU SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT THIS COMMODITY POOL MAY TRADE FOREIGN FUTURES OR OPTIONS CONTRACTS. TRANSACTIONS ON MARKETS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING MARKETS FORMALLY LINKED TO A UNITED STATES MARKET, MAY BE SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS WHICH OFFER DIFFERENT OR DIMINISHED PROTECTION TO THE POOL AND ITS PARTICIPANTS. FURTHER, UNITED STATES REGULATORY AUTHORITIES MAY BE UNABLE TO COMPEL THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE RULES OF REGULATORY AUTHORITIES OR MARKETS IN NON-UNITED STATES JURISDICTIONS WHERE TRANSACTIONS FOR THE POOL MAY BE EFFECTED.**

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# **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

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Until December 16, 2007 (25 days after the date of this Prospectus), all dealers effecting transactions in the offered units, whether or not participating in this distribution, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This requirement is in addition to the obligations of dealers to deliver a prospectus when acting as underwriters and with respect to unsold allotments or subscriptions.

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## STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Prospectus includes forward-looking statements which generally relate to future events or future performance. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, will, should, expect, plan, anticipate, believe, estimate, predict, potential or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. Statements (other than statements of historical fact) included in this Prospectus and movements in the commodities markets and indexes that track such movements, USNG's operations, the General Partner's plans and references to USNG's future success and other similar matters, are forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially. These statements are based upon certain assumptions and analyses the General Partner has made based on its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors appropriate in the circumstances. Whether or not actual results and developments will conform to the General Partner's expectations and predictions, however, is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including the special considerations discussed in this Prospectus, general economic, market and business conditions, changes in laws or regulations, including those concerning taxes, made by governmental authorities or regulatory bodies, and other world economic and political developments. See *What Are the Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in USNG?* Consequently, all the forward-looking statements made in this Prospectus are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the events or developments that will or may occur in the future, including such matters as changes in inflation in the United States movements in the stock market, movements in the U.S. and foreign currencies, actual results or developments the General Partner anticipates will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will result in the expected consequences to, or have the expected effects on, USNG's operations or the value of the units.

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## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*This is only a summary of the Prospectus and, while it contains material information about USNG and its units, it does not contain or summarize all of the information about USNG and the units contained in this Prospectus that is material and/or which may be important to you. You should read this entire Prospectus, including *What Are the Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in USNG?* beginning on page 12, before making an investment decision about*

*the units.*

## Overview of USNG

United States Natural Gas Fund, LP, a Delaware limited partnership ( USNG or Us or We ), is a commodity pool that will issue units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange. USNG was organized as a limited partnership under Delaware law on September 11, 2006. USNG is operated pursuant to the Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership dated April 17, 2007 ( LP Agreement ), which is included as Appendix B. It is managed and controlled by its general partner, Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC ( General Partner ). The General Partner is a single member limited liability company formed in Delaware on May 10, 2005 that is registered as a commodity pool operator ( CPO ) with the Commodities Futures Trading Commission ( CFTC ) and is a member of the National Futures Association ( NFA ). USNG will pay the General Partner a management fee of 0.60% of NAV on the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets and 0.50% of NAV after the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets.

The net assets of USNG will consist primarily of investments in futures contracts for natural gas, crude oil, heating oil, gasoline, and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, ICE Futures or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, Futures Contracts ) and other natural gas-related investments such as cash-settled options on Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas, and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments ). For convenience and unless otherwise specified, Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments collectively are referred to as Natural Gas Interests in this Prospectus. The General Partner is authorized by USNG in its sole judgment to employ, establish the terms of employment for, and terminate commodities trading advisors or futures commission merchants.

USNG will invest in Natural Gas Interests to the fullest extent possible without being leveraged or unable to satisfy its current or potential margin or collateral obligations with respect to its investments in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. The primary focus of the General Partner will be the investment in Futures Contracts and the management of its investments in short-term obligations of the United States of two years or less ( Treasuries ), cash and cash equivalents for margining purposes and as collateral.

The investment objective of USNG is to have the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value reflect the changes in percentage terms of the spot price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana, as measured by the changes in the price of the futures contract on natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange (the Benchmark Futures Contract ) that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contract that is the next month contract to expire, less USNG's expenses. It is not the intent of USNG to be operated in a fashion such that its NAV will equal, in dollar terms, the dollar price of spot natural gas or any particular futures contract based on natural gas. USNG invests in interests other than the Benchmark Futures Contract to comply with accountability levels and position limits. For a detailed discussion of accountability levels and position limits, see What are Futures Contracts?

As a specific benchmark, the General Partner endeavors to place USNG's trades in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and otherwise manage USNG's investments so that  $A$  will be within plus/minus 10 percent of  $B$ , where:

$A$  is the average daily change in USNG's NAV for any period of 30 successive valuation days, i.e., any day as of which USNG calculates its NAV, and

$B$  is the average daily change in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract over the same period.

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## Edgar Filing: United States Natural Gas Fund, LP - Form 424B3

An investment in the units will allow both retail and institutional investors to easily gain exposure to the natural gas market in a cost-effective manner. The units are also expected to provide additional means for diversifying an investor's investments or hedging exposure to changes in natural gas prices.

The Benchmark Futures Contract will be changed or rolled from the near month to expire to the next month to expire over a four (4) day period.

The General Partner employs a neutral investment strategy intended to track the changes in the price of natural gas regardless of whether the price of natural gas goes up or goes down. USNG's neutral investment strategy is designed to permit investors generally to purchase and sell USNG's units for the purpose of investing indirectly in natural gas in a cost-effective manner, and/or to permit participants in the natural gas or other industries to hedge the risk of losses in their natural gas-related transactions. Accordingly, depending on the investment objective of an individual investor, the risks generally associated with investing in natural gas and/or the risks involved in hedging may exist. In addition, an investment in USNG involves the risk that the changes in the price of USNG's units will not accurately track the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. For example, USNG will also invest a substantial amount of its assets in Treasuries and hold cash and cash equivalents to be used to meet its current or potential margin or collateral requirements with respect to its investments in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. USNG does not expect there to be any meaningful correlation between the performance of USNG's investments in Treasuries/cash/cash equivalents and the changes in the price of natural gas. While the level of interest earned on or the market price of these investments may in some respect correlate to changes in the price of natural gas, this correlation is not anticipated as part of USNG's efforts to meet its objectives. This and certain risk factors discussed in this Prospectus may cause a lack of correlation between the changes in USNG's NAV and the changes in the price of natural gas.

USNG creates and redeems units only in blocks of 100,000 units called Creation Baskets and Redemption Baskets, respectively. Only Authorized Purchasers may purchase or redeem Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets. An Authorized Purchaser is under no obligation to create or redeem baskets, and an Authorized Purchaser is under no obligation to offer to the public units of any baskets it does create. Baskets are generally created when there is sufficient demand for units that the market price per unit is at a premium to the NAV per unit. Authorized Purchasers will then sell such units, which will be listed on the American Stock Exchange, to the public at per-unit offering prices that are expected to reflect, among other factors, the trading price of the units on the American Stock Exchange, the NAV of USNG at the time the Authorized Purchaser purchased the Creation Baskets and the NAV at the time of the offer of the units to the public, the supply of and demand for units at the time of sale, and the liquidity of the Futures Contracts market and the market for Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. The prices of units offered by authorized purchasers are expected to fall between USNG's NAV and the trading price of the units on the American Stock Exchange at the time of sale. Similarly, baskets are generally redeemed when the market price per unit is at a discount to the NAV per unit. Retail investors seeking to purchase or sell units on any day are expected to effect such transactions in the secondary market, on the American Stock Exchange, at the market price per unit, rather than in connection with the creation or redemption of baskets.

All proceeds from the sale of Creation Baskets will be invested as quickly as possible in the investments described in this Prospectus. Investments are held through USNG's custodian, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. ( Custodian ) or through accounts with USNG's commodities futures brokers. There is no stated maximum time period for USNG's operations and the fund will continue until all units are redeemed or the fund is liquidated pursuant to the terms of the LP Agreement.

There is no specified limit on the maximum amount of Creation Baskets that can be sold. At some point, position limits on certain of the Futures Contracts in which USNG intends to invest may practically limit the maximum amount of Creation Baskets that will be sold if the General Partner determines that the other investment alternatives available to USNG at that time will not enable it to meet its stated investment objective. In this regard, the General Partner is in the process of registering other exchange traded security funds, the United States 12 Month Oil Fund, LP ( US12OF )

and United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP ( US12NG ). US12OF will invest in the near month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven months, for a total of 12 consecutive months contracts for light, sweet crude oil primarily traded on

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the New York Mercantile Exchange position limits. US12NG will invest in the near month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven months, for a total of 12 consecutive months contracts for natural gas primarily traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange position limits.

Units may also be purchased and sold by individuals and entities that are not authorized purchasers in smaller increments than a Creation Basket on the American Stock Exchange. However, these transactions are effected at bid and ask prices established by specialist firm(s). Like any listed security, units of USNG can be purchased and sold at any time a secondary market is open.

In managing USNG's assets, the General Partner does not intend to use a technical trading system that issues buy and sell orders. The General Partner instead employs quantitative methodologies whereby each time one or more baskets are purchased or redeemed, the General Partner will purchase or sell Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments with an aggregate face amount that approximates the amount of Treasuries and /or cash received or paid upon the purchase or redemption of the basket(s).

**Note to Secondary Market Investors:** The units can be directly purchased from or redeemed by USNG only in Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets, respectively, and only by Authorized Purchasers. Each Creation Basket and Redemption Basket will consist of 100,000 units and is expected to be worth millions of dollars. Individual investors, therefore, will not be able to directly purchase units from or redeem units with USNG. Some of the information contained in this Prospectus, including information about buying and redeeming units directly from and to USNG is only relevant to Authorized Purchasers. Units are listed and traded on the American Stock Exchange and may be purchased and sold as individual units. Individuals interested in purchasing units in the secondary market should contact their broker. Units purchased or sold through a broker may be subject to commissions.

**Except when aggregated in Redemption Baskets, units are not be redeemable securities. There is no guarantee that units will trade at or near the per-unit NAV.**

## **The Units**

The units are registered as securities under the Securities Act of 1933 ( 1933 Act ) and will not provide dividend rights or conversion rights and there will not be sinking funds. The units may only be redeemed when aggregated in Redemption Baskets as discussed under Creations and Redemptions and limited partners will have limited voting rights as discussed under Who is the General Partner? Cumulative voting neither is permitted nor required and there are no preemptive rights. As discussed in the LP Agreement, upon liquidation of USNG, its assets will be distributed pro rata to limited partners based upon the number of units held. Each limited partner will receive its share of the assets in cash or in kind, and the proportion of such share that is received in cash may vary from partner to partner, as the General Partner in its sole discretion may decide.

This is a continuous offering under Rule 415 of the 1933 Act and it will terminate when all of the registered units have been sold. It is anticipated that when all registered units have been sold pursuant to this Registration Statement,

Except when aggregated in Redemption Baskets, units are not be redeemable securities. There is no guarantee that



additional units will be registered in subsequent registration statements. As discussed above, the minimum purchase requirement for Authorized Purchasers is a Creation Basket, which consists of 100,000 units. Under the plan of distribution, USNG does not require a minimum purchase amount for investors who purchase units from Authorized Purchasers. There are no arrangements to place funds in an escrow, trust, or similar account.

## USNG's Investments in Natural Gas Interests

A brief description of the principal types of Natural Gas Interests in which USNG may invest is set forth below.

A futures contract is a standardized contract traded on a futures exchange that calls for the future delivery of a specified quantity of a commodity at a specified time and place.

A forward contract is a supply contract between principals, not traded on an exchange, to buy or sell a specified quantity of a commodity at or before a specified date at a specified price.

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A spot contract is a cash market transaction in which the buyer and seller agree to the immediate purchase and sale of a commodity, usually with a two-day settlement. Spot contracts are not uniform and are not exchange-traded.

An option on a futures contract, forward contract or a commodity on the spot market gives the buyer of the option the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a futures contract, forward contract or a commodity as applicable, at a specified price on or before a specified date. Options on futures contracts are standardized contracts traded on an exchange, while options on forward contracts and commodities on the spot market, referred to collectively in this Prospectus as over-the-counter options, generally are individually negotiated, principal-to-principal contracts not traded on an exchange.

Over-the-counter contracts (such as swap contracts) generally involve an exchange of a stream of payments between the contracting parties. Over-the-counter contracts generally are not uniform and not exchange-traded.

A more detailed description of natural gas interests and other aspects of the natural gas and natural gas interest markets can be found later in this Prospectus.

**As noted, USNG invests primarily in Futures Contracts, including those traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange. USNG expressly disclaims any association with such Exchange or endorsement of USNG by such Exchange and acknowledges that NYMEX and New York Mercantile Exchange are registered trademarks of such Exchange.**

## Principal Investment Risks of an Investment in USNG

An investment in USNG involves a degree of risk. Some of the risks you may face are summarized below. A more extensive discussion of these risks appears beginning on page 12.

Unlike mutual funds, commodity pools or other investment pools that actively manage their investments in an attempt to realize income and gains from their investing activities and distribute such income and gains to their investors, USNG generally does not distribute cash to limited partners or other unitholders. You should not invest in USNG if you will need cash distributions from USNG to pay taxes on your share of income and gains of USNG, if any, or for any other reason.

There is the risk that the changes in the price of USNG's units on the American Stock Exchange will not closely track the changes in the price of natural gas. This could happen if the price of units traded on the American Stock Exchange does not correlate closely with USNG's NAV; the changes in USNG's NAV do not closely correlate with the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract; or the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract do not

closely correlate with the changes in the cash or spot price of natural gas. This is a risk because if these correlations do not exist, then investors may not be able to use USNG as a cost-effective way to invest indirectly in natural gas or as a hedge against the risk of loss in natural gas-related transactions.

USNG seeks to have the changes in its units' NAV in percentage terms track changes in the price of natural gas in percentage terms rather than profit from speculative trading of Natural Gas Interests. The General Partner therefore endeavors to manage USNG's positions in Natural Gas Interests so that USNG's assets are, unlike those of other commodity pools, not leveraged (i.e., so that the aggregate value of USNG's unrealized losses from its investments in such Natural Gas Interests at any time will not exceed the value of USNG's assets). There is no assurance that the General Partner will successfully implement this investment strategy. If the General Partner permits USNG to become leveraged, you could lose all or substantially all of your investment if USNG's trading positions suddenly turn unprofitable. These movements in price may be the result of factors outside of the General Partner's control and may not be anticipated by the General Partner.

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Investors may choose to use USNG as a means of investing indirectly in natural gas and there are risks involved in such investments. The risks and hazards that are inherent in the natural gas industry may cause the price of natural gas to widely fluctuate. The exploration for, and production of, natural gas is an uncertain process with many risks. The cost of drilling, completing and operating wells for natural gas is often uncertain, and a number of factors can delay or prevent drilling operations or production.

Investors, including those who participate in the natural gas industry, may choose to use USNG as a vehicle to hedge against the risk of loss and there are risks involved in hedging activities. While hedging can provide protection against an adverse movement in market prices, it can also preclude a hedgor's opportunity to benefit from a favorable market movement.

USNG invests primarily in Futures Contracts that are traded in the United States. However, a portion of USNG's trades may take place in markets and on exchanges outside the United States. Some non-U.S. markets present risks because they are not subject to the same degree of regulation as their U.S. counterparts. In some of these non-U.S. markets, the performance on a contract is the responsibility of the counterparty and is not backed by an exchange or clearing corporation and therefore exposes USNG to credit risk. Trading in non-U.S. markets also leaves USNG susceptible to fluctuations in the value of the local currency against the U.S. dollar.

USNG may also invest in Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, many of which are negotiated contracts that are not as liquid as Futures Contracts and expose USNG to credit risk that its counterparty may not be able to satisfy its obligations to USNG.

USNG will pay fees and expenses that are incurred regardless of whether it is profitable.

You will have no rights to participate in the management of USNG and will have to rely on the duties and judgment of the General Partner to manage USNG.

The structure and operation of USNG may involve conflicts of interest. For example, a conflict may arise because the General Partner and its principal and affiliates may trade for themselves. In addition, the General Partner has sole current authority to manage the investments and operations, which may create a conflict with the unitholders' best interests. The General Partner may also have a conflict to the extent that its trading decisions may be influenced by the effect they would have on United States Oil Fund, LP (USOF), the other commodity pool that it manages, or any other commodity pool the General Partner may form in the future.

For additional risks, see "What Are the Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in USNG?"

## **Principal Offices of USNG and the General Partner**

USNG's principal office is located at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502. The telephone number is 510.522.3336. The General Partner's principal office is also located at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502.

## Financial Condition of USNG

USNG's NAV is determined as of the earlier of the close of the New York Stock Exchange or 4:00 pm New York time on each American Stock Exchange trading day.

### Defined Terms

For a glossary of defined terms, see Appendix A.

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## Breakeven Analysis

The breakeven analysis below indicates the approximate dollar returns and percentage required for the redemption value of a hypothetical \$50.00 initial investment in a single unit to equal the amount invested twelve months after the investment was made. This breakeven analysis refers to the redemption of baskets by Authorized Purchasers and is not related to any gains an individual investor would have to achieve in order to break even. The breakeven analysis is an approximation only.

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Assumed initial selling price per unit  | \$50.00   |
| Management Fee (0.60%)*   | \$0.30    |
| Creation Basket Fee**   | \$(.01 )  |
| Estimated Brokerage Fee (0.13%***   | \$.065    |
| Interest Income (3.66%****  | \$(1.83 ) |
| Registration Fees*****  | \$1.35    |
| Legal, Printing, and Accounting Expenses*****   | \$0.65    |
| New York Mercantile Exchange Licensing Fee*****   | \$0.02    |
| Independent Directors and Officers Fee*****   | \$0.01    |
| Amount of trading income (loss) required for the redemption value at the end of one year to equal the initial selling price of the unit | \$0.56    |
| Percentage of initial selling price per unit  | 1.0 %     |

USNG is contractually obligated to pay the General Partner a management fee based on daily net assets and paid monthly of 0.60% per annum on average net assets of \$1,000,000,000 or less. For purposes of this example we \*assumed that the average net assets are \$1,000,000,000 or less. If the average net assets were greater than \$1,000,000,000 then the management fee would be 0.50% on the incremental net assets and the breakeven amount would be lower.

Authorized Purchasers are required to pay a Creation Basket fee of \$1,000 for each order they place to create or \*\*redeem one or more baskets. An order must be at least one basket, which is 100,000 units. This breakeven analysis assumes a hypothetical investment in a single unit so the Creation Basket fee is \$.01 (1,000/100,000).

\*\*\*USNG determined this estimate as follows. The breakeven analysis assumes an initial investment by an investor in one unit. USNG would be required to issue a Creation Basket of 100,000 units in order for one investor to purchase the one unit. Assuming the price of the unit is \$50.00, USNG would receive \$5,000,000 upon the sale of a Creation Basket (100,000 units multiplied by \$50.00). Assuming no change in the settlement price of the contracts, USNG would be required to purchase and sell 69 futures contracts each month to support the Creation Basket (\$5,000,000 divided by the total value of a natural gas contract of \$72,930 (as of February 28, 2007, the

settlement price for natural gas contracts was 7.293)). Assuming futures commission merchants charge approximately \$4.00 per natural gas contract for each buy or sale, the monthly futures commission merchant commission charge per contract would be approximately \$8.00, and the annual futures commission merchant commission charge per contract would be approximately \$96. Assuming no change in the settlement price of the contracts, USNG would buy and sell 69 natural gas contracts each month to support a Creation Basket, which means that USNG's monthly commission charge per Creation Basket would be approximately \$552, and the annual commission charge per Creation Basket would be approximately \$6,624 (69 contracts bought and sold \* approximately \$8 per month \* 12 months). As a percentage of the total investment of \$5,000,000 to support the issuance of the Creation Basket, USNG's annual commission expense would be approximately 0.13% (\$6,624 divided by \$5,000,000).

USNG earns interest on funds it deposits with the futures commission merchant and the Custodian and it estimates that the interest rate will be 3.66% based on the current interest rate on three-month Treasury Bills as of October 18, 2007. The actual rate may vary.

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The fee to register 50,000,000 units with the SEC and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) is \$134,935 (the SEC's fee is \$59,345 and FINRA's fee is \$75,500). An order must be at least one basket which is 100,000 units. This breakeven analysis assumes a hypothetical investment in a single unit so the fee is \$1.35 (\$134,935/100,000). This fee is borne by USNG.

USNG estimates that the legal, printing, and accounting costs will be approximately \$65,000. An order must be at least one basket which is 100,000 units. This breakeven analysis assumes a hypothetical investment in a single unit so this cost per unit is \$1.00 (\$65,000/100,000). These costs are borne by USNG.

Assuming the aggregate assets of USNG and USOF are \$1,000,000,000 or less, the New York Mercantile Exchange licensing fee is .04%. For more information see Fees of USNG.

For 2007, this amount is estimated at \$86,000. USNG determined the per unit estimate as follows: it is assumed that USNG will have an aggregate NAV of \$425,000,000 and that the offering price per unit is \$50.00. Assuming that 8.5 million units are issued, the allocation cost per unitholder would be \$0.0075.

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# **The Offering**

### **Offering:**

USNG is offering Creation Baskets consisting of 100,000 units through ALPS Distributors, Inc. (Marketing Agent) as marketing agent to authorized purchasers. Authorized purchasers may purchase Creation Baskets consisting of 100,000 units at USNG's NAV.

### **Use of Proceeds:**

The General Partner initially applies substantially all of USNG's assets toward trading in Futures Contracts and investing in Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents. The General Partner will deposit substantially all of USNG's net assets with the futures commission merchant, UBS Securities LLC, or other custodian to be used to meet its current or potential margin or collateral requirements in connection with its investment in Futures Contracts, other Natural Gas Interests and in Treasuries. USNG uses only Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents to satisfy these requirements. The General Partner expects that all entities that will hold or trade USNG's assets will be based in the United States and will be subject to United States regulations. Approximately 5% to 10% of USNG's assets will normally be committed as margin for Futures Contracts. However, from time to time, the percentage of assets committed as margin may be substantially more, or less, than such range. The remaining portion of USNG's assets are held in Treasuries and/or cash or cash equivalents by its custodian, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. (Custodian)

or posted as collateral to support USNG's investments in Natural Gas Interests. All interest income earned on these investments is retained for USNG's benefit.

American Stock Exchange Symbol:

UNG

**Creation and Redemption:**

Authorized Purchasers pay a \$1,000 fee for each order to create or redeem one or more Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets. Authorized Purchasers are not be required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of units. The per unit price of units offered in Creation Baskets on any day after the effective date of the registration statement relating to this Prospectus is the total NAV of USNG calculated shortly after the close of the American Stock Exchange on that day divided by the number of issued and outstanding units.

**Withdrawal:**

As discussed in the LP Agreement, if the General Partner gives at least fifteen (15) days' written notice to a limited partner, then the General Partner may for any reason, in its sole discretion, require any such limited partner to withdraw entirely from the partnership or to withdraw a portion of its partner capital account. If the General Partner does not give at least fifteen (15) days' written notice to a limited partner, then it may only require withdrawal of all or any portion of the capital account of any limited partner in the following circumstances:

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(i)

the unitholder made a misrepresentation to the General Partner in connection with its purchase of units; or

(ii)

the limited partner's ownership of units would result in the violation of any law or regulations applicable to the partnership or a partner.

**Registration Clearance and Settlement:**

Individual certificates will not be issued for the units. Instead, units will be represented by one or more global certificates, which will be deposited by the Custodian with the Depository Trust Company ( DTC ) and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC. The global certificates evidence all of the units outstanding at any time. Unitholders are limited to (1) participants in DTC such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies ( DTC Participants ), (2) those who maintain, either directly or indirectly, a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant ( Indirect Participants ), and (3) those banks, brokers, dealers, trust companies and others who hold interests in the units through DTC Participants or Indirect Participants, in each case who satisfy the requirements for transfers of units. DTC Participants acting on behalf of investors holding units through such participants' accounts in DTC will follow the delivery practice applicable to securities eligible for DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System. Units will be credited to DTC Participants' securities accounts following confirmation of receipt of payment.

The administrator, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. ( Administrator ) has been appointed registrar and transfer agent for the purpose of registering and transferring units. The General Partner will recognize transfer of units only if such transfer is done in accordance with the LP Agreement, including the delivery of a transfer application.

**Net Asset Value:**

The NAV is calculated by taking the current market value of USNG's total assets and subtracting any liabilities. Under USNG's current operational procedures, the Administrator calculates the NAV of USNG's units as of the earlier of 4:00 p.m. New York time or the close of the New York Stock Exchange each day. The American Stock Exchange currently calculates an approximate net asset value every 15 seconds throughout each day USNG's units are traded on the American Stock Exchange for as long as the New York Mercantile Exchange's main pricing mechanism is open.

**Fund Expenses:**

USNG pays the General Partner a management fee of 0.60% of NAV on the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets and 0.50% of NAV after the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets. Brokerage fees for Treasuries, Futures Contracts, and Other

Natural Gas-Related Investments are estimated to be 0.20% and will be paid to unaffiliated brokers. USNG

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also pays any licensing fees for the use of intellectual property, registration fees with the SEC, FINRA, or other regulatory agency in connection with this and subsequent offers and sales of the units. The license fee paid to the New York Mercantile Exchange is .04% of NAV for the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets and .02% of NAV after the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets. The assets of USNG are aggregated with those of other funds formed or to be formed by the General Partner. USNG also is responsible for the fees and expenses, which may include directors and officers liability insurance, of the independent directors of the General Partner in connection with their activities with respect to USNG. These director fees and expenses may be shared with other funds managed by the General Partner. These fees and expenses are, in total, currently estimated to be \$270,000 for 2007, and USNG's portion is currently estimated to be \$86,000 though these amounts may change in future years. In accordance with the Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership that is currently being discussed with the limited partners, USNG will pay the fees and expenses associated with its tax accounting and reporting requirements with the exception of certain initial implementation services fees and base services fees which will be paid by the General Partner. The General Partner, and not USNG, is responsible for payment of the fees of USNG's Marketing Agent, Administrator and Custodian. USNG and/or the General Partner may be required to indemnify the Marketing Agent, Administrator or Custodian under certain circumstances.

### Termination Events:

USNG shall continue in effect from the date of its formation in perpetuity, unless sooner terminated upon the occurrence of any one or more of the following events: the death, adjudication of incompetence, bankruptcy, dissolution, withdrawal, or removal of a General Partner who is the sole remaining General Partner, unless a majority in interest of limited partners within ninety (90) days after such event elects to continue the partnership and appoints a successor general partner; or the affirmative vote of a majority in interest of the limited partners subject to certain conditions. Upon termination of the partnership, the affairs of the partnership shall be wound up and all of its debts and liabilities discharged or otherwise provided for in the order of priority as provided by law. The fair market value of the remaining assets of the partnership shall then be determined by the General Partner. Thereupon, the assets of the partnership shall be distributed pro rata to the partners in accordance with their units.

### Authorized Purchasers:

USNG has entered into agreements with several authorized purchasers. A current list of authorized purchasers is set forth on USNG's website at

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[www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com). Authorized purchasers purchase or redeem Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets, respectively, from or to USNG. Authorized purchasers must be (1) registered broker-dealers or other securities market participants, such as banks and other financial institutions, that are not required to register as broker-dealers to engage in securities transactions, and (2) DTC Participants. To become an authorized purchaser, a person must enter into an Authorized Purchaser Agreement with the General Partner.

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# **WHAT ARE THE RISK FACTORS INVOLVED WITH AN INVESTMENT IN USNG?**

*You should consider carefully the risks described below before making an investment decision. You should also refer to the other information included in this Prospectus, including USNG's financial statements and the related notes.*

## **Risks Associated With Investing Directly or Indirectly in Natural Gas**

**Investing in Natural Gas Interests subjects USNG to the risks of the natural gas industry and this could result in large fluctuations in the price of USNG's units.**

USNG is subject to the risks and hazards of the natural gas industry because it invests in Natural Gas Interests. The risks and hazards that are inherent in the natural gas industry may cause the price of natural gas to widely fluctuate. If the changes in percentage terms of USNG's units accurately track the percentage changes in the Benchmark Futures Contract or the spot price of natural gas, then the price of its units may also fluctuate. The exploration for, and production of, natural gas is an uncertain process with many risks. The cost of drilling, completing and operating wells for natural gas is often uncertain, and a number of factors can delay or prevent drilling operations or production, including:

- unexpected drilling conditions;
- pressure or irregularities in formations;
- equipment failures or repairs;
- fires or other accidents;
- adverse weather conditions;
- pipeline ruptures or spills; and

shortages or delays in the availability of drilling rigs and the delivery of equipment.

**Natural gas transmission, distribution, gathering, and processing activities involve numerous risks that may affect the price of natural gas.**

There are a variety of hazards inherent in natural gas transmission, distribution, gathering, and processing, such as leaks, explosions, pollution, release of toxic substances, adverse weather conditions (such as hurricanes and flooding), pipeline failure, abnormal pressures, uncontrollable flows of natural gas, scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, physical damage to the gathering or transportation system, and other hazards which could affect the price of natural gas. To the extent these hazards limit the supply or delivery of natural gas, natural gas prices will increase.

**The price of natural gas may fluctuate on a seasonal and quarterly basis and this would result in fluctuations in the price of USNG's units.**

Natural gas prices fluctuate seasonally. For example, in some parts of the United States and other markets, the natural gas demand for power peaks during the cold winter months, with market prices peaking at that time. As a result, in the future, the overall price of natural gas may fluctuate substantially on a seasonal and quarterly basis and thus make consecutive period to period comparisons less relevant.

**Natural gas transmission and storage operations are subject to government regulations and rate proceedings which could have an impact on the price of natural gas.**

Natural gas transmission and storage operations in North America are subject to regulation and oversight by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, various state regulatory agencies, and Canadian regulatory authorities. These regulatory bodies have the authority to effect rate settlements on natural gas storage, transmission and distribution services. As a consequence, the price of natural gas may be affected by a change in the rate settlements effected by one or more of these regulatory bodies.

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**The price of USNG's units may be influenced by factors such as the short-term supply and demand for natural gas and the short-term supply and demand for USNG's units. This may cause the units to trade at a price that is above or below USNG's NAV per unit. Accordingly, changes in the price of units may substantially vary from the changes in the spot price of natural gas. If this variation occurs, then you may not be able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge against natural gas-related losses or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.**

While it is expected that the trading prices of the units will fluctuate in accordance with the changes in USNG's NAV, the prices of units may also be influenced by other factors, including the short-term supply and demand for natural gas and the units. There is no guarantee that the units will not trade at appreciable discounts from, and/or premiums to, USNG's NAV. This could cause the changes in the price of the units to substantially vary from the changes in the price of natural gas. This may be harmful to you because if changes in the price of units vary substantially from changes in the Benchmark Futures Contract or the spot price of natural gas, then you may not be able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge the risk of losses in your natural gas-related transactions or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.

**Changes in USNG's NAV may not correlate with changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. If this were to occur, you may not be able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge against natural gas-related losses or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.**

The General Partner endeavors to invest USNG's assets as fully as possible in short-term Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments so that the changes in percentage terms in the NAV closely correlates with the changes in percentage terms in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. However, changes in USNG's NAV may not correlate with the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract for several reasons as set forth below:

USNG (i) may not be able to buy/sell the exact amount of Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments to have a perfect correlation with NAV; (ii) may not always be able to buy and sell Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments at the market price; (iii) may not experience a perfect correlation between the spot price of natural gas and the underlying investments in Futures Contracts, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents, and (iv) is required to pay fees, including the brokerage fees and the management fee, which will have an effect on the correlation.

Short-term supply and demand for natural gas may cause the changes in the market price of the Benchmark Futures Contract to vary from changes in USNG's NAV if USNG has fully invested in Futures Contracts that do not reflect such supply and demand and it is unable to replace such contracts with Futures Contracts that do reflect such supply and demand. In addition, there are also technical differences between the two markets, *e.g.*, one is a physical market



while the other is a futures market traded on exchanges, that may cause variations between the spot price of natural gas and the prices of related futures contracts.

USNG plans to buy only as many Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments that it can to get the changes in percentage terms of the NAV as close as possible to the changes in percentage terms in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. The remainder of its assets will be invested in Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents and will be used to satisfy initial margin and additional margin requirements, if any, and to otherwise support its investments in Natural Gas Interests. Investments in Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents, both directly and as margin, will provide rates of return that will vary from changes in the value of the spot price of natural gas and the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

In addition, because USNG will incur certain expenses in connection with its investment activities, and will hold most of its assets in more liquid short-term securities for margin and other liquidity purposes and for redemptions that may be necessary on an ongoing basis, the General Partner will not be able to fully invest USNG's assets in Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and there cannot be perfect correlation between changes in USNG's NAV and changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract.

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As USNG grows, there may be more or less correlation. For example, if USNG only has enough money to buy three Benchmark Futures Contracts and it needs to buy four contracts to track the price of natural gas then the correlation will be lower, but if it buys 20,000 Benchmark Futures Contracts and it needs to buy 20,001 contracts then the correlation will be higher. At certain asset levels, USNG may be limited in its ability to purchase the Benchmark Futures Contract or other Futures Contracts due to accountability levels imposed by the relevant exchanges. To the extent that USNG invests in these other Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, the correlation with the Benchmark Futures Contract may be lower. If USNG is required to invest in other Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments that are less correlated with the Benchmark Futures Contract, USNG would likely invest in over-the-counter contracts to increase the level of correlation of USNG's assets. Over-the-counter contracts entail certain risks described below under **Over-the-Counter Contract Risk**.

USNG may not be able to buy the exact number of Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments to have a perfect correlation with the Benchmark Futures Contract if the purchase price of Futures Contracts required to be fully invested in such contracts is higher than the proceeds received for the sale of a Creation Basket on the day the basket was sold. In such case, USNG could not invest the entire proceeds from the purchase of the Creation Basket in such futures contracts (for example, assume USNG receives \$4,000,000 for the sale of a Creation Basket and assume that the price of a Futures Contract for natural gas is \$59,950, then USNG could only invest in only 66 Futures Contracts with an aggregate value of \$3,956,700), USNG would be required to invest a percentage of the proceeds in Treasuries to be deposited as margin with the futures commission merchant through which the contract was purchased. The remainder of the purchase price for the Creation Basket would remain invested in cash, Treasuries, and/or cash equivalents as determined by the General Partner from time to time based on factors such as potential calls for margin or anticipated redemptions. If the trading market for Futures Contracts is suspended or closed, USNG may not be able to purchase these investments at the last reported price for such investments.

If changes in USNG's NAV do not correlate with changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract, then investing in USNG may not be an effective way to hedge against natural gas-related losses or indirectly invest in natural gas.

**The Benchmark Futures Contract may not correlate with the price of natural gas and this could cause the changes in the price of the units to substantially vary from the changes in the spot price of natural gas. If this were to occur, then you may not be able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge against natural gas-related losses or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.**

When using the Benchmark Futures Contract as a strategy to track the spot price of natural gas, at best the correlation between changes in prices of such Natural Gas Interests and the delivery price of natural gas can be only approximate. The degree of imperfection of correlation depends upon circumstances such as variations in the speculative natural gas market, supply of and demand for such Natural Gas Interests and technical influences in futures trading. If there is a weak correlation between the Natural Gas Interests and the spot price of natural gas, then the price of units may not accurately track the spot price of natural gas and you may not be able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge the risk of losses in your natural gas-related transactions or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.

**USNG may experience a loss if it is required to sell Treasuries at a price lower than the price at which they were acquired.**

The value of Treasuries generally moves inversely with movements in interest rates. If USNG is required to sell Treasuries at a price lower than the price at which they were acquired, USNG will experience a loss. This loss may adversely impact the price of the units and may decrease the correlation between the price of the units, the price of USNG's Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, and the delivery price of natural gas.

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**Certain of USNG's investments could be illiquid which could cause large losses to investors at any time or from time to time.**

USNG may not always be able to liquidate its positions in its investments at the desired price. It is difficult to execute a trade at a specific price when there is a relatively small volume of buy and sell orders in a market. A market disruption, such as a foreign government taking political actions that disrupt the market in its currency, its natural gas production or exports, or in another major export, can also make it difficult to liquidate a position. Alternatively, limits imposed by futures exchanges or other regulatory organizations, such as accountability levels, position limits and price fluctuation limits, may contribute to a lack of liquidity with respect to some commodity interests.

Unexpected market illiquidity may cause major losses to investors at any time or from time to time. In addition, USNG does not intend at this time to establish a credit facility, which would provide an additional source of liquidity and instead will rely only on the Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents that it holds. The anticipated large value of the positions in Futures Contracts that the General Partner will acquire or enter into for USNG increases the risk of illiquidity. Other Natural Gas-Related Investments that USNG invests in, or in negotiated over-the-counter contracts, may have a greater likelihood of being illiquid since they are contracts between two parties that take into account not only market risk, but also the relative credit, tax, and settlement risks under such contracts. Such contracts also have limited transferability that results from such risks and from the contract's express limitations.

Because both Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments may be illiquid, USNG's Natural Gas Interests may be more difficult to liquidate at favorable prices in periods of illiquid markets and losses may be incurred during the period in which positions are being liquidated.

**If the nature of hedgers and speculators in futures markets has shifted such that natural gas purchasers are the predominant hedgers in the market, USNG might have to reinvest at higher futures prices or choose Other Natural Gas-Related Investments.**

The Benchmark Futures Contract may not correlate with the price of natural gas and this could cause the changes in

The changing nature of the hedgers and speculators in the natural gas market will influence whether futures prices are above or below the expected future spot price. In order to induce speculators to take the corresponding long side of the same futures contract, natural gas producers must generally be willing to sell futures contracts at prices that are below expected future spot prices. Conversely, if the predominant hedgers in the futures market are the purchasers of the natural gas who purchase futures contracts to hedge against a rise in prices, then speculators will only take the short side of the futures contract if the futures price is greater than the expected future spot price of natural gas. This can have significant implications for USNG when it is time to reinvest the proceeds from a maturing Futures Contract into a new Futures Contract.

**While USNG does not intend to take physical delivery of natural gas under Futures Contracts, physical delivery under such contracts impacts the value of the contracts.**

While it is not the current intention of USNG to take physical delivery of natural gas under its Futures Contracts, futures contracts are not required to be cash-settled and it is possible to take delivery under these contracts. Storage costs associated with purchasing natural gas could result in costs and other liabilities that could impact the value of Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. Storage costs include the time value of money invested in natural gas as a physical commodity plus the actual costs of storing the natural gas less any benefits from ownership of natural gas that are not obtained by the holder of a futures contract. In general, Futures Contracts have a one-month delay for contract delivery and the back month (the back month is any future delivery month other than the spot month) includes storage costs. To the extent that these storage costs change for natural gas while USNG holds Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, the value of the Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, and therefore USNG's NAV, may change as well.

**The price relationship between the near month contract and the next month contract that compose the Benchmark Futures Contract will vary and may impact both the total return over time of USNG's NAV, as well as the degree to which its total return tracks other natural gas price indices' total returns.**

The design of USNG's Benchmark Futures Contract is such that every month it begins by using the near month contract to expire until the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, when it will use the next month contract to expire as its benchmark contract and keeps that contract as its benchmark until it

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becomes the near month contract and close to expiration. In the event of a natural gas futures market where near month contracts trade at a higher price than next month to expire contracts, a situation described as "backwardation" in the futures market, then absent the impact of the overall movement in natural gas prices the value of the benchmark contract would tend to rise as it approaches expiration. As a result the total return of the Benchmark Futures Contract would tend to track higher. Conversely, in the event of a natural gas futures market where near month contracts trade at a lower price than next to near month contracts, a situation described as "contango" in the futures market, then absent the impact of the overall movement in natural gas prices the value of the benchmark contract would tend to decline as it approaches expiration. As a result the total return of the Benchmark Futures Contract would tend to track lower.

When compared to total return of other price indices, such as the spot price of natural gas, the impact of backwardation and contango may lead the total return of USNG's NAV to vary significantly. In the event of a prolonged period of contango, and absent the impact of rising or falling natural gas prices, this could have a significant negative impact on USNG's NAV and total return.

If the nature of hedgers and speculators in futures markets has shifted such that natural gas purchasers are the pre-

**Regulation of the commodity interests and energy markets is extensive and constantly changing; future regulatory developments are impossible to predict but may significantly and adversely affect USNG.**

The regulation of commodity interest transactions in the United States is a rapidly changing area of law and is subject to ongoing modification by governmental and judicial action. In addition, various national governments have expressed concern regarding the disruptive effects of speculative trading in the energy markets and the need to regulate the derivatives markets in general. The effect of any future regulatory change on USNG is impossible to predict, but could be substantial and adverse.

**If you are investing in USNG for purposes of hedging, you might be subject to several risks including the possibility of losing the benefit of favorable market movement.**

Participants in the natural gas or in other industries may use USNG as a vehicle to hedge the risk of losses in their natural gas-related transactions. There are several risks in connection with using USNG as a hedging device. While hedging can provide protection against an adverse movement in market prices, it can also preclude a hedgor's opportunity to benefit from a favorable market movement. In a hedging transaction, the hedgor may be concerned that the hedged item will increase in price, but must recognize the risk that the price may instead decline and if this happens he will have lost his opportunity to profit from the change in price because the hedging transaction will result in a loss rather than a gain. Thus, the hedgor foregoes the opportunity to profit from favorable price movements.

In addition, if the hedge is not a perfect one, the hedgor can lose on the hedging transaction and not realize an offsetting gain in the value of the underlying item being hedged.

When using futures contracts as a hedging technique, at best, the correlation between changes in prices of futures contracts and of the items being hedged can be only approximate. The degree of imperfection of correlation depends upon circumstances such as: variations in speculative markets, demand for futures and for natural gas products, technical influences in futures trading, and differences between anticipated energy costs being hedged and the instruments underlying the standard futures contracts available for trading. Even a well-conceived hedge may be unsuccessful to some degree because of unexpected market behavior as well as the expenses associated with creating the hedge.

In addition, using an investment in USNG as a hedge for changes in energy costs (*e.g.*, investing in natural gas, crude oil, gasoline, or other fuels, or electricity) may not correlate because changes in the spot price of natural gas may vary from changes in energy costs because the spot price of natural gas may not be at the same rate as changes in the price of other energy products and, in any case, the price of natural gas does not reflect the refining, transportation, and other costs that may impact the hedgor's energy costs.

**An investment in USNG may provide you little or no diversification benefits. Thus, in a declining market, USNG may have no gains to offset your losses from other investments, and you may suffer losses on your investment in USNG at the same time you incur losses with respect to other asset classes.**

Historically, Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments have generally been non-correlated to the performance of other asset classes such as stocks and bonds. Non-correlation means that there is a low statistically valid relationship between the performance of futures and other commodity interest

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transactions, on the one hand, and stocks or bonds, on the other hand. However, there can be no assurance that such non-correlation will continue during future periods. If, contrary to historic patterns, USNG's performance were to move in the same general direction as the financial markets, you will obtain little or no diversification benefits from an investment in the units. In such a case, USNG may have no gains to offset your losses from other investments, and you may suffer losses on your investment in USNG at the same time you incur losses with respect to other investments.

Variables such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and other political events may have a larger impact on natural gas prices and natural gas-linked instruments, including Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, than on traditional securities. These additional variables may create additional investment risks that subject USNG's investments to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities.

Non-correlation should not be confused with negative correlation, where the performance of two asset classes would be opposite of each other. There is no historic evidence that the spot price of natural gas and prices of other financial assets, such as stocks and bonds, are negatively correlated. In the absence of negative correlation, USNG cannot be expected to be automatically profitable during unfavorable periods for the stock market, or vice versa.

## **USNG's Operating Risks**

### **USNG is not a registered investment company so you do not have the protections of the Investment Company Act of 1940.**

USNG is not an investment company subject to the Investment Company Act of 1940. Accordingly, you do not have the protections afforded by that statute which, for example, requires investment companies to have a majority of disinterested directors and regulates the relationship between the investment company and its investment manager.

### **The General Partner is leanly staffed and relies heavily on key personnel to manage trading activities.**

In managing and directing the day-to-day activities and affairs of USNG, the General Partner relies heavily on Mr. Nicholas Gerber, Mr. John Love and Mr. John Hyland. If Mr. Gerber, Mr. Love, or Mr. Hyland were to leave or be unable to carry out their present responsibilities, it may have an adverse effect on the management of USNG. Furthermore, Mr. Gerber, Mr. Love and Mr. Hyland are currently involved in the management of USOF, and the General Partner is currently in the process of registering four other exchange traded security funds, United States Heating Oil Fund, LP ( USHO ), United States Gasoline Fund, LP ( USG ), United States 12 Month Oil Fund, LP ( US12OF ) and United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP ( US12NG ). Mr. Gerber and Mr. Love are also employed by Ameristock Corporation, a registered investment adviser that manages a public mutual fund. It is estimated that Mr. Gerber will spend approximately 50% of his time on USOF, USNG, USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG matters. Mr. Love will spend approximately 95% of his time on USOF, USNG, USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG matters and Mr. Hyland will spend approximately 75% of his time on USOF, USNG, USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG matters. To the extent that the General Partner establishes additional funds, even greater demands will be placed on Mr. Gerber, Mr. Love and Mr. Hyland, as well as the other officers of the General Partner, including Mr. Mah, the Chief Financial Officer, and its Board of Directors.

**Accountability levels, position limits, and daily price fluctuation limits set by the exchanges have the potential to cause a tracking error, which could cause the price of units to substantially vary from the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract and prevent you from being able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge against natural gas-related losses or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.**

U.S. designated contract markets such as the New York Mercantile Exchange have established accountability levels and position limits on the maximum net long or net short futures contracts in commodity interests that any person or group of persons under common trading control (other than as a hedge, which an investment in USNG is not) may hold, own or control. For example, the current accountability level for investments at any one time in natural gas Futures Contracts (including investments in the Benchmark Futures Contract) is 12,000. While this is not a fixed ceiling, it is a threshold above which the New York Mercantile Exchange may exercise greater scrutiny and control over an investor, including limiting an investor to holding

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no more than 12,000 natural gas Futures Contracts. With regard to position limits, the New York Mercantile Exchange limits an investor from holding more than 1,000 net futures in the last 3 days of trading in the near month contract to expire.

In addition to accountability levels and position limits, the New York Mercantile Exchange also sets daily price fluctuation limits on the Futures Contracts. The daily price fluctuation limit establishes the maximum amount that the price of futures contract may vary either up or down from the previous day's settlement price. Once the daily price fluctuation limit has been reached in a particular Futures Contract, no trades may be made at a price beyond that limit.

For example, the New York Mercantile Exchange imposes a \$3.00 per mmBtu (\$30,000 per contract) price fluctuation limit for natural gas Futures Contracts. This limit is initially based off of the previous trading day's settlement price. If any natural gas Futures Contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes it begins at the point where the limit was imposed and the limit is reset to be \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction of that point. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There is no maximum price fluctuation limit during any one trading session.

All of these limits may potentially cause a tracking error between the price of the units and the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. This may in turn prevent you from being able to effectively use USNG as a way to hedge against natural gas-related losses or as a way to indirectly invest in natural gas.

USNG is not limiting the size of the offering and is committed to utilizing substantially all of its proceeds to purchase Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. If USNG encounters accountability levels, position limits, or price fluctuation limits for natural gas contracts on the New York Mercantile Exchange, it may then, if permitted under applicable regulatory requirements, purchase Futures Contracts on the ICE Futures (formerly, the International Petroleum Exchange) or other exchanges that trade listed natural gas futures. The Futures Contracts available on the ICE Futures are comparable to the contracts on the New York Mercantile Exchange, but they may have different underlying commodities, sizes, deliveries, and prices.

## **There are technical and fundamental risks inherent in the trading system the General Partner intends to employ.**

The General Partner's trading system is quantitative in nature and it is possible that the General Partner might make a mathematical error. In addition, it is also possible that a computer or software program may malfunction and cause an error in computation.

## **USNG and the General Partner may have conflicts of interest, which may permit them to favor their own interests to your detriment.**

USNG and the General Partner may have inherent conflicts to the extent the General Partner attempts to maintain USNG's asset size in order to preserve its fee income and this may not always be consistent with USNG's objective of having the value of its unit's NAV track changes in the Benchmark Futures Contract. The General Partner's officers, directors and employees do not devote their time exclusively to USNG. These persons are directors, officers or employees of other entities that may compete with USNG for their services. They could have a conflict between their responsibilities to USNG and to those other entities.

In addition, the General Partner's principals, officers, directors or employees may trade futures and related contracts for their own account. A conflict of interest may exist if their trades are in the same markets and at the same time as USNG trades using the clearing broker to be used by USNG. A potential conflict also may occur if the General Partner's principals, officers, directors or employees trade their accounts more aggressively or take positions in their accounts which are opposite, or ahead of, the positions taken by USNG.

The General Partner has sole current authority to manage the investments and operations of USNG, and this may allow it to act in a way that furthers its own interests which may create a conflict with your best interests. Limited partners have limited voting control, which will limit the ability to influence matters such as amendment of the LP Agreement, change in USNG's basic investment policy, dissolution of this fund, or the sale or distribution of USNG's assets.

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The General Partner serves as the general partner to both USNG and USOF and will serve as the general partner for USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG, if such other funds offer their securities to the public or begin operations. The General Partner may have a conflict to the extent that its trading decisions for USNG may be influenced by the effect they would have on the other funds it manages. These trading decisions may be influenced since the General Partner also serves as the general partner for all of the funds and is required to meet all of the funds' investment objectives as well as USNG's. If the General Partner believes that a trading decision it made on behalf of USNG might (i) impede its other funds from reaching their investment objectives, or (ii) improve the likelihood of meeting its other funds objectives, then the General Partner may choose to change its trading decision for USNG, which could either impede or improve the opportunity for USNG from meeting its investment objective. In addition, the General Partner is required to indemnify the officers and directors of its other funds if the need for indemnification arises. This potential indemnification will cause the General Partner's assets to decrease. If the General Partner's other sources of income are not sufficient to compensate for the indemnification, then the General Partner may terminate and you could lose your investment.

**Unitholders may only vote on the removal of the General Partner and limited partners have only limited voting rights. Unitholders and limited partners will not participate in the management of USNG and do not control the General Partner so they will not have influence over basic matters that affect USNG.**

Unitholders that have not applied to become limited partners have no voting rights, other than to remove the General Partner. Limited partners will have limited voting rights with respect to USNG's affairs. Unitholders may remove the General Partner only if 66 2/3% of the unitholders elect to do so. Unitholders and limited partners will not be permitted to participate in the management or control of USNG or the conduct of its business. Unitholders and limited partners must therefore rely upon the duties and judgment of the General Partner to manage USNG's affairs.

**The General Partner may manage a large amount of assets and this could affect USNG's ability to trade profitably.**

Increases in assets under management may affect trading decisions. In general, the General Partner does not intend to limit the amount of assets of USNG that it may manage. The more assets the General Partner manages, the more difficult it may be for it to trade profitably because of the difficulty of trading larger positions without adversely affecting prices and performance and of managing risk associated with larger positions.

**USNG could terminate at any time and cause the liquidation and potential loss of your investment and could upset the overall maturity and timing of your investment portfolio.**

USNG may terminate at any time, regardless of whether USNG has incurred losses, subject to the terms of the LP Agreement. In particular, unforeseen circumstances, including the death, adjudication of incompetence, bankruptcy, dissolution, or removal of the General Partner could cause USNG to terminate unless a majority interest of the limited partners within 90 days of the event elects to continue the partnership and appoints a successor general partner, or the affirmative vote of a majority interest of the limited partners subject to conditions. However, no level of losses will require the General Partner to terminate USNG. USNG's termination would cause the liquidation and potential loss of your investment. Termination could also negatively affect the overall maturity and timing of your investment portfolio.

**Limited partners may not have limited liability in certain circumstances, including potentially having liability for the return of wrongful distributions.**

Under Delaware law, a limited partner might be held liable for our obligations as if it were a General Partner if the limited partner participates in the control of the partnership's business and the persons who transact business with the partnership think the limited partner is the General Partner.

A limited partner will not be liable for assessments in addition to its initial capital investment in any of our capital securities representing limited partnership interests. However, a limited partner may be required to repay to us any amounts wrongfully returned or distributed to it under some circumstances. Under Delaware law, we may not make a distribution to limited partners if the distribution causes our liabilities (other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and nonrecourse liabilities) to exceed the fair



value of our assets. Delaware law provides that a limited partner who receives such a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution violated the law will be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years from the date of the distribution.

**With adequate notice, a limited partner may be required to withdraw from the partnership for any reason.**

If the General Partner gives at least fifteen (15) days' written notice to a limited partner, then the General Partner may for any reason, in its sole discretion, require any such limited partner to withdraw entirely from the partnership or to withdraw a portion of its partner capital account. The General Partner may require withdrawal even in situations where the limited partner has complied completely with the provisions of the LP Agreement.

**USNG's existing units are, and any units USNG issues in the future will be, subject to restrictions on transfer. Failure to satisfy these requirements will preclude you from being able to have all the rights of a limited partner.**

No transfer of any unit or interest therein may be made if such transfer would (a) violate the then applicable federal or state securities laws or rules and regulations of the SEC, any state securities commission, the CFTC or any other governmental authority with jurisdiction over such transfer, or (b) cause USNG to be taxable as a corporation or affect USNG's existence or qualification as a limited partnership. In addition, investors may only become limited partners if they transfer their units to purchasers that meet certain conditions outlined in the LP Agreement, which provides that each record holder or limited partner or unitholder applying to become a limited partner (each a record holder) may be required by the General Partner to furnish certain information, including that holder's nationality, citizenship or other related status. A transferee who is not a U.S. resident may not be eligible to become a record holder or a limited partner if its ownership would subject USNG to the risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any of its assets under any federal, state or local law or regulation. All purchasers of USNG's units, who wish to become limited partners or record holders, and receive cash distributions, if any, or have certain other rights, must deliver an executed transfer application in which the purchaser or transferee must certify that, among other things, he, she or it agrees to be bound by USNG's LP Agreement and is eligible to purchase USNG's securities. Any transfer of units will not be recorded by the transfer agent or recognized by us unless a completed transfer application is delivered to the General Partner or the Administrator. A person purchasing USNG's existing units, who does not execute a transfer application and certify that the purchaser is eligible to purchase those securities acquires no rights in those securities other than the right to resell those securities. Whether or not a transfer application is received or the consent of the General Partner obtained, our units will be securities and will be transferable according to the laws governing transfers of securities. See "Transfer of Units."

**USNG does not expect to make cash distributions.**

The General Partner has not previously made any cash distributions and intends to re-invest any realized gains in Natural Gas Interests rather than distributing cash to limited partners. Therefore, unlike mutual funds, commodity pools or other investment pools that actively manage their investments in an attempt to realize income and gains from their investing activities and distribute such income and gains to their investors, USNG generally does not expect to distribute cash to limited partners. You should not invest in USNG if you will need cash distributions from USNG to pay taxes on your share of income and gains of USNG, if any, or for any other reason. Although USNG does not intend to make cash distributions, the income earned from its investments held directly or posted as margin may reach levels that merit distribution, e.g., at levels where such income is not necessary to support its underlying investments in Natural Gas Interests and investors adversely react to being taxed on such income without receiving distributions that could be used to pay such tax. If this income becomes significant then cash distributions may be made.

Limited partners may not have limited liability in certain circumstances, including potentially having liability for the re

**There is a risk that USNG will not earn trading gains sufficient to compensate for the fees and expenses that it must pay and as such USNG may not earn any profit.**

USNG pays brokerage charges of approximately 0.20% (based on futures commission merchant fees of \$4.00 per buy or sell, management fees of 0.60% of NAV on the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets and 0.50% of NAV after the first \$1,000,000,000 of assets, and over-the-counter spreads and extraordinary expenses (*i.e.* expenses not in the ordinary course of business, including the indemnification of any person against liabilities

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and obligations to the extent permitted by law and required under the LP Agreement and under agreements entered into by the General Partner on USNG's behalf and the bringing and defending of actions at law or in equity and otherwise engaging in the conduct of litigation and the incurring of legal expenses and the settlement of claims and litigation) that can not be quantified. These fees and expenses must be paid in all cases regardless of whether USNG's activities are profitable. Accordingly, USNG must earn trading gains sufficient to compensate for these fees and expenses before it can earn any profit.

**USNG, historically, has depended upon its affiliates to pay all its expenses. If this offering of units does not raise sufficient funds to pay USNG's future expenses and no other source of funding of expenses is found, USNG may be forced to terminate and investors may lose all or part of their investment.**

Prior to the offering of units that commenced on April 17, 2007, all of USNG's expenses were funded by the General Partner and its affiliates. These payments by the General Partner and its affiliates were designed to allow USNG the ability to commence the public offering of its units. USNG now directly pays certain of these fees and expenses. The General Partner will continue to pay other fees and expenses, as set forth in the LP Agreement. If the General Partner and USNG are unable to raise sufficient funds to cover their expenses or locate any other source of funding, USNG may be forced to terminate and investors may lose all or part of their investment.

**USNG may incur higher fees and expenses upon renewing existing or entering into new contractual relationships.**

The clearing arrangements between the clearing brokers and USNG generally are terminable by the clearing brokers once the clearing broker has given USNG notice. Upon termination, the General Partner may be required to renegotiate or make other arrangements for obtaining similar services if USNG intends to continue trading in Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments at its present level of capacity. The services of any clearing broker may not be available, or even if available, these services may not be available on the terms as favorable as those of the expired or terminated clearing arrangements.

**USNG may miss certain trading opportunities because it will not receive the benefit of the expertise of trading advisors.**

The General Partner does not employ trading advisors for USNG; however, it reserves the right to employ them in the future. The only advisor to USNG is the General Partner. A lack of independent trading advisors may be disadvantageous to USNG because it will not receive the benefit of a trading advisor's expertise.

There is a risk that USNG will not earn trading gains sufficient to compensate for the fees and expenses that it must

## **An unanticipated number of redemption requests during a short period of time could have an adverse effect on the NAV of USNG.**

If a substantial number of requests for redemption of Redemption Baskets are received by USNG during a relatively short period of time, USNG may not be able to satisfy the requests from USNG's assets not committed to trading. As a consequence, it could be necessary to liquidate positions in USNG's trading positions before the time that the trading strategies would otherwise dictate liquidation.

## **The failure or bankruptcy of a clearing broker could result in a substantial loss of USNG's assets.**

Under CFTC regulations, a clearing broker maintains customers' assets in a bulk segregated account. If a clearing broker fails to do so, or is unable to satisfy a substantial deficit in a customer account, its other customers may be subject to risk of substantial loss of their funds in the event of that clearing broker's bankruptcy. In that event, the clearing broker's customers, such as USNG, are entitled to recover, even in respect of property specifically traceable to them, only a proportional share of all property available for distribution to all of that clearing broker's customers. USNG also may be subject to the risk of the failure of, or delay in performance by, any exchanges and markets and their clearing organizations, if any, on which commodity interest contracts are traded.

From time to time, the clearing brokers may be subject to legal or regulatory proceedings in the ordinary course of their business. A clearing broker's involvement in costly or time-consuming legal proceedings may divert financial resources or personnel away from the clearing broker's trading operations, which could impair the clearing broker's ability to successfully execute and clear USNG's trades.

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## **Third parties may infringe upon or otherwise violate intellectual property rights or assert that the General Partner has infringed or otherwise violated their intellectual property rights, which may result in significant costs and diverted attention.**

Third parties may utilize USNG's intellectual property or technology, including the use of its business methods, trademarks and trading program software, without permission. The General Partner has a patent pending for USNG's business method and it is registering its trademarks. USNG does not currently have any proprietary software. However, if it obtains proprietary software in the future, then any unauthorized use of USNG's proprietary software and other technology could also adversely affect its competitive advantage. USNG may have difficulty monitoring unauthorized uses of its patents, trademarks, proprietary software and other technology. Also, third parties may independently develop business methods, trademarks or proprietary software and other technology similar to that of the General Partner or claim that the General Partner has violated their intellectual property rights, including their copyrights, trademark rights, trade names, trade secrets and patent rights. As a result, the General Partner may have to litigate in the future to protect its trade secrets, determine the validity and scope of other parties' proprietary rights, defend itself against claims that it has infringed or otherwise violated other parties' rights, or defend itself against claims that its rights are invalid. Any litigation of this type, even if the General Partner is successful and regardless of the merits, may result in significant costs, divert its resources from USNG, or require it to change its proprietary software and other technology or enter into royalty or licensing agreements. See "Legal Risks" below.

**The success of USNG depends on the ability of the General Partner to accurately implement trading systems, and any failure to do so could subject USNG to losses on such transactions.**

The General Partner uses mathematical formulas built into a generally available spreadsheet program to decide whether it should buy or sell Natural Gas Interests each day. Specifically, the General Partner uses the spreadsheet to make mathematical calculations and to monitor positions in Natural Gas Interests and Treasuries and correlations to the Benchmark Futures Contract. The General Partner must accurately process the spreadsheets' outputs and execute the transactions called for by the formulas. In addition, USNG relies on the General Partner to properly operate and maintain its computer and communications systems. Execution of the formulas and operation of the systems are subject to human error. Any failure, inaccuracy or delay in implementing any of the formulas or systems and executing USNG's transactions could impair its ability to achieve USNG's investment objective. It could also result in decisions to undertake transactions based on inaccurate or incomplete information. This could cause substantial losses on transactions.

**USNG may experience substantial losses on transactions if the computer or communications system fails.**

USNG's trading activities, including its risk management, depend on the integrity and performance of the computer and communications systems supporting them. Extraordinary transaction volume, hardware or software failure, power or telecommunications failure, a natural disaster or other catastrophe could cause the computer systems to operate at an unacceptably slow speed or even fail. Any significant degradation or failure of the systems that the General Partner uses to gather and analyze information, enter orders, process data, monitor risk levels and otherwise engage in trading activities may result in substantial losses on transactions, liability to other parties, lost profit opportunities, damages to the General Partner's and USNG's reputations, increased operational expenses and diversion of technical resources.

**If the computer and communications systems are not upgraded, USNG's financial condition could be harmed.**

The development of complex computer and communications systems and new technologies may render the existing computer and communications systems supporting USNG's trading activities obsolete. In addition, these computer and communications systems must be compatible with those of third parties, such as the systems of exchanges, clearing brokers and the executing brokers. As a result, if these third parties upgrade their systems, the General Partner will need to make corresponding upgrades to continue effectively its trading activities. USNG's future success will depend on USNG's ability to respond to changing technologies on a timely and cost-effective basis.

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**USNG depends on the reliable performance of the computer and communications systems of third parties, such as brokers and futures exchanges, and may experience substantial losses on transactions if they fail.**

USNG depends on the proper and timely function of complex computer and communications systems maintained and operated by the futures exchanges, brokers and other data providers that the General Partner uses to conduct trading activities. Failure or inadequate performance of any of these systems could adversely affect the General Partner's ability to complete transactions, including its ability to close out positions, and result in lost profit opportunities and

significant losses on commodity interest transactions. This could have a material adverse effect on revenues and materially reduce USNG's available capital. For example, unavailability of price quotations from third parties may make it difficult or impossible for the General Partner to use its proprietary software that it relies upon to conduct its trading activities. Unavailability of records from brokerage firms may make it difficult or impossible for the General Partner to accurately determine which transactions have been executed or the details, including price and time, of any transaction executed. This unavailability of information also may make it difficult or impossible for the General Partner to reconcile its records of transactions with those of another party or to accomplish settlement of executed transactions.

**The occurrence of a terrorist attack, or the outbreak, continuation or expansion of war or other hostilities could disrupt USNG's trading activity and materially affect USNG's profitability.**

The operations of USNG, the exchanges, brokers and counterparties with which USNG does business, and the markets in which USNG does business could be severely disrupted in the event of a major terrorist attack or the outbreak, continuation or expansion of war or other hostilities. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and the war in Iraq, global anti-terrorism initiatives and political unrest in the Middle East and Southeast Asia continue to fuel this concern.

## **Risk of Leverage and Volatility**

**If the General Partner permits USNG to become leveraged, you could lose all or substantially all of your investment if USNG's trading positions suddenly turn unprofitable.**

Commodity pools' trading positions in futures contracts or other commodity interests are typically required to be secured by the deposit of margin funds that represent only a small percentage of a futures contract's (or other commodity interests') entire face value. This feature permits commodity pools to leverage their assets by purchasing or selling futures contracts (or other commodity interests) with an aggregate value in excess of the commodity pool's assets. While this leverage can increase the pool's profits, relatively small adverse movements in the price of the pool's futures contracts can cause significant losses to the pool. While the General Partner has not and does not intend to leverage USNG's assets, it is not prohibited from doing so under the LP Agreement or otherwise.

**The price of natural gas is volatile which could cause large fluctuations in the price of units.**

Movements in the price of natural gas may be the result of factors outside of the General Partner's control and may not be anticipated by the General Partner. Among the factors that can cause volatility in the price of natural gas are:

- worldwide or regional demand for energy, which is affected by economic conditions;
- the domestic and foreign supply and inventories of oil and gas;
- weather conditions, including abnormally mild winter or summer weather, and abnormally harsh winter or summer weather;
- availability and adequacy of pipeline and other transportation facilities;
- domestic and foreign governmental regulations and taxes;
- political conditions in gas or oil producing regions;
- the ability of members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ( OPEC ) to agree upon and maintain oil prices and production levels;

the price and availability of alternative fuels; and

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the impact of energy conservation efforts.

### **The impact of environmental and other governmental laws and regulations that may affect the price of natural gas.**

Environmental and other governmental laws and regulations have increased the costs to plan, design, drill, install, operate and abandon natural gas and oil wells. Other laws have prevented exploration and drilling of natural gas in certain environmentally sensitive federal lands and waters. Several environmental laws that have a direct or an indirect impact on the price of natural gas include, but are not limited to, the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980.

### **The limited method for transporting and storing natural gas may cause the price of natural gas to increase.**

Natural gas is primarily transported and stored throughout the United States by way of pipeline and underground storage facilities. These systems may not be adequate to meet demand, especially in times of peak demand or in areas of the United States where gas service is already limited due to minimal pipeline and storage infrastructure. As a result of the limited method for transporting and storing natural gas, the price of natural gas may increase.

## **Over-the-Counter Contract Risk**

### **Over-the-counter transactions are subject to little, if any, regulation.**

A portion of USNG's assets may be used to trade over-the-counter natural gas interest contracts, such as forward contracts or swap or spot contracts. Over-the-counter contracts are typically traded on a principal-to-principal basis through dealer markets that are dominated by major money center and investment banks and other institutions and are essentially unregulated by the CFTC. You therefore do not receive the protection of CFTC regulation or the statutory scheme of the Commodity Exchange Act in connection with this trading activity by USNG. The markets for over-the-counter contracts rely upon the integrity of market participants in lieu of the additional regulation imposed by the CFTC on participants in the futures markets. The lack of regulation in these markets could expose USNG in certain circumstances to significant losses in the event of trading abuses or financial failure by participants.

### **USNG will be subject to credit risk with respect to counterparties to over-the-counter contracts entered into by USNG or held by special purpose or structured vehicles.**

USNG also faces the risk of non-performance by the counterparties to the over-the-counter contracts. Unlike in futures contracts, the counterparty to these contracts is generally a single bank or other financial institution, rather than a clearing organization backed by a group of financial institutions. As a result, there will be greater counterparty credit risk in these transactions. A counterparty may not be able to meet its obligations to USNG, in which case USNG could suffer significant losses on these contracts.

If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations due to financial difficulties, USNG may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. USNG may obtain only limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

### **USNG may be subject to liquidity risk with respect to its over-the-counter contracts.**

Over-the-counter contracts may have terms that make them less marketable than Futures Contracts. Over-the-counter contracts are less marketable because they are not traded on an exchange, do not have uniform terms and conditions, and are entered into based upon the creditworthiness of the parties and the availability of credit support, such as collateral, and in general, they are not transferable without the consent of the counterparty. These conditions diminish the ability to realize the full value of such contracts.

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# **Risk of Trading in International Markets**

## **Trading in international markets could expose USNG to credit and regulatory risk.**

The General Partner invests primarily in Futures Contracts, a significant portion of which will be on United States exchanges including the New York Mercantile Exchange. However, a portion of USNG's trades may take place on markets and exchanges outside the United States. Some non-U.S. markets present risks because they are not subject to the same degree of regulation as their U.S. counterparts. None of the CFTC, NFA, or any domestic exchange regulates activities of any foreign boards of trade or exchanges, including the execution, delivery and clearing of transactions, nor has the power to compel enforcement of the rules of a foreign board of trade or exchange or of any applicable non-U.S. laws. Similarly, the rights of market participants, such as USNG, in the event of the insolvency or bankruptcy of a non-U.S. market or broker are also likely to be more limited than in the case of U.S. markets or brokers. As a result, in these markets, USNG has less legal and regulatory protection than it does when it trades domestically.

In some of these non-U.S. markets, the performance on a contract is the responsibility of the counterparty and is not backed by an exchange or clearing corporation and therefore exposes USNG to credit risk. Trading in non-U.S. markets also leaves USNG susceptible to swings in the value of the local currency against the U.S. dollar. Additionally, trading on non-U.S. exchanges is subject to the risks presented by exchange controls, expropriation, increased tax burdens and exposure to local economic declines and political instability. An adverse development with respect to any of these variables could reduce the profit or increase the loss earned on trades in the affected international markets.

## **International trading activities subject USNG to foreign exchange risk.**

The price of any non-U.S. Futures Contract, option on any non-U.S. Futures Contract or other non-U.S. Natural Gas-Related Investment, and, therefore, the potential profit and loss on such Natural Gas Interests, may be affected by any variance in the foreign exchange rate between the time the order is placed and the time it is liquidated, offset or exercised. As a result, changes in the value of the local currency relative to the U.S. dollar may cause losses to USNG even if the contract traded is profitable.

## **USNG's international trading would expose it to losses resulting from non-U.S. exchanges that are less developed or less reliable than United States exchanges.**

Some non-U.S. exchanges also may be in a more developmental stage so that prior price histories may not be indicative of current price dynamics. In addition, USNG may not have the same access to certain positions on foreign trading exchanges as do local traders, and the historical market data on which General Partner bases its strategies may not be as reliable or accessible as it is for U.S. exchanges.

## **Tax Risk**

Please refer to **U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations** for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of units.

### **Your tax liability may exceed the amount of distributions, if any, on your units.**

Cash or property will be distributed at the sole discretion of the General Partner. The General Partner has not and does not intend to make cash or other distributions with respect to units. You will be required to pay U.S. federal income tax and, in some cases, state, local, or foreign income tax, on your allocable share of USNG's taxable income, without regard to whether you receive distributions or the amount of any distributions. Therefore, your tax liability with respect to your units may exceed the amount of cash or value of property (if any) distributed.

### **Your allocable share of taxable income or loss may differ from your economic income or loss on your units.**

Due to the application of the assumptions and conventions applied by USNG in making allocations for tax purposes and other factors, your allocable share of USNG's income, gain, deduction or loss may be different than your economic profit or loss from your units for a taxable year. This difference could be temporary or permanent and, if permanent, could result in your being taxed on amounts in excess of your economic income.

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### **Items of income, gain, deduction, loss and credit with respect to units could be reallocated if the IRS does not accept the assumptions and conventions applied by USNG in allocating those items, with potential adverse consequences for you.**

The U.S. tax rules pertaining to partnerships are complex and their application to large, publicly traded partnerships such as USNG is in many respects uncertain. USNG will apply certain assumptions and conventions in an attempt to comply with the intent of the applicable rules and to report taxable income, gains, deductions, losses and credits in a manner that properly reflects unitholders' economic gains and losses. These assumptions and conventions may not fully comply with all aspects of the Internal Revenue Code ( "Code" ) and applicable Treasury Regulations, however, and it is possible that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service will successfully challenge our allocation methods and require us to reallocate items of income, gain, deduction, loss or credit in a manner that adversely affects you. If this occurs, you may be required to file an amended tax return and to pay additional taxes plus deficiency interest.



**We could be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, which may substantially reduce the value of your units.**

USNG has received an opinion of counsel that, under current U.S. federal income tax laws, USNG will be treated as a partnership that is not taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, provided that (i) at least 90 percent of USNG's annual gross income consists of qualifying income as defined in the Code, (ii) USNG is organized and operated in accordance with its governing agreements and applicable law and (iii) USNG does not elect to be taxed as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. Although the General Partner anticipates that USNG has satisfied and will continue to satisfy the qualifying income requirement for all of its taxable years, that result cannot be assured. USNG has not requested and will not request any ruling from the IRS with respect to its classification as a partnership not taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. If the IRS were to successfully assert that USNG is taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes in any taxable year, rather than passing through its income, gains, losses and deductions proportionately to unitholders, USNG would be subject to tax on its net income for the year at corporate tax rates. In addition, although the General Partner does not currently intend to make distributions with respect to units, any distributions would be taxable to unitholders as dividend income. Taxation of USNG as a corporation could materially reduce the after-tax return on an investment in units and could substantially reduce the value of your units.

**PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO THE POSSIBLE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF AN INVESTMENT IN UNITS; SUCH TAX CONSEQUENCES MAY DIFFER IN RESPECT OF DIFFERENT INVESTORS.**

## **Legal Risks**

**An affiliate of USNG has been notified of intellectual property rights that could adversely impact USNG.**

**Goldman, Sachs & Co.**

Goldman, Sachs & Co. (Goldman Sachs) sent USOF a letter on March 17, 2006, providing USOF and the General Partner notice under 35 U.S.C. Section 154(d) of two pending United States patent applications, Publication Nos. 2004/0225593A1 and 2006/0036533A1. Both patent applications are generally directed to a method and system for creating and administering a publicly traded interest in a commodity pool. In particular, the Abstract of each patent application defines a means for creating and administering a publicly traded interest in a commodity pool that includes the steps of forming a commodity pool having a first position in a futures contract and a corresponding second position in a margin investment, and issuing equity interest of the commodity pool to third party investors. USNG units are equity interests in a publicly traded commodity pool. In addition, USNG will directly invest in futures contracts and hold other investments to be used as margin for its future contract positions. If patents were to be issued to Goldman Sachs based upon these patent applications as currently drafted, and USOF continued to operate as currently contemplated after the patents were issued, claims against USOF and the General Partner for infringement of the patents may be made by Goldman Sachs. USNG and USOF are similarly structured and USNG will be a commodity pool that is administered like USOF. As a result, a claim could also be made against USNG. However, as these patent

applications are pending and have not been substantively examined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, it is uncertain at this time what subject matter will be covered by the claims of any patent issuing on one of these applications, should a patent issue at all.

Under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 154(d), Goldman Sachs may seek damages in the form of a reasonable royalty from the date the units are publicly offered for sale to the date one of their cited patent applications issues as a U.S. Patent if, and only if, the invention as claimed in the issued patent is substantially identical to the invention as claimed in the published patent application. To obtain a reasonable royalty under 35 U.S.C. § 154(d), one of Goldman Sachs' patents must issue and then it must be proved that post-issuance acts or systems of USOF infringe a valid claim of the issued patent, and that the infringed claim is substantially identical to one of the claims in the corresponding published application. If at the time a Goldman Sachs patent issues, USOF does not infringe the claims of the issued patent based on its current design or through modifications made prior to issuance, or if any infringed issued claim is not substantially identical to a published claim, then Goldman Sachs will not be able to obtain a reasonable royalty under 35 U.S.C. § 154(d). At this time neither of Goldman Sachs' patent applications have been substantively examined by an examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office nor are they currently being considered for examination on an expedited basis under a Petition to Make Special, and considering that both have been placed in Class 705 for examination, which has an average pendency of approximately 44–45 months to issuance (or abandonment) and an issuance rate of approximately 11% in 2004, it is likely that neither application will issue within the next two years.

Nonetheless, USOF currently is reviewing the Goldman Sachs published patent applications, and is engaged in discussions with Goldman Sachs regarding their pending applications and USNG's own pending patent application. At this time, due in part to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 154(d) and the fact that the Goldman Sachs patent applications are pending and have not been issued as U.S. Patents, USNG is unable to determine what the outcome from this matter will be. See Operating Risks. Third parties may infringe upon or otherwise violate intellectual property rights or assert that the General Partner has infringed or otherwise violated their intellectual property rights, which may result in significant costs and diverted attention.

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# **THE OFFERING**

## **What is USNG?**

USNG is a Delaware limited partnership organized on September 11, 2006. USNG maintains its main business office at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502. USNG is a commodity pool. It operates pursuant to the terms of the LP Agreement, which grants full management control to the General Partner.

## **Who is the General Partner?**

Our sole General Partner is Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC, a single member limited liability company that was formed in the state of Delaware on May 10, 2005. It maintains its main business office at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502. The General Partner is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Wainwright Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation ( "Wainwright"). Mr. Nicholas Gerber (discussed below) controls Wainwright by virtue of his ownership of Wainwright's shares. Wainwright is a holding company that also owns an insurance company organized under Bermuda law and a registered investment advisor firm named Ameristock Corporation. The General Partner is a member of the NFA and is registered with the CFTC as of December 1, 2005. The General Partner's registration as a CPO with the NFA was approved on December 1, 2005.

The General Partner is also currently the general partner of USOF. USOF is a publicly traded limited partnership which seeks to have the changes in percentage terms of its units' NAV track the changes in percentage terms in the spot price of light, sweet crude oil as traded in the United States. USOF invests in a mixture of listed crude oil futures contracts, other non-listed oil related investments, Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents. USOF began trading on the American Stock Exchange on April 10, 2006. As of September 30, 2007, USOF had total net assets of \$394,783,637 and had outstanding units of 19,200,000. USOF employs an investment strategy in its operations that is similar to the investment strategy of USNG.

The General Partner is currently in the process of registering four other exchange traded security funds, USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. USHO will be a publicly traded limited partnership which seeks to have the changes in percentage terms of its units' NAV track the changes in percentage terms of the price of heating oil (also known as No. 2 fuel) delivered to the New York harbor. USG will be a publicly traded limited partnership which seeks to have the changes in percentage terms of its units' NAV track the changes in percentage terms of the price of unleaded gasoline delivered to the New York harbor. US12OF will be a publicly traded limited partnership which will seek to have the changes in percentage terms of its units' NAV reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of light, sweet crude oil delivered to Cushing, Oklahoma, as measured by the changes in the average of the prices of 12 futures contracts on crude oil traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange. US12NG will be a publicly traded limited partnership which will seek to have the changes in percentage terms of its units' NAV reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana, as measured by the changes in the average of the prices of 12 futures contracts on natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, consisting of the near month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven months, for a total of 12 consecutive months' contracts.

The General Partner is required to evaluate the credit risk for USNG to the futures commission merchant, oversee the purchase and sale of USNG's units by certain Authorized Purchasers, review daily positions and margin requirements of USNG, and manage USNG's investments. The General Partner also pays the fees of the Marketing Agent, the Administrator, and the Custodian.

Limited partners have no right to elect the General Partner on an annual or any other continuing basis. If the General Partner voluntarily withdraws, however, the holders of a majority of our outstanding units (excluding for purposes of such determination interests owned by the withdrawing General Partner and its affiliates) may elect its successor. The General Partner may not be removed as general partner except upon approval by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3 percent of outstanding units (excluding units owned by the General Partner and its affiliates), subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions set forth in the LP Agreement.

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The business and affairs of our General Partner are managed by a board of directors, which is comprised of four management directors who are also its executive officers (the Management Directors) and three independent directors who meet the independent director requirements established by the American Stock Exchange and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Management Directors have the authority to manage the General Partner pursuant to its Limited Liability Company Agreement. The General Partner has an audit committee which is made up of the three independent directors (Peter M. Robinson, Gordon L. Ellis, and Malcolm R. Fobes III). The audit committee is governed by an audit committee charter that is posted on USNG's website. Gordon L. Ellis and Malcolm R. Fobes III meet the financial sophistication requirements of the American Stock Exchange and the audit committee charter. Through its Management Directors, the General Partner manages the day-to-day operations of USNG.

**Nicholas Gerber** has been the President and CEO of the General Partner since June 9, 2005 and a Management Director of the General Partner since May 10, 2005. He maintains his main business office at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502. Mr. Gerber acts as a portfolio manager for USOF and USNG. Mr.

Gerber will act as a portfolio manager for USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. He registered with the NFA as a Principal of the General Partner in November 2005, and as an Associated Person of the General Partner in December 2005. Currently, Mr. Gerber manages USOF and USNG. He will also manage USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG.

Mr. Gerber has also served as Vice President/Chief Investment Officer of Lyons Gate Reinsurance Company, Ltd. since June of 2003. Mr. Gerber has an extensive background in securities portfolio management and in developing investment funds that make use of indexing and futures contracts. He is also the founder of Ameristock Corporation, a California-based investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, that has been sponsoring and providing portfolio management services to mutual funds since 1995. Since 1995, Mr. Gerber has been the portfolio manager of the Ameristock Mutual Fund, Inc. a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, focused on large cap U.S. equities that currently has approximately \$482 million in assets. He has also been a Trustee for the Ameristock ETF Trust since June 2006, and a portfolio manager for the Ameristock/Ryan 1 Year, 2 Year, 5 Year, 10 Year and 20 Year Treasury ETF since June 2007. In these roles, Mr. Gerber has gained extensive experience in evaluating and retaining third-party service providers, including custodians, accountants, transfer agents, and distributors. Prior to managing Ameristock Mutual Fund Inc., Mr. Gerber served as a portfolio manager with Bank of America Capital Management. While there he was responsible for the daily stewardship of four funds with a combined value in excess of \$240 million. At Bank of America Capital Management, Mr. Gerber worked extensively in the development and managing of mutual funds and institutional accounts that were designed to track assorted equity market indices such as the Standard & Poor's 500 and the Standard & Poor's Midcap 400. Before joining Bank of America, he was managing director and founder of the Marc Stevens Futures Index Fund, a fund that combined the use of commodity futures with equity stock index futures. The futures index fund was a commodity pool and Mr. Gerber was the CPO. It was ultimately purchased by Newport Commodities. Mr. Gerber's two decades of experience in institutional investment include a period of employment as a floor trader on the New York Futures Exchange. Mr. Gerber has passed the Series 3 examination for associated persons. He holds an MBA in finance from the University of San Francisco and a BA from Skidmore College. Mr. Gerber is 45 years old.

**Andrew F. Ngim** has been a Management Director of the General Partner since May 10, 2005 and Treasurer of the General Partner since June 9, 2005. As Treasurer of the General Partner, Mr. Ngim is currently involved in the management of USOF and USNG and will be involved in the management of USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG.

He received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California at Berkeley in 1983. Mr. Ngim has been the Managing Director and co-portfolio manager of Ameristock Corporation since 1999, Trustee of the Ameristock ETF Trust since February 2007, and a portfolio manager for the Ameristock/Ryan 1 Year, 2 Year, 5 Year, 10 Year and 20 Year Treasury ETF since June 2007. He was the co-portfolio manager of the Ameristock Large Company Growth Fund from December 2000 to June 2002 and a Benefits Consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers from 1994 to 1999.

Mr. Ngim is 47 years old.

**Howard Mah** has been a Management Director of the General Partner since May 10, 2005, Secretary of the General Partner since June 9, 2005, and Chief Financial Officer of the General Partner since May 23, 2006. In these roles, Mr. Mah is currently involved in the management of USOF and USNG and will be involved in the management of USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. Mr. Mah also serves as the General

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Partner's Chief Compliance Officer. He received a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta, in 1986 and an MBA from the University of San Francisco in 1988. He has been Secretary and Chief Compliance Officer of the Ameristock ETF Trust since February 2007, Compliance Officer of Ameristock Corporation since 2001; a tax & finance consultant in private practice since 1995, Secretary of Ameristock Mutual Fund since 1995 and Ameristock Focused Value Fund from December 2000 to January 2005; Chief Compliance Officer of Ameristock Mutual Fund since 2004 and the Co-Portfolio Manager of the Ameristock Focused Value Fund from December 2000 to January 2005. Mr. Mah is 43 years old.

**Robert L. Nguyen** has been a Management Director of the General Partner since May 10, 2005. As a Management Director of the General Partner, Mr. Nguyen is currently involved on the management of USOF and USNG and will be involved in the management of USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. He received a Bachelor of Science from California State University Sacramento in 1981. Mr. Nguyen has been the Managing Principal of Ameristock Corporation since 2000. He was Co-Portfolio Manager of the Ameristock Large Company Growth Fund from December 2000 to June 2002 and Institutional Specialist with Charles Schwab & Company Inc. from 1995 to 1999. Mr. Nguyen is 48 years old.

**Peter M. Robinson** has been an Independent Director of the General Partner since September 30, 2005 and, as such, serves on the boards of USOF and USNG and will serve on the boards of US12OF, US12NG, USHO and USG, if such funds commence operations. Mr. Robinson has been employed as a Research Fellow with the Hoover Institution since 1993. Mr. Robinson graduated from Dartmouth College in 1979 and Oxford University in 1982. Mr. Robinson spent six years in the White House, serving from 1982 to 1983 as chief speechwriter to Vice President George Bush and from 1983 to 1988 as special assistant and speechwriter to President Ronald Reagan. After the White House, Mr. Robinson received an MBA from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. Mr. Robinson then spent a year in New York City with Fox Television. He spent a second year in Washington, D.C., with the Securities and Exchange Commission, where he served as the director of the Office of Public Affairs, Policy Evaluation, and Research. Mr. Robinson has also written three books and has been published in the *New York Times*, *Red Herring*, and *Forbes ASAP* and he is the editor of *Can Congress Be Fixed?: Five Essays on Congressional Reform* (Hoover Institution Press, 1995). Mr. Robinson is 50 years old.

**Gordon L. Ellis** has been an Independent Director of the General Partner since September 30, 2005 and, as such, serves on the boards of USOF and USNG and will serve on the boards of US12OF, US12NG, USHO and USG, if such funds commence operations. Mr. Ellis has been Chairman of International Absorbents, Inc. since July 1988, President and Chief Executive Officer since November 1996 and a Class I Director of the company since July 1985. Mr. Ellis is also a director of Absorption Corp., International Absorbents, Inc.'s wholly-owned subsidiary. Mr. Ellis is a director/trustee of Polymer Solutions, Inc., a former publicly-held company that sold all of its assets effective as of February 3, 2004 and is currently winding down its operations and liquidating following such sale. Mr. Ellis is a professional engineer with an MBA in international finance. Mr. Ellis is 60 years old.

**Malcolm R. Fobes III** has been an Independent Director of the General Partner since September 30, 2005 and, as such, serves on the boards of USOF and USNG and will serve on the boards of US12OF, US12NG, USHO and USG, if such funds commence operations. Mr. Fobes is the founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Berkshire Capital Holdings, Inc., a California-based investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, that has been sponsoring and providing portfolio management services to mutual funds since 1997. Since 1997, Mr. Fobes has been the Chairman and President of The Berkshire Funds, a mutual fund investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Mr. Fobes also serves as portfolio manager of the Berkshire Focus Fund, a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, which concentrates its investments in the electronic technology industry. From April 2000 to July 2006, Mr. Fobes also served as co-portfolio manager of The Wireless Fund, a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, which concentrates its investments in companies engaged in the development, production, or distribution of wireless-related products or services. In these roles, Mr. Fobes has gained extensive experience in evaluating and retaining third-party service providers, including custodians, accountants, transfer agents, and distributors. Mr. Fobes was also contributing editor of *Start a Successful Mutual Fund: The Step-by-Step Reference Guide to Make It Happen* (JV Books, 1995). Prior to forming Berkshire Capital Holdings, Inc., Mr. Fobes was employed by various technology-related companies,

including Adobe Systems, Inc., a leading provider of digital publishing and imaging software technologies. Mr. Fobes holds a B.S. degree in Finance and Economics from San Jose State University in California. Mr. Fobes is 43 years old.

**John Love** acts as the Portfolio Operations Manager for USOF and for USNG and is expected to be the Portfolio Operations Manager for USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. Mr. Love is also employed by the General Partner. Mr. Love has served as the operations manager of Ameristock Corporation since 2002, where he was responsible for back office and marketing activities for the Ameristock Mutual Fund and Ameristock Focused Value Fund and for the firm in general. From 1993 to September 2002, Mr. Love was a project manager and managing director for IT and interactive media development firms, including TouchVision Interactive and Digital Boardwalk Inc. providing leadership to project teams from pre-contract through deployment, while assisting with business and process development. As the managing director of Jamison/Gold (Keane Interactive), he provided leadership to all departments including operations, production, technology, sales, marketing, administration, recruiting, and finance. Mr. Love holds a Series 3 license and is registered with the NFA as an Associated Person of the General Partner. He holds a BFA in cinema-television from the University of Southern California. Mr. Love is 36 years old.

**John T. Hyland, CFA** acts as a Portfolio Manager and as the Director of Portfolio Research. Mr. Hyland is employed by the General Partner. He registered with the NFA as an Associated Person of the General Partner in December 2005, and as a Principal of the General Partner in January 2006. In April 2006, Mr. Hyland became the Portfolio Manager and Director of Portfolio Research for USOF and in March 2007 became the Portfolio Manager and Director of Portfolio Research for USNG. He is also expected to become the Portfolio Manager and Director of Portfolio Research for USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. As part of his responsibilities for USOF and USNG, Mr. Hyland handles day-to-day trading, helps set investment policies, and oversees USOF's and USNG's activities with its futures commission brokers, custodian-administrator, and marketing agent. Mr. Hyland has an extensive background in portfolio management and research with both equity and fixed income securities, as well as in the development of new types of complex investment funds. In July 2001, Mr. Hyland founded Towerhouse Capital Management, LLC, a firm that provides portfolio management and new fund development expertise to non-U.S. institutional investors. Mr. Hyland has been, and remains, a Principal and Portfolio Manager for Towerhouse. From July 2001 to January 2002, Mr. Hyland was the Director of Global Property Securities Research for Roulac International, where he worked on the development of a hedge fund focused on global real estate stocks. From 1996 through 2001, Mr. Hyland was the Director of Securities Research and Portfolio Manager for the capital markets division of CB Richard Ellis, a global commercial real estate services firm. His division provided portfolio management of equities as an advisor or sub-advisor for mutual funds and separate accounts focused on real estate investment trusts. In addition, his group conducted research in the area of structured commercial real estate debt (including Commercial Mortgage-Back Securities, or CMBS), and lead the creation of one of the earliest re-securitizations of multiple CMBS pool tranches into a Collateralized Debt Obligation vehicle. In the ten years prior to working at CB Richard Ellis, Mr. Hyland had worked as a portfolio manager or financial representative for several other investment firms and mutual funds. Mr. Hyland received his Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation in 1994. From 1993 until 2003, Mr. Hyland was on the Board of Directors of the Security Analysts of San Francisco (SASF), a not-for-profit organization of investment management professionals. He served as the president of the SASF from 2001-2002. Mr. Hyland is a member of the CFA Institute (formerly AIMR). He is also a member of the National Association of Petroleum Investment Analysts, a not-for-profit organization of investment professionals focused on the oil industry. He serves as an arbitrator for FINRA as part of their dispute resolution program. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and received a BA in political science/international relations in 1982. Mr. Hyland is 47 years old.

The following are individual Principals, as that term is defined in CFTC Rule 3.1, for USNG: Melinda Gerber, The Gerber Family Trust, Howard Mah, Andrew Ngim, Robert Nguyen, Peter Robinson, Gordon Ellis, Malcolm Fobes, John Love, and John Hyland. These individuals are principals due to their positions, however, Nicholas Gerber and Melinda Gerber are also principals due to their controlling stake in Wainwright. None of the principals owns or has any other beneficial interest in USNG. Nicholas Gerber and John Hyland make trading and investment decisions for USNG. Nicholas Gerber, John Love, and John Hyland

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execute trades on behalf of USNG. In addition, Nicholas Gerber, John Love, and John Hyland are registered with the CFTC as Associated Persons of the General Partner and are members of the NFA.

## Compensation and Fees to the General Partner

USNG pays a management fee to the General Partner as follows:

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Assets                          | Management Fee |
| First \$1,000,000,000           | 0.60% of NAV   |
| After the first \$1,000,000,000 | 0.50% of NAV   |

## Prior Performance of the General Partner and Affiliates

The General Partner is currently the General Partner of USOF and USNG.

USOF's offering began on April 10, 2006 and is a continuous offering. As of September 30, 2007, the total amount of money raised by USOF from Authorized Purchasers was \$4,618,093,000; the total number of Authorized Purchasers was 12, the number of baskets purchased by Authorized Purchasers was 851; and the aggregate amount of units purchased was 85.1 million.

USNG began trading on the American Stock Exchange on April 18, 2007 and is a continuous offering. As of September 30, 2007, the total amount of money raised by USNG from Authorized Purchasers was \$798,947,000; the total number of Authorized Purchasers was 12; the number of baskets purchased by Authorized Purchasers was 206; and the aggregate amount of units purchased was 20.6 million.

For more information on the performance of USOF and USNG, see the Performance Tables below.

## PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

### Experience in Raising and Investing in Funds through September 30, 2007

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Dollar Amount Offered in USNG Offering*:  | \$ 1,500,000,000 |
| Dollar Amount Raised in USNG Offering:    | \$ 798,947,000   |
| Organizational Expenses in USNG Offering: |                  |
| SEC registration fee**:                   | \$44,575         |
| NASD Registration fee**:                  | \$75,500         |
| AMEX Listing Fee**:                       | \$5,000          |
| Auditor's fees and expenses**:            | \$29,000         |
| Legal fees and expenses**:                | \$485,926        |
| Printing expenses**:                      | \$40,323         |

Length of USOF Offering:

Continuous

\* Reflects the offering price per unit set forth on the cover page of the registration statement registering such units filed with the SEC.

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These expenses were paid for by the General Partner.

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# Experience in Raising and Investing in Funds through September 30, 2007

|   | Total           |
|---|-----------------|
| Dollar Amount Offered in USOF Offering*:  | \$4,929,260,000 |
| Dollar Amount Raised in USOF Offering:    | \$4,618,093,000 |
| Organizational Expenses in USOF Offering: |                 |
| SEC registration fee**:                   | \$525,709       |
| NASD Registration fee**:                  | \$226,500       |
| AMEX Listing Fee**:                       | \$5,000         |
| Auditor's fees and expenses**:            | \$59,000        |
| Legal fees and expenses**:                | \$1,208,336     |
| Printing expenses**:                      | \$240,000       |
| Length of USOF Offering:                  | Continuous      |

\* Reflects the offering price per unit set forth on the cover page of the registration statement registering such units filed with the SEC.

\*\* Through December 31, 2006, these expenses were paid for by an affiliate of the General Partner in connection with the initial public offering. Following December 31, 2006, USOF has recorded these expenses.

## Compensation to the General Partner and Other Compensation

### USNG:

*Expenses Paid by USNG through September 30, 2007 in dollar terms (unaudited):*

| Expense  | Amount in<br>Dollar<br>Terms |
|--|------------------------------|
| Amount Paid to General Partner in USNG Offering:                 | \$ 445,777                   |
| Amount Paid in Portfolio Brokerage Commissions in USNG offering: | \$ 158,534                   |
| Other Amounts Paid in USNG Offering:                             | \$ 97,051                    |
| Total Expenses Paid in USNG Offering:                            | \$ 700,962                   |

### USOF:

*Expenses Paid by USOF through September 30, 2007 in dollar terms (unaudited):*



| Expense  | Amount in Dollar Terms |
|--|------------------------|
| Amount Paid to General Partner in USOF Offering:                 | \$4,467,537            |
| Amount Paid in Portfolio Brokerage Commissions in USOF offering: | \$1,429,762            |
| Other Amounts Paid in USOF Offering:                             | \$1,103,287            |
| Total Expenses Paid in USOF Offering:                            | \$7,000,586            |

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#### *Expenses Paid by USNG through September 30, 2007 as a Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets (unaudited):*

| Expenses in USNG Offering:   | Amount As a Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets |
|--|--|
| General Partner:   | 0.60% annualized                                   |
| Portfolio Brokerage Commissions:                                     | 0.20% annualized                                   |
| Other Amounts Paid in USNG Offering                                  | 0.13% annualized                                   |
| Total Expense Ratio:   | 0.94% annualized                                   |
| USNG Performance:  |  |
| Name of Commodity Pool:  | USNG   |
| Type of Commodity Pool:  | Exchange traded security                           |
| Inception of Trading:  | April 18, 2007                                     |
| Aggregate Subscriptions (from inception through September 30, 2007): | \$ 798,947,000                                     |
| Total Net Assets as of September 30, 2007:                           | \$ 450,909,643                                     |
| Initial NAV Per Unit as of Inception:                                | \$ 67.39   |
| NAV per Unit as of September 30, 2007                                | \$ 38.21   |
| Worst Monthly Percentage Draw-down:                                  | June 2007 (15.90%)                                 |
| Worst Peak-to-Valley Draw-down:                                      | April August 2007 (34.74%)                         |

#### *Expenses Paid by USOF through September 30, 2007 as a Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets (unaudited):*

| Expenses in USOF Offering:   | Amount As a Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets |
|--|--|
| General Partner:   | 0.50% annualized                                   |
| Portfolio Brokerage Commissions:                                     | 0.16% annualized                                   |
| Other Amounts Paid in USOF Offering                                  | 0.12% annualized                                   |
| Total Expense Ratio:   | 0.78% annualized                                   |
| USOF Performance:  |  |
| Name of Commodity Pool:  | USOF   |
| Type of Commodity Pool:  | Exchange traded security                           |
| Inception of Trading:  | April 10, 2006                                     |
| Aggregate Subscriptions (from inception through September 30, 2007): | \$4,618,093,000                                    |
| Total Net Assets as of September 30, 2007:                           | \$394,783,637                                      |
| Initial NAV Per Unit as of Inception:                                | \$67.39  |
| NAV per Unit as of September 30, 2007:                               | \$62.66  |
| Worst Monthly Percentage Draw-down:                                  | September 2006 (11.71%)                            |
| Worst Peak-to-Valley Draw-down:                                      |  |

June 2006    January 2007  
(30.60%)

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## COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE DATA FOR USNG

### PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

| Month  | Rates of<br>Return<br>For the Year<br>2007 |
|--|--|
| April*   | 4.30 %                                     |
| May  | (0.84 )%                                   |
| June   | (15.90 )%                                  |
| July   | (9.68 )%                                   |
| August   | (13.37 )%                                  |
| September  | 12.28 %                                    |
| Annual Rate of Return (through September 30, 2007) | (23.58 )%                                  |

\*

Partial from April 17, 2007.

## COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE DATA FOR USOF

### PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS

| Month   | Rates of<br>Return<br>For the Year<br>2006 |
|---|--|
| April   | 3.47 %                                     |
| May   | (2.91 )%                                   |
| June  | 3.16 %                                     |
| July  | (0.50 )%                                   |
| August  | (6.97 )%                                   |
| September   | (11.71 )%                                  |
| October   | (8.46 )%                                   |
| November  | 4.73 %                                     |
| December  | (5.21 )%                                   |
| Annual Rate of Return (since inception through December 31, 2006) | (23.03 )%                                  |

| Month  | Rates of<br>Return<br>For the Year<br>2007 |
|--|--|
| January  | (6.55 )%                                   |
| February   | 5.63 )%                                    |
| March  | 4.61 %                                     |
| April  | (4.26 )%                                   |
| May  | (4.91 )%                                   |
| June   | 9.06 %                                     |
| July   | 10.55 %                                    |
| August   | (4.93 )%                                   |
| September  | 12.11 %                                    |
| Annual Rate of Return (through September 30, 2007) | 20.80 %                                    |

Draw-down: Losses experienced over a specified period. Draw-down is measured on the basis of monthly returns only and does not reflect intra-month figures.

Worst Monthly Percentage Draw-down: The largest single month loss sustained since inception of trading.

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Worst Peak-to-Valley Draw-down: The largest percentage decline in the NAV per unit over the history of a USOF and USNG. This need not be a continuous decline, but can be a series of positive and negative returns where the negative returns are larger than the positive returns. Worst Peak-to-Valley Draw-down represents the greatest percentage decline from any month-end NAV per unit that occurs without such month-end NAV per unit being equaled or exceeded as of a subsequent month-end. For example, if the NAV per unit declined by \$1 in each of January and February, increased by \$1 in March and declined again by \$2 in April, a peak-to-valley drawdown analysis conducted as of the end of April would consider that drawdown to be still continuing and to be \$3 in amount, whereas if the NAV per unit had increased by \$2 in March, the January-February drawdown would have ended as of the end of February at the \$2 level.

Nicholas Gerber, the president and CEO of the General Partner, ran the Marc Stevens Futures Index Fund over 10 years ago. This fund combined commodity futures with equity stock index futures. It was a very small private offering, which had under \$1 million in assets. The Marc Stevens Futures Index Fund was a commodity pool and Mr. Gerber was the CPO. Ameristock Corporation is an affiliate of the General Partner and it is a California-based registered investment advisor registered under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 that has been sponsoring and providing portfolio management services to mutual funds since 1995. Ameristock Corporation is the investment adviser to the Ameristock Mutual Fund, Inc., a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 that focuses on large cap U.S. equities that, as of September 30, 2007, had approximately \$482 million in assets.

## **How Does USNG Operate?**

The net assets of USNG will consist primarily of investments in futures contracts for natural gas, crude oil, heating oil, gasoline, and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, ICE Futures or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, Futures Contracts ). USNG may also invest in other natural gas-related investments such as cash-settled options on Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas, and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and

indices based on the foregoing (collectively, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments ). For convenience and unless otherwise specified, Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments collectively are referred to as Natural Gas Interests in this Prospectus.

USNG invests in Natural Gas Interests to the fullest extent possible without being leveraged or unable to satisfy its current or potential margin or collateral obligations with respect to its investments in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. In pursuing this objective, the primary focus of the General Partner is the investment in Futures Contracts and the management of its investments in short-term obligations of the United States of two years or less ( Treasuries ), cash and/or cash equivalents for margining purposes and as collateral.

The investment objective of USNG is to have the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value reflect the changes in percentage terms of the spot price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana as measured by the Futures Contract on natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case the futures contract will be the next month contract to expire.

It is not the intent of USNG to be operated in a fashion such that its NAV will equal, in dollar terms, the spot price of spot natural gas or any particular futures contract based on natural gas.

USNG seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a mix of Futures Contracts and Natural Gas Interests such that changes in USNG's NAV will closely track the changes in the price of a Benchmark Futures Contract. The General Partner believes changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract historically exhibited a close correlation with the changes in the spot price of natural gas. On any valuation day (a valuation day is any day as of which USNG calculates its NAV), the Benchmark Futures Contract is the near month contract for natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange unless the near month contract will expire within two weeks of the valuation day, in which case the Benchmark Futures Contract is the next month contract for natural gas on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

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As a specific benchmark, the General Partner will endeavor to place USNG's trades in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and otherwise manage USNG's investments so that A will be within plus/minus 10 percent of B, where:

A is the average daily change in USNG's NAV for any period of 30 successive valuation days, i.e., any day as of which USNG calculates its NAV, and

B is the average daily change in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract over the same period.

An investment in the units will allow both retail and institutional investors to easily gain exposure to the natural gas market in a cost-effective manner. The units are also expected to provide additional means for diversifying an investor's investments or hedging exposure to changes in natural gas prices.

The Benchmark Futures Contract will be changed or rolled from the near month contract to expire to the next month to expire over a four (4) day period.

The General Partner believes that market arbitrage opportunities will cause changes in USNG's unit price on the American Stock Exchange to closely track changes in USNG's NAV. The General Partner believes that changes in USNG's NAV in percentage terms will closely track the changes in percentage terms in the Benchmark Futures Contract in, less USNG's expenses.

These relationships are illustrated in the following diagram:

The General Partner employs a neutral investment strategy intended to track changes in the price of natural gas regardless of whether the price of natural gas goes up or goes down. USNG's neutral investment strategy is designed to permit investors generally to purchase and sell USNG's units for the purpose of investing indirectly in natural gas in a cost-effective manner, and/or to permit participants in the natural gas or other industries to hedge the risk of losses in their natural gas-related transactions. Accordingly, depending on

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the investment objective of an individual investor, the risks generally associated with investing in natural gas and/or the risks involved in hedging may exist. In addition, an investment in USNG involves the risk that the changes in the price of USNG's units will not accurately track the changes in the Benchmark Futures Contract.

USNG's total portfolio composition is disclosed each business day that the American Stock Exchange is open for trading, on USNG's website at [www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com) and through the American Stock Exchange's website at <http://www.amex.com>. The website disclosure of portfolio holdings is made daily and includes, as applicable, the name and value of each Natural Gas Interest, the specific types of Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and characteristics of such Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, Treasuries, and the amount of cash and cash equivalents held in USNG's portfolio. USNG's website is publicly accessible at no charge. USNG's assets are held in segregation pursuant to Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC regulations.

The units issued by USNG may only be purchased by Authorized Purchasers only in blocks of 100,000 units called Creation Baskets. The amount of the purchase payment for a Creation Basket is equal to the aggregate NAV of units in the Creation Basket. Similarly, Authorized Purchasers may redeem units only in blocks of 100,000 units called Redemption Baskets. The amount of the redemption proceeds for a Redemption Basket is equal to the aggregate NAV of units in the Redemption Basket. The purchase price for Creation Baskets, and the redemption price for Redemption Baskets is the actual NAV calculated at the end of the business day when notice for a purchase or redemption is received by USNG. The American Stock Exchange publishes an approximate NAV intra-day based on the prior day's NAV and the current price of Benchmark Futures Contracts, but the basket price is determined based on the actual NAV at the end of the day.

While USNG only issues units in large blocks called Creation Baskets, units may also be purchased and sold in smaller increments on the American Stock Exchange. These transactions are effected at the bid and ask prices established by specialist firm(s). Like any listed security, units of USNG can be purchased and sold at any time a secondary market is open.

## **What is USNG's Investment Strategy?**

In managing USNG's assets the General Partner does not use a technical trading system that issues buy and sell orders.

The General Partner instead employs a quantitative methodology whereby each time a Creation Basket is sold, the General Partner purchases Natural Gas Interests, such as the Benchmark Futures Contract, that have an aggregate face amount that approximates the amount of Treasuries and/or cash received from the sale of the Creation Basket.

As an example, assume that a Creation Basket is sold by USNG, and that USNG's closing NAV per unit is \$50.00. In that case, USNG would receive \$5,000,000 in proceeds from the sale of the Creation Basket (\$50 NAV per unit multiplied by 100,000 units, and ignoring the Creation Basket fee of \$1,000). If one were to assume further that the

General Partner wants to invest the entire proceeds from the Creation Basket in the Benchmark Futures Contract and that the face amount of the Benchmark Futures Contract is \$59,950, USNG would be unable to buy the exact number of Benchmark Futures Contracts whose face amount equaled \$5,000,000. Instead, USNG would be able to purchase 83 Benchmark Futures Contracts with an aggregate face amount of \$4,975,850. Assuming a margin requirement equal to 10% of the value of the Benchmark Futures Contract, USNG would be required to deposit \$497,585 in Treasuries and cash with the futures commission merchant through which the Benchmark Futures Contracts were purchased. The remainder of the proceeds from the sale of the Creation Basket would remain invested in cash, cash equivalents, and Treasuries as determined by the General Partner from time to time based on factors such as potential calls for margin or anticipated redemptions.

The specific Futures Contracts purchased depend on various factors, including a judgment by the General Partner as to the appropriate diversification of USNG's investments in futures contracts with respect to the month of expiration, and the prevailing price volatility of particular contracts. While the General Partner has made significant investments in New York Mercantile Exchange futures contracts, as USNG reaches certain position limits on the New York Mercantile Exchange, or for other reasons, it has also and may continue to invest in Futures Contracts traded on other exchanges or invest in Other Natural Gas-Related Investments such as contracts in the over-the-counter market.

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The General Partner does not anticipate letting its Futures Contracts expire and taking delivery of the underlying natural gas. Instead, the General Partner will close existing positions when it is determined appropriate to do so and reinvest the proceeds in new Futures Contracts. Positions may also be closed out to meet orders for Redemption Baskets.

By remaining invested as fully as possible in Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, the General Partner believes that the changes in percentage terms of USNG's NAV will continue to closely track the changes in percentage terms in the prices of the futures contracts in which USNG invests. The General Partner believes that certain arbitrage opportunities result in the price of the units traded on the American Stock Exchange closely tracking the NAV of USNG.

## **What are Futures Contracts?**

Futures Contracts are agreements between two parties. One party agrees to buy natural gas from the other party at a later date at a price and quantity agreed upon when the contract is made. Futures Contracts are traded on futures exchanges, including the New York Mercantile Exchange. For example, natural gas futures contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange trade in units of 10,000 million British Thermal Units ( mmBtu ). The price of natural gas futures contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange are priced by floor brokers and other exchange members both through an open outcry of offers to purchase or sell the contracts and through an electronic, screen-based system that determines the price by matching electronically offers to purchase and sell.

Certain typical and significant characteristics of Futures Contracts are discussed below. Additional risks of investing in Futures Contracts are included in What are the Risk Factors Involved with an Investment in USNG?

*Impact of Accountability Levels, Position Limits and Price Fluctuation Limits.* Futures Contracts include typical and significant characteristics. Most significantly, the CFTC and U.S. designated contract markets such as the New York Mercantile Exchange have established accountability levels and position limits on the maximum net long or net short Futures Contracts in commodity interests that any person or group of persons under common trading control (other than as a hedge, which an investment in USNG is not) may hold, own or control. The net position is the difference

between an individual or firm's open long contracts and open short contracts in any one commodity. In addition, most U.S. futures exchanges, such as the New York Mercantile Exchange, limit the daily price fluctuation for Futures Contracts.

The accountability levels for the Benchmark Futures Contract and other Futures Contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange are not a fixed ceiling, but rather a threshold above which the New York Mercantile Exchange may exercise greater scrutiny and control over an investor's positions. The current accountability level for investments at any one time in natural gas Futures Contracts (including investments in the Benchmark Futures Contract) is 12,000 contracts. If USNG exceeds this accountability level for investments in natural gas Futures Contracts, the New York Mercantile Exchange will monitor USNG's exposure and ask for further information on USNG's activities including the total size of all positions, investment and trading strategy, and the extent of USNG's liquidity resources. If deemed necessary by the New York Mercantile Exchange, it could also order USNG to reduce its position back to the accountability level.

If the New York Mercantile Exchange orders USNG to reduce its position back to the accountability level, or to an accountability level that the New York Mercantile Exchange deems appropriate for USNG, such an accountability level may impact the mix of investments in Natural Gas Interests made by USNG. To illustrate, assume that the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract and the unit price of USNG are each \$10, and that the New York Mercantile Exchange has determined that USNG may not own more than 12,000 contracts in natural gas Futures Contracts. In such case, USNG could invest up to \$1.2 billion of its daily net assets in the Benchmark Futures Contract (i.e., \$10 per contract multiplied by 10,000 (a Benchmark Futures Contract is a contract for 10,000 million British Thermal Units) multiplied by 12,000 contracts) before reaching the accountability level imposed by the New York Mercantile Exchange. Once the daily net assets of the portfolio exceed \$1.2 billion in the Benchmark Futures Contract, the portfolio may not be able to make any further investments in the Benchmark Futures Contract, depending on whether the New York Mercantile Exchange imposes limits. If the New York Mercantile Exchange does impose limits at the \$1.2 billion level (or another

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level), USNG anticipates that it will invest the majority of its assets above that level in a mix of other Futures Contracts or Other Natural Gas-Related Investments.

In addition to accountability levels, the New York Mercantile Exchange imposes position limits on contracts held in the last few days of trading in the near month contract to expire. It is unlikely that USNG will run up against such position limits because USNG's investment strategy is to change or roll from the near month contract beginning two weeks prior to expiration of the contract.

U.S. futures exchanges, including the New York Mercantile Exchange, also limit the amount of price fluctuation for Futures Contracts. For example, the New York Mercantile Exchange imposes a \$3.00 per mmBtu (\$30,000 per contract) price fluctuation limit for natural gas Futures Contracts. This limit is initially based off the previous trading day's settlement price. If any natural gas Futures Contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes it begins at the point where the limit was imposed and the limit is reset to be \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction of that point. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There is no maximum price fluctuation limit during any one trading session.

Examples of the position and price limits imposed are as follows:

| Futures Contract  | Position Accountability Levels and Limits  | Maximum Daily Price Fluctuation  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | \$3.00 per mmBtu (\$30,000 per contract) for all months. If any contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes, the limit is expanded by \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There will be no maximum price fluctuation limits during any one trading session.       |
| New York Mercantile Exchange Natural Gas                | Any one month/all months: 12,000 net futures, but not to exceed 1,000 in the last three days of trading in the spot month.           | \$10.00 per barrel (\$10,000 per contract) for all months. If any contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes, the limit is expanded by \$10.00 per barrel in either direction. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$10.00 per barrel in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There will be no maximum price fluctuation limits during any one trading session. |
| New York Mercantile Exchange WTI Light, Sweet Crude Oil | Any one month/all months: 20,000 net futures, but not to exceed 2,000 contracts in the last three days of trading in the spot month. | \$10.00 per barrel (\$10,000 per contract) for all months. If any contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes, the limit is expanded by \$10.00 per barrel in either direction. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$10.00 per barrel in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There will be no maximum price fluctuation limits during any one trading session. |

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| Futures Contract                         | Position Accountability Levels and Limits   | Maximum Daily Price Fluctuation   |
|--|---|---|
|  |   | \$0.25 per gallon (\$10,500 per contract) for all months. If any contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes, the limit is expanded by \$0.25 per gallon in either direction. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$0.25 per gallon in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There will be no maximum price fluctuation limits during any one trading session. |
| New York Mercantile Exchange Heating Oil | 7,000 contracts for all months combined, but not to exceed 1,000 in the last three days of trading in the spot month. | \$0.25 per gallon (\$10,500 per contract) for all months. If any contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes, the limit is expanded by \$0.25 per gallon in either direction. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$0.25 per gallon in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There will be no maximum price fluctuation limits during any one trading session. |
| New York Mercantile Exchange Gasoline    | Any one month/all months: 7,000 net futures.  | \$0.25 per gallon (\$10,500 per contract) for all months. If any  |



|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ICE UK Natural Gas Futures | There are no position limits  |
| ICE Brent Crude Futures    | There are no position limits. |
| ICE WTI Crude Futures      | There are no position limits. |

contract is traded, bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes, the limit is expanded by \$0.25 per gallon in either direction. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$0.25 per gallon in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There will be no maximum price fluctuation limits during any one trading session. There is no maximum daily price fluctuation limit. There is no maximum daily price fluctuation limit. There is no maximum daily price fluctuation limit.

*Price Volatility.* Despite daily price limits, the price volatility of Futures Contracts generally has been historically greater than that for traditional securities such as stocks and bonds. Price volatility often is greater day-to-day as opposed to intra-day. Futures Contracts tend to be more volatile than stocks and bonds because price movements of natural gas are more currently and directly influenced by economic factors for which current data is available and are traded by natural gas futures traders throughout the day. These economic factors include changes in interest rates; governmental, agricultural, trade, fiscal, monetary and exchange control programs and policies; weather and climate conditions; changing supply and demand relationships; changes in balances of payments and trade; U.S. and international rates of inflation; currency devaluations and revaluations; U.S. and international political and economic events; and changes in philosophies and emotions of market participants. Because USNG invests a significant portion of its assets in Futures Contracts, the assets of USNG, and therefore the prices of USNG units, may be subject to greater volatility than traditional securities.

*Marking-to-Market Futures Positions.* Futures Contracts are marked to market at the end of each trading day and the margin required with respect to such contracts is adjusted accordingly. This process of marking-to-market is designed to prevent losses from accumulating in any futures account. Therefore, if

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USNG's futures positions have declined in value, USNG may be required to post additional variation margin to cover this decline. Alternatively, if USNG futures positions have increased in value, this increase will be credited to USNG's account.

## **What is the Natural Gas Market and the Petroleum-Based Fuel Market?**

*Natural Gas.* Natural gas accounts for almost a quarter of U.S. energy consumption. The price of natural gas is established by the supply and demand conditions in the North American market, and more particularly, in the main refining center of the U.S. Gulf Coast. The natural gas market essentially constitutes an auction, where the highest bidder wins the supply. When markets are strong (i.e., when demand is high and/or supply is low), the bidder must be

willing to pay a higher premium to capture the supply. When markets are weak (i.e., when demand is low and/or supply is high), a bidder may choose not to outbid competitors, waiting instead for later, possibly lower priced, supplies. Demand for natural gas by consumers, as well as agricultural, manufacturing and transportation industries, determines overall demand for natural gas. Since the precursors of product demand are linked to economic activity, natural gas demand will tend to reflect economic conditions. However, other factors such as weather significantly influence natural gas demand.

The New York Mercantile Exchange is the world's largest physical commodity futures exchange and the dominant market for the trading of energy and precious metals. The Benchmark Futures Contract trades in units of 10,000 mmBtu and is based on delivery at the Henry Hub in Louisiana, the nexus of 16 intra- and interstate natural gas pipeline systems that draw supplies from the region's prolific gas deposits. The pipelines serve markets throughout the U.S. East Coast, the Gulf Coast, the Midwest, and up to the Canadian border. Because of the volatility of natural gas prices, a vigorous basis market has developed in the pricing relationships between the Henry Hub and other important natural gas market centers in the continental United States and Canada. The New York Mercantile Exchange makes available for trading a series of basis swap futures contracts that are quoted as price differentials between approximately 30 natural gas pricing points and the Henry Hub. The basis contracts trade in units of 2,500 mmBtu on the New York Mercantile Exchange ClearPort® trading platform. The New York Mercantile Exchange ClearPort® is an electronic trading platform through which a slate of energy futures contracts are available for competitive trading.

Transactions can also be consummated off-New York Mercantile Exchange and submitted to the New York Mercantile Exchange for clearing via the New York Mercantile Exchange ClearPort® clearing website as an exchange of futures for physicals or an exchange of futures for swaps transactions.

*Light, Sweet Crude Oil.* Crude oil is the world's most actively traded commodity. The oil Futures Contracts for light, sweet crude oil that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange are the world's most liquid forum for crude oil trading, as well as the most liquid futures contracts on a physical commodity. Due to the liquidity and price transparency of oil Futures Contracts, they are used as a principal international pricing benchmark. The oil Futures Contracts for WTI light, sweet crude oil trade on the New York Mercantile Exchange in units of 1,000 U.S. barrels (42,000 gallons) and, if not closed out before maturity, will result in delivery of oil to Cushing, Oklahoma, which is also accessible to the world market by two major interstate petroleum pipeline systems.

Demand for petroleum products by consumers, as well as agricultural, manufacturing and transportation industries, determines demand for crude oil by refiners. Since the precursors of product demand are linked to economic activity, crude oil demand will tend to reflect economic conditions. However, other factors such as weather also influence product and crude oil demand.

Crude oil supply is determined by both economic and political factors. Oil prices (along with drilling costs, availability of attractive prospects for drilling, taxes and technology, among other factors) determine exploration and development spending, which influence output capacity with a lag. In the short run, production decisions by OPEC also affect supply and prices. Oil export embargoes and the current conflict in Iraq represent other routes through which political developments move the market. It is not possible to predict the aggregate effect of all or any combination of these factors.

In Europe, Brent crude oil is the standard for futures contracts traded on the ICE Futures, an electronic marketplace for energy trading and price discovery. Brent crude oil is the price reference for two-thirds of the world's traded oil.

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*Heating Oil.* Heating oil, also known as No. 2 fuel oil, accounts for 25% of the yield of a barrel of crude oil, the second largest cut from oil after gasoline. The heating oil futures contract, listed and traded at the New York

Mercantile Exchange, trades in units of 42,000 gallons (1,000 barrels) and is based on delivery in the New York harbor, the principal cash market center. The price of heating oil has historically been volatile.

*Gasoline.* Gasoline is the largest single volume refined product sold in the U.S. and accounts for almost half of national oil consumption. The gasoline Futures Contract, listed and traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, trades in units of 42,000 gallons (1,000 barrels) and is based on delivery at petroleum products terminals in the New York harbor, the major East Coast trading center for imports and domestic shipments from refineries in the New York harbor area or from the Gulf Coast refining centers. The price of gasoline is volatile.

As illustrated by the following graph, there is a correlation among the price movements of natural gas futures contracts, crude oil futures contracts and heating oil futures contracts. However, the degree of correlation varies both among the different commodities and also varies over time. As such, the use of an energy related commodity to hedge a different energy commodity can only produce, at best, an imperfect hedge.

## Why Does USNG Purchase and Sell Futures Contracts?

USNG's investment objective is for the changes in percentage terms of the units' NAV to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the Benchmark Futures Contract, less USNG's expenses. USNG invests primarily in Futures Contracts. USNG seeks to have its aggregate NAV approximate at all times the aggregate face amount of the Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments it holds.

Other than investing in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, USNG only invests in assets to support these investments in Natural Gas Interests. At any given time, a significant majority of USNG's investments are in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents that serve as segregated assets supporting USNG's positions in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. For example, the purchase of a Futures Contract with a stated value of \$10 million would not require USNG to pay

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\$10 million upon entering into the contract; rather, only a margin deposit, generally of 5% to 10% of the stated value of the Futures Contract, would be required. To secure its Futures Contract obligations, USNG would deposit the required margin with the futures commission merchant and would separately hold, through its Custodian, Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents in an amount equal to the balance of the current market value of the contract, which at the contract's inception would be \$10 million minus the amount of the margin deposit, or \$9.5 million (assuming a 5% margin).

As a result of the foregoing, between 5% and 10% of USNG's assets are held as margin in segregated accounts with a futures commission merchant. In addition to the Treasuries it posts with the futures commission merchant for the Futures Contracts it owns, USNG holds through the Custodian, Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents that can be posted as margin or as collateral to support its over-the-counter contracts. USNG earns interest income from the Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents that it purchases, and on the cash it holds through the Custodian. The earned interest income increases the NAV and limited partners' capital contribution accounts. USNG reinvests the earned interest income, holds it in cash, and uses it to pay its expenses. When reinvesting the earned interest income, USNG makes investments that are consistent with its investment objectives.

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## **What is the Flow of Units?**

## **What are the Trading Policies of USNG?**

### **Liquidity**

USNG invests only in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments that are traded in sufficient volume to permit, in the opinion of the General Partner, ease of taking and liquidating positions in these financial interests.

### **Spot Commodities**

While natural gas futures contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange can be physically settled, USNG does not intend to take or make physical delivery. However, USNG may from time to time trade in Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, including contracts based on the spot price of natural gas.

### **Leverage**

While USNG's historical ratio of variation margin to total assets has generally ranged from 5% to 10%, the General Partner endeavors to have the value of USNG's Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents, whether

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held by USNG or posted as margin or collateral, at all times approximate the aggregate face value of USNG's obligations under its Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments.

### **Borrowings**

Borrowings are not used by USNG, unless USNG is required to borrow money in the event of physical delivery, USNG trades in cash commodities, or for short-term needs created by unexpected redemptions. USNG expects maintains the value of its Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents, whether held by USNG or posted as margin or collateral, to at all times approximate the aggregate face value of its obligations under USNG's Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. USNG has not established and does not plan to establish credit lines.

### **Over-the-Counter Derivatives (Including Spreads and Straddles)**

In addition to Futures Contracts, there are also a number of listed options on the Futures Contracts on the principal futures exchanges. These contracts offer investors and hedgers another set of financial vehicles to use in managing exposure to the natural gas market. Consequently, USNG may purchase options on natural gas futures contracts on these exchanges in pursuing its investment objective.

In addition to the Futures Contracts and options on the Futures Contracts, there also exists an active non-exchange-traded market in derivatives tied to natural gas. These derivatives transactions (also known as

over-the-counter contracts) are usually entered into between two parties. Unlike most of the exchange-traded Futures Contracts or exchange-traded options on the Futures Contracts, each party to such contract bears the credit risk that the other party may not be able to perform its obligations under its contract.

Some natural gas-based derivatives transactions contain fairly generic terms and conditions and are available from a wide range of participants. Other natural gas-based derivatives have highly customized terms and conditions and are not as widely available. Many of these over-the-counter contracts are cash-settled forwards for the future delivery of natural gas- or petroleum-based fuels that have terms similar to the Futures Contracts. Others take the form of swaps in which the two parties exchange cash flows based on pre-determined formulas tied to the natural gas spot price, forward natural gas price, the Benchmark Futures Contract price, or other natural gas futures contract price. For example, USNG may enter into over-the-counter derivative contracts whose value will be tied to changes in the difference between the natural gas spot price, the Benchmark Futures Contract price, or some other futures contract price traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange or ICE Futures and the price of other Futures Contracts that may be invested in by USNG.

To protect itself from the credit risk that arises in connection with such contracts, USNG may enter into agreements with each counterparty that provide for the netting of its overall exposure to its counterparty, such as the agreements published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. USNG also may require that the counterparty be highly rated and/or provide collateral or other credit support to address USNG's exposure to the counterparty.

The creditworthiness of each potential counterparty is assessed by the General Partner. The General Partner assesses or reviews, as appropriate, the creditworthiness of each potential or existing counterparty to an over-the-counter contract pursuant to guidelines approved by the General Partner's Board of Directors. Furthermore, the General Partner on behalf of USNG only enters into over-the-counter contracts with (a) members of the Federal Reserve System or foreign banks with branches regulated by the Federal Reserve Board; (b) primary dealers in U.S. government securities; (c) broker-dealers; (d) commodities futures merchants; or (e) affiliates of the foregoing. Existing counterparties are also reviewed periodically by the General Partner.

The use of Other Natural Gas-Related Investments together with its investments in Futures Contracts produce price and total return results that closely track the investment goals of USNG.

USNG employs spreads and straddles in its trading to mitigate the differences in its investment portfolio and its goal of tracking the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract. USNG uses a spread when it chooses to take simultaneous long and short positions in futures written on the same underlying asset, but with different delivery months. The effect of holding such combined positions is to adjust the sensitivity of USNG to changes in the price relationship between futures contracts which will expire sooner and those that will expire

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later. USNG uses such a spread when the General Partner feels that taking such long and short positions, when combined with the rest of its holdings, will more closely track the investment goals of USNG, or if the General Partner feels it will lead to an overall lower cost of trading to achieve a given level of economic exposure to movements in natural gas prices. USNG enters into a straddle when it chooses to take an option position consisting of a long (or short) position in both a call option and put option. The economic effect of holding certain combinations of put options and call options can be very similar to that of owning the underlying futures contracts. USNG makes use of such a straddle approach when, in the opinion of the General Partner, the resulting combination will more closely track the investment goals of USNG or if it will lead to an overall lower cost of trading to achieve a given level of economic exposure to movements in natural gas prices.

USNG has not employed any hedging methods since all of its investments have been made over an exchange. Therefore, USNG has not been exposed to counterparty risk.

## Pyramiding

USNG does not and will not employ the technique, commonly known as pyramiding, in which the speculator uses unrealized profits on existing positions as variation margin for the purchase or sale of additional positions in the same or another commodity interest.

## Who are the Service Providers?

Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. is the registrar and transfer agent for the units. Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. is also the Custodian for USNG. In this capacity, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. holds USNG's Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents pursuant to a custodial agreement. In addition, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. performs certain administrative and accounting services for USNG and prepares certain SEC and CFTC reports on behalf of USNG. The General Partner pays Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.'s fees for these services.

USNG also employs ALPS Distributors, Inc. as a Marketing Agent, which is further discussed under "What is USNG's Plan of Distribution?" The General Partner pays ALPS Distributors, Inc.'s fees.

UBS Securities LLC ( "UBS Securities" ) is USNG's futures commission merchant. USNG and UBS Securities have entered into an Institutional Futures Client Account Agreement. This Agreement requires UBS Securities to provide services to USNG in connection with the purchase and sale of Natural Gas Interests that may be purchased or sold by or through UBS Securities for USNG's account. USNG pays the fees of UBS Securities.

The principal business address of UBS Securities is 677 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT 06901. UBS Securities is a futures clearing broker for USNG. UBS Securities is registered in the U.S. with FINRA as a Broker-Dealer and with the CFTC as a Futures Commission Merchant. UBS Securities is a member of various US futures and securities exchanges.

UBS Securities was involved in the 2003 Global Research Analyst Settlement. This settlement is part of the global settlement that UBS Securities and nine other firms have reached with the SEC, FINRA, New York Stock Exchange and various state regulators. As part of the settlement, UBS Securities has agreed to pay \$80,000,000 divided among retrospective relief, for procurement of independent research and for investor education. UBS Securities has also undertaken to adopt enhanced policies and procedures reasonably designed to address potential conflicts of interest arising from research practices.

On June 27, 2007, the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts filed an administrative complaint (the "Complaint" ) and notice of adjudicatory proceeding, captioned In The Matter of UBS Securities, LLC, Docket No. E-2007-0049, which alleges, in sum and substance, that UBS Securities has been violating the Massachusetts Uniform Securities Act (the "Act" ) and related regulations by providing the advisers for certain hedge funds with gifts and gratuities in the form of below market office rents, personal loans with below market interest rates, event tickets, and other perks, in order to induce those hedge fund advisers to increase or retain their level of prime brokerage fees paid to UBS Securities. The Secretary seeks to require UBS Securities to permanently cease and desist from conduct that violates the Act and regulations, to censure UBS Securities, to require UBS Securities to pay an administrative fine of an unspecified amount, and to find as fact the allegations of the Complaint.

## Edgar Filing: United States Natural Gas Fund, LP - Form 424B3

Further, UBS Securities, like most full service investment banks and broker-dealers, receives inquiries and is sometimes involved in investigations by the SEC, New York Stock Exchange and various other regulatory organizations and government agencies. UBS Securities fully cooperates with the authorities in all such requests. UBS

Securities regularly discloses to FINRA arbitration awards, disciplinary action and regulatory events. These disclosures are publicly available on FINRA's website at [www.finra.org](http://www.finra.org). Actions with respect to UBS Securities futures commission merchant business are publicly available on the website of the National Futures Association ([www.nfa.futures.org](http://www.nfa.futures.org)).

UBS Securities acts only as clearing broker for USNG and as such is paid commissions for executing and clearing trades on behalf of USNG. UBS Securities has not passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this Prospectus. UBS Securities neither acts in any supervisory capacity with respect to the General Partner nor participates in the management of the General Partner or USNG.

Currently, the General Partner does not employ commodities trading advisors. If, in the future, the General Partner does employ commodities trading advisors, it will choose each advisor based on arms-length negotiations and will consider the advisor's experience, fees, and reputation.

| Service Provider   | Compensation Paid by the General Partner   |
|--|--|
|  | Minimum amount of \$125,000 annually* for its custody, fund accounting and fund administration services rendered to both funds, as well as a \$25,000 annual fee for its transfer agency services. In addition, an asset charge of (a) 0.06% for the first \$500 million of USNG and USOF's combined assets, (b) .0465% for USNG and USOF's combined assets greater than \$500 million but less than \$1 billion, and (c) .035% once USNG and USOF's combined net assets exceed \$1 billion.** |
| Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., Custodian and Administrator |  |
| ALPS Distributors, Inc., Marketing Agent                   | .06% on assets up to \$3 billion; .04% on assets in excess of \$3 billion.**   |

The annual minimum amount will not apply if the asset charge for all accounts in the aggregate exceeds \$125,000.

\*The General Partner also will pay transaction charge fees to Brown Brothers, ranging from \$7.00 to \$15.00 per transaction for the funds.

\*\*

The General Partner pays this compensation.

| Service Provider       | Compensation Paid by USNG   |
|------------------------|---|
| Non-Affiliated Brokers | Approximately .20% of assets (including futures commission merchant fees of approximately \$4.00 per buy or sell)** |

\*\*

USNG pays this compensation.

## New York Mercantile Exchange Licensing Fee

| Assets                          | Management Fee |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| First \$1,000,000,000           | 0.04% of NAV   |
| After the first \$1,000,000,000 | 0.02% of NAV   |

Assets of USNG are aggregated with those of USOF. USNG pays this fee.

Fees are calculated on a daily basis (accrued at 1/365 of the applicable percentage of NAV on that day) and paid on a monthly basis.

## Compensation to the General Partner

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Assets                          | Management Fee |
| First \$1,000,000,000           | 0.60% of NAV   |
| After the first \$1,000,000,000 | 0.50% of NAV   |

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## Form of Units

*Registered Form.* Units are issued in registered form in accordance with the LP Agreement. The Administrator has been appointed registrar and transfer agent for the purpose of transferring units in certificated form. The Administrator keeps a record of all holders of the units in the registry ( Register ). The General Partner recognizes transfers of units in certificated form only if done in accordance with the LP Agreement. The beneficial interests in such units are held in book-entry form through participants and/or accountholders in DTC.

*Book-Entry.* Individual certificates are not issued for the units. Instead, units are represented by one or more global certificates, which are deposited by the Administrator with DTC and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC. The global certificates evidence all of the units outstanding at any time. Unitholders are limited to (1) participants in DTC such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies (DTC Participants), (2) those who maintain, either directly or indirectly, a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant (Indirect Participants), and (3) those banks, brokers, dealers, trust companies and others who hold interests in the units through DTC Participants or Indirect Participants, in each case who satisfy the requirements for transfers of units. DTC participants acting on behalf of investors holding units through such participants' accounts in DTC follow the delivery practice applicable to securities eligible for DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System. Units are credited to DTC Participants' securities accounts following confirmation of receipt of payment.

*DTC.* DTC is a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York and is a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency register pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ( Exchange Act ). DTC holds securities for DTC Participants and facilitates the clearance and settlement of transactions between DTC Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of DTC Participants.

## Transfer of Units

*Transfers of Units Only Through DTC.* The units are only transferable through the book-entry system of DTC.

Limited partners who are not DTC Participants may transfer their units through DTC by instructing the DTC Participant holding their units (or by instructing the Indirect Participant or other entity through which their units are held) to transfer the units. Transfers are made in accordance with standard securities industry practice.

Transfers of interests in units with DTC are made in accordance with the usual rules and operating procedures of DTC and the nature of the transfer. DTC has established procedures to facilitate transfers among the participants and/or accountholders of DTC. Because DTC can only act on behalf of DTC Participants, who in turn act on behalf of Indirect Participants, the ability of a person or entity having an interest in a global certificate to pledge such interest to persons or entities that do not participate in DTC, or otherwise take actions in respect of such interest, may be affected by the lack of a definitive security in respect of such interest.



DTC has advised us that it takes any action permitted to be taken by a unitholder (including, without limitation, the presentation of a global certificate for exchange) only at the direction of one or more DTC Participants in whose account with DTC interests in global certificates are credited and only in respect of such portion of the aggregate principal amount of the global certificate as to which such DTC Participant or Participants has or have given such direction.

*Transfer/Application Requirements.* All purchasers of USNG's units, and potentially any purchasers of limited partner interests in the future, who wish to become limited partners or other record holders and receive cash distributions, if any, or have certain other rights, must deliver an executed transfer application in which the purchaser or transferee must certify that, among other things, he, she or it agrees to be bound by USNG's LP Agreement and is eligible to purchase USNG's securities. Each purchaser of units offered by this Prospectus must execute a transfer application and certification. The obligation to provide the form of transfer application is imposed on the seller of units or, if a purchase of units is made through an exchange, the form may be obtained directly through USNG. Further, the General Partner may request each record holder to

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furnish certain information, including that holder's nationality, citizenship or other related status. A record holder is a unitholder that is, or has applied to be, a limited partner. An investor who is not a U.S. resident may not be eligible to become a record holder or one of the USNG's limited partners if that investor's ownership would subject USNG to the risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any of USNG's assets under any federal, state or local law or regulation. If the record holder fails to furnish the information or if the General Partner determines, on the basis of the information furnished by the holder in response to the request, that such holder is not qualified to become one of USNG's limited partners, the General Partner may be substituted as a holder for the record holder, who will then be treated as a non-citizen assignee, and USNG will have the right to redeem those securities held by the record holder.

A transferee's broker, agent or nominee may complete, execute and deliver a transfer application and certification.

USNG may, at its discretion, treat the nominee holder of a unit as the absolute owner. In that case, the beneficial holder's rights are limited solely to those that it has against the nominee holder as a result of any agreement between the beneficial owner and the nominee holder.

A person purchasing USNG's existing units, who does not execute a transfer application and certify that the purchaser is eligible to purchase those securities acquires no rights in those securities other than the right to resell those securities. Whether or not a transfer application is received or the consent of the General Partner obtained, our units are securities and are transferable according to the laws governing transfers of securities.

Any transfer of units will not be recorded by the transfer agent or recognized by the General Partner unless a completed transfer application is delivered to the General Partner or the Administrator. When acquiring units, the transferee of such units that completes a transfer application will:

be an assignee until admitted as a substituted limited partner upon the consent and sole discretion of the General Partner and the recording of the assignment on the books and records of the partnership;

automatically request admission as a substituted limited partner;

agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of, and execute, our LP Agreement;

represent that such transferee has the capacity and authority to enter into our LP Agreement;

grant powers of attorney to our General Partner and any liquidator of us; and

make the consents and waivers contained in our LP Agreement.

An assignee will become a limited partner in respect of the transferred units upon the consent of our General Partner and the recordation of the name of the assignee on our books and records. Such consent may be withheld in the sole

discretion of our General Partner.

If consent of the General Partner is withheld such transferee shall be an assignee. An assignee shall have an interest in the partnership equivalent to that of a limited partner with respect to allocations and distributions, including, without limitation, liquidating distributions, of the partnership. With respect to voting rights attributable to units that are held by assignees, the General Partner shall be deemed to be the limited partner with respect thereto and shall, in exercising the voting rights in respect of such units on any matter, vote such units at the written direction of the assignee who is the recordholder of such units. If no such written direction is received, such units will not be voted. An assignee shall have no other rights of a limited partner.

Until a unit has been transferred on our books, we and the transfer agent may treat the record holder of the unit as the absolute owner for all purposes, except as otherwise required by law or stock exchange regulations.

## **Withdrawal of Limited Partners**

As discussed in the LP Agreement, if the General Partner gives at least fifteen (15) days' written notice to a limited partner, then the General Partner may for any reason, in its sole discretion, require any such limited partner to withdraw entirely from the partnership or to withdraw a portion of its partner capital account. If the General Partner does not give at least fifteen (15) days' written notice to a limited partner, then

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it may only require withdrawal of all or any portion of the capital account of any limited partner in the following circumstances: (i) the unitholder made a misrepresentation to the General Partner in connection with its purchase of units; or (ii) the limited partner's ownership of units would result in the violation of any law or regulations applicable to the partnership or a partner. In these circumstances, the General Partner without notice may require the withdrawal at any time, or retroactively. The limited partner thus designated shall withdraw from the partnership or withdraw that portion of its partner capital account specified, as the case may be, as of the close of business on such date as determined by the General Partner. The limited partner thus designated shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the partnership or to have made a partial withdrawal from its partner capital account, as the case may be, without further action on the part of the limited partner and the provisions of the LP Agreement shall apply.

## **What is the Plan of Distribution?**

### **Buying and Selling Units**

Most investors buy and sell units of USNG in secondary market transactions through brokers. Units trade on the American Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol **UNG**. Units are bought and sold throughout the trading day like other publicly traded securities. When buying or selling units through a broker, most investors incur customary brokerage commissions and charges. Investors are encouraged to review the terms of their brokerage account for details on applicable charges.

### **Marketing Agent and Authorized Purchasers**

The offering of USNG's units is a best efforts offering. USNG is continuously offering Creation Baskets consisting of 100,000 units through the Marketing Agent, to Authorized Purchasers. Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp. was the initial Authorized Purchaser. The initial Authorized Purchaser purchased the initial Creation Basket of 100,000

units at USNG's NAV on April 17, 2007. All Authorized Purchasers pay a \$1,000 fee for the creation of Creation Baskets. The Marketing Agent receives, for its services as marketing agent to USNG, a marketing fee \$425,000 per annum plus incentive fee as follows: 0.0% on USNG's assets from \$0-500 million; .04% on USNG's assets from \$500 million-\$4 billion; .03% on assets in excess of \$4 billion; provided, however, that in no event may the aggregate compensation paid to the Marketing Agent and any affiliate of the General Partner for distribution-related services in connection with this offering of Units exceed ten percent (10%) of the gross proceeds of this offering.

The offering of baskets is being made in compliance with Conduct Rule 2810 of FINRA. Accordingly, Authorized Purchasers will not make any sales to any account over which they have discretionary authority without the prior written approval of a purchaser of units.

The per unit price of units offered in Creation Baskets on any subsequent day will be the total NAV of USNG calculated shortly after the close of the American Stock Exchange on that day divided by the number of issued and outstanding units. An Authorized Purchaser is not required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of units.

By executing an Authorized Purchaser Agreement, an Authorized Purchaser becomes part of the group of parties eligible to purchase baskets from, and put baskets for redemption to, USNG. An Authorized Purchaser is under no obligation to create or redeem baskets, and an Authorized Purchaser is under no obligation to offer to the public units of any baskets it does create.

A list of Authorized Purchasers is available from the Marketing Agent and can be found on our website at [www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com). Because new units can be created and issued on an ongoing basis, at any point during the life of USNG, a distribution, as such term is used in the 1933 Act, will be occurring. Authorized Purchasers, other broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some of their activities may result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner that would render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus-delivery and liability provisions of the 1933 Act. Authorized Purchasers comply with the prospectus-delivery requirements in connection with the sale of units to customers. For example, an Authorized Purchaser, other broker-dealer firm or its client will be deemed a statutory underwriter if it purchases a basket from USNG, breaks the basket down into the constituent units and sells the units to its customers; or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new units with an active

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selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for the units. Authorized Purchasers may also engage in secondary market transactions in units that would not be deemed underwriting. For example, an Authorized Purchaser may act in the capacity of a broker or dealer with respect to units that were previously distributed by other Authorized Purchasers. A determination of whether a particular market participant is an underwriter must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that would lead to designation as an underwriter and subject them to the prospectus-delivery and liability provisions of the 1933 Act.

Dealers who are neither Authorized Purchasers nor underwriters but are nonetheless participating in a distribution (as contrasted to ordinary secondary trading transactions), and thus dealing with units that are part of an unsold allotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the 1933 Act, would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus-delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the 1933 Act.

The General Partner may qualify the units in states selected by the General Partner and intends that sales be made through broker-dealers who are members of FINRA. Investors intending to create or redeem baskets through

Authorized Purchasers in transactions not involving a broker-dealer registered in such investor's state of domicile or residence should consult their legal advisor regarding applicable broker-dealer or securities regulatory requirements under the state securities laws prior to such creation or redemption.

While the Authorized Purchasers may be indemnified by the General Partner, they are not entitled to receive a discount or commission from USNG for their purchases of Creation Baskets. The difference between the price paid by Authorized Purchasers as underwriters and the price paid to such Authorized Purchasers by investors is deemed underwriting compensation.

## Calculating NAV

### USNG's NAV is calculated by:

Taking the current market value of its total assets  
Subtracting any liabilities

The Administrator calculates the NAV of USNG once each trading day. The NAV for a particular trading day is released after 4:15 p.m. New York time. It calculates NAV as of the earlier of the close of the New York Stock Exchange or 4:00 p.m. New York time. Trading on the American Stock Exchange typically closes at 4:15 p.m. New York time. USNG uses the New York Mercantile Exchange closing price (determined at the earlier of the close of that exchange or 2:30 p.m. New York time) for the contracts held on the New York Mercantile Exchange, but calculates or determines the value of all other USNG investments as of the earlier of the close of the New York Stock Exchange or 4:00 p.m. New York time.

In addition, in order to provide updated information relating to USNG for use by investors and market professionals, the American Stock Exchange calculates and disseminates throughout the trading day an updated indicative fund value. The indicative fund value is calculated by using the prior day's closing NAV per unit of USNG as a base and updating that value throughout the trading day to reflect changes in the most recently reported trade price for the active Futures Contract on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The prices reported for the active Futures Contract month are adjusted based on the prior day's spread differential between settlement values for that contract and the spot month contract. In the event that the spot month contract is also the active contract, the last sale price for the active contract is not adjusted. The indicative fund value unit basis disseminated during American Stock Exchange trading hours should not be viewed as an actual real time update of the NAV, because NAV is calculated only once at the end of each trading day.

The indicative fund value is disseminated on a per unit basis every 15 seconds during regular American Stock Exchange trading hours of 9:30 a.m. New York time to 4:15 p.m. New York time. The normal trading hours of the New York Mercantile Exchange are 10:00 a.m. New York time to 2:30 p.m. New York time. This means that there is a gap in time at the beginning and the end of each day during which USNG's units are traded on the American Stock Exchange, but real-time New York Mercantile Exchange trading prices for futures contracts traded on such Exchange are not available. As a result, during those gaps there is no update to the indicative fund value.

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The American Stock Exchange disseminates the indicative fund value through the facilities of CTA/CQ High Speed Lines. In addition, the indicative fund value is published on the American Stock Exchange's website and is available through on-line information services such as Bloomberg and Reuters.

Dissemination of the indicative fund value provides additional information that is not otherwise available to the public and is useful to investors and market professionals in connection with the trading of USNG units on the American Stock Exchange. Investors and market professionals are able throughout the trading day to compare the market price of USNG and the indicative fund value. If the market price of USNG units diverges significantly from the indicative fund value, market professionals have an incentive to execute arbitrage trades. For example, if USNG appears to be trading at a discount compared to the indicative fund value, a market professional could buy USNG units on the American Stock Exchange and sell short futures contracts. Such arbitrage trades can tighten the tracking between the market price of USNG and the indicative fund value and thus can be beneficial to all market participants.

In addition, other Futures Contracts, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and Treasuries held by USNG are valued by the Administrator, using rates and points received from client-approved third party vendors (such as Reuters and WM Company) and advisor quotes. These investments are not included in the indicative value. The indicative fund value is based on the prior day's NAV and moves up and down solely according to changes in the Benchmark Futures Contracts for natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

## Creation and Redemption of Units

USNG creates and redeems units from time to time, but only in one or more Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets. The creation and redemption of baskets are only made in exchange for delivery to USNG or the distribution by USNG of the amount of Treasuries and any cash represented by the baskets being created or redeemed, the amount of which is based on the combined NAV of the number of units included in the baskets being created or redeemed determined as of 4:00 p.m. New York time on the day the order to create or redeem baskets is properly received.

Authorized Purchasers are the only persons that may place orders to create and redeem baskets. Authorized Purchasers must be (1) registered broker-dealers or other securities market participants, such as banks and other financial institutions, that are not required to register as broker-dealers to engage in securities transactions as described below, and (2) DTC Participants. To become an Authorized Purchaser, a person must enter into an Authorized Purchaser Agreement with the General Partner. The Authorized Purchaser Agreement provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of baskets and for the delivery of the Treasuries and any cash required for such creations and redemptions. The Authorized Purchaser Agreement and the related procedures attached thereto may be amended by USNG, without the consent of any limited partner or unitholder or Authorized Purchaser. Authorized Purchasers pay a transaction fee of \$1,000 to USNG for each order they place to create or redeem one or more baskets. Authorized Purchasers who make deposits with USNG in exchange for baskets receive no fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either USNG or the General Partner, and no such person has any obligation or responsibility to the General Partner or USNG to effect any sale or resale of units.

Certain Authorized Purchasers are expected to have the facility to participate directly in the physical natural gas market and the natural gas futures market. In some cases, an Authorized Purchaser or its affiliates may from time to time acquire natural gas or sell natural gas and may profit in these instances. The General Partner believes that the size and operation of the natural gas market make it unlikely that an Authorized Purchaser's direct activities in the natural gas or securities markets will impact the price of natural gas, Futures Contracts, or the price of the units.

Each Authorized Purchaser is required to be registered as a broker-dealer under the Exchange Act and is a member in good standing with FINRA, or exempt from being or otherwise not required to be licensed as a broker-dealer or a member of FINRA, and qualified to act as a broker or dealer in the states or other jurisdictions where the nature of its business so requires. Certain Authorized Purchasers may also be regulated under federal and state banking laws and regulations. Each Authorized Purchaser has its own set of rules and procedures, internal controls and information barriers as it determines is appropriate in light of its own regulatory regime.

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Under the Authorized Purchaser Agreement, the General Partner has agreed to indemnify the Authorized Purchasers against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to contribute to the payments the Authorized Purchasers may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The following description of the procedures for the creation and redemption of baskets is only a summary and an investor should refer to the relevant provisions of the LP Agreement and the form of Authorized Purchaser Agreement for more detail, each of which is attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this Prospectus is a part.

### **Creation Procedures**

On any business day, an Authorized Purchaser may place an order with the Marketing Agent to create one or more baskets. For purposes of processing purchase and redemption orders, a business day means any day other than a day when any of the American Stock Exchange, the New York Mercantile Exchange, or the New York Stock Exchange is closed for regular trading. Purchase orders must be placed by 12:00 p.m. New York time or the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange, whichever is earlier; except in the case of the initial Authorized Purchaser's or any other Authorized Purchaser's initial order to purchase one or more Creation Baskets on the first day the baskets are to be offered and sold, when such orders shall be placed by 9:00 a.m. New York time on the day agreed to by the General Partner and the initial Authorized Purchaser. The day on which the Marketing Agent receives a valid purchase order is the purchase order date.

By placing a purchase order, an Authorized Purchaser agrees to deposit Treasuries with USNG, or a combination of Treasuries and cash, as described below. Prior to the delivery of baskets for a purchase order, the Authorized Purchaser must also have wired to the Custodian the non-refundable transaction fee due for the purchase order. Authorized Purchasers may not withdraw a creation request.

### **Determination of Required Deposits**

The total deposit required to create each basket ( Creation Basket Deposit ) is the amount of Treasuries and/or cash that is in the same proportion to the total assets of USNG (net of estimated accrued but unpaid fees, expenses and other liabilities) on the date the order to purchase is accepted as the number of units to be created under the purchase order is in proportion to the total number of units outstanding on the date the order is received. The General Partner determines, directly in its sole discretion or in consultation with the Administrator, the requirements for Treasuries and the amount of cash, including the maximum permitted remaining maturity of a Treasury and proportions of Treasury and cash that may be included in deposits to create baskets. The Marketing Agent publishes such requirements at the beginning of each business day. The amount of cash deposit required is the difference between the aggregate market value of the Treasuries required to be included in a Creation Basket Deposit as of 4:00 p.m. New York time on the date the order to purchase is properly received and the total required deposit.

### **Delivery of Required Deposits**

An Authorized Purchaser who places a purchase order is responsible for transferring to USNG's account with the Custodian the required amount of Treasuries and cash by the end of the third business day following the purchase order date. Upon receipt of the deposit amount, the Administrator directs DTC to credit the number of baskets ordered to the Authorized Purchaser's DTC account on the third business day following the purchase order date. The expense and risk of delivery and ownership of Treasuries until such Treasuries have been received by the Custodian on behalf of USNG is borne solely by the Authorized Purchaser.

Because orders to purchase baskets must be placed by 12:00 p.m., New York time, but the total payment required to create a basket during the continuous offering period will not be determined until 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the date the purchase order is received, Authorized Purchasers will not know the total amount of the payment required to create a basket at the time they submit an irrevocable purchase order for the basket. USNG's NAV and the total amount of the payment required to create a basket could rise or fall substantially between the time an irrevocable purchase order is submitted and the time the amount of the purchase price in respect thereof is determined.

## **Rejection of Purchase Orders**

The General Partner acting by itself or through the Marketing Agent may reject a purchase order or a Creation Basket Deposit if:

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it determines that the investment alternative available to USNG at that time will not enable it to meet its investment objective;

it determines that the purchase order or the Creation Basket Deposit is not in proper form;

it believes that the purchase order or the Creation Basket Deposit would have adverse tax consequences to USNG or its unitholders;

the acceptance or receipt of the Creation Basket Deposit would, in the opinion of counsel to the General Partner, be unlawful; or

circumstances outside the control of the General Partner, Marketing Agent or Custodian make it, for all practical purposes, not feasible to process creations of baskets.

None of the General Partner, Marketing Agent or Custodian will be liable for the rejection of any purchase order or Creation Basket Deposit.

## **Redemption Procedures**

The procedures by which an Authorized Purchaser can redeem one or more baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of baskets. On any business day, an Authorized Purchaser may place an order with the Marketing Agent to redeem one or more baskets. Redemption orders must be placed by 12:00 p.m. New York time or the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange, whichever is earlier. A redemption order so received will be effective on

the date it is received in satisfactory form by the Marketing Agent. The redemption procedures allow Authorized Purchasers to redeem baskets and do not entitle an individual unitholder to redeem any units in an amount less than a Redemption Basket, or to redeem baskets other than through an Authorized Purchaser. By placing a redemption order, an Authorized Purchaser agrees to deliver the baskets to be redeemed through DTC's book-entry system to USNG not later than 3:00 p.m. New York time on the third business day following the effective date of the redemption order.

Prior to the delivery of the redemption distribution for a redemption order, the Authorized Purchaser must also have wired to USNG's account at the Custodian the non-refundable transaction fee due for the redemption order. Authorized Purchasers may not withdraw a redemption request.

## **Determination of Redemption Distribution**

The redemption distribution from USNG consists of a transfer to the redeeming Authorized Purchaser of an amount of Treasuries and cash that is in the same proportion to the total assets of USNG (net of estimated accrued but unpaid fees, expenses and other liabilities) on the date the order to redeem is properly received as the number of units to be redeemed under the redemption order is in proportion to the total number of units outstanding on the date the order is received. The General Partner, directly or in consultation with the Administrator, determines the requirements for

Treasuries and the amounts of cash, including the maximum permitted remaining maturity of a Treasury, and the proportions of Treasuries and cash that may be included in distributions to redeem baskets. The Marketing Agent publishes such requirements as of 4:00 p.m. New York time on the redemption order date.

## **Delivery of Redemption Distribution**

The redemption distribution due from USNG will be delivered to the Authorized Purchaser by 3:00 p.m. New York time on the third business day following the redemption order date if, by 3:00 p.m. New York time on such third business day, USNG's DTC account has been credited with the baskets to be redeemed. If USNG's DTC account has not been credited with all of the baskets to be redeemed by such time, the redemption distribution will be delivered to the extent of whole baskets received. Any remainder of the redemption distribution will be delivered on the next business day to the extent of remaining whole baskets received if USNG receives the fee applicable to the extension of the redemption distribution date which the General Partner may, from time to time, determine and the remaining baskets to be redeemed are credited to USNG's DTC account by 3:00 p.m. New York time on such next business day. Any further outstanding amount of the redemption order shall be cancelled. Pursuant to information from the General Partner, the Custodian will also be authorized to deliver the redemption distribution notwithstanding that the baskets to be redeemed are not credited to USNG's DTC account by 3:00 p.m. New York time on the third business day following the

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redemption order date if the Authorized Purchaser has collateralized its obligation to deliver the baskets through DTC's book entry-system on such terms as the General Partner may from time to time determine.

## **Suspension or Rejection of Redemption Orders**

The General Partner may, in its discretion, suspend the right of redemption, or postpone the redemption settlement date, (1) for any period during which the American Stock Exchange or the New York Mercantile Exchange is closed other than customary weekend or holiday closings, or trading on the American Stock Exchange or the New York Mercantile Exchange is suspended or restricted, (2) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which delivery, disposal or evaluation of Treasuries is not reasonably practicable, or (3) for such other period as the General Partner determines to be necessary for the protection of the limited partners. None of the General Partner, the Marketing Agent, the Administrator, or the Custodian will be liable to any person or in any way for any loss or damages that may result from any such suspension or postponement.

The General Partner will reject a redemption order if the order is not in proper form as described in the Authorized Purchaser Agreement or if the fulfillment of the order, in the opinion of its counsel, might be unlawful.

## **Creation and Redemption Transaction Fee**

To compensate USNG for its expenses in connection with the creation and redemption of baskets, an Authorized Purchaser is required to pay a transaction fee to USNG of \$1,000 per order to create or redeem baskets. An order may include multiple baskets. The transaction fee may be reduced, increased or otherwise changed by the General Partner. The General Partner shall notify DTC of any change in the transaction fee and will not implement any increase in the fee for the redemption of baskets until 30 days after the date of the notice.



## **Tax Responsibility**

Authorized Purchasers are responsible for any transfer tax, sales or use tax, stamp tax, recording tax, value added tax or similar tax or governmental charge applicable to the creation or redemption of baskets, regardless of whether or not such tax or charge is imposed directly on the Authorized Purchaser, and agree to indemnify the General Partner and USNG if they are required by law to pay any such tax, together with any applicable penalties, additions to tax or interest thereon.

## **Secondary Market Transactions**

As noted, USNG creates and redeems units from time to time, but only in one or more Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets. The creation and redemption of baskets is only made in exchange for delivery to USNG or the distribution by USNG of the amount of Treasuries and cash represented by the baskets being created or redeemed, the amount of which is based on the aggregate NAV of the number of units included in the baskets being created or redeemed determined on the day the order to create or redeem baskets is properly received.

As discussed above, Authorized Purchasers are the only persons that may place orders to create and redeem baskets. Authorized Purchasers must be registered broker-dealers or other securities market participants, such as banks and other financial institutions that are not required to register as broker-dealers to engage in securities transactions. An Authorized Purchaser is under no obligation to create or redeem baskets, and an Authorized Purchaser is under no obligation to offer to the public units of any baskets it does create. Authorized Purchasers that do offer to the public units from the baskets they create do so at per-unit offering prices that are expected to reflect, among other factors, the trading price of the units on the American Stock Exchange, the NAV of USNG at the time the Authorized Purchaser purchased the Creation Baskets and the NAV of the units at the time of the offer of the units to the public, the supply of and demand for units at the time of sale, and the liquidity of the Futures Contract market and the market for Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. The prices of units offered by Authorized Purchasers are expected to fall between USNG's NAV and the trading price of the units on the American Stock Exchange at the time of sale. Units initially comprising the same basket but offered by Authorized Purchasers to the public at different times may have different offering prices. An order for one or more baskets may be placed by an Authorized Purchaser on behalf of

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multiple clients. Authorized Purchasers who make deposits with USNG in exchange for baskets receive no fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either USNG or the General Partner, and no such person has any obligation or responsibility to the General Partner or USNG to effect any sale or resale of units. Units are expected to trade in the secondary market on the American Stock Exchange. Units may trade in the secondary market at prices that are lower or higher relative to their NAV per unit. The amount of the discount or premium in the trading price relative to the NAV per unit may be influenced by various factors, including the number of investors who seek to purchase or sell units in the secondary market and the liquidity of the Futures Contracts market and the market for Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. While the units trade on the American Stock Exchange until 4:15 p.m. New York time, liquidity in the market for Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments may be reduced after the close of the New York Mercantile Exchange at 2:30 p.m. New York time. As a result, during this time, trading spreads, and the resulting premium or discount, on the units may widen.

## **Use of Proceeds**

The General Partner applies substantially all of USNG's assets toward trading in Futures Contracts and other Natural

Gas-Related Investments Treasuries, cash and cash equivalents. The General Partner has sole authority to determine the percentage of assets that are:

held on deposit with the futures commission merchant or other custodian,  
used for other investments, and  
held in bank accounts to pay current obligations and as reserves.

The General Partner deposits substantially all of USNG's net assets with the Custodian or other custodian. When USNG purchases a Futures Contract and certain exchange traded Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, USNG is also required to deposit with the futures commission merchant on behalf of the exchange a portion of the value of the contract or other interest as security to ensure payment for the obligation under natural gas interests at maturity. This deposit is known as margin. USNG invests the remainder of its assets equal to the difference between the margin deposited and the face value of the Futures Contract in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents.

The General Partner believes that all entities that hold or trade USNG's assets are based in the United States and will be subject to United States regulations.

Approximately 5% to 10% of USNG's assets are normally committed as margin for commodity futures contracts. However, from time to time, the percentage of assets committed as margin may be substantially more, or less, than such range. The General Partner invests the balance of USNG's assets not invested in natural gas interests or held in margin as reserves to be available for changes in margin. All interest income used for USNG's benefit.

The futures commission merchant, a government agency or a commodity exchange could increase margins applicable to USNG to hold trading positions at any time. Moreover, margin is merely a security deposit and has no bearing on the profit or loss potential for any positions taken.

USNG's assets are held in segregation pursuant to the Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC regulations.

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# **Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the condensed financial statements and the notes thereto of United States Natural Gas Fund, LP (USNG) included elsewhere in this registration statement on Form S-1.

## **Introduction**

USNG, a Delaware limited partnership, is a commodity pool that issues units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange (AMEX). The investment objective of USNG is for changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value (NAV) on a daily basis to reflect the changes in percentage terms in the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana as measured by the Benchmark Futures Contract, also on a daily basis, less USNG's expenses.

USNG seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a combination of natural gas futures contracts and other natural gas interests such that changes in USNG's NAV, measured in percentage terms, will closely track the changes in the price of a specified natural gas futures contract (the Benchmark Futures Contract), also measured in percentage terms. USNG's General Partner believes the Benchmark Futures Contract historically has exhibited a close

correlation with the spot price of natural gas. It is not the intent of USNG to be operated in a fashion such that its NAV will equal, in dollar terms, the spot price of natural gas or any particular futures contract based on natural gas.

Management believes that it is not practical to manage the portfolio to achieve such an investment goal when investing in listed natural gas futures contracts.

At present, on any valuation day the Benchmark Futures Contract is the near month contract for natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange ( NYMEX ) unless the near month contract will expire within two weeks of the valuation day, in which case the Benchmark Futures Contract is the next month contract for natural gas traded on the NYMEX. Near month contract means the next contract traded on the NYMEX due to expire. Next month contract means the first contract traded on the NYMEX due to expire after the near month contract.

USNG invests in futures contracts for natural gas, other types of crude oil, heating oil, gasoline and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the NYMEX, ICE Futures or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, Futures Contracts ) and other natural gas-related investments such as cash-settled options on Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments ). The general partner of USNG, Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC (the General Partner ), which is registered as a commodity pool operator with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, is authorized by the Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of USNG (the LP Agreement ) to manage USNG. The General Partner is authorized by USNG in its sole judgment to employ, establish the terms of employment for and terminate commodity trading advisors or futures commission merchants.

## **Valuation of Natural Gas Futures Contracts and the Computation of the NAV**

The NAV of the units is calculated once each trading day as of the earlier of the close of the New York Stock Exchange (the NYSE ) or 4:00 p.m. New York time. The NAV for a particular trading day is released after 4:15 p.m. New York time. Trading on the AMEX typically closes at 4:15 p.m. New York time. USNG uses the NYMEX closing price (determined at the earlier of the close of that exchange or 2:30 p.m. New York time) for the contracts held on the NYMEX, but calculates or determines the value of all other USNG investments as of the earlier of the close of the NYSE or 4:00 p.m. New York time.

## **Management's Discussion of Results of Operations and the Natural Gas Market**

### **Results of Operations**

On April 18, 2007, USNG listed its units on the AMEX under the ticker symbol UNG . On that day, USNG established its initial NAV by setting the price at \$50.00 per unit and issued 200,000 units to the initial authorized purchaser, Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp., in exchange for \$10,001,000 in cash. USNG also commenced investment operations on that day by purchasing Futures Contracts traded on the NYMEX

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that are based on natural gas. The total market value of the Futures Contracts purchased on that day was \$9,958,080 at the time of purchase. USNG established cash deposits equal to \$10,001,000 at the time of the initial sale of units. The

majority of those cash assets were held at USNG's custodian bank while less than 20% of the cash balance was held as margin deposits with UBS Securities LLC, USNG's commodity broker (the Futures Commission Merchant), relating to the Futures Contracts purchased.

In its initial offering USNG registered 30,000,000 units and as of September 30, 2007 USNG has issued 20,600,000 leaving 9,400,000 units remaining to be issued. Unlike funds that are redeemed under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, units that have been redeemed by USNG cannot be resold by USNG without registration of their offering with the SEC. As a result, USNG anticipates that further offering of its units will be registered with the SEC in the future in anticipation of additional issuances.

As of September 30, 2007, the total unrealized loss on natural gas futures contracts owned or held on that day was \$(13,529,200) and USNG established cash deposits that were equal to \$433,103,469. The majority of those cash assets were held at USNG's custodian bank while less than 31% of the cash balance was held as margin deposits with USNG's future commission merchant for the GAS Futures Contracts purchased. The ending per Unit NAV on September 30, 2007 was \$38.21.

## Portfolio Expenses

USNG's expenses consist of management fees, brokerage fees and commissions, certain offering costs, licensing fees and the fees and expenses of the independent directors of the General Partner. The management fee that USNG pays to the General Partner is calculated as a percentage of the total net assets of USNG. For total net assets of up to \$1 billion, the management fee is 0.60%, and for total net assets over \$1 billion, the management fee is 0.50% on the incremental amount of assets. During the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007, the daily average total net assets of USNG were approximately \$163,215,433. At no time during the period from April 18, 2007 to September 30, 2007, did the total net assets of USNG exceed \$1 billion. The management fee paid by USNG amounted to \$445,377, which was calculated at the 0.60% rate and accrued daily.

USNG pays for all brokerage fees, taxes and other expenses, including licensing fees for the use of intellectual property, ongoing registration or other fees paid to the SEC, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and any other regulatory agency in connection with subsequent offers and sales of its units and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated therewith. For the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007, USNG did not incur any ongoing registration fees. USNG is responsible for paying the fees and expenses, including directors' and officers' liability insurance, of the independent directors of the General Partner who are also audit committee members. USNG shares these fees with United States Oil Fund, LP (USOF) based on the relative assets of each fund, computed on a daily basis. These fees for calendar year 2007 are estimated to be a total of \$276,000 for both funds.

USNG also incurs commissions to brokers for the purchase and sale of Futures Contracts, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments or short-term obligations of the United States of two years or less (Treasuries). During the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007, total commissions paid to brokers amounted to \$158,534. Prior to the initial offering, USNG had estimated that its annual level of such commissions was expected to be 0.13% of total net assets. As an annualized percentage of total net assets, the figures for the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007 represent approximately 0.21% of total net assets. However, there can be no assurance that commission costs and portfolio turnover will not cause commission expenses to rise further in future quarters.

Expenses incurred from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007 in connection with organizing USNG and the initial offering costs of the units were borne by the General Partner, and are not subject to reimbursement by USNG.

## Interest Income

USNG seeks to invest its assets such that it holds Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments in an amount equal to the total net assets of the portfolio. Typically, such investments do not require USNG to pay the full amount of the contract value at the time of purchase, but rather require USNG to post an amount as a margin deposit against the eventual settlement of the contract. As a result, USNG

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retains an amount that is approximately equal to its total net assets, which USNG invests in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents. This includes both the amount on deposit with the futures commission merchant as margin, as well as unrestricted cash held with USNG's custodian bank. The Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents earn interest that accrues on a daily basis. For the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007, USNG earned \$3,287,018 in interest income in such cash holdings. Based on USNG's average daily total net assets, this is equivalent to an annualized yield of 4.43%. USNG did not purchase Treasuries during the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007 and held all of its funds in cash or cash equivalents during this period.

Tracking USNG's Benchmark. USNG seeks to manage its portfolio such that changes in its average daily NAV, on a percentage basis, closely track changes in the average daily price of the Benchmark Futures Contract, also on a percentage basis. Specifically, USNG seeks to manage the portfolio such that over any rolling period of 30 valuation days, the average daily change in the NAV is within a range of 90% to 110% (0.9 to 1.1) of the average daily change of the Benchmark Futures Contract. As an example, if the average daily movement of the Benchmark Futures Contract for a particular 30-day time period was 0.50% per day, USNG management would attempt to manage the portfolio such that the average daily movement of the NAV during that same time period fell between 0.45% and 0.55% (i.e., between 0.9 and 1.1 of the benchmark's results). USNG's portfolio management goals do not include trying to make the nominal price of USNG's NAV equal to the nominal price of the current Benchmark Futures Contract or the spot price for natural gas. Management believes that it is not practical to manage the portfolio to achieve such an investment goal when investing in listed natural gas futures contracts.

For the 30 valuation days ended September 30, 2007, the simple average daily change in the Benchmark Futures Contract was -0.370%, while the simple average daily change in the NAV of USNG over the same time period was -0.359%. The average daily difference was 0.011% (or 1.1 basis points, where 1 basis point equals 1/100 of 1%). As a percentage of the daily movement of the Benchmark Futures Contract, the average error in daily tracking by the NAV was 3.602%, meaning that over this time period USNG's tracking error was within the plus or minus 10% range established as its benchmark tracking goal.

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Since the offering of USNG units to the public on April 18, 2007 to September 30, 2007, the simple average daily change in the Benchmark Futures Contract was -0.205%, while the simple average daily change in the NAV of USNG over the same time period was -0.192%. The average daily difference was 0.013% (or 1.3 basis points, where 1 basis point equals 1/100 of 1%). As a percentage of the daily movement of the Benchmark Futures Contract, the average error in daily tracking by the NAV was 3.06%, meaning that over this time period USNG's tracking error was within the plus or minus 10% range established as its benchmark tracking goal.

An alternative tracking measurement of the return performance of USNG versus the return of its Benchmark Futures Contract can be calculated by comparing the actual return of USNG, measured by changes in its NAV, versus the expected changes in its NAV under the assumption that USNG's returns had been exactly the same as the daily changes in its Benchmark Futures Contract.

For the period from July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007, the actual total return of USNG as measured by changes in its NAV was -12.14%. This is based on an initial NAV of \$43.49 on June 29, 2007 and an ending NAV as of September 28, 2007 of \$38.21. During this time period, USNG made no distributions to its unitholders. However, if USNG's daily changes in its NAV had instead exactly tracked the changes in the daily return of the Benchmark Futures Contracts, USNG would have ended the third quarter of 2007 with an estimated NAV of \$37.90, for a total return over the relevant time period of -12.85%. The difference between the actual NAV total return of USNG of -12.14% and the expected total return based on the Benchmark Futures Contracts of -12.85 was an error over the time period of +0.71, which is to say that USNG's actual total return exceeded the benchmark result by that percentage. Management believes that a portion of the difference between the actual return and the expected benchmark return can be attributed to the impact of the interest that USNG collects on its cash and cash equivalent holdings. In addition, during the period, USNG also collected fees from brokerage firms creating or redeeming baskets of units. This income also contributed to USNG's actual return exceeding the benchmark results. However, if the total assets of USNG continue to increase, management believes that the impact on total returns of these fees from creations and redemptions will diminish as a percentage of the total return.

There are currently three factors that have, during the latest period, or are most likely to impact USNG's ability to accurately track its Benchmark Futures Contract.

First, USNG may buy or sell its holdings in the then current Benchmark Futures Contract at a price other than the closing settlement price of that contract on the day in which USNG executes the trade. In that case, USNG may get a price that is higher, or lower, than that of the Benchmark Futures Contract, which could cause the changes in the daily NAV of USNG to either be too high or too low relative to the changes in the daily benchmark. In the third quarter of 2007, management attempted to minimize the effect of these transactions by seeking to execute its purchase or sales of the Benchmark Futures Contracts at, or as close as possible to, the end of the day settlement price. However, it is not always possible for USNG to obtain the closing settlement price and there is no assurance that failure to obtain the closing settlement price in the future will not adversely impact USNG's attempt to track its benchmark over time.

Second, USNG earns interest on its cash and Treasury holdings. USNG is not required to distribute any portion of its income to its unitholders and did not make any distribution to unitholders in the third quarter of 2007. Interest payments, and any other income, were retained within the portfolio and added to USNG's NAV. When this income exceeds the level of USNG's expenses for its management fee, brokerage commissions and other expenses (including ongoing registration fees, licensing fees and the fees and expenses of the independent directors of the General Partner), USNG will realize a net yield that will tend to cause daily changes in the NAV of USNG to track slightly higher than daily changes in the Benchmark Futures Contracts. During the third quarter of 2007, USNG earned on an annualized basis approximately 4.45% on its cash holdings. It also incurred cash expenses on an annualized basis of 0.60% for management fees and approximately 0.22% in brokerage commission costs related to the purchase and sale of futures contracts, and 0.14% for other expenses. The foregoing fees and expenses resulted in a net yield on an annualized basis of approximately 3.56% and affected USNG's ability to track its benchmark. If short-term interest rates rise above the current levels, the level of deviation created by the yield would increase. Conversely, if short-term interest rates were to decline, the amount of error created by the yield would decrease. If short-term yields drop to a level lower

than the combined expenses of the management fee and the brokerage commissions, then the tracking error would become a negative number and would tend to cause the daily returns of the NAV to underperform the daily returns of the Benchmark Futures Contracts.

Third, USNG may hold Other Natural Gas-Related Interests in its portfolio that may fail to closely track the Benchmark Futures Contract's total return movements. In that case, the error in tracking the benchmark can result in daily changes in the NAV of USNG that are either too high, or too low, relative to the daily changes in the benchmark. During the third quarter of 2007, USNG did not hold any Other Natural Gas-Related Interests. However, there can be no assurance that in future quarters USNG will not make use of such Other Natural Gas-Related Interests.

## Term Structure of Natural Gas Futures Prices and the Impact on Total Returns

Several factors determine the total return from investing in a futures contract position. One factor that impacts the total return that will result in investing in near month Benchmark Futures Contracts and rolling those contracts forward each month is the price relationship between the current near month contract and the next month contract. If the price of near month contract is higher than the next month contract (a situation referred to as backwardation in the futures market), then absent any other change there is a tendency for the price of a next month contract to rise in value as it becomes the near month contract and approaches expiration. Conversely, if the price of a near month contract is lower than the next month contract (a situation referred to as contango in the futures market), then absent any other change there is a tendency for the price of a next month contract to decline in value as it becomes the near month contract and approaches expiration.

As an example, assume that the price of natural gas for immediate delivery (the spot price), was \$7 per 10,000 million British thermal units (MMBtu), and the value of a position in the near month futures contract was also \$7. Over time, the price of 10,000 MMBtu of natural gas will fluctuate based on a number of market factors, including demand for natural gas relative to its supply. The value of the near month contract will likewise fluctuate in reaction to a number of market factors. If investors seek to maintain their holding in a near month contract position and not take delivery of the natural gas, every month they must sell their current near month contract as it approaches expiration and invest in the next month contract.

If the futures market is in backwardation, e.g., when the expected price of natural gas in the future would be less, the investor would be buying a next month contract for a lower price than the current near month contract. Hypothetically, and assuming no other changes to either prevailing natural gas prices or the price relationship between the spot price, the near month contract and the next month contract (and ignoring the impact of commission costs and the interest earned on Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents), the value of the next month contract would rise as it approaches expiration and becomes the new near month contract. In this example, the value of the \$7 investment would tend to rise faster than the spot price of natural gas, or fall slower. As a result, it would be possible in this hypothetical example for the price of spot natural gas to have risen to \$9 after some period of time, while the value of the investment in the futures contract would have risen to \$10, assuming backwardation is large enough or enough time has elapsed. Similarly, the spot price of natural gas could have fallen to \$5 while the value of an investment in the futures contract could have fallen to only \$6. Over time, if backwardation remained constant, the difference would continue to increase.

If the futures market is in contango, the investor would be buying a next month contract for a higher price than the current near month contract. Hypothetically, and assuming no other changes to either prevailing natural gas prices or the price relationship between the spot price, the near month contract and the next month contract (and ignoring the impact of commission costs and the interest earned on cash), the value of the next month contract would fall as it approaches expiration and becomes the new near month contract. In this example, it would mean that the value of the \$7 investment would tend to rise slower than the spot price of natural gas, or fall faster. As a result, it would be possible in this hypothetical example for the spot price of natural gas to have risen to \$9 after some period of time,

while the value of the investment in the futures contract will have risen to only \$8, assuming contango is large enough or enough time has elapsed. Similarly, the spot price of natural gas could have fallen to \$6 while the value of an investment in the futures contract could have fallen to \$7. Over time, if contango remained constant, the difference would continue to increase.

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Historically, the natural gas futures markets have experienced periods of contango and backwardation. Because natural gas demand is seasonal, it is possible for the price of natural gas futures contracts for delivery within one or two months to rapidly move from backwardation into contango and back again within a relatively short period of time of less than one year. While the investment objective of USNG is not to have the market price of its units match, dollar for dollar, changes in the spot price of natural gas, contango has impacted the total return on an investment in USNG units during the past quarter relative to a hypothetical direct investment in natural gas. For example, an investment made in USNG units on June 30, 2007 and held to September 30, 2007 decreased, based upon the changes in the closing market prices for USNG units on those days, by -12.14%, while the spot price of natural gas for immediate delivery during the same period increased 1.4% (note: this comparison ignores the potential costs associated with physically owning and storing natural gas). This period of contango did not meaningfully impact USNG's investment objective of having percentage changes in its per unit NAV track percentage changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract since the impact of backwardation and contango tended to equally impact the percentage changes in price of both USNG's units and the Benchmark Futures Contract. It is impossible to predict with any degree of certainty whether backwardation or contango will occur in the future. It is likely that both conditions will occur during different periods and, because of the seasonal nature of natural gas demand, both may occur within a single year's time.

## **Natural Gas Market**

During the third quarter of 2007, natural gas prices in the United States were impacted by several factors. At the beginning of the quarter, the amount of natural gas in storage was at higher than average levels versus the previous five years. The summer weather in the United States was moderate through much of the quarter. A major use of natural gas in summer months is the production of electricity for residential and commercial buildings. A major variable in the use of natural gas for electricity production for residential or commercial buildings is weather as it impacts the use of air conditioners and thus can cause wide swings in peak demand for electricity. The mild weather had the effect of reducing the rate at which the storage levels of natural gas fell. During the entire quarter, the seasonally adjusted inventory levels of stored natural gas remained above five-year averages. As a result of all the factors mentioned above, the natural gas market in the United States remained reasonably well supplied. The price of natural gas remained fairly range-bound for most of the quarter in the \$6.00 to \$7.00 level. Prices ranged from a low of \$5.50 to a high of \$7.30 per MMBtu with an average price of \$6.41. However, prices rose at the very end of the quarter. This may have been due to concerns about the hurricane season and its impact on the Gulf of Mexico production sites, or a reaction to the rapidly rising price of crude oil. In addition, the end of the third quarter brings the natural gas market closer to the start of winter, a time when demand for natural gas is very high.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

Preparation of the condensed financial statements and related disclosures in compliance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the application of appropriate accounting rules and guidance, as well as the use of estimates. USNG's application of these policies involves judgments and actual results may differ from the estimates used.



The General Partner has evaluated the nature and types of estimates that it makes in preparing USNG's condensed financial statements and related disclosures and has determined that the valuation of its investments which are not traded on a United States or internationally recognized futures exchange (such as forward contracts and over-the-counter contracts) involves a critical accounting policy. This is not currently applicable as USNG did not invest in futures contracts other than those traded on a United States futures exchange during the time period covered by this report. To the extent USNG makes such investments in the future, the values used by USNG for its forward contracts will be provided by its commodity broker who values over-the-counter contracts based on the present value of estimated future cash flows that would be received from or paid to a third party in settlement of these derivative contracts prior to their delivery date and valued on a daily basis. In addition, USNG estimates interest income on a daily basis using prevailing interest rates earned on its cash and cash equivalents. These estimates are adjusted to the actual amount received on a monthly basis and the difference, if any, is not considered material.

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## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

USNG has not and does not anticipate making use of borrowings or other lines of credit to meet its obligations. USNG has met, and it is anticipated that USNG will continue to meet, its liquidity needs in the normal course of business from the proceeds of the sale of its investments, or from the Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents that it intends to hold at all times. USNG's liquidity needs include: redeeming units, providing margin deposits for its existing natural gas futures contracts or the purchase of additional natural gas futures contracts and posting collateral for its over-the-counter contracts and payment of its expenses, summarized below under Contractual Obligations.

USNG currently generates cash primarily from (i) the sale of Creation Baskets and (ii) interest earned on Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents. USNG has allocated substantially all of its net assets to trading in natural gas interests. A significant portion of its NAV was held in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents that was used as margin for USNG's trading in natural gas interests. The percentage that Treasuries will bear to the total net assets will vary from period to period as the market values of the natural gas interests change. The balance of the net assets is held in USNG's Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments trading account. Interest earned on USNG's interest bearing-funds is paid to USNG.

USNG's investment in natural gas interests may be subject to periods of illiquidity because of market conditions, regulatory considerations and other reasons. For example, commodity exchanges limit the fluctuations in Futures Contracts prices during a single day by regulations referred to as daily limits. During a single day, no trades may be executed at prices beyond the daily limit. Once the price of a natural gas futures contract has increased or decreased by an amount equal to the daily limit, positions in the contracts can neither be taken nor liquidated unless the traders are willing to effect trades at or within the specified daily limit. Such market conditions could prevent USNG from promptly liquidating its positions in Futures Contracts. For the period from July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007, USNG was not forced to purchase or liquidate any of its positions while daily limits were in effect; however, USNG cannot predict whether such an event may occur in the future.

To date, all of USNG's expenses, including its organization and offering expenses relating to the initial offering of its units, have been paid by the General Partner. Fees and expenses associated with the registration of units with the SEC subsequent to the initial offering have been borne by USNG. In addition, fees and expenses (including directors' and officers' liability insurance) of the independent directors of the General Partner, the management fee to the General Partner, brokerage fees and licensing fees will be paid directly by USNG. If the General Partner and USNG are unsuccessful in raising sufficient funds to cover USNG's expenses or in locating any other source of funding, USNG will terminate and investors may lose all or part of their investment.

## Market Risk

Trading in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, such as forwards, involves USNG entering into contractual commitments to purchase or sell natural gas at a specified date in the future. The gross or face amount of the contracts will significantly exceed USNG's future cash requirements since USNG intends to close out its open positions prior to settlement. As a result, USNG is generally only subject to the risk of loss arising from the change in value of the contracts. USNG considers the "fair value" of its derivative instruments to be the unrealized gain or loss on the contracts. The market risk associated with USNG's commitments to purchase natural gas is limited to the gross face amount of the contracts held. However, should USNG enter into a contractual commitment to sell natural gas, it would be required to make delivery of the natural gas at the contract price, repurchase the contract at prevailing prices or settle in cash. Since there are no limits on the future price of natural gas, the market risk to USNG could be unlimited.

USNG's exposure to market risk depends on a number of factors, including the markets for natural gas, the volatility of interest rates and foreign exchange rates, the liquidity of the Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments markets and the relationships among the contracts held by USNG. The limited experience that USNG has had in utilizing its model to trade in natural gas interests in a manner intended to track the spot price of natural gas, as well as drastic market occurrences, could ultimately lead to the loss of all or substantially all of an investor's capital.

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## Credit Risk

When USNG enters into Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments, it is exposed to the credit risk that its counterparty will not be able to meet its obligations. The counterparty for the Futures Contracts traded on the NYMEX and on most other foreign futures exchanges is the clearinghouse associated with the particular exchange. In general, clearinghouses are backed by their members who may be required to share in the financial burden resulting from the nonperformance of one of their members and, therefore, this additional member support should significantly reduce credit risk. Some foreign exchanges are not backed by their clearinghouse members but may be backed by a consortium of banks or other financial institutions.

There can be no assurance that any counterparty, clearinghouse, or their members or their financial backers will satisfy their obligations to USNG in such circumstances. The General Partner attempts to manage the credit risk of USNG by following various trading limitations and policies. In particular, USNG posts margin and/or holds liquid assets that are approximately equal to the face amount of its obligations to counterparties under the Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments it holds. The General Partner has implemented procedures that include, but are not limited to, executing and clearing trades only with creditworthy parties and/or requiring the posting of collateral or margin by such parties for the benefit of USNG to limit its credit exposure. The Futures Commission

Merchant or any other broker that may be retained by USNG in the future, when acting as USNG's futures commission merchant in accepting orders to purchase or sell Futures Contracts on United States exchanges, is required by U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) regulations to separately account for and segregate as belonging to USNG, all assets of USNG relating to domestic Futures Contracts trading. A futures commission merchant is not allowed to commingle USNG's assets with their other assets. In addition, the CFTC requires commodity brokers to hold in a secure account the USNG assets related to foreign Futures Contract trading.

As of September 30, 2007, USNG had deposits in domestic and foreign financial institutions in the amount of \$267,221,027. This amount is subject to loss should these institutions cease operations.

## Off Balance Sheet Financing

As of September 30, 2007, USNG has no loan guarantee, credit support or other off-balance sheet arrangements of any kind other than agreements entered into in the normal course of business, which may include indemnification provisions relating to certain risks that service providers undertake in performing services which are in the best interests of USNG. While USNG's exposure under these indemnification provisions cannot be estimated, they are not expected to have a material impact on USNG's financial position.

## Redemption Basket Obligation

In order to meet its investment objective and pay its contractual obligations described below, USNG requires liquidity to redeem units, which redemptions must be in blocks of 100,000 units called Redemption Baskets. USNG has to date satisfied this obligation by paying from the cash or cash equivalents it holds or through the sale of its Treasuries in an amount proportionate to the number of units being redeemed.

## Contractual Obligations

USNG's primary contractual obligations are with the General Partner. In return for its services, the General Partner is entitled to a management fee calculated as a fixed percentage of USNG's NAV, currently 0.60% for a NAV of \$1 billion or less, and thereafter 0.50% for a NAV above \$1 billion. The General Partner agreed to pay the start-up costs associated with the formation of USNG, primarily its legal, accounting and other costs in connection with the General Partner's contracts with service providers, its registration with the SEC and other regulatory filings in connection with the initial public offering of the units, and the registration fees paid to the SEC, the NASD and the AMEX in connection with such offering.

The General Partner pays the fees of the custodian and transfer agent, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as well as Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.'s fees for performing administrative services, including in connection with the preparation of USNG's condensed financial statements and its SEC and CFTC reports. The General Partner also pays the fees of USNG's accountants in connection with USNG's SEC and CFTC reporting, as well as those of its marketing agent. The General Partner and USNG also have entered into a licensing agreement with the NYMEX pursuant to which USNG and the affiliated funds managed by the General Partner pay a licensing fee to the NYMEX.

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In addition to the General Partner's management fee, USNG pays its brokerage fees (including fees to a futures commission merchant), over-the-counter dealer spreads, any licensing fees for the use of intellectual property, registration and, subsequent to the initial offering, the fees paid to the SEC, FINRA or any other regulatory agency in connection with the offer and sale of the units, as well as the legal, printing, accounting and other expenses associated therewith, and extraordinary expenses. The latter are expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of USNG's business, including expenses relating to the indemnification of any person against liabilities and obligations to the extent permitted by law and under the LP Agreement, the bringing or defending of actions in law or in equity or otherwise conducting litigation and incurring legal expenses and the settlement of claims and litigation. Commission payments to a futures commission merchant are on a contract-by-contract, or round turn, basis. USNG also pays a portion of the fees and expenses of the independent directors of the General Partner. See Note 3 to the Notes to Condensed Financial Statements (Unaudited).

The parties cannot anticipate the amount of payments that will be required under these arrangements for future periods, as USNG's NAVs and trading levels to meet its investment objectives will not be known until a future date. These agreements are effective for a specific term agreed upon by the parties and have an option to renew, or, in some cases, are in effect for the duration of USNG's existence. Either party may terminate these agreements earlier for certain reasons described in the agreements.

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## **Limited Partnership Agreement**

The following paragraphs are a summary of certain provisions of our LP Agreement. The following discussion is qualified in its entirety by reference to our LP Agreement.

### **Authority of the General Partner**

Our General Partner is generally authorized to perform all acts deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the limited partnership and to conduct our business. Our partnership existence will continue into perpetuity, until terminated in accordance with our LP Agreement. Our General Partner has a power of attorney to take certain actions, including the execution and filing of documents, on our behalf and with respect to our LP Agreement. However, our partnership agreement limits the authority of our General Partner as follows:

Other than in connection with the issuance or redemption of units, or upon termination of the partnership as contemplated by the LP Agreement, the General Partner may not sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the partnership's assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions (including by way of merger, consolidation or other combination with any other person) or approve on behalf of the partnership, the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of all of the partnership, taken as a whole, without the approval of at least a majority of the limited partners; provided, however, that this provision shall not preclude or limit the General Partner's ability to mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of the partnership's assets and shall not apply to any forced sale of any or all of the partnership's assets pursuant to the foreclosure of, or other realization upon, any such encumbrance.

The General Partner is not authorized to institute or initiate on behalf of, or otherwise cause, the partnership to (a) make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors; (b) file a voluntary bankruptcy petition; or (c) file a petition seeking for the partnership a reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under any law.

The General Partner may not, without written approval of the specific act by all of the limited partners or by other written instrument executed and delivered by all of the limited partners subsequent to the date of the LP Agreement, take any action in contravention of the LP Agreement, including, without limitation, (i) any act that would make it impossible to carry on the ordinary business of the partnership, except as otherwise provided in the LP Agreement; (ii) possess partnership property, or assign any rights in specific partnership property, for other than a partnership purpose; (iii) admit a person as a partner, except as otherwise provided in the LP Agreement; (iv) amend the LP Agreement in any manner, except as otherwise provided in the LP Agreement or applicable law; or (v) transfer its interest as General Partner of the partnership, except as otherwise provided in the LP Agreement.

In general, unless approved by a majority of the limited partners, our General Partner shall not take any action, or refuse to take any reasonable action, the effect of which would be to cause us, to the extent it would materially and adversely affect limited partners, to be taxable as a corporation or to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

## Withdrawal or Removal of Our General Partner

The General Partner shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the partnership upon the occurrence of any one of the following events:

the General Partner voluntarily withdraws from the partnership by giving written notice to the other partners;  
the General Partner transfers all of its rights as General Partner;  
the General Partner is removed;

the General Partner (A) makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors; (B) files a voluntary bankruptcy petition; (C) files a petition or answer seeking for itself a reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under any law; (D) files an

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answer or other pleading admitting or failing to contest the material allegations of a petition filed against the General Partner in a proceeding of the type described in clauses (A) (C) of this sentence; or (E) seeks, consents to or acquiesces in the appointment of a trustee, receiver or liquidator of the General Partner or of all or any substantial part of its properties;

a final and non-appealable judgment is entered by a court with appropriate jurisdiction ruling that the General Partner is bankrupt or insolvent or a final and non-appealable order for relief is entered by a court with appropriate jurisdiction against the General Partner, in each case under any federal or state bankruptcy or insolvency laws as now or hereafter in effect; or

a certificate of dissolution or its equivalent is filed for the General Partner, or 90 days expire after the date of notice to the General Partner of revocation of its charter without a reinstatement of its charter, under the laws of its state of incorporation.

The General Partner may be removed if such removal is approved by the holders of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding units (excluding for this purpose units held by the General Partner and its affiliates).

## Meetings

All acts of the limited partners should be done in accordance with the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act ( DRULPA ). Upon the written request of 20% or more in interest of the limited partners, the General Partner may,

but is not required to, call a meeting of the limited partners. Notice of such meeting shall be given within 30 days after, and the meeting shall be held within 60 days after, receipt of such request. The General Partner may also call a meeting not less than 20 and not more than 60 days prior to the meeting. Any such notice shall state briefly the purpose of the meeting, which shall be held at a reasonable time and place. Any limited partner may obtain a list of names, addresses, and interests of the limited partners upon written request to the General Partner.

## Limited Liability

Assuming that a limited partner does not take part in the control of our business, and that he otherwise acts in conformity with the provisions of our LP Agreement, his liability under Delaware law will be limited, subject to certain possible exceptions, generally to the amount of capital he is obligated to contribute to us in respect of his units or other limited partner interests plus his share of any of our undistributed profits and assets. In light of the fact that a limited partner's liability may extend beyond his capital contributions, a limited partner may lose more money than he contributed.

Under Delaware law, a limited partner might be held liable for USNG's obligations as if it were a General Partner if

the limited partner participates in the control of the partnership's business and the persons who transact business with the partnership think the limited partner is the General Partner.

Under the LP Agreement, a limited partner will not be liable for assessments in addition to its initial capital investment in any of USNG's capital securities representing limited partnership interests. However, a limited partner still may be required to repay to USNG any amounts wrongfully returned or distributed to it under some circumstances. Under Delaware law, USNG may not make a distribution to limited partners if the distribution causes USNG's liabilities (other than liabilities to partners on account of their partnership interests and nonrecourse liabilities) to exceed the fair value of USNG's assets. Delaware law provides that a limited partner who receives such a distribution and knew at the time of the distribution that the distribution violated the law will be liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution for three years from the date of the distribution.

## Fees of USNG

### Management Fees

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Assets                          | Management Fee |
| First \$1,000,000,000           | 0.60% of NAV   |
| After the first \$1,000,000,000 | 0.50% of NAV   |

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Fees are calculated on a daily basis (accrued at 1/365 of the applicable percentage of NAV on that day) and paid on a monthly basis. NAV is calculated by taking the current market value of USNG's total assets and subtracting any liabilities.

### Brokerage Fees

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Brokerage fees | 0.20 % |
|----------------|--------|

Fees are calculated on a daily basis (based on a percentage of the value of the transaction) and paid on a monthly basis. These fees, including the brokerage fee for Futures Contracts based upon the futures commission merchant's fees shown below, are estimated on an annualized percentage basis.

### Futures Commission Merchant Fee

|                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Futures Commission Merchant fee | \$4.00 per buy or sell |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|

Fees are calculated on a daily basis for each buy or sell and paid on a monthly basis. These are the bases for and not in addition to the brokerage fee for Futures Contracts included in the brokerage fees shown above.

### New York Mercantile Exchange Licensing Fee

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Assets                | Management Fee |
| First \$1,000,000,000 | 0.04% of NAV   |

After the first \$1,000,000,000

0.02% of NAV

Assets of USNG are aggregated with those of USOF. USNG pays this fee.

Fees are calculated on a daily basis (accrued at 1/365 of the applicable percentage of NAV on that day) and paid on a monthly basis.

## **The General Partner Has Conflicts of Interest**

There are present and potential future conflicts of interest in USNG's structure and operation you should consider before you purchase units. The General Partner will use this notice of conflicts as a defense against any claim or other proceeding made.

The General Partner's officers, directors and employees, do not devote their time exclusively to USNG. These persons are directors, officers or employees of other entities which may compete with USNG for their services. They could have a conflict between their responsibilities to USNG and to those other entities. The General Partner believes that it has sufficient personnel, time, and working capital to discharge its responsibilities in a fair manner and that these persons' conflicts should not impair their ability to provide services to USNG.

The General Partner and the General Partner's principals, officers, directors and employees may trade futures and related contracts for their own account. Limited partners and other unitholders are not permitted to inspect the trading records or any written policies related to such trading of the General Partner and its principals, officers, directors, and employees. A conflict of interest may exist if their trades are in the same markets and at the same time as USNG trades using the clearing broker to be used by USNG. A potential conflict also may occur when the General Partner's principals trade their accounts more aggressively or take positions in their accounts which are opposite, or ahead of, the positions taken by USNG. The General Partner has adopted a Code of Ethics to ensure that the officers, directors, and employees of the General Partner and its affiliates do not engage in trades that will harm the fund or the unitholders.

The General Partner has sole current authority to manage the investments and operations of USNG, and this may allow it to act in a way that furthers its own interests which may create a conflict with your best interests. Limited partners have limited voting control, which limits their ability to influence matters such as amendment of the LP Agreement, change in USNG's basic investment policy, dissolution of this fund, or the sale or distribution of USNG's assets.

The General Partner serves as the general partner to both USNG, USOF, USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG. The General Partner may have a conflict to the extent that its trading decisions may be influenced

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by the effect they would have on USOF. In addition, the General Partner is required to indemnify the officers and directors of USOF, if the need for indemnification arises. This potential indemnification will cause the General Partner's assets to decrease. If the General Partner's other sources of income are not sufficient to compensate for the indemnification, then the General Partner may terminate and you could lose your investment.

## **No Resolution of Conflicts Procedures**

Whenever a conflict of interest exists or arises between the General Partner on the one hand, and the partnership or any limited partner, on the other hand, any resolution or course of action by the General Partner in respect of such

conflict of interest shall be permitted and deemed approved by all partners and shall not constitute a breach of the LP Agreement or of any agreement contemplated hereby or of a duty stated or implied by law or equity, if the resolution or course of action is, or by operation of the LP Agreement is deemed to be, fair and reasonable to the partnership. If a dispute arises, under the LP Agreement it will be resolved either through negotiations with the General Partner or by courts located in the State of Delaware.

Under the LP Agreement, any resolution is deemed to be fair and reasonable to the partnership if the resolution is:

approved by the audit committee, although no party is obligated to seek approval and the General Partner may adopt a resolution or course of action that has not received approval;

on terms no less favorable to the limited partners than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or

fair to the limited partners, taking into account the totality of the relationships of the parties involved including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to the limited partners.

The previous risk factors and conflicts of interest are complete as of the date of this prospectus; however, additional risks and conflicts may occur which are not presently foreseen by the General Partner. You may not construe this Prospectus as legal or tax advice. Before making an investment in this fund, you should read this entire Prospectus, including the LP Agreement (Appendix B). You should also consult with your personal legal, tax, and other professional advisors.

## Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

The General Partner has employed Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP to prepare this Prospectus. Neither the law firm nor any other expert hired by USNG to give advice on the preparation of this offering document has been hired on a contingent fee basis. Nor do any of them have any present or future expectation of interest in the General Partner, Marketing Agent, Authorized Purchasers, Custodian, Administrator or other service providers to USNG.

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## **The General Partner's Responsibility and Remedies**

Pursuant to the DRULPA, parties may contractually modify or even eliminate fiduciary duties in a partnership agreement to the limited partnership itself, or to another partner or person otherwise bound by the partnership agreement. Parties may not, however, eliminate the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. Where parties unambiguously provide for fiduciary duties in a partnership agreement, those expressed duties become the standard courts will use to determine whether such duties were breached. For this reason, USNG's limited partnership agreement does not explicitly provide for any fiduciary duties so that common law fiduciary duty principles will apply to measure the General Partner's conduct.

A prospective investor should be aware that the General Partner has a responsibility to limited partners of USNG to exercise good faith and fairness in all dealings. The fiduciary responsibility of a general partner to limited partners is a developing and changing area of the law and limited partners who have questions concerning the duties of the General Partner should consult with their counsel. In the event that a limited partner of USNG believes that the General Partner has violated its fiduciary duty to the limited partners, he may seek legal relief individually or on behalf of USNG under applicable laws, including under DRULPA and under commodities laws, to recover damages from or require an accounting by the General Partner. Limited partners may also have the right, subject to applicable procedural and jurisdictional requirements, to bring class actions in federal court to enforce their rights under the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the SEC. Limited partners who have



suffered losses in connection with the purchase or sale of the units may be able to recover such losses from the General Partner where the losses result from a violation by the General Partner of the federal securities laws. State securities laws may also provide certain remedies to limited partners. Limited partners should be aware that performance by the General Partner of its fiduciary duty to is measured by the terms of the LP Agreement as well as applicable law. Limited partners are afforded certain rights to institute reparations proceedings under the Commodity Exchange Act for violations of the Commodity Exchange Act or of any rule, regulation or order of the CFTC by the General Partner.

## Liability and Indemnification

Under the LP Agreement, neither a General Partner nor any employee or other agent of USNG nor any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of a General Partner (a Protected Person ) shall be liable to any partner or USNG for any mistake of judgment or for any action or inaction taken, nor for any losses due to any mistake of judgment or to any action or inaction or to the negligence, dishonesty or bad faith of any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee, agent of USNG or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of such General Partner, provided that such officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee, or agent of the partner or officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of such General Partner was selected, engaged or retained by such General Partner with reasonable care, except with respect to any matter as to which such General Partner shall have been finally adjudicated in any action, suit or other proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such Protected Person's actions was in the best interests of USNG and except that no Protected Person shall be relieved of any liability to which such Protected Person would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of the Protected Person's office.

USNG shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, but only out of USNG assets, indemnify and hold harmless a General Partner and each officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent thereof (including persons who serve at USNG's request as directors, officers or trustees of another organization in which USNG has an interest as a unitholder, creditor or otherwise) and their respective Legal Representatives and successors (hereinafter referred to as a Covered Person against all liabilities and expenses, including but not limited to amounts paid in satisfaction of judgments, in compromise or as fines and penalties, and counsel fees reasonably incurred by any Covered Person in connection with the defense or disposition of any action, suit or other proceedings, whether civil or criminal, before any court or administrative or legislative body, in which such Covered Person may be or may have been involved as a party or otherwise or with which such person may be or may have been threatened, while in office or thereafter, by reason of an alleged act or omission as a General Partner or director or officer thereof, or by reason of its being or having been such a General Partner, director or officer, except with respect to any matter as to which such Covered Person shall have been finally adjudicated in any such action, suit or other proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable believe that such Covered Person's action was in the best interest of USNG, and except that no Covered

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Person shall be indemnified against any liability to USNG or limited partners to which such Covered Person would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such Covered Person's office. Expenses, including counsel fees so incurred by any such Covered Person, may be paid from time to time by USNG in advance of the final disposition of any such action, suit or proceeding on the condition that the amounts so paid shall be repaid to USNG if it is ultimately determined that the indemnification of such expenses is not authorized hereunder.

## **Provisions of Law**

According to applicable law, indemnification of the General Partner is payable only if the General Partner determined, in good faith, that the act, omission or conduct that gave rise to the claim for indemnification was in the best interest of USNG and the act, omission or activity that was the basis for such loss, liability, damage, cost or expense was not the result of negligence or misconduct and such liability or loss was not the result of negligence or misconduct by the General Partner, and such indemnification or agreement to hold harmless is recoverable only out of the assets of USNG and not from the members, individually.

## **Provisions of Federal and State Securities Laws**

This offering is made pursuant to federal and state securities laws. If any indemnification of the General Partner arises out of an alleged violation of such laws, it is subject to certain legal conditions.

Those conditions require that no indemnification may be made in respect of any losses, liabilities or expenses arising from or out of an alleged violation of federal or state securities laws unless: there has been a successful adjudication on the merits of each count involving alleged securities law violations as to the General Partner or other particular indemnitee, or such claim has been dismissed with prejudice on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction as to the General Partner or other particular indemnitee, or a court of competent jurisdiction approves a settlement of the claims against the General Partner or other agent of USNG and finds that indemnification of the settlement and related costs should be made, provided, before seeking such approval, the General Partner or other indemnitee must apprise the court of the position held by regulatory agencies against such indemnification. These agencies are the SEC and the securities administrator of the State or States in which the plaintiffs claim they were offered or sold membership interests.

## **Provisions of the Securities Act of 1933 and NASAA Guidelines**

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to the General Partner or its directors, officers, or persons controlling USNG, USNG has been informed that SEC and the various State administrators believe that such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and the North American Securities Administrators Association, Inc. (NASAA) commodity pool guidelines and is therefore unenforceable.

## **Books and Records**

USNG keeps its books of record and account at its office located at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502 or such office, including of an administrative agent, as it may subsequently designate upon notice. These books and records are open to inspection by any person who establishes to USNG's satisfaction that such person is a limited partner upon reasonable advance notice at all reasonable times during the usual business hours of USNG.

USNG keeps a copy of USNG's LP Agreement on file in its office which will be available for inspection on reasonable advance notice at all reasonable times during its usual business hours by any limited partner.

## **Analysis of Critical Accounting Policies**

USNG's critical accounting policies are set forth in the financial statements in this Prospectus prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require the use of certain accounting policies that affect the amounts reported in these financial statements, including the following: USNG trades are accounted for on a trade-date basis and marked to market on a daily basis. The difference between their cost

and market value is recorded as change in unrealized profit/loss for open (unrealized) contracts, and recorded as realized profit/loss when open positions are closed out; the sum of

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these amounts constitutes USNG's trading revenues. Earned interest income revenue, as well as management fee, and brokerage fee expenses of USNG are recorded on an accrual basis. The General Partner believes that all relevant accounting assumptions and policies have been considered.

## **Statements, Filings, and Reports**

At the end of each fiscal year, USNG will furnish to DTC Participants for distribution to each person who is a unitholder at the end of the fiscal year an annual report containing USNG's audited financial statements and other information about USNG. The General Partner is responsible for the registration and qualification of the units under the federal securities laws and federal commodities laws and any other securities and blue sky laws of the United States or any other jurisdiction as the General Partner may select. The General Partner is responsible for preparing all reports required by the SEC and the CFTC, but has entered into an agreement with the Administrator to prepare these reports as required by the SEC, CFTC and the American Stock Exchange on USNG's behalf.

The financial statements of USNG are audited, as required by law and as may be directed by the General Partner, by an independent registered public accounting firm designated from time to time by the General Partner. The accountants report will be furnished by USNG to unitholders upon request. USNG makes such elections, file such tax returns, and prepare, disseminate and file such tax reports, as it is advised by its counsel or accountants are from time to time required by any applicable statute, rule or regulation.

## **Reports to Limited Partners**

In addition to periodic reports filed with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, all of which can be accessed on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) or on USNG's website at [www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com), USNG, pursuant to the LP Agreement, will provide the following reports to limited partners in the manner prescribed below:

*Annual Reports.* Within 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, the General Partner shall cause to be delivered to each limited partner who was a limited partner at any time during the fiscal year, an annual report containing the following:

- financial statements of the partnership, including, without limitation, a balance sheet as of the end of the partnership's fiscal year and statements of income, partners' equity and changes in financial position, for such fiscal year, which shall be prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America consistently applied and shall be audited by a firm of independent certified public accountants registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board,
- (ii) a general description of the activities of the partnership during the period covered by the report, and a report of any material transactions between the partnership and the General Partner or any of its affiliates,
- (iii) including fees or compensation paid by the partnership and the services performed by the General Partner or any such affiliate for such fees or compensation.

*Quarterly Reports.* Within 45 days after the end of each quarter of each fiscal year, the General Partner shall cause to be delivered to each limited partner who was a limited partner at any time during the quarter then ended, a quarterly

report containing a balance sheet and statement of income for the period covered by the report, each of which may be unaudited but shall be certified by the General Partner as fairly presenting the financial position and results of operations of the partnership during the period covered by the report. The report shall also contain a description of any material event regarding the business of the partnership during the period covered by the report.

*Monthly Reports.* Within 30 days after the after the end of each month, the General Partner shall cause to be delivered to each limited partner who was a limited partner at any time during the month then ended, a monthly report containing an account statement, which will include a statement of income (loss) and a statement of changes in NAV, for the prescribed period. In addition, the account statement will disclose any material business dealings between the partnership, General Partner, commodity trading advisor (if any), futures commission merchant, or the principals thereof that previously have not been disclosed in the Prospectus or any amendment thereto, other account statements or annual reports.

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USNG provides information to its unitholders to the extent required by applicable SEC, CFTC, and American Stock Exchange requirements. An issuer, such as USNG, of exchange-traded securities may not always readily know the identities of the investors who own those securities. USNG posts the same information that would otherwise be provided in USNG's reports to limited partners described above including its monthly account statements, which include, without limitation, USNG's NAV, on USNG's website [www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com).

## **Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of USNG is the calendar year. The General Partner may select an alternate fiscal year.

## **Governing Law; Consent To Delaware Jurisdiction**

The rights of the General Partner, USNG, DTC (as registered owner of USNG's global certificate for units) and the unitholders, are governed by the laws of the State of Delaware. The General Partner, USNG and DTC and, by accepting units, each DTC Participant and each unitholder, consent to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Delaware and any federal courts located in Delaware. Such consent is not required for any person to assert a claim of Delaware jurisdiction over the General Partner or USNG.

## **Legal Matters**

### **Litigation and Claims**

Within the past 5 years of the date of this Prospectus, there have been no material administrative, civil or criminal actions against the General Partner, underwriter, or any principal or affiliate of either of them. This includes any actions pending, on appeal, concluded, threatened, or otherwise known to them.

### **Legal Opinion**

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP is counsel to advise USNG and the General Partner with respect to the preparation of units being offered hereby and has passed upon the validity of the units being issued hereunder. Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP has also provided the General Partner with its opinion with respect to federal income tax matters

addressed herein.

## Experts

The General Partner engaged an independent registered public accounting firm to audit USNG. Spicer Jeffries, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has audited the financial statements of United States Natural Gas Fund, LP, at December 31, 2006 appearing in this Prospectus and in the registration statement and have been included herein in reliance upon the report of March 12, 2007 given on its authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## Privacy Policy

USNG and the General Partner collect certain nonpublic personal information about investors from the information provided by them in certain documents, as well as in the course of processing transaction requests. None of this information is disclosed except as necessary in the course of processing creations and redemptions and otherwise administering USNG and then only subject to customary undertakings of confidentiality. USNG and the General Partner do not disclose nonpublic personal information about investors to anyone, except as required by law. USNG and the General Partner restrict access to the nonpublic personal information they collect from investors to those employees who need access to this information to provide products and services to investors. USNG and the General Partner each maintain physical, electronic and procedural controls to safeguard this information. These standards are reasonably designed to (1) ensure the security and confidentiality of investors' records and information, (2) protect against any anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of investors' records and information, and (3) protect against unauthorized access to or use of investors' records or information that could result in substantial harm or inconvenience to any investor.

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## U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

The following discussion summarizes the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of units in USNG, and the U.S. federal income tax treatment of USNG, as of the date hereof. This discussion is applicable to a beneficial owner of units who purchases units in the offering to which this Prospectus relates, including a beneficial owner who purchases units from an Authorized Purchaser. Except where noted otherwise, it deals only with units held as capital assets and does not deal with special situations, such as those of dealers in securities or currencies, financial institutions, tax-exempt entities, insurance companies, persons holding units as a part of a position in a straddle or as part of a hedging, conversion or other integrated transaction for federal income tax purposes, traders in securities or commodities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting, or holders of units whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar. Furthermore, the discussion below is based upon the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and regulations (Treasury Regulations), rulings and judicial decisions thereunder as of the date hereof, and such authorities may be repealed, revoked or modified so as to result in U.S. federal income tax consequences different from those discussed below.

Persons considering the purchase, ownership or disposition of units should consult their own tax advisors concerning the United States federal income tax consequences in light of their particular situations as well as any consequences arising under the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction. As used herein, a U.S. unitholder of a unit means a beneficial owner of a unit that is, for United States federal income tax purposes, (i) a citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation or partnership created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision

thereof, (iii) an estate the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source or (iv) a trust (X) that is subject to the supervision of a court within the United States and the control of one or more United States persons as described in section 7701(a)(30) of the Code or (Y) that has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury Regulations to be treated as a United States person. A Non-U.S. unitholder is a holder that is not a U.S. unitholder. If a partnership holds our units, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership holding our units, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences.

The General Partner of USNG has received the opinion of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, counsel to USNG, that the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to USNG and to U.S. unitholders and Non-U.S. unitholders will be as described below. In rendering its opinion, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP has relied on the facts described in this Prospectus as well as certain factual representations made by USNG and the General Partner. The opinion of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP is not binding on the Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ), and as a result, the IRS may not agree with the tax positions taken by USNG. If challenged by the IRS, USNG's tax positions might not be sustained by the courts. No ruling has been requested from the IRS with respect to any matter affecting USNG or prospective investors.

EACH PROSPECTIVE INVESTOR IS ADVISED TO CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR AS TO HOW THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF AN INVESTMENT IN USNG APPLY TO YOU AND AS TO HOW THE APPLICABLE STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN TAXES APPLY TO YOU.

## **Tax Status of USNG**

USNG is organized and operated as a limited partnership in accordance with the provisions of the LP Agreement and applicable state law. Under the Code, an entity classified as a partnership that is deemed to be a publicly traded partnership is generally taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. The Code provides an exception to this general rule for a publicly traded partnership whose gross income for each taxable year of its existence consists of at least 90% qualifying income ( qualifying income exception ). For this purpose, section 7704 defines qualifying income as including, in pertinent part, interest (other than from a financial business), dividends and gains from the sale or disposition of capital assets held for the production of interest or dividends. In addition, in the case of a partnership a principal activity of which is the buying and selling of commodities (other than as inventory) or of futures, forwards and options with respect to commodities, qualifying income includes income and gains from such commodities and futures, forwards and options with respect to commodities. USNG and the General Partner have represented the following to Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP:

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At least 90% of USNG's gross income for each taxable year will constitute qualifying income within the meaning of Code section 7704 (as described above);

USNG is organized and operated in accordance with its governing agreements and applicable law; USNG has not elected, and will not elect, to be classified as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Based in part on these representations, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP is of the opinion that USNG classifies as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and that it is not taxable as a corporation for such purposes.

If USNG failed to satisfy the qualifying income exception in any year, other than a failure that is determined by the IRS to be inadvertent and that is cured within a reasonable time after discovery, USNG would be taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes and would pay federal income tax on its income at regular corporate rates. In that event, unitholders would not report their share of USNG's income or loss on their returns. In addition,

distributions to unitholders would be treated as dividends to the extent of USNG's current and accumulated earnings and profits. To the extent a distribution exceeded USNG's earnings and profits, the distribution would be treated as a return of capital to the extent of a unitholder's basis in its units, and thereafter as gain from the sale of units.

Accordingly, if USNG were to be taxable as a corporation, it would likely have a material adverse effect on the economic return from an investment in USNG and on the value of the units.

The remainder of this summary assumes that USNG is classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and that it is not taxable as a corporation.

## U.S. Unitholders

### Tax Consequences of Ownership of Units

*Taxation of USNG's Income.* No U.S. federal income tax is paid by USNG on its income. Instead, USNG files annual information returns, and each U.S. unitholder is required to report on its U.S. federal income tax return its allocable share of the income, gain, loss and deduction of USNG. For example, unitholders must take into account their share of ordinary income realized by USNG from accruals of interest on Treasuries and other investments, and their share of gain from Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments. These items must be reported without regard to the amount (if any) of cash or property the unitholder receives as a distribution from USNG during the taxable year. Consequently, a unitholder may be allocated income or gain by USNG but receive no cash distribution with which to pay its tax liability resulting from the allocation, or may receive a distribution that is insufficient to pay such liability. Because the General Partner currently does not intend to make distributions, it is likely that in any year USNG realizes net income and/or gain that a U.S. unitholder will be required to pay taxes on its allocable share of such income or gain from sources other than USNG distributions.

*Allocations of USNG's Profit and Loss.* Under Code section 704, the determination of a partner's distributive share of any item of income, gain, loss, deduction or credit is governed by the applicable organizational document unless the allocation provided by such document lacks substantial economic effect. An allocation that lacks substantial economic effect nonetheless will be respected if it is in accordance with the partners' interests in the partnership, determined by taking into account all facts and circumstances relating to the economic arrangements among the partners.

In general, USNG applies a monthly closing-of-the-books convention in determining allocations of economic profit or loss to unitholders. Income, gain, loss and deduction are determined on a monthly mark-to-market basis, taking into account our accrued income and deductions and realized and unrealized gains and losses for the month. These items are allocated among the holders of units in proportion to the number of units owned by them as of the close of business on the last business day of the month. Items of taxable income, deduction, gain, loss and credit recognized by USNG for federal income tax purposes for any taxable year are allocated among holders in a manner that equitably reflects the allocation of economic profit or loss. USNG makes the election permitted by section 754 of the Code, which election is irrevocable without the consent of the Service. The effect of this election is that when a secondary market sale of our units occur, we adjust the purchaser's proportionate share of the tax basis of our assets to fair market value, as reflected in

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the price paid for the units, as if the purchaser had directly acquired an interest in our assets. The section 754 election is intended to eliminate disparities between a partner's basis in its partnership interest and its share of the tax bases of the partnership's assets, so that the partner's allocable share of taxable gain or loss on a disposition of an asset will correspond to its share of the appreciation or depreciation in the value of the asset since it acquired its interest.

Depending on the price paid for units and the tax bases of USNG's assets at the time of the purchase, the effect of the section 754 election on a purchaser of units may be favorable or unfavorable.

USNG applies certain assumptions and conventions in determining and allocating items for tax purposes in order to reduce the complexity and costs of administration. The General Partner believes that application of these assumptions and conventions is consistent with the intent of the partnership provisions of the Code, and that the resulting allocations have substantial economic effect or otherwise are respected as being in accordance with unitholders' interests in USNG for federal income tax purposes. However, the Code and Treasury Regulations do not expressly permit adoption of these assumptions and conventions, and Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP is therefore unable to opine on the validity of our allocation method. It is possible that the IRS could successfully challenge this method and require a unitholder to report a greater or lesser share of items of income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit than if our method were respected. The General Partner is authorized to revise our allocation method to conform to any method permitted under future Treasury Regulations.

The assumptions and conventions used in making tax allocations may cause a unitholder to be allocated more or less income or loss for federal income tax purposes than its proportionate share of the economic income or loss realized by USNG during the period it held its units. This mismatch between taxable and economic income or loss in some cases may be temporary, reversing itself in a later year when the units are sold, but could be permanent. For example, a unitholder could be allocated income accruing before it purchased its units, resulting in an increase in the basis of the units (see *Tax basis in units*, below). On a subsequent disposition of the units, the additional basis might produce a capital loss the deduction of which may be limited (see *Limitations on Deductibility of Losses and Certain Expenses*, below).

*Mark to Market of Certain Exchange-Traded Contracts.* For federal income tax purposes, USNG generally is required to use a mark-to-market method of accounting under which unrealized gains and losses on instruments constituting section 1256 contracts are recognized currently. A section 1256 contract is defined as: (1) a futures contract that is traded on or subject to the rules of a national securities exchange which is registered with the SEC, a domestic board of trade designated as a contract market by the CFTC, or any other board of trade or exchange designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, and with respect to which the amount required to be deposited and the amount that may be withdrawn depends on a system of marking to market; (2) a forward contract on exchange-traded foreign currencies, where the contracts are traded in the interbank market; (3) a non-equity option traded on or subject to the rules of a qualified board or exchange; (4) a dealer equity option; or (5) a dealer securities futures contract.

Under these rules, section 1256 contracts held by USNG at the end of each taxable year, including for example Futures Contracts and options on Futures Contracts traded on a U.S. exchange or board of trade or certain foreign exchanges, are treated as if they were sold by USNG for their fair market value on the last business day of the taxable year. A unitholder's distributive share of USNG's net gain or loss with respect to each section 1256 contract generally is treated as long-term capital gain or loss to the extent of 60 percent thereof, and as short-term capital gain or loss to the extent of 40 percent thereof, without regard to the actual holding period.

*Limitations on Deductibility of Losses and Certain Expenses.* A number of different provisions of the Code may defer or disallow the deduction of losses or expenses allocated to you by USNG, including but not limited to those described below.

A unitholder's deduction of its allocable share of any loss of USNG will be limited to the lesser of (1) the tax basis in its units or (2) in the case of a unitholder that is an individual or a closely held corporation, the amount which the unitholder is considered to have at risk with respect to our activities. In general, the amount at risk will be your invested capital plus your share of any recourse debt of USNG for which you



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are liable. Losses in excess of the amount at risk must be deferred until years in which USNG generates additional taxable income against which to offset such carryover losses or until additional capital is placed at risk.

Noncorporate taxpayers are permitted to deduct capital losses only to the extent of their capital gains for the taxable year plus \$3,000 of other income. Unused capital losses can be carried forward and used to offset capital gains in future years. In addition, a noncorporate taxpayer may elect to carry back net losses on section 1256 contracts to each of the three preceding years and use them to offset section 1256 contract gains in those years, subject to certain limitations. Corporate taxpayers generally may deduct capital losses only to the extent of capital gains, subject to special carryback and carryforward rules.

Otherwise deductible expenses incurred by noncorporate taxpayers constituting miscellaneous itemized deductions, generally including investment-related expenses (other than interest and certain other specified expenses), are deductible only to the extent they exceed 2 percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income for the year. Although the matter is not free from doubt, we believe management fees we pay to the General Partner and other expenses we incur constitute investment-related expenses subject to the miscellaneous itemized deduction limitation, rather than expenses incurred in connection with a trade or business.

Noncorporate unitholders generally may deduct investment interest expense only to the extent of their net investment income. Investment interest expense of a unitholder will generally include any interest accrued by USNG and any interest paid or accrued on direct borrowings by a unitholder to purchase or carry its units, such as interest with respect to a margin account. Net investment income generally includes gross income from property held for investment (including portfolio income under the passive loss rules but not, absent an election, long-term capital gains or certain qualifying dividend income) less deductible expenses other than interest directly connected with the production of investment income.

To the extent that we allocate losses or expenses to you that must be deferred or disallowed as a result of these or other limitations in the Code, you may be taxed on income in excess of your economic income or distributions (if any) on your units. As one example, you could be allocated and required to pay tax on your share of interest income accrued by USNG for a particular taxable year, and in the same year allocated a share of a capital loss that you cannot deduct currently because you have insufficient capital gains against which to offset the loss. As another example, you could be allocated and required to pay tax on your share of interest income and capital gain for a year, but be unable to deduct some or all of your share of management fees and/or margin account interest incurred by you with respect to your units. Unitholders are urged to consult their own professional tax advisors regarding the effect of limitations under the Code on your ability to deduct your allocable share of USNG's losses and expenses.

### **Tax Basis of Units**

A unitholder's tax basis in its units is important in determining (1) the amount of taxable gain it will realize on the sale or other disposition of its units, (2) the amount of non-taxable distributions that it may receive from USNG and (3) its ability to utilize its distributive share of any losses of USNG on its tax return. A unitholder's initial tax basis of its units will equal its cost for the units plus its share of USNG's liabilities (if any) at the time of purchase. In general, a unitholder's share of those liabilities will equal the sum of (i) the entire amount of any otherwise nonrecourse liability of USNG as to which the unitholder or an affiliate is the creditor (a partner nonrecourse liability) and (ii) a *pro rata* share of any nonrecourse liabilities of USNG that are not partner nonrecourse liabilities as to any unitholder.

A unitholder's tax basis in its units generally will be (1) increased by (a) its allocable share of USNG's taxable income and gain and (b) any additional contributions by the unitholder to USNG and (2) decreased (but not below zero) by (a) its allocable share of USNG's tax deductions and losses and (b) any distributions by USNG to the unitholder. For this purpose, an increase in a unitholder's share of USNG's liabilities will be treated as a contribution of cash by the

unitholder to USNG and a decrease in that share will be treated as a distribution of cash by USNG to the unitholder.

Pursuant to certain IRS rulings, a unitholder will be required to maintain a single, unified basis in all units that it owns. As a result, when a unitholder that acquired its units at different prices sells less than all of its units, such unitholder will not be entitled to specify particular

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units (e.g., those with a higher basis) as having been sold. Rather, it must determine its gain or loss on the sale by using an equitable apportionment method to allocate a portion of its unified basis in its units to the units sold.

*Treatment of Fund Distributions.* If USNG makes non-liquidating distributions to unitholders, such distributions generally will not be taxable to the unitholders for federal income tax purposes except to the extent that the sum of (i) the amount of cash and (ii) the fair market value of marketable securities distributed exceeds the unitholder's adjusted basis of its interest in USNG immediately before the distribution. Any cash distributions in excess of a unitholder's tax basis generally will be treated as gain from the sale or exchange of units.

*Constructive Termination of the Partnership.* We will be considered to have been terminated for tax purposes if there is a sale or exchange of 50 percent or more of the total interests in our units within a 12-month period. A termination would result in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders. In the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of our taxable year may result in more than 12 months of our taxable income or loss being includable in its taxable income for the year of termination. We would be required to make new tax elections after a termination. A termination could result in tax penalties if we were unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination.

## **Tax Consequences of Disposition of Units**

If a unitholder sells its units, it will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and its adjusted tax basis for the units sold. A unitholder's amount realized will be the sum of the cash or the fair market value of other property received plus its share of any USNG debt outstanding.

Gain or loss recognized by a unitholder on the sale or exchange of units held for more than one year will generally be taxable as long-term capital gain or loss; otherwise, such gain or loss will generally be taxable as short-term capital gain or loss. A special election is available under the Treasury Regulations that will allow unitholders to identify and use the actual holding periods for the units sold for purposes of determining whether the gain or loss recognized on a sale of units will give rise to long-term or short-term capital gain or loss. It is expected that most unitholders will be eligible to elect, and generally will elect, to identify and use the actual holding period for units sold. If a unitholder fails to make the election or is not able to identify the holding periods of the units sold, the unitholder will have a split holding period in the units sold. Under such circumstances, a unitholder will be required to determine its holding period in the units sold by first determining the portion of its entire interest in USNG that would give rise to long-term capital gain or loss if its entire interest were sold and the portion that would give rise to short-term capital gain or loss if the entire interest were sold. The unitholder would then treat each unit sold as giving rise to long-term capital gain or loss and short-term capital gain or loss in the same proportions as if it had sold its entire interest in USNG.

Under Section 751 of the Code, a portion of a unitholder's gain or loss from the sale of units (regardless of the holding period for such units), will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss to the extent attributable to unrealized receivables or inventory owned by USNG. The term unrealized receivables includes, among other things, market discount bonds and short-term debt instruments to the extent such items would give rise to ordinary income if sold by USNG.

If some or all of your units are lent by your broker or other agent to a third party for example, for use by the third party in covering a short sale you may be considered as having made a taxable disposition of the loaned units, in which case

you may recognize taxable gain or loss to the same extent as if you had sold the units for cash; any of USNG's income, gain, loss or deduction allocable to those units during the period of the loan will not be reportable by you for tax purposes; and

any distributions you receive with respect to the units will be fully taxable, most likely as ordinary income.

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Unitholders desiring to avoid these and other possible consequences of a deemed disposition of their units should consider modifying any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit the lending of their units.

### **Other Tax Matters**

*Information Reporting.* We report tax information to the beneficial owners of units. Unitholders who have become additional limited partners are treated as partners for federal income tax purposes. The IRS has ruled that assignees of partnership interests who have not been admitted to a partnership as partners but who have the capacity to exercise substantial dominion and control over the assigned partnership interests will be considered partners for federal income tax purposes. On the basis of such ruling, except as otherwise provided herein, we treat the following persons as partners for federal income tax purposes: (1) assignees of units who are pending admission as limited partners, and (2) unitholders whose units are held in street name or by another nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their units. USNG will furnish unitholders each year with tax information on IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065), which will be used by the unitholders in completing their tax returns.

Persons who hold an interest in USNG as a nominee for another person are required to furnish to us the following information: (1) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee; (2) whether the beneficial owner is (a) a person that is not a U.S. person, (b) a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly-owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing, or (c) a tax-exempt entity; (3) the amount and description of units acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and (4) certain information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales. Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are U.S. persons and certain information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of \$50 per failure, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended for failure to report such information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

*Partnership Audit Procedures.* The IRS may audit the federal income tax returns filed by USNG. Adjustments resulting from any such audit may require each unitholder to adjust a prior year's tax liability and could result in an audit of the unitholder's own return. Any audit of a unitholder's return could result in adjustments of non-partnership items as well as USNG items. Partnerships are generally treated as separate entities for purposes of federal tax audits, judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS, and tax settlement proceedings. The tax treatment of partnership items of income, gain, loss and deduction are determined at the partnership level in a unified partnership proceeding rather than in separate proceedings with the unitholders. The Code provides for one unitholder to be designated as the tax matters partner and represent the partnership purposes of these proceedings. The LP Agreement appoints the General Partner as the tax matters partner of USNG.

*Tax Shelter Disclosure Rules.* In certain circumstances the Code and Treasury Regulations require that the IRS be notified of taxable transactions through a disclosure statement attached to a taxpayer's United States federal income tax return. In addition, certain material advisers must maintain a list of persons participating in such transactions and furnish the list to the IRS upon written request. These disclosure rules may apply to transactions irrespective of whether they are structured to achieve particular tax benefits. They could require disclosure by USNG or unitholders (1) if a unitholder incurs a loss in excess a specified threshold from a sale or redemption of its units, (2) if USNG engages in transactions producing differences between its taxable income and its income for financial reporting purposes, or (3) possibly in other circumstances. While these rules generally do not require disclosure of a loss recognized on the disposition of an asset in which the taxpayer has a qualifying basis (generally a basis equal to the amount of cash paid by the taxpayer for such asset), they apply to a loss recognized with respect to interests in a passthrough entity, such as the units, even if the taxpayer's basis in such interests is equal to the amount of cash it paid. In addition, under recently enacted legislation, significant penalties may be imposed in connection with a failure to comply with these reporting requirements. *Investors should consult their own tax advisors concerning the application of these reporting requirements to their specific situation.*

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*Tax-Exempt Organizations.* Subject to numerous exceptions, qualified retirement plans and individual retirement accounts, charitable organizations and certain other organizations that otherwise are exempt from federal income tax (collectively exempt organizations) nonetheless are subject to the tax on unrelated business taxable income (UBTI). Generally, UBTI means the gross income derived by an exempt organization from a trade or business that it regularly carries on, the conduct of which is not substantially related to the exercise or performance of its exempt purpose or function, less allowable deductions directly connected with that trade or business. If USNG were to regularly carry on (directly or indirectly) a trade or business that is unrelated with respect to an exempt organization unitholder, then in computing its UBTI, the unitholder must include its share of (1) USNG's gross income from the unrelated trade or business, whether or not distributed, and (2) USNG's allowable deductions directly connected with that gross income.

UBTI generally does not include dividends, interest, or payments with respect to securities loans and gains from the sale of property (other than property held for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business). Nonetheless, income on, and gain from the disposition of, debt-financed property is UBTI. Debt-financed property generally is income-producing property (including securities), the use of which is not substantially related to the exempt organization's tax-exempt purposes, and with respect to which there is acquisition indebtedness at any time during the taxable year (or, if the property was disposed of during the taxable year, the 12-month period ending with the disposition). Acquisition indebtedness includes debt incurred to acquire property, debt incurred before the acquisition of property if the debt would not have been incurred but for the acquisition, and debt incurred subsequent to the acquisition of property if the debt would not have been incurred but for the acquisition and at the time of acquisition the incurrence of debt was foreseeable. The portion of the income from debt-financed property attributable to acquisition indebtedness is equal to the ratio of the average outstanding principal amount of acquisition indebtedness over the average adjusted basis of the property for the year. USNG currently does not anticipate that it will borrow money to acquire investments; however, USNG cannot be certain that it will not borrow for such purpose in the future. In addition, an exempt organization unitholder that incurs acquisition indebtedness to purchase its units in USNG may have UBTI.

The federal tax rate applicable to an exempt organization unitholder on its UBTI generally will be either the corporate or trust tax rate, depending upon the unitholder's form of organization. USNG may report to each such unitholder information as to the portion, if any, of the unitholder's income and gains from USNG for any year that will be treated as UBTI; the calculation of that amount is complex, and there can be no assurance that USNG's calculation of UBTI will be accepted by the Service. An exempt organization unitholder will be required to make payments of estimated federal income tax with respect to its UBTI.

*Regulated Investment Companies.* Under recently enacted legislation, interests in and income from qualified publicly traded partnerships satisfying certain gross income tests are treated as qualifying assets and income, respectively, for purposes of determining eligibility for regulated investment company ( RIC ) status. A RIC may invest up to 25% of its assets in interests in a qualified publicly traded partnership. The determination of whether a publicly traded partnership such as USNG is a qualified publicly traded partnership is made on an annual basis. USNG expects to be a qualified publicly traded partnership in each of its taxable years. However, such qualification is not assured.

## Non-U.S. Unitholders

Generally, non-U.S. persons who derive U.S. source income or gain from investing or engaging in a U.S. business are taxable on two categories of income. The first category consists of amounts that are fixed, determinable, annual and periodic income, such as interest, dividends and rent that are not connected with the operation of a U.S. trade or business ( FDAP ). The second category is income that is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business ( ECI ). FDAP income (other than interest that is considered portfolio interest ) is generally subject to a 30 percent withholding tax, which may be reduced for certain categories of income by a treaty between the U.S. and the recipient's country of residence. In contrast, ECI is generally subject to U.S. tax on a net basis at graduated rates upon the filing of a U.S. tax return. Where a non-U.S. person has ECI as a result of an investment in a partnership, the ECI is subject to a withholding tax at a rate of 35 percent for both individual and corporate unitholders.

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*Withholding on Allocations and Distributions.* The Code provides that a non-U.S. person who is a partner in a partnership that is engaged in a U.S. trade or business during a taxable year will also be considered to be engaged in a U.S. trade or business during that year. Classifying an activity by a partnership as an investment or an operating business is a factual determination. Under certain safe harbors in the Code, an investment fund whose activities consist of trading in stocks, securities, or commodities for its own account generally will not be considered to be engaged in a U.S. trade or business unless it is a dealer in such stocks, securities, or commodities. This safe harbor applies to investments in commodities only if the commodities are of a kind customarily dealt in on an organized commodity exchange and if the transaction is of a kind customarily consummated at such place. Although the matter is not free from doubt, USNG believes that the activities directly conducted by USNG do not result in USNG being engaged in a trade or business within the United States. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS would not successfully assert that USNG's activities constitute a U.S. trade or business.

In the event that USNG's activities were considered to constitute a U.S. trade or business, USNG would be required to withhold at the highest rate specified in Code section 1 (currently 35 percent) on allocations of our income to non-U.S. unitholders. A non-U.S. unitholder with ECI will generally be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return, and the return will provide the non-U.S. unitholder with the mechanism to seek a refund of any withholding in excess of such unitholder's actual U.S. federal income tax liability. Any amount withheld by USNG will be treated as a distribution to the non-U.S. unitholder.

If USNG is not treated as engaged in a U.S. trade or business, a non-U.S. unitholder may nevertheless be treated as having FDAP income, which would be subject to a 30 percent withholding tax (possibly subject to reduction by treaty), with respect to some or all of its distributions from USNG or its allocable share of USNG income. Amounts withheld on behalf of a non-U.S. unitholder will be treated as being distributed to such unitholder.

To the extent any interest income allocated to a non-U.S. unitholder that otherwise constitutes FDAP is considered portfolio interest, neither the allocation of such interest income to the non-U.S. unitholder nor a subsequent distribution of such interest income to the non-U.S. unitholder will be subject to withholding, provided that the

non-U.S. unitholder is not otherwise engaged in a trade or business in the U.S. and provides USNG with a timely and properly completed and executed IRS Form W-8BEN or other applicable form. In general, portfolio interest is interest paid on debt obligations issued in registered form, unless the recipient owns 10 percent or more of the voting power of the issuer.

Most of USNG's interest income qualifies as portfolio interest. In order for USNG to avoid withholding on any interest income allocable to non-U.S. unitholders that would qualify as portfolio interest, it will be necessary for all non-U.S. unitholders to provide USNG with a timely and properly completed and executed Form W-8BEN (or other applicable form). If a non-U.S. unitholder fails to provide a properly completed Form W-8BEN, the General Partner may request that the non-U.S. unitholder provide, within 15 days after the request by the General Partner, a properly completed Form W-8BEN. If a non-U.S. unitholder fails to comply with this request, the units owned by such non-U.S. unitholder will be subject to redemption.

*Gain from Sale of Units.* Gain from the sale or exchange of the units may be taxable to a non-U.S. unitholder if the non-U.S. unitholder is a nonresident alien individual who is present in the U.S. for 183 days or more during the taxable year. In such case, the nonresident alien individual will be subject to a 30 percent withholding tax on the amount of such individual's gain.

*Branch Profits Tax on Corporate Non-U.S. Unitholders.* In addition to the taxes noted above, any non-U.S. unitholders that are corporations may also be subject to an additional tax, the branch profits tax, at a rate of 30 percent. The branch profits tax is imposed on a non-U.S. corporation's dividend equivalent amount, which generally consists of the corporation's after-tax earnings and profits that are effectively connected with the corporation's U.S. trade or business but are not reinvested in a U.S. business. This tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the non-U.S. unitholder is a qualified resident.

*Prospective non-U.S. unitholders should consult their tax advisor with regard to these and other issues unique to non-U.S. unitholders.*

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### **Backup Withholding**

USNG may be required to withhold U.S. federal income tax ( backup withholding ) at a rate of 28 percent from all taxable distributions payable to: (1) any unitholder who fails to furnish USNG with his, her or its correct taxpayer identification number or a certificate that the unitholder is exempt from backup withholding, and (2) any unitholder with respect to whom the IRS notifies USNG that the unitholder has failed to properly report certain interest and dividend income to the IRS and to respond to notices to that effect. Backup withholding is not an additional tax and may be returned or credited against a taxpayer's regular federal income tax liability if appropriate information is provided to the IRS.

### **Other Tax Considerations**

*In addition to federal income taxes, unitholders may be subject to other taxes, such as state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, business franchise taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which USNG does business or owns property or where the unitholders reside. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on its investment in USNG. It is each unitholder's responsibility to file the appropriate U.S. federal, state, local, and foreign tax returns. Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP has not provided an opinion concerning any*

*aspects of state, local or foreign tax or U.S. federal tax other than those U.S. federal income tax issues discussed herein.*

## **Investment By ERISA Accounts**

### **General**

Most employee benefit plans and individual retirement accounts ( IRAs ) are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ( ERISA ) or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), or both. This section discusses certain considerations that arise under ERISA and the Code that a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan as defined in ERISA or a plan as defined in Section 4975 of the Code who has investment discretion should take into account before deciding to invest the plan's assets in USNG. Employee benefit plans and plans are collectively referred to below as plans, and fiduciaries with investment discretion are referred to below as plan fiduciaries.

This summary is based on the provisions of ERISA and the Code as of the date hereof. This summary is not intended to be complete, but only to address certain questions under ERISA and the Code likely to be raised by your advisors. The summary does not include state or local law.

**Potential plan investors are urged to consult with their own professional advisors concerning the appropriateness of an investment in USNG and the manner in which units should be purchased.**

### **Special Investment Considerations**

Each plan fiduciary must consider the facts and circumstances that are relevant to an investment in USNG, including the role that an investment in USNG would play in the plan's overall investment portfolio. Each plan fiduciary, before deciding to invest in USNG, must be satisfied that the investment is prudent for the plan, that the investments of the plan are diversified so as to minimize the risk of large losses and that an investment in USNG complies with the terms of the plan.

### **USNG and Plan Assets**

A regulation issued under ERISA contains rules for determining when an investment by a plan in an equity interest of a limited partnership will result in the underlying assets of the partnership being deemed plan assets for purposes of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code. Those rules provide that assets of a limited partnership will not be plan assets of a plan that purchases an equity interest in the partnership if the equity interest purchased is a publicly-offered security. If the underlying assets of a partnership are considered to be assets of any plan for purposes of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, the operations of that partnership would be subject to and, in some cases, limited by, the provisions of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code.

- (1) freely transferable (determined based on the relevant facts and circumstances);
- (2) part of a class of securities that is widely held (meaning that the class of securities is owned by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and of each other); and  
either (a) part of a class of securities registered under Section 12(b) or 12(g) of the Exchange Act or (b) sold to the plan as part of a public offering pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 and
- (3) the class of which such security is a part is registered under the Exchange Act within 120 days (or such later time as may be allowed by the SEC) after the end of the fiscal year of the issuer in which the offering of such security occurred.

The plan asset regulations under ERISA state that the determination of whether a security is freely transferable is to be made based on all the relevant facts and circumstances. In the case of a security that is part of an offering in which the minimum investment is \$10,000 or less, the following requirements, alone or in combination, ordinarily will not affect a finding that the security is freely transferable: (1) a requirement that no transfer or assignment of the security or rights relating to the security be made that would violate any federal or state law, (2) a requirement that no transfer or assignment be made without advance written notice given to the entity that issued the security, and (3) any restriction on the substitution of assignee as a limited partner of a partnership, including a general partner consent requirement, provided that the economic benefits of ownership of the assignor may be transferred or assigned without regard to such restriction or consent (other than compliance with any of the foregoing restrictions).

The General Partner believes that the conditions described above are satisfied with respect to the units. The General Partner believes that the units therefore constitute publicly-offered securities, and the underlying assets of USNG are not considered to constitute plan assets of any plan that purchases units.

## Prohibited Transactions

ERISA and the Code generally prohibit certain transactions involving the plan and persons who have certain specified relationships to the plan.

In general, units may not be purchased with the assets of a plan if the General Partner, the clearing brokers, the trading advisors (if any), or any of their affiliates, agents or employees either:

- exercise any discretionary authority or discretionary control with respect to management of the plan;
- exercise any authority or control with respect to management or disposition of the assets of the plan;
- render investment advice for a fee or other compensation, direct or indirect, with respect to any moneys or other property of the plan;
- have any authority or responsibility to render investment advice with respect to any monies or other property of the plan; or
- have any discretionary authority or discretionary responsibility in the administration of the plan.

Also, a prohibited transaction may occur under ERISA or the Code when circumstances indicate that (1) the investment in a unit is made or retained for the purpose of avoiding application of the fiduciary standards of ERISA, (2) the investment in a unit constitutes an arrangement under which USNG is expected to engage in transactions that would otherwise be prohibited if entered into directly by the plan purchasing the unit, (3) the investing plan, by itself, has the authority or influence to cause USNG to engage in such transactions, or (4) a person who is prohibited from transacting with the investing plan may, but only with the aid of certain of its affiliates and the investing plan, cause USNG to engage in such transactions with such person.

## Special IRA Rules

IRAs are not subject to ERISA's fiduciary standards, but are subject to their own rules, including the prohibited transaction rules of Section 4975 of the Code, which generally mirror ERISA's prohibited transaction rules. For example, IRAs are subject to special custody rules and must maintain a qualifying IRA custodial arrangement separate



and distinct from USNG and its custodial arrangement. Otherwise, if a separate

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qualifying custodial arrangement is not maintained, an investment in the units will be treated as a distribution from the IRA. Second, IRAs are prohibited from investing in certain commingled investments, and the General Partner makes no representation regarding whether an investment in units is an inappropriate commingled investment for an IRA.

Third, in applying the prohibited transaction provisions of Section 4975 of the Code, in addition to the rules summarized above, the individual for whose benefit the IRA is maintained is also treated as the creator of the IRA. For example, if the owner or beneficiary of an IRA enters into any transaction, arrangement, or agreement involving the assets of his or her IRA to benefit the IRA owner or beneficiary (or his or her relatives or business affiliates) personally, or with the understanding that such benefit will occur, directly or indirectly, such transaction could give rise to a prohibited transaction that is not exempted by any available exemption. Moreover, in the case of an IRA, the consequences of a non-exempt prohibited transaction are that the IRA's assets will be treated as if they were distributed, causing immediate taxation of the assets (including any early distribution penalty tax applicable under Section 72 of the Code), in addition to any other fines or penalties that may apply.

## **Exempt Plans**

Certain employee benefit plans may be governmental plans or church plans. Governmental plans and church plans are generally not subject to ERISA, nor do the above-described prohibited transaction provisions described above apply to them. These plans are, however, subject to prohibitions against certain related-party transactions under Section 503 of the Code, which operate similar to the prohibited transaction rules described above. In addition, the fiduciary of any governmental or church plan must consider any applicable state or local laws and any restrictions and duties of common law imposed upon the plan.

No view is expressed as to whether an investment in USNG (and any continued investment in USNG), or the operation and administration of USNG, is appropriate or permissible for any governmental plan or church plan under Code Section 503, or under any state, county, local or other law relating to that type of plan.

**Allowing an investment in USNG is not to be construed as a representation by USNG, its General Partner, any trading advisor, any clearing broker, the Marketing Agent or legal counsel or other advisors to such parties or any other party that this investment meets some or all of the relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by any particular plan or that this investment is appropriate for any such particular plan. The person with investment discretion should consult with the plan's attorney and financial advisors as to the propriety of an investment in USNG in light of the circumstances of the particular plan, current tax law and ERISA.**

## **INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW**

This Prospectus contains information you should consider when making an investment decision about the units. You may rely on the information contained in this Prospectus. Neither USNG nor its General Partner has authorized any person to provide you with different information and, if anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This Prospectus is not an offer to sell the units in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale of the units is not permitted.

The information contained in this Prospectus was obtained from us and other sources believed by us to be reliable.

You should rely only on the information contained in this Prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with any information that is different. If you receive any unauthorized information, you must not rely on it. You should disregard anything we said in an earlier document that is inconsistent with what is included in this Prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement. Where the context requires, when we refer to this Prospectus, we are referring to this Prospectus and (if applicable) the relevant prospectus supplement.

You should not assume that the information in this Prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement is current as of any date other than the date on the front page of this Prospectus or the date on the front page of any applicable prospectus supplement.

We include cross references in this Prospectus to captions in these materials where you can find further related discussions. The table of contents tells you where to find these captions.

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## **WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

The General Partner has filed on behalf of USNG a registration statement on Form S-1 with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933. This Prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about USNG or the units, please refer to the registration statement, which you may inspect, without charge, at the public reference facilities of the SEC at the below address or online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), or obtain at prescribed rates from the public reference facilities of the SEC at the below address. Information about USNG and the units can also be obtained from USNG's website, which is [www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com). USNG's website address is only provided here as a convenience to you and the information contained on or connected to the website is not part of this Prospectus or the registration statement of which this Prospectus is part. USNG is subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act and the General Partner and USNG will each, on behalf of USNG, file certain reports and other information with the SEC. The General Partner will file an updated Prospectus annually for USNG pursuant to the Securities Act. The reports and other information can be inspected at the public reference facilities of the SEC located at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 and online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You may also obtain copies of such material from the public reference facilities of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You may obtain more information concerning the operation of the public reference facilities of the SEC by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 or visiting online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## **SUMMARY OF PROMOTIONAL AND SALES MATERIAL**

USNG has used the following sales material it has prepared:

USNG's website, [www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com](http://www.unitedstatesnaturalgasfund.com); and  
Brochure found on USNG's website.

## **PATENT APPLICATION PENDING**

A patent application by the General Partner directed to the creation and operation of the United States Natural Gas Fund, LP is pending and the General Partner's registration of USNG's trademarks is in process at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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# UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Partners of United States Natural Gas Fund, LP

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of United States Natural Gas Fund, LP, (the Fund ) as of December 31, 2006. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of United States Natural Gas Fund, LP as of December 31, 2006, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ SPICER JEFFRIES LLP

Greenwood Village, Colorado  
March 12, 2007

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**UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION  
December 31, 2006**

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| ASSETS                    |          |
| Cash                      | \$ 1,000 |
| Partnership Capital       |          |
| Limited partner           | \$ 980   |
| General partner           | 20       |
| Total partnership capital | \$ 1,000 |

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.*

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**UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP  
NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION  
December 31, 2006**

**Note 1 Organization and Business**

United States Natural Gas Fund, LP (the Fund), was organized as a limited partnership under the laws of the state of Delaware on September 11, 2006. The Fund is a commodity pool that intends to issue units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange. The Fund will continue in perpetuity, unless terminated sooner upon the occurrence of one or more events as described in its Limited Partnership Agreement (the Limited Partnership Agreement). The net assets of the Fund will consist primarily of investments in futures contracts for natural gas, crude oil, heating oil, gasoline and other petroleum based fuels traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, ICE or other U.S. and foreign-exchanges (collectively, Futures Contracts). The Fund may also invest in other natural gas-related

investments such as gas-settled options on futures contracts, forward contracts for natural gas and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments ). The investment objective of the Fund is to have changes in percentage terms of the unit's net asset value reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana as measured by the Futures Contract on natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange (the Benchmark Futures Contract ) that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will invest in the next month to expire, less the Fund's expenses. Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC is the general partner of the Fund (the General Partner ) and is also responsible for the management of the Fund. For the period ended December 31, 2006, all of the Fund's organizational expenses in the amount of \$311,262 have been funded by the General Partner. The Fund does not have any obligation or intention to reimburse such payments. (See Note 5). The General Partner is a member of the National Futures Association ( NFA ) and is a commodity pool operator effective December 1, 2005. The Fund has a fiscal year ending on December 31.

The Fund will issue limited partnership interests ( Units ) to authorized purchasers by offering creation baskets consisting of 100,000 Units ( Creation Baskets ) through a marketing agent. The purchase price for a Creation Basket is based upon the net asset value of a Fund Unit. In addition, authorized purchasers will pay the Fund a \$1,000 fee for the creation of each Creation Basket. Subsequent to the sale of the initial Creation Basket, Units can be purchased or sold on a nationally recognized securities exchange in smaller increments. Units purchased or sold on a nationally recognized securities exchange are not made at the net asset value of the Fund but rather at market prices quoted on the stock exchange.

Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC is also the General Partner of United States Oil Fund, LP ( USO ) which listed its Units on the American Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol USO on April 10, 2006.

The Fund is in the process of filing a registration statement on Form S-1A with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The following summary of significant accounting policies will be followed by the Fund once operations commence.

## **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### **Revenue Recognition**

Commodity futures contracts, forward contracts, physical commodities, and related options will be recorded on the trade date. All such transactions will be recorded on the identified cost basis and marked to market daily. Unrealized gains or losses on open contracts will be reflected in the statement of financial condition and the difference between original contract amount and market value (as determined by exchange settlement prices for futures contracts and related options and cash dealer prices at a predetermined time for forward contracts, physical commodities, and their related options) as of the last business day of the year or as of the last date of the financial statements. Changes in the unrealized gains or losses between periods will be reflected in the statement of operations. The Fund will earn interest on its assets on deposit at the clearing broker.

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

**December 31, 2006**

## **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

### **Brokerage Commissions**

Brokerage commissions on all open commodity futures contracts will be accrued on a full-turn basis.

### **General Partner Management Fee**

Under the Limited Partnership Agreement, the General Partner is responsible for investing the assets of the Fund in accordance with the objectives and policies of the Fund. In addition, the General Partner will arrange for one or more third parties to provide administrative, custody, accounting, transfer agency and other necessary services to the Fund. For these services, the Fund is contractually obligated to pay a monthly management fee to the General Partner, based on average daily net assets, at a rate equal to 0.60% per annum on average net assets of \$1,000,000,000 or less and 0.50% of average daily net assets that are greater than \$1,000,000,000. The Fund will pay for all brokerage fees, taxes and other expenses, including licensing fees for the use of intellectual property, registration or other fees paid to the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ), the National Association of Securities Dealers ( NASD ), or any other regulatory agency in connection with the offer and sale of subsequent Units after its initial registration and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated therewith. The Fund also pay the fees and expenses, including directors and officers liability insurance, of the independent directors.

### **Offering Costs**

Offering costs incurred in connection with the registration of additional units after the initial registration of Units will be borne by the Fund. These costs include registration fees paid to regulatory agencies and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated therewith. These costs will be accounted for as a deferred charge and thereafter amortized to expense over twelve months on a straight line basis or a shorter period if warranted.

### **Income Taxes**

The Fund is not taxed on its income; instead the individual investors respective share of the Fund s taxable income will be reported on the individual investors income tax returns.

### **Redemptions**

Authorized persons may redeem Units from the Fund only in blocks of 100,000 Units called Redemption Baskets . The amount of the redemption proceeds for a Redemption Basket will be equal to the net asset value of the Fund Units in the Redemption Basket.

### **Partnership Capital and Allocation of Partnership Income and Losses**

Profit or loss shall be allocated among the partners of the Fund in proportion to the number of Units each partner holds as of the close of each month. The General Partner may revise, alter or otherwise modify this method of allocation as described in the Limited Partnership Agreement.

## Calculation of Net Asset Value

The Fund will calculate its net asset value on each trading day by taking the current market value of its total assets, subtracting any liabilities and dividing the amount by the total number of Units issued and outstanding. The Fund will use the New York Mercantile Exchange closing price on that day for contracts held on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

## Cash Equivalents

The Fund's cash equivalents will include highly liquid investments with original maturity of three months or less.

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# UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION December 31, 2006

## Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statement, and the reported amounts of the revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Note 3 Contracts and Agreements

The Fund is a party to a marketing agent agreement with ALPS Distributors Inc., a Colorado corporation ( "ALPS" ), whereby ALPS provides certain marketing services as outlined in the agreement. ALPS charges a fee of .06% on the Fund's assets up to \$3 billion; and .04% on assets in excess of \$3 billion. These fees will be paid by the General Partner and not charged to the Fund.

The above fees will not include the following expenses, which will be borne by the General Partner: cost of placing advertisements in various periodicals; web construction and development; or the printing and production of various marketing materials.

The Fund has also entered into a custodian agreement with Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. ( "Brown Brothers" ), whereby Brown Brothers will hold investments on behalf of the Fund. The General Partner of the Fund will pay the fees of the custodian, which shall be agreed upon from time to time between the parties. In addition, the Fund also intends to enter into an administrative agency agreement with Brown Brothers, whereby Brown Brothers will act as the administrative agent, transfer agent and registrar for the Fund. The General Partner will also pay the fees of Brown Brothers for its services under this agreement and such fees will be determined by the parties from time to time.

Upon the launch of the Fund, the General Partner will pay Brown Brothers for its services in the foregoing capacity for both USO and the Fund, a minimum amount of \$125,000 annually for its custody, fund accounting and fund administration services rendered to both funds, as well as a \$25,000 annual fee for its transfer agency services. In addition, the General Partner will pay an asset charge of (a) 0.06% for the first \$500 million of USO and the Fund's assets, (b) .0465% for USO and the Fund's assets greater than \$500 million but less than \$1 billion, and (c) .035% once USO and the Fund's net assets exceed \$1 billion. The annual minimum amount will not apply if the asset charge for all accounts in the aggregate exceeds \$125,000. The General Partner also will pay transaction charge fees to Brown Brothers, ranging from \$7.00 to \$15.00 per transaction for the Funds.

The Fund has entered into a brokerage agreement with UBS Securities LLC, the Futures Commission Merchant (the FCM or Clearing Broker). Pursuant to this agreement, the FCM will charge the Fund commissions at a rate to be determined per round turn trade plus applicable exchange and NFA fees for futures contracts and options on futures contracts.

The Fund will invest primarily in Natural Gas futures contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange (the Exchange). The Fund and the Exchange are discussing entering into and in the process of finalizing a License Agreement whereby the Fund will be granted a non-exclusive license to use certain of the Exchange's settlement prices and service marks. Under the proposed License Agreement, the Exchange will receive an asset-based fee for the license, which will be paid by the General Partner on behalf of the Fund.

The Fund expressly disclaims any association with the Exchange or endorsement of the Fund by the Exchange and acknowledges that NYMEX and New York Mercantile Exchange are registered trademarks of such Exchange.

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# **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

## **NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

### **December 31, 2006**

#### **Note 4 Financial Instruments, Off-balance Sheet Risks and Contingencies**

The Fund intends to engage in the speculative trading of U.S. futures contracts and options on U.S. futures contracts, (collectively derivatives). The Fund will be exposed to both market risk, the risk arising from changes in the market value of the contracts; and credit risk, the risk of failure by another party to perform according to the terms of a contract.

Initially, all of the contracts traded by the Fund are expected to be exchange traded. The risks associated with exchange-traded contracts are generally perceived to be less than those associated with over-the-counter transactions since, in over-the-counter transactions, the Fund must rely solely on the credit of their respective individual counterparties. However, in the future, if the Fund were to enter into non-exchange traded contracts, it would be subject to the credit risk associated with counterparty non-performance. The credit risk from counterparty non-performance associated with such instruments is the net unrealized gain, if any. The Fund will also incur credit risk since the sole counterparty to all domestic futures contracts is the exchange clearing corporation. In addition, the Fund bears the risk of financial failure by the Clearing Broker.



The purchase and sale of futures and options on futures contracts requires margin deposits with a FCM. Additional deposits may be necessary for any loss on contract value. The Commodity Exchange Act requires an FCM to segregate all customer transactions and assets from the FCM's proprietary activities.

The Fund's cash and other property such as U.S. Treasury Bills, deposited with an FCM are considered commingled with all other customer funds subject to the FCM's segregation requirements. In the event of an FCM's insolvency, recovery may be limited to a pro rata share of segregated funds available. It is possible that the recovered amount could be less than the total of cash and other property deposited.

For derivatives, risks arise from changes in the market value of the contracts. Theoretically, the Fund will be exposed to a market risk equal to the value of futures contracts purchased and unlimited liability on such contracts sold short.

As both buyer and seller of options, the Fund pays or receives a premium at the outset and then bears the risk of unfavorable changes in the price of the contract underlying the option.

The Fund's policy is to continuously monitor its exposure to market and counterparty risk through the use of a variety of financial, position and credit exposure reporting controls and procedures. In addition, the Fund has a policy of reviewing the credit standing of each clearing broker or counterparty with which it conducts business.

The financial instruments that will be held by the Fund are reported in the statement of financial condition at market or fair value, or at carrying amounts that approximate fair value, because of their highly liquid nature and short-term maturity.

## Note 5 Subsequent Event

For the period from January 1, 2007 through March 12, 2007, an additional \$222,283 of the Fund's organizational and offering expenses was funded by the General Partner. The Fund does not have any obligation or intention to reimburse such payments.

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# UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP

## CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

**At September 30, 2007 (Unaudited) and December 31,  
2006**

|  | September 30,<br>2007 | December<br>31, 2006 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS   |                       |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                      | \$ 302,720,143        | \$ 1,000             |
| Equity in UBS Securities LLC trading accounts: |                       |                      |
| Cash   | 130,383,326           |                      |

|   |                |          |
|---|----------------|----------|
| Unrealized loss on open commodity futures contracts | (13,529,200 )  |          |
| Receivable for units sold                           | 65,197,167     |          |
| Interest receivable                                 | 956,354        |          |
| Other assets  | 5,000          |          |
| Total Assets  | 485,732,790    | \$ 1,000 |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS CAPITAL</b>             |                |          |
| Payable for units redeemed                          | \$ 3,917,623   | \$       |
| General Partner management fees (Note 3)            | 204,203        |          |
| Brokerage commissions payable                       | 22,800         |          |
| Other liabilities                                   | 91,715         |          |
| Total Liabilities                                   | 4,236,341      |          |
| Commitments and Contingencies (Notes 3, 4 and 5)    |                |          |
| <b>Partners Capital</b>                             |                |          |
| General Partner                                     |                | 20       |
| Limited Partners                                    | 481,496,449    | 980      |
| Total Partners Capital                              | 481,496,449    | 1,000    |
| Total liabilities and partners capital              | \$ 485,732,790 | \$ 1,000 |
| Limited Partners units outstanding                  | 12,600,000     |          |
| Net asset value per unit                            | 38.21          |          |
| Market value per unit                               | 38.25          |          |

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

### **CONDENSED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS**

#### **(Unaudited)**

#### **At September 30, 2007**

#### **Open Futures Contracts**

|  | Number of<br>Contracts | Loss on Open<br>Commodity<br>Contracts | % of<br>Partners<br>Capital |
|--|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| United States Contracts                              |                        |  |                             |
| Natural Gas Futures contracts, expires November 2007 | 7,006                  | \$ (13,529,200 )                       | (2.81 )                     |
| Cash Equivalents                                     |                        |  |                             |

|                                  | Cost | Market Value |
|----------------------------------|------|--------------|
| United States Money Market Funds |      |              |

|  |               |               |        |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------|
| AIM STIT - Liquid Assets Portfolio                           | \$32,692,804  | \$32,692,804  | 6.79   |
| AIM STIT - STIC Prime Portfolio                              | 52,921,238    | 52,921,238    | 10.99  |
| Goldman Sachs Financial Square Funds Government Fund         | 50,164,032    | 50,164,032    | 10.42  |
| Goldman Sachs Financial Square Funds Prime Obligations Funds | 30,104,368    | 30,104,368    | 6.25   |
|  | \$165,882,442 | 165,882,442   | 34.45  |
| Cash   |               | 136,837,701   | 28.42  |
| Total cash & cash equivalents                                |               | 302,720,143   | 62.87  |
| Cash on deposit with broker                                  |               | 130,383,326   | 27.08  |
| Other assets and receivables in excess of liabilities        |               | 61,922,180    | 12.86  |
| Total Partners Capital                                       |               | \$481,496,449 | 100.00 |

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

### **CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

#### **(Unaudited)**

#### **For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2007 and**

#### **the Period from April 18, 2007**

#### **(Commencement of Operations) to September 30, 2007**

|   | Three Months<br>Ended<br>September 30,<br>2007 | Period from April<br>18, 2007<br>to<br>September 30,<br>2007 |
|---|--|--|
| Income  |  |  |
| Gains (losses) on trading of commodity futures contracts: |  |  |
| Realized gains on closed positions                        | \$ 10,910,020                                  | \$ 11,177,140  |
| Change in unrealized losses on open positions             | (5,174,930 )                                   | (13,529,200 )  |
| Interest income   | 2,872,836                                      | 3,287,018  |
| Other income  | 48,000   | 62,000   |
| Total gain  | 8,655,926                                      | 996,958  |
| Expenses  |  |  |
| General Partner management fees (Note 3)                  | 387,014  | 445,377  |
| Brokerage commissions                                     | 142,680  | 158,534  |
| Other expenses  | 91,811   | 97,051   |
| Total expenses  | 621,505  | 700,962  |

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited) For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2007 and

|  |              |             |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Net gain   | \$ 8,034,421 | \$ 295,996  |
| Net loss per limited partnership unit                  | \$ (5.28 )   | \$ (11.79 ) |
| Net gain per weighted average limited partnership unit | \$ 1.17      | \$ 0.07     |
| Weighted average limited partnership units outstanding | \$ 6,856,522 | 4,224,096   |

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

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**UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**  
**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN**  
**PARTNERS' CAPITAL (Unaudited)**  
**For the Period from April 18, 2007 (Commencement of**  
**Operations) to September 30, 2007**

|  | General<br>Partner | Limited<br>Partners | Total         |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Balances, at April 18, 2007                    | \$ 20              | \$980               | \$ 1,000      |
| Addition of 20,600,000 partnership units       |                    | 798,959,388         | 798,959,388   |
| Redemption of 8,000,000 partnership units      | (20 )              | (317,759,915)       | (317,759,935) |
| Net gain                                       |                    | 295,996             | 295,996       |
| Balances, at September 30, 2007                | \$                 | \$481,496,449       | \$481,496,449 |
| Net Asset Value Per Unit                       |                    |                     |               |
| At April 18, 2007 (commencement of operations) | \$ 50.00           |                     |               |
| At September 30, 2007                          | \$ 38.21           |                     |               |

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

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**UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**  
**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**(Unaudited)**  
**For the Period from April 18, 2007 (Commencement of**

## Operations) to September 30, 2007

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities  |               |
| Net income (loss)   | \$295,996     |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash in operating activities: |               |
| Increase in commodity futures trading account - cash                            | (130,383,326) |
| Increase in unrealized loss on futures contracts                                | 13,529,200    |
| Increase in interest receivable and other assets                                | (961,354 )    |
| Increase in management fees payable   | 204,203       |
| Increase in commissions payable   | 22,800        |
| Increase in other liabilities   | 91,715        |
| Net cash used in operating activities   | (117,200,766) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities:   |               |
| Subscription of partnership units   | 733,762,221   |
| Redemption of partnership units   | (313,842,312) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities                                       | 419,919,909   |
| Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents                                       | 302,719,143   |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, beginning of period                                  | 1,000         |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, end of period  | \$302,720,143 |

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

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## UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP

## NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 30, 2007 (Unaudited)

### Note 1 Organization and Business

United States Natural Gas Fund, LP ( "USNG" or the "Fund" ) is organized as a limited partnership under the laws of the state of Delaware. The Fund is a commodity pool that issues units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange (the "AMEX" ). The Fund will continue in perpetuity, unless terminated sooner upon the occurrence of one or more events as described in its Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership (the "Limited Partnership Agreement" ). The investment objective of the Fund is for the changes in percentage terms of its net asset value to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana as measured by the changes in the price of the futures contract on natural gas (the "Benchmark Futures Contract" ) traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange (the "NYMEX" ) that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contract that is the next month contract to expire, less the Fund's expenses. The Fund will accomplish its objective through investments in futures contracts for natural gas traded on the NYMEX or other regulated commodity exchanges. The Fund may also

invest in crude oil, heating oil, gasoline and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the NYMEX, ICE Futures or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, Futures Contracts ) and other natural gas interests such as cash-settled options on Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, Other Natural Gas-Related Interests), if in the opinion of the General Partner such investments will allow the Fund to achieve its investment objective.

The Fund commenced operations on April 18, 2007 and has a fiscal year ending on December 31. Victoria Bay Asset Management LLC is the general partner of the Fund (the General Partner ) and is also responsible for the management of the Fund. The General Partner is a member of the National Futures Association (the NFA ) and became a commodity pool operator with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission effective December 1, 2005. Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC is also the general partner of United States Oil Fund, LP ( USOF ) which listed its units on the AMEX under the ticker symbol USO on April 10, 2006.

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X promulgated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC ) and, therefore do not include all information and footnote disclosure required under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The financial information included herein is unaudited, however, such information reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for the fair presentation of the condensed financial statements for the interim period.

The Fund issues limited partnership interests ( Units ) to authorized purchasers by offering creation baskets consisting of 100,000 Units ( Creation Baskets ) through a marketing agent. The purchase price for a Creation Basket is based upon the net asset value of a Fund Unit determined as of 4:00 p.m. New York time on the day the order to create the basket is properly received. In addition, authorized purchasers pay the Fund a \$1,000 fee for each order to create one or more Creation Baskets. Units can be purchased or sold on a nationally recognized securities exchange in smaller increments than a Creation Basket. Units purchased or sold on a nationally recognized securities exchange will not be made at the net asset value of the Fund but rather at market prices quoted on such exchange.

In April 2007, the Fund initially registered 30,000,000 Units on Form S-1 with the SEC. On April 8, 2007, the Fund listed its Units on the AMEX under the ticker symbol UNG. On that day, the Fund established its initial net asset value by setting the price at \$50.00 per Unit and issued 200,000 Units to the initial authorized purchaser, Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp., in exchange for \$10,001,000 in cash. To date, the Fund has registered a total of 30,000,000 Units. The Fund commenced investment operations on April 18, 2007 by purchasing Benchmark Futures Contracts traded on the NYMEX.

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**UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2007 (Unaudited)**

## **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### **Revenue Recognition**

Commodity futures contracts, forward contracts, physical commodities and related options are recorded on the trade date. All such transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis and marked to market daily. Unrealized gains or losses on open contracts are reflected in the condensed statement of financial condition and in the difference between the original contract amount and the market value (as determined by exchange settlement prices for futures contracts and related options and cash dealer prices at a predetermined time for forward contracts, physical commodities and their related options) as of the last business day of the year or as of the last date of the condensed financial statements. Changes in the unrealized gains or losses between periods are reflected in the condensed statement of operations. The

Fund earns interest on assets denominated in U.S. dollars on deposit with the futures commission merchant at the 90-day treasury bill rate less fifty basis points. In addition, the Fund earns interest on funds held at the custodian at prevailing market rates earned on such investments.

### **Brokerage Commissions**

Brokerage commissions on all open commodity futures contracts are accrued on a full-turn basis.

### **Income Taxes**

The Fund is not subject to federal income taxes: each partner reports his/her allocable share of income, gain, loss deductions or credits on his/her own income tax return.

### **Additions and Redemptions**

Authorized purchasers may purchase Creation Baskets consisting of 100,000 Units from the Fund as of the beginning of each business day based upon the prior day's net asset value. Authorized purchasers may redeem Units from the Fund only in blocks of 100,000 Units called Redemption Baskets. The amount of the redemption proceeds for a Redemption Basket will be equal to the net asset value of the Units in the Redemption Basket determined as of 4:00 p.m. New York time on the day the order to create or redeem the basket is properly received.

The Fund receives or pays the proceeds from Units sold or redeemed one business day after the trade-date of the purchase or redemption. The amounts due from authorized purchasers are reflected in the Fund's condensed statement of financial condition as receivable for Units sold and amounts payable to authorized purchasers upon redemption are reflected as payable for Units redeemed.

### **Partnership Capital and Allocation Partnership Income and Losses**

Profit or loss is allocated among the partners of the Fund in proportion to the number of Units each partner holds as of the close of each month. The General Partner may revise, alter or otherwise modify this method of allocation as described in the Limited Partnership Agreement.

### **Calculation of Net Asset Value**

The Fund calculates its net asset value on each trading day by taking the current market value of its total assets, subtracting any liabilities and dividing the amount by the total number of Units issued and outstanding. The Fund uses the NYMEX closing price on that day to determine the value of contracts held on the NYMEX.

## **Net Income (Loss) per Limited Partnership Unit**

Net income (loss) per Unit is the difference between the net asset value per Unit at the beginning of each period and at the end of each period. The weighted average number of Units outstanding was computed for purposes of disclosing net loss per weighted average Unit. The weighted average Units are equal to the number of Units outstanding at the end of the period, adjusted proportionately for Units redeemed based on the amount of time the Units were outstanding during such period. There were no Units held by the General Partner at September 30, 2007.

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

### **NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 30, 2007 (Unaudited)**

#### **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

##### **Offering Costs**

Offering costs incurred in connection with the registration of additional Units after the initial registration of Units are borne by the Fund. These costs include registration fees paid to regulatory agencies and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated therewith. These costs will be accounted for as a deferred charge and thereafter amortized to expense over twelve months on a straight line basis or a shorter period if warranted.

##### **Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include money market portfolios and overnight time deposits with original maturity dates of three months or less.

##### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of condensed financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the Fund's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the condensed financial statements, and reported amounts of the revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates and assumptions.

#### **Note 3 Fees Paid by the Fund and Related Party Transactions**



## **General Partner Management Fee**

Under the Limited Partnership Agreement, the General Partner is responsible for investing the assets of the Fund in accordance with the objectives and policies of the Fund. In addition, the General Partner has arranged for one or more third parties to provide administrative, custody, accounting, transfer agency and other necessary services to the Fund.

For these services, the Fund is contractually obligated to pay the General Partner a fee, which is paid monthly and based on average daily net assets, that is equal to 0.60% per annum on average daily net assets of \$1,000,000,000 or less and 0.50% per annum on average daily net assets that are greater than \$1,000,000,000.

Prior to its inception the Fund incurred offering and organizational costs in the amount of \$670,764, all of which were funded by the General Partner. The Fund does not have any obligation or intention to reimburse such payments.

## **Ongoing Registration Fees**

The Fund pays all costs and expenses associated with the ongoing registration of Units subsequent to the initial offering. These costs and expenses include, but are not limited to, registration fees paid to the SEC, the FINRA or any other regulatory agency in connection with the offer and sale of Units, and all legal, accounting, printing, and other expenses associated therewith. For the period from April 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007, the Fund did not incur ongoing registration fees as stated above.

## **Directors Fees**

The Fund is responsible for paying the fees and expenses, including directors and officers liability insurance, of the independent directors of the General Partner who are also audit committee members. The Fund shares these fees with USOF based on the relative assets of each fund, computed on a daily basis. These fees for calendar year 2007 are estimated to be a total of \$276,000 for both funds.

## **Licensing Fees**

As discussed in Note 4, the Fund entered into a licensing agreement with the NYMEX on May 30, 2007. The agreement has an effective date of April 10, 2006. Pursuant to the agreement, the Fund and the affiliated

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

## **NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 30, 2007 (Unaudited)**

### **Note 3 Fees Paid by the Fund and Related Party Transactions (continued)**

funds managed by the General Partner pay a licensing fee that is equal to 0.04% for the first \$1,000,000,000 of combined assets of the funds and 0.02% for combined assets above \$1,000,000,000. For the period from April 18, 2007 through September 30, 2007, the Fund incurred \$29,692 under this arrangement.

## **Investor Tax Reporting Cost**

The fees and expenses associated with the partnership's tax accounting and reporting requirements, with the exception of certain initial implementation service fees and base service fees which will be borne by the General Partner, will be paid by the Fund. These costs are estimated to be \$450,000 for the year ending December 31, 2007.

## **Other Expenses and Fees**

In addition to the fees described above, the Fund pays all brokerage fees, taxes and other expenses in connection with the operation of the Fund, excluding costs and expenses paid by the General Partner as outlined in Note 4.

## **Note 4 Contracts and Agreements**

The Fund is party to a marketing agent agreement, dated as of April 17, 2007, with ALPS Distributors Inc. ( "ALPS" ), a Colorado corporation, whereby ALPS provides certain marketing services for the Fund as outlined in the agreement. The fees of the marketing agent, which are borne by the General Partner, are equal to 0.06% on Fund assets up to \$3 billion and 0.04% on Fund assets in excess of \$3 billion.

The above fees do not include the following expenses, which are also borne by the General Partner: the cost of placing advertisements in various periodicals; web construction and development; and the printing and production of various marketing materials.

The Fund is also party to a custodian agreement, dated January 12, 2007, with Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. ( "Brown Brothers" ), whereby Brown Brothers holds investments on behalf of the Fund. The General Partner pays the fees of the custodian, which shall be determined by the parties from time to time. In addition, the Fund is party to an administrative agency agreement, dated March 5, 2007, with the General Partner and Brown Brothers, whereby Brown Brothers acts as the administrative agent, transfer agent and registrar for the Fund. The General Partner also pays the fees of Brown Brothers for its services under this agreement and such fees will be determined by the parties from time to time.

Currently, the General Partner pays Brown Brothers for its services, in the foregoing capacities, the greater of a minimum amount of \$125,000 annually or an asset charge of (a) 0.06% for the first \$500 million of USOF and USNG's combined net assets, (b) 0.0465% for USOF and USNG's combined net assets greater than \$500 million but less than \$1 billion, and (c) 0.035% for USOF and USNG's combined net assets in excess of \$1 billion. The General Partner also pays a \$25,000 annual fee for transfer agency services and transaction fees ranging from \$7.00 to \$15.00 per transaction.

The Fund invests primarily in Futures Contracts traded on the NYMEX. On May 30, 2007, the Fund and the NYMEX entered into a licensing agreement whereby the Fund was granted a non-exclusive license to use certain of the NYMEX's settlement prices and service marks. The agreement has an effective date of April 10, 2006. Under the licensing agreement, the Fund and the affiliated funds managed by the General Partner pay the NYMEX an asset-based fee for the license, the terms of which are described in Note 3.

The Fund expressly disclaims any association with the NYMEX or endorsement of the Fund by the NYMEX and acknowledges that "NYMEX" and "New York Mercantile Exchange" are registered trademarks of the NYMEX.

The Fund has entered into a brokerage agreement with UBS Securities LLC (the Futures Commission Merchant). The agreement requires the Futures Commission Merchant to provide services to the Fund in

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

### **NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 30, 2007 (Unaudited)**

#### **Note 4 Contracts and Agreements (continued)**

connection with the purchase and sale of Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related interests that may be purchased and sold by or through the Futures Commission Merchant for the Fund's account. The agreement provides that the Futures Commission Merchant charge the Fund commissions of approximately \$7 per round-turn trade, plus applicable exchange and NFA fees for Futures Contracts and options on Futures Contracts.

#### **Note 5 Financial Instruments, Off-Balance Sheet Risks and Contingencies**

The Fund engages in the speculative trading of Futures Contracts and options on Futures Contracts (collectively, derivatives). The Fund is exposed to both market risk, which is the risk arising from changes in the market value of the contracts, and credit risk, which is the risk of failure by another party to perform according to the terms of a contract.

All of the contracts currently traded by the Fund are exchange-traded. The risks associated with exchange-traded contracts are generally perceived to be less than those associated with over-the-counter transactions since, in over-the-counter transactions, the Fund must rely solely on the credit of its respective individual counterparties. However, in the future, if the Fund were to enter into non-exchange traded contracts, it would be subject to the credit risk associated with counterparty non-performance. The credit risk from counterparty non-performance associated with such instruments is the net unrealized gain, if any. The Fund also has credit risk since the sole counterparty to all domestic futures contracts is the exchange clearing corporation. In addition, the Fund bears the risk of financial failure by the clearing broker.

The purchase and sale of futures and options on Futures Contracts requires margin deposits with a futures commission merchant. Additional deposits may be necessary for any loss on contract value. The Commodity Exchange Act requires a futures commission merchant to segregate all customer transactions and assets from the futures commission merchant's proprietary activities.

The Fund's cash and other property, such as U.S. Treasury Bills, deposited with a futures commission merchant, are considered commingled with all other customer funds subject to the futures commission merchant's segregation requirements. In the event of a futures commission merchant's insolvency, recovery may be limited to a pro rata share of segregated funds available. It is possible that the recovered amount could be less than the total of cash and other property deposited.

USNG may invest its cash in money market funds that seek to maintain a stable net asset value. USNG may be exposed to any risk of loss associated with an investment in these money market funds. As of September 30, 2007, USNG had deposits in domestic and foreign financial institutions in the amount of \$267,221,027.

For derivatives, risks arise from changes in the market value of the contracts. Theoretically, the Fund is exposed to market risk equal to the value of Futures Contracts purchased, and unlimited liability on such contracts sold short. As both a buyer and a seller of options, the Fund pays or receives a premium at the outset and then bears the risk of unfavorable changes in the price of the contract underlying the option.

The Fund's policy is to continuously monitor its exposure to market and counterparty risk through the use of a variety of financial, position and credit exposure reporting controls and procedures. In addition, the Fund has a policy requiring review of the credit standing of each broker or counterparty with which it conducts business.

The financial instruments held by the Fund are reported in its condensed statement of financial condition at market or fair value, or at carrying amounts that approximate fair value, because of their highly liquid nature and short-term maturity.

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## **UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

### **NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 30, 2007 (Unaudited)**

#### **Note 5 Financial Instruments, Off-Balance Sheet Risks and Contingencies (continued)**

On March 17, 2006, USOF received letter from Goldman Sachs & Co. ( Goldman Sachs ) providing it with notice under 35 U.S.C. Section 154(d) of two pending United States patent applications. Publication Nos. 2004/0225593A1 and 2006/0036533A1. USOF is currently reviewing the Goldman Sachs published patent applications and has engaged in discussions with Goldman Sachs regarding its pending applications and USOF's own pending patent application. USNG and USOF are similarly structured and USNG is a commodity pool that is administered like USOF. USNG and USOF are unable to determine the outcome of this matter at this time due in part to the fact that the Goldman Sachs patent applications are pending and have not been issued as U.S. Patents.

#### **Note 6 Financial Highlights**

The following table presents per Unit performance data and other supplemental financial data for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and the period from April 18, 2007 (commencement of operations) to September 30, 2007 for the limited partners. This information has been derived from information presented in the condensed financial statements.

|   | For the Three<br>Months Ended<br>September 30,<br>2007<br>(Unaudited) | For the Period<br>From April 18,<br>2007 to<br>September 30,<br>2007 |
|---|---|--|
| Per Unit Operating Performance            |   |  |
| Net asset value, beginning of period      | \$ 43.49  | \$ 50.00   |
| Total loss                                | (5.19 )   | (11.62 )   |
| Total expenses                            | (0.09 )   | (0.17 )  |
| Net decrease in net asset value           | (5.28 )   | (11.79 )   |
| Net asset value, end of period            | \$ 38.21  | \$ 38.21   |
| Total Returns                             | (12.14 )%   | (23.58 )%  |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets (annualized) |   |  |
| Total income                              | 13.42 %   | 1.34 %   |
| Expenses excluding management fees        | (0.36 )%  | (0.34 )%   |
| Management fees                           | (0.60 )%  | (0.60 )%   |
| Net income                                | 12.46 %   | 0.40 %   |

Total returns are calculated based on the change in value during the period. An individual limited partner's total return and ratio may vary from the above total returns and ratios based on the timing of contributions to and withdrawals from the Fund.

## Note 7 Subsequent Events

On November 6, 2007, the Fund filed a Registration Statement on Form S-1 with the SEC to register an additional 50,000,000 Units.

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## VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES (formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SEVEN MONTHS ENDED JULY 31, 2007 AND 2006 (unaudited) AND THE YEAR ENDED December 31, 2006

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# **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

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## **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Member  
Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC and Subsidiaries  
(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statement of financial condition of Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC and Subsidiaries (formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC), (the Company) as of December 31, 2006 and the related consolidated statement of operations, changes in member's deficit and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2006 and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2006 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ SPICER JEFFRIES LLP

Greenwood Village, Colorado  
March 5, 2007

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**VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND  
SUBSIDIARIES  
(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL  
CONDITION  
July 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006**

|   | 2007<br>(Unaudited) | 2006             |
|---|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |                     |                  |
| Cash  | \$22,852            | \$88,345         |
| Management fees receivable  | 354,951             | 332,736          |
| Investments (Note 2)  | 1,506,251           |                  |
| Deferred offering costs (Note 3)  | 159,961             | 311,262          |
| Other assets  | 2,940               |                  |
| Total assets  | <b>\$2,046,955</b>  | <b>\$732,343</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY (DEFICIT)</b>                                  |                     |                  |
| <b>LIABILITIES:</b>   |                     |                  |
| Accounts payable  | \$1,211,724         | \$1,127,208      |
| Minority interest: Limited Partner in United States Heating Oil Fund, LP          | 980                 |                  |
| Minority interest: Limited Partner in United States Gasoline Fund, LP             | 980                 |                  |
| Minority interest: Limited Partner in United States 12 Month Oil Fund, LP         | 980                 |                  |
| Minority interest: Limited Partner in United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP | 980                 |                  |
| Minority interest: Limited Partner in United States Natural Gas Fund, LP          |                     | 980              |
| Total liabilities   | 1,215,644           | 1,128,188        |
| <b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 6)</b>                                     |                     |                  |
| <b>MEMBER'S EQUITY (DEFICIT) (Note 5)</b>   | 831,311             | (395,845 )       |
| Total liabilities and member's equity   | <b>\$2,046,955</b>  | <b>\$732,343</b> |

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

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# **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

## **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS For Seven Months Ended July 31, 2007 and 2006 and The Year Ended December 31, 2006**

|                                | Seven<br>Months<br>Ended<br>July 31,<br>2007<br>Unaudited | Seven Months<br>Ended<br>July 31,<br>2006<br>Unaudited | Year Ended<br>December 31,<br>2006 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| REVENUE:                       |   |  |                                    |
| Management fees                | \$ 2,698,727  | \$ 336,243   | \$ 1,460,448                       |
| EXPENSES:                      |   |  |                                    |
| Distribution fees              | 361,037   | 132,287  | 325,320                            |
| Administration fees            | 274,386   | 42,100   | 163,029                            |
| Transfer agent fees            | 29,350  | 15,878   | 65,191                             |
| Custodial fees                 | 75,401  | 41,262   | 61,460                             |
| Professional fees              | 584,742   | 289,962  | 1,128,367                          |
| Printing and reproduction      | 189,327   | 244,910  | 297,538                            |
| Salaries, wages and benefits   | 259,283   | 47,402   | 208,228                            |
| Advertising and promotion      | 20,610  | 25,824   | 38,337                             |
| General and administrative     | 32,329  | 27,638   | 31,767                             |
| Total expenses                 | 1,826,465   | 867,263  | 2,319,237                          |
| NET INCOME (LOSS)              | 872,262   | (531,020 )   | (858,789 )                         |
| OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:    |   |  |                                    |
| Unrealized gain on investments | 570,095   |  |                                    |
| COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)    | <b>\$1,442,357</b>  | <b>\$(531,020)</b>                                     | <b>\$(858,789)</b>                 |

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

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# **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**



# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN MEMBER S EQUITY (DEFICIT)

For the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2007 and  
The Year Ended December 31, 2006

|                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>BALANCE</b> , December 31, 2005  | \$ 388,924 |
| Contributions                       | 74,020     |
| Net loss                            | (858,789 ) |
| <b>BALANCE</b> , December 31, 2006  | (395,845 ) |
| Contributions (Note 3)              | 455,563    |
| Other comprehensive income (Note 5) | 570,095    |
| Offering costs (Note 2)             | (670,764 ) |
| Net income                          | 872,262    |
| <b>BALANCE</b> , July 31, 2007      | \$ 831,311 |

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

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# VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2007 and 2006 and The Year Ended December 31, 2006

|  | Seven<br>Months<br>Ended<br>July 31,<br>2007<br>Unaudited | Seven<br>Months<br>Ended<br>July 31,<br>2006<br>Unaudited | Year Ended<br>December<br>31, 2006<br>Audited |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b> |   |   |   |
| Net income (loss)                            | \$872,262   | \$(531,020)   | \$(858,789 )                                  |

Adjustments to reconcile net income(loss) to net cash  
used in operating activities:

|   |            |           |            |
|---|------------|-----------|------------|
| Increase in management fees receivable  | (22,215 )  | (115,243) | (332,736 ) |
| Increase in deferred offering costs     | (519,463 ) |           | (311,262 ) |
| Increase in other assets                | (2,940 )   |           |            |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable | (396,077 ) | 292,253   | 1,124,296  |
| Net cash used in operating activities   | (68,433 )  | (354,010) | (378,491 ) |

**CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:**

|  |                  |                  |                   |
|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Capital contributions by member                                  |                  |                  | 74,020            |
| Increase (decrease):   |                  |                  |                   |
| Minority interest in United States Heating Oil Fund, LP          | 980              |                  |                   |
| Minority interest in United States Gasoline Fund, LP             | 980              |                  |                   |
| Minority interest in United States Oil Fund, LP                  |                  | (980 )           | (980 )            |
| Minority interest in United States Natural Gas Fund, LP          | (980 )           |                  | 980               |
| Minority interest in United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP | 980              |                  |                   |
| Minority interest in United States 12 Month Oil Fund, LP         | 980              |                  |                   |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities              | 2,940            | (980 )           | 74,020            |
| <b>NET DECREASE IN CASH</b>                                      | <b>(65,493 )</b> | <b>(354,990)</b> | <b>(304,471 )</b> |
| CASH, beginning of period  | 88,345           | 392,816          | 392,816           |
| CASH, end of period  | <b>\$22,852</b>  | <b>\$37,826</b>  | <b>\$88,345</b>   |

**SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-CASH**

**INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:**

|  |                  |           |           |
|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Investments contributed by member, net of liabilities assumed (Note 3) | <b>\$455,563</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>\$</b> |
|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

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# **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES (formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Note 1 Organization and Operation**

Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC (formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC) (the "Company") was formed as a single-member limited liability company in the State of Delaware on May 10, 2005 and changed its name on June 10, 2005. The Company is the General Partner (the "General Partner") of United States Oil Fund, LP (formerly New York Oil ETF, LP) ("USOF"), United States Natural Gas Fund, LP ("USNG") and United States Heating Oil Fund, LP ("USHO").

and United States Gasoline Fund, LP ( USG ). The Company is registered as a commodity pool operator with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ( CFTC ) and is a member of the National Futures Association ( NFA ). USOF and USNG are commodity pools registered with the CFTC and members of the NFA that issue units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol USO , and UNG . USOF began trading on April 10, 2006 by purchasing futures contracts for light, sweet crude oil that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange ( Exchange ). The investment objective of USOF is for the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the spot price of light, sweet crude oil delivered to Cushing, Oklahoma, as measured by the changes in the price of the futures contract on light sweet crude oil, less USOF's expenses. USOF seeks to accomplish its objectives through investments in futures contracts for light, sweet crude oil, other types of crude oil, heating oil, gasoline, natural gas and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the Exchange and other U.S. and foreign exchanges ( Oil Futures Contracts ) and other oil interests such as cash-settled options on Oil Futures Contracts, forward contracts for crude oil, and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of crude oil, heating oil, gasoline, natural gas and other petroleum based fuel. USNG began trading on April 18, 2007 by purchasing futures contracts for natural gas that are traded on the Exchange. The investment objective of USNG is for the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered to the Henry Hub, Louisiana as measured by the changes in the price of the futures contract on natural gas traded on the Exchange that is the near month contract to expire, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contract that is the next month contract to expire, less USNG's expenses. Neither USHO nor USG has formally begun operations.

On June 27, 2007, the Company formed two Delaware limited partnerships, United States 12 Month Oil Fund, LP ( US12OF ) and United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP ( US12NG ), two commodity pools that will issue units that may be purchased and sold on the American Stock Exchange. The investment objective of US12OF is for the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of light, sweet crude oil delivered to Cushing, Oklahoma, as measured by the changes in the average of the prices of 12 futures contracts on crude oil traded on the Exchange, consisting of the near month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven months, for a total of 12 consecutive months' contracts, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contracts that are the next month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven consecutive months, less US12OF's expenses. When calculating the daily movement of the average price of the 12 contracts each contract month will be equally weighted. The investment objective of US12NG is for the changes in percentage terms of the units' net asset value to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana, as measured by the changes in the average of the prices of 12 futures contracts on natural gas traded on the Exchange, consisting of the near month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven months, for a total of 12 consecutive months' contracts, except when the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case it will be measured by the futures contracts that are the next month contract to expire and the contracts for the following eleven consecutive months, less US12NG's expenses. When calculating the daily movement of the average price of the 12 contracts each contract month will be equally weighted.

As of July 31, 2007, US12OF and US12NG have filed registration statements on Form S-1 with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC ) and the Company is in the process of filings amendments to the initial S-1's.

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## **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

# **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## **Note 1 Organization and Operation (continued)**

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Wainwright Holdings, Inc. ( Wainwright ), a Delaware corporation. Wainwright is a holding company that is controlled by the president of the Company and was USOF s, USNG s, US12OF s and US12NG s (collectively the Funds ) initial limited partner.

As the General Partner of the Funds, the Company is required to accept the credit risk of the Funds to their futures commission merchant, oversee the purchases and sales of the Fund s units by certain authorized purchasers, review the daily positions and margin requirements of the Funds, and manage the Funds investments. The Company also pays the continuing service fees to the marketing agent for communicating with the authorized purchasers.

Financial information at July 31, 2007 and for the seven months ended July 31, 2007 and 2006 is unaudited, however, such information reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for the fair presentation of the financial statements for the interim periods.

## **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### **Principles of Consolidation**

The Company as General Partner of the Funds has included the accounts of USHO, USG, US12OF and US12NG at July 31, 2007, the accounts of USOF at December 31, 2005 and the accounts of USNG at December 31, 2006 in the consolidated statements of financial condition. The Company has recorded a minority interest for the amount directly owned by the limited partner (representing the limited partner interest owned by Wainwright). Subsequent to December 31, 2006 and 2005, the Company and Wainwright withdrew their partnership interests in USNG and USOF, respectively. Therefore as of July 31, 2007, the accounts of USNG and USOF were no longer included in the consolidated statement of financial condition. All intercompany accounts and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

### **Revenue Recognition**

The Company recognizes revenue in the period earned under the terms of its management agreement with the Funds. This agreement provides for fees based upon a percentage of the daily average net asset value of the Funds.

In connection with the Funds trading activities, commodity futures contracts, forward contracts, physical commodities, and related options are recorded on the trade-date basis. All such transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis and marked to market daily. Unrealized gains and losses on open contracts are reflected in the statement of financial condition and represent the difference between original contract amount and market value (as determined by exchange settlement prices for futures contracts and related options and cash dealer prices at a predetermined time for forward contracts, physical commodities, and their related options) as of the last business day of the year or as of the last date of the financial statements. Changes in the unrealized gains or losses between periods are reflected in the statement of operations. The Company earns interest on its assets on deposit at the broker at the 90-day Treasury bill rate less fifty basis points for deposits denominated in U.S. dollars.

## **General Partner Management Fee**

Under the Funds' respective Limited Partnership Agreements, the Company is responsible for investing the assets of the Funds in accordance with the objectives and policies of the Funds. In addition, the Company has arranged for one or more third parties to provide administrative, custody, accounting, transfer agency and other necessary services to the Funds. For these services, the Funds are contractually obligated to pay the Company a management fee, which is paid monthly, based on the average daily net assets of the Funds. USOF pays a fee equal to 0.50% per annum on average daily net assets of \$1,000,000,000 or less and 0.20% of average daily net assets that are greater than \$1,000,000,000. USNG pays a fee equal to 0.60% per annum

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## **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

on average daily net assets of \$1,000,000,000 or less and 0.50% of average daily net assets that are greater than \$1,000,000,000. US12OF and US12NG pay a fee of 0.60% per annum on their average daily net assets. The Funds pay for all brokerage fees, taxes and other expenses, including licensing fees for the use of intellectual property, registration or other fees paid to the SEC, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) formerly the National Association of Securities Dealers, or any other regulatory agency in connection with the offer and sale of subsequent units after their initial registration and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated therewith. The Funds also pay the fees and expenses of the independent directors.

### **Investments**

The Company's investment in common stock of an entity operating in the wireless equipment industry is classified as available-for-sale-securities and is considered to be held for indefinite period. Securities investments not classified as either held-to-maturity or trading securities are classified as available-for-sale securities. Available-for-sale securities are recorded at fair value on the statement of financial condition, with the change in fair value excluded from earnings and recorded as a component of other comprehensive income included in member's equity. Unrealized holding gains on such securities, which were added to member's equity during the seven months ended July 31, 2007, were \$570,095.

Realized gains or losses are recorded upon disposition of investments calculated based upon the difference between the proceeds and the cost basis determined using the specific identification method.

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 157, Fair Value Measurements. This standard clarifies the definition of fair value for financial

reporting, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures about the use of fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. As of December 31, 2006, the Fund does not believe the adoption of SFAS No. 157 will impact the amounts reported in the financial statements. However, additional disclosures will be required about the inputs used to develop the measurements of fair value and the effect of certain of the measurements reported in the statement of income for a fiscal period.

## **Brokerage Commissions**

Brokerage commissions on all open commodity futures contracts are accrued on a full-turn basis.

## **Additions and Redemptions**

Authorized purchasers may purchase creation baskets of a minimum of 100,000 units from the Funds as of the beginning of each business day based upon the prior day's net asset value. Authorized purchasers may redeem units from the Funds only in blocks of 100,000 Units called Redemption Baskets. The amount of the redemption proceeds for a Redemption Basket will be equal to the net asset value of the Funds' Units in the Redemption Basket as of the end of each business day.

The Funds receive or pay the proceeds from units sold or redeemed one business day after the trade-date of the purchase or redemption. The amounts due from authorized purchasers are reflected in the Funds' statement of financial condition as receivables for units sold, and amounts payable to authorized purchasers upon redemption are reflected as payable for units redeemed.

## **Partnership Capital and Allocation of Partnership Income and Losses**

Profit or loss shall be allocated among the partners of the Funds in proportion to the number of Units each partner holds as of the close of each month. The General Partner may revise, alter or otherwise modify this method of allocation as described in the Limited Partnership Agreements.

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# **VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES (formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

## Calculation of Net Asset Value

The Funds calculate their net asset value on each trading day by taking the current market value of their total assets, subtracting any liabilities and dividing the amount by the total number of Units issued and outstanding. The Funds use the New York Mercantile Exchange closing price on that day for contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

## Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments with original maturity dates of three months or less.

## Accounting Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Income Taxes

No provision for federal income taxes has been made since, as a limited liability company, the Company is not subject to income taxes. The Company's income or loss is reportable by its member on its tax return.

In July 2006, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 48 (FIN 48), Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, which establishes that a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return is to be recognized in the consolidated financial statements when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, that the position will be sustained upon examination. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The adoption of FIN 48 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or its financial position.

## Deferred Offering Costs

The Company capitalizes all initial offering costs associated with the registration of the Funds until such time as the registration process with the SEC is complete. At this time, the Company charges the capitalized costs to member's equity. Deferred offering costs includes, but is not limited to, legal fees pertaining to the Funds' shares offered for sale, SEC and state registration fees, initial fees paid to be listed on an exchange and underwriting and other similar costs.

## Note 3 Capitalization and Related Party Transactions

As of July 31, 2007, Wainwright has contributed \$474,020 in cash and \$936,156 of marketable securities in connection with its interest in the Company. In addition, the Company and USOF have incurred offering and organizational costs in the amount of \$1,571,318 which are not included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements at December 31, 2006. Wainwright has provided funding for these costs, but is under no obligation to do so or continue funding these costs. On June 1, 2007, accounts payable of \$480,593 relating to USOF's offering costs incurred but unpaid by Wainwright were assumed by Company in connection with Wainwright's equity infusion of marketable securities as mentioned above. The effect of this transaction increased investments by \$936,156, accounts payable \$480,593 and equity by \$455,563. The Company and USOF were not required to reimburse Wainwright or its affiliates for any such costs incurred. Included in deferred offering costs at July 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006 is \$159,961 and \$311,262 of initial offering and organizational costs incurred by the Funds. These initial offering and organization costs incurred by the Funds will be borne by the Company and not be charged to the Funds. The Funds were each capitalized with \$1,000, of which the Company contributed \$20 and Wainwright contributed \$980.

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**VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND  
SUBSIDIARIES  
(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Note 4 Contracts and Agreements**

The Company, together with USOF, is a party to a marketing agent agreement, dated as of March 13, 2006, with ALPS Distributors Inc. ( "ALPS" ), a Colorado corporation, whereby ALPS provides certain marketing services for USOF as outlined in the agreement. The fees of the marketing agent, which are borne by the Company, include a marketing fee of \$425,000 per annum plus the following incentive fee: 0.00% on USOF's assets from \$0 - \$500 million; 0.04% on USOF's assets from \$500 million - \$4 billion; and 0.03% on USOF's assets in excess of \$4 billion. The Company, together with USNG, is also party to a marketing agent agreement, dated as of April 17, 2007, with ALPS, whereby ALPS provides certain marketing services for USNG as outlined in the agreement. The fees of the marketing agent, which are borne by the Company, are equal to 0.06% on USNG's assets up to \$3 billion and 0.04% on USNG's assets in excess of \$3 billion.

The above fees do not include the following expenses, which are also borne by the Company: the cost of placing advertisements in various periodicals; web construction and development; and the printing and production of various marketing materials.

The Company, with USOF and USNG, is also party to a custodian agreement, dated March 13, 2006 and January 12, 2007, respectively, with Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. ( "Brown Brothers" ), whereby Brown Brothers holds investments on behalf of the USOF and USNG. The Company pays the fees of the custodian, which shall be determined by the parties from time to time. In addition, the Company, with USOF and USNG, is party to an administrative agency agreement, dated March 13, 2006 and March 5, 2007, respectively, with Brown Brothers, whereby Brown Brothers acts as the administrative agent, transfer agent and registrar for USOF and USNG. The Company also pays the fees of Brown Brothers for its services under these agreements and such fees will be determined by the parties from time to time. Currently, the Company pays Brown Brothers for its services, in the foregoing capacities, the greater of a minimum amount of \$125,000 annually or an asset charge of (a) 0.06% for the first \$500 million of USOF's and USNG's combined net assets, (b) 0.0465% for USOF's and USNG's combined net assets greater than \$500 million but less than \$1 billion, and (c) 0.035% of USOF's and USNG's combined net assets in excess of \$1 billion. The Company also pays a \$50,000 annual fee for transfer agency services and transaction fees ranging from \$7.00 to \$15.00 per transaction.

USOF and USNG have entered into brokerage agreements with UBS Securities LLC, formerly ABN AMRO, Inc., as the Futures Commission Merchant (the "FCM" ). The agreement provides that the FCM charge USOF and USNG commissions of approximately \$7 to \$8 per round-turn trade plus applicable exchange and NFA fees for futures contracts and options on futures contracts.



USOF and USNG have invested primarily in futures contracts traded on the Exchange since the commencement of their operations. On May 30, 2007, USOF and USNG entered into a license agreement with the Exchange whereby USOF, USNG, USHOF and USGF were granted a non-exclusive license to use certain of the Exchange's settlement prices and service marks. The agreement has an effective date of April 10, 2006. Under the license agreement, USOF, USNG, USHOF and USGF pay the Exchange an asset-based fee for the license. Pursuant to the agreement, the Funds pay a licensing fee that is equal to 0.04% for the first \$1,000,000,000 of combined assets of the Funds and 0.02% for combined assets above \$1,000,000,000. It is anticipated that US12OF and other funds managed by the Company will also be granted a similar non-exclusive license on the same terms.

The Funds expressly disclaim any association with the Exchange or endorsement of USOF or USNG by the Exchange and acknowledges that NYMEX and New York Mercantile Exchange are registered trademarks of such Exchange.

The Company has contracted an accounting firm to prepare the USOF and USNG yearly income tax filings with the Internal Revenue Service. The yearly cost to the Company for these services is estimated to be approximately \$450,000. The cost associated with any registered new fund is expected to be comparable.

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**VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND  
SUBSIDIARIES**

**(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Note 5 Accumulated Comprehensive Income**

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive income as of July 31, 2007 are as follows:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Balance, December 31, 2006              | \$         |
| Unrealized looking gains on investments | 570,095    |
| Balance, July 31, 2007                  | \$ 570,095 |

**Note 6 Off-Balance Sheet Risks and Contingencies**

USOF received a letter from Goldman, Sachs & Co. ( Goldman Sachs ) on March 17, 2006, providing USOF notice under 35 U.S.C. Section 154(d) of two pending United States patent applications, Publication Nos. 2004/0225593A1 and 2006/0036533A1. USOF and the Company are currently reviewing the Goldman Sachs published patent applications, and have engaged in discussions with Goldman Sachs regarding their pending applications and the USOF's own pending patent application. At this time, due in part to the fact that the Goldman Sachs patent applications are pending and have not been issued as U.S. Patents, USOF is unable to determine what the outcome of this matter will be. Since USNG and other funds managed by the Company are similarly structured and are administered like USOF, similar claims may be made against USNG and other similar funds managed by the Company.

The Funds engage in the trading of U.S. futures contracts and options on U.S. contracts (collectively derivatives). The Funds are exposed to both market risk, the risk arising from changes in the market value of the contracts; and credit risk, the risk of failure by another party to perform according to the terms of a contract.

All of the contracts currently traded by the Funds are exchange-traded. The risks associated with exchange-traded contracts are generally perceived to be less than those associated with over-the-counter transactions since, in over-the-counter transactions; the Funds must rely solely on the credit of their respective individual counterparties. However, in the future, if USOF and USNG were to enter into non-exchange traded contracts, they would be subject to the credit risk associated with counterparty non-performance. The credit risk from counterparty non-performance associated with such instruments is the net unrealized gain, if any. The Funds also have credit risk since the sole counterparty to all domestic futures contracts is the exchange clearing corporation. In addition, the Funds bear the risk of financial failure by the clearing broker.

The purchase and sale of futures and options on futures contracts require margin deposits with an FCM. Additional deposits may be necessary for any loss on contract value. The Commodity Exchange Act requires an FCM to segregate all customer transactions and assets from the FCM's proprietary activities.

A customer's cash and other property such as U.S. Treasury Bills, deposited with an FCM are considered commingled with all other customer funds subject to the FCM's segregation requirements. In the event of an FCM's insolvency, recovery may be limited to a pro rata share of segregated funds available. It is possible that the recovered amount could be less than the total of cash and other property deposited.

For derivatives, risks arise from changes in the market value of the contracts. Theoretically, the Funds are exposed to market risk equal to the value of futures and forward contracts purchased and unlimited liability on such contracts sold short. As both buyers and sellers of options, the Funds pay or receive a premium at the outset and then bear the risk of unfavorable changes in the price of the contract underlying the option.

The Company's policy is to continuously monitor its exposure to market and counterparty risk through the use of a variety of financial, position and credit exposure reporting and control procedures. In addition, the Company has a policy of reviewing the credit standing of each clearing broker or counter-party with which it conducts business.

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**VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC AND  
SUBSIDIARIES**

**(formerly Standard Asset Management, LLC)**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Note 6 Off-Balance Sheet Risks and Contingencies  
(continued)**

The financial instruments held by the Company are reported in the statement of financial condition at market or fair

value, or at carrying amounts that approximate fair value, because of their highly liquid nature and short-term maturities.

The Company has securities for its own account and may incur losses if the market value of the securities decrease subsequent to July 31, 2007.

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## APPENDIX A

### Glossary of Defined Terms

In this Prospectus, each of the following terms have the meanings set forth after such term:

**Administrator:** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.

**Authorized Purchaser:** One that purchases or redeems Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets, respectively, from or to USNG.

**Benchmark Futures Contract:** The near month contract to expire for natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange unless the near month contract is within two weeks of expiration, in which case the Benchmark Futures Contract is the next month contract to expire for natural gas traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange

**Business Day:** Any day other than a day when any of the American Stock Exchange, the New York Mercantile Exchange or the New York Stock Exchange is closed for regular trading.

**CFTC:** Commodities Futures Trading Commission, an independent agency with the mandate to regulate commodities futures and options in the United States.

**Code:** Internal Revenue Code.

**Commodity Pool:** An enterprise in which several individuals contribute funds in order to trade futures or future options collectively.

**Commodity Pool Operator or CPO:** Any person engaged in a business which is of the nature of an investment trust, syndicate, or similar enterprise, and who, in connection therewith, solicits, accepts, or receives from others, funds, securities, or property, either directly or through capital contributions, the sale of stock or other forms of securities, or otherwise, for the purpose of trading in any commodity for future delivery or commodity option on or subject to the rules of any contract market.

**Creation Basket:** A block of 100,000 units used by USNG to issue units.

**Custodian:** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.

**DTC:** The Depository Trust Company. DTC will act as the securities depository for the units.

**DTC Participant:** An entity that has an account with DTC.

**DTEF:** A derivatives transaction execution facility.

**FINRA:** The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, which is the largest non-governmental regulator for all securities firms doing business in the United States.

**Futures Contracts:** Futures contracts for natural gas, crude oil, heating oil, gasoline, and other petroleum-based fuels that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, ICE Futures or other U.S. and foreign exchanges.

**General Partner:** Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, which is registered as a Commodity Pool Operator, who controls the investments and other decisions of USNG.

**ICE Futures:** The leading electronic regulated futures and options exchange for global energy markets. Its trading platform offers participants access to a wide spectrum of energy futures products including the Brent and West Texas Intermediate (WTI) global crude benchmark contracts, Gas Oil, Natural Gas, Electricity, Coal, and ECX carbon financial instruments.

**Indirect Participants:** Banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant, either directly or indirectly.

**Investor:** Beneficial owner of the units.

**Limited Liability Company (LLC):** A type of business ownership combining several features of corporation and partnership structures.

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**LP Agreement:** The Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership dated April 17, 2007.

**Margin:** The amount of equity required for an investment in futures contracts.

**mmBTU:** 10,000 million British thermal units.

**NASAA:** North American Securities Administration Association, Inc.

**NAV:** Net Asset Value of USNG.

**NFA:** National Futures Association.

**NSCC:** National Securities Clearing Corporation.

**New York Mercantile Exchange:** The primary exchange on which futures contracts are traded in the U.S. USNG expects to invest primarily in futures contracts, and particularly in futures contracts traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange. USNG expressly disclaims any association with the Exchange or endorsement of USNG by the Exchange and acknowledges that NYMEX and New York Mercantile Exchange are registered trademarks of such Exchange.

**Natural Gas Interests:** Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments.

**Other Natural Gas-Related Investments:** Natural gas-related investments other than Futures Contracts such as cash-settled options on Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas, and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing.

**Option:** The right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a futures contract or forward contract at a specified price on or before a specified date.

**Over-the-Counter Derivative:** A financial contract, whose value is designed to track the return on stocks, bonds, currencies, commodities, or some other benchmark, that is traded over-the-counter or off organized exchanges.

**Redemption Basket:** A block of 100,000 units used by USNG to redeem units.

**SEC:** Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Secondary Market:** The stock exchanges and the over-the-counter market. Securities are first issued as a primary offering to the public. When the securities are traded from that first holder to another, the issues trade in these secondary markets.

**Spot Contract:** A cash market transaction in which the buyer and seller agree to the immediate purchase and sale of a commodity, usually with a two-day settlement.

**Swap Contract:** An over-the-counter derivative that generally involves an exchange of a stream of payments between the contracting parties based on a notional amount and a specified index.

**Tracking Error:** Possibility that the daily NAV of USNG will not track the price of natural gas.

**Treasuries:** Obligations of the U.S. government with remaining maturities of 2 years or less.

**USNG:** United States Natural Gas Fund, LP.

**USOF:** United States Oil Fund, LP.

**Valuation Day:** Any day as of which USNG calculates its NAV.

**You:** The owner of units.

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# UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP FORM OF SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

This Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership (this *Agreement* ) executed on October , 2007, is entered into by and among Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as General Partner, Wainwright Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as the Organizational Limited Partner, and Kellogg

Capital Group, LLC as a Limited Partner, together with any Persons who shall hereafter be admitted as Partners in accordance with this Agreement.

WHEREAS, the General Partner, Wainwright Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as the Organizational Limited Partner, and the Initial Limited Partner are parties to that certain amended and restated agreement of limited partnership executed on April 17, 2007 (the *LP Agreement*), regarding the operation of the Partnership and their rights and obligations thereunder and pursuant to which the Organizational Limited Partner withdrew from the Partnership;

WHEREAS, the General Partner and the Initial Limited Partner now desire to amend and restate the LP Agreement regarding the operation of the Partnership;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements herein made, the Partners, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree to amend and restate the LP Agreement in its entirety as follows:

## ARTICLE 1

### Definitions

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- 1.1 *Accounting Period* shall mean the following periods: the initial accounting period which shall commence upon the commencement of operations of the Partnership. Each subsequent Accounting Period shall commence immediately after the close of the preceding Accounting Period. Each Accounting Period hereunder shall close on the earliest of (i) the last Business Day of a month, (ii) the effective date of dissolution of the Partnership, and (iii) such other day or days in addition thereto or in substitution therefore as may from time to time be determined by the General Partner in its discretion either in any particular case or generally.
- 1.2 *Act* shall mean the Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act of the State of Delaware, as amended from time to time.
- 1.3 *Additional Limited Partner* shall mean a Person admitted to the Partnership as a Limited Partner pursuant to this Agreement and who is shown as such on the books and records of the Partnership.
- 1.4 *Affiliate* shall mean, when used with reference to a specified Person, (i) any Person who directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries controls or is controlled by or is under common control with the specified Person or (ii) any Person that is an officer of, partner in, or trustee of, or serves in a similar capacity with respect to, the specified Person or of which the specified Person is an officer, partner or trustee, or with respect to which the specified Person serves in a similar capacity.
- 1.5 *Assignee* shall mean a Record Holder that has not been admitted to the Partnership as a Substituted Limited Partner.
- 1.6 *Agreement* shall mean this Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership as may be amended, modified, supplemented or restated from time to time.
- 1.7 *Authorized Purchaser Agreement* shall mean an agreement among the Partnership, the General Partner and a Participant, as may be amended or supplemented from time to time in accordance with its terms.
- 1.8 *Business Day* shall mean any day other than a day on which the American Stock Exchange, the New York Mercantile Exchange or the New York Stock Exchange is closed for regular trading.

1.9 *Beneficial Owner* shall mean the ultimate beneficial owner of Units held by a nominee which has furnished the identity of the Beneficial Owner in accordance with Section 6031(c) of the Code (or any other method acceptable to the General Partner in its sole discretion) and with Section 9.2.2 of this Agreement.

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1.10 *Capital Account* shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Section 4.1.

1.11 *Capital Contribution* shall mean the total amount of money or agreed-upon value of property contributed to the Partnership by all the Partners or any class of Partners or any one Partner, as the case may be (or the predecessor holders of the interests of such Partner or Partners).

1.12 *Capital Transaction* shall mean a sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Partnership not in the ordinary course of business.

1.13 *Certificate* shall mean a certificate issued by the Partnership evidencing ownership of one or more Units.

1.14 *Close of Business* shall mean 5:00 PM New York time.

1.15 *Creation Basket* shall mean 100,000 Units, or such other number of Units as may be determined by the General Partner from time to time, purchased by a Participant.

1.16 *Code* shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

1.17 *Departing Partner* shall mean a former General Partner, from and after the effective date of any withdrawal or removal of such former General Partner.

1.18 *Depository* or *DTC* shall mean The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or such other depository of Units as may be selected by the General Partner as specified herein.

1.19 *Depository Agreement* shall mean the Letter of Representations from the General Partner to the Depository, dated as of April 17, 2007, as may be amended or supplemented from time to time.

1.20 *Distributable Cash* shall mean, with respect to any period, all cash revenues of the Partnership (not including (i) Capital Contributions, (ii) funds received by the Partnership in respect of indebtedness incurred by the Partnership, (iii) interest or other income earned on temporary investments of Partnership funds pending utilization, and (iv) proceeds from any Capital Transaction), less the sum of the following: (x) all amounts expended by the Partnership pursuant to this Agreement in such period and (y) such working capital or reserves or other amounts as the General Partner reasonably deems to be necessary or appropriate for the proper operation of the Partnership's business or its winding up and liquidation. The General Partner in its sole discretion may from time to time declare other funds of the Partnership to be Distributable Cash.

1.21 *DTC Participants* shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Section 9.2.2.

1.22 *General Partner* shall mean Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, or any Person who, at the time of reference thereto, serves as a general partner of the Partnership.

1.23 *Global Certificates* shall mean the global certificate or certificates issued to the Depository as provided in the Depository Agreement, each of which shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.

1.24 *Indirect Participants* shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Section 9.2.2.

1.25 *Initial Limited Partner* shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Section 3.3.

1.26 *Initial Offering Period* shall mean the period commencing with the initial effective date of the Prospectus and terminating no later than the ninetieth (90th) day following such date unless extended for up to an additional 90 days at the sole discretion of the General Partner.

1.27 *Limited Partner* shall mean any Person who is a limited partner (whether the Initial Limited Partner, a Limited Partner admitted pursuant to this Agreement or an assignee who is admitted as a Limited Partner) at the time of reference thereto, in such Person's capacity as a limited partner of the Partnership.

1.28 *Management Fee* shall mean the management fee paid to the General Partner pursuant to this Agreement.

1.29 *Net Asset Value* or *NAV* shall mean the current market value of the Partnership's total assets, less any liabilities, as reasonably determined by the General Partner or its designee.

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1.30 *Opinion of Counsel* shall mean a written opinion of counsel (who may be regular counsel to the Partnership or the General Partner) acceptable to the General Partner.

1.31 *Organizational Limited Partner* shall mean Wainwright Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation, in its capacity as the organizational limited partner of the Partnership.

1.32 *Outstanding* shall mean, with respect to the Units or other Partnership Securities, as the case may be, all Units or other Partnership Securities that are issued by the Partnership and reflected as outstanding on the Partnership's books and records as of the date of determination.

1.33 *Participant* shall mean a Person that is a DTC Participant and has entered into an Authorized Purchaser Agreement which, at the relevant time, is in full force and effect.

1.34 *Partner* shall mean the General Partner or any Limited Partner. *Partners* shall mean the General Partner and all Limited Partners (unless otherwise indicated).

1.35 *Partnership* shall mean the limited partnership hereby formed, as such limited partnership may from time to time be constituted.

1.36 *Partnership Securities* shall mean any additional Units, options, rights, warrants or appreciation rights relating thereto, or any other type of equity security that the Partnership may lawfully issue, any unsecured or secured debt obligations of the Partnership or debt obligations of the Partnership convertible into any class or series of equity securities of the Partnership.

1.37 *Person* shall mean any natural person, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, trust, estate, corporation, association, custodian, nominee or any other individual or entity in its own or any representative capacity.

1.38 *Profit or Loss* with respect to any Accounting Period shall mean the excess (if any) of:

(a) the Net Asset Value as of the Valuation Time on the Valuation Date, less



(b) the Net Asset Value as of the Valuation Time on the Valuation Date immediately preceding the commencement of such Accounting Period,

adjusted as deemed appropriate by the General Partner to reflect any Capital Contributions, redemptions, withdrawals, distributions, or other events occurring or accounted for during such Accounting Period (including any allocation of Profit or Loss to a redeeming partner pursuant to Article 4.3.2 with respect to such Accounting Period).

If the amount determined pursuant to the preceding sentence is a positive number, such amount shall be the *Profit* for the Accounting Period and if such amount is a negative number, such amount shall be the *Loss* for the Accounting Period.

1.39 *Prospectus* shall mean the United States Natural Gas Fund, LP prospectus, dated April 17, 2007, as the same may have been amended or supplemented, used in connection with the offer and sale of Units in the Partnership.

1.40 *Record Date* shall mean the date established by the General Partner for determining (a) the identity of Limited Partners (or Assignees if applicable) entitled to notice of, or to vote at any meeting of Limited Partners or entitled to vote by ballot or give approval of any Partnership action in writing without a meeting or entitled to exercise rights in respect of any action of Limited Partners or (b) the identity of Record Holders entitled to receive any report or distribution.

1.41 *Record Holder* shall mean the Person in whose name such Unit is registered on the books of the Transfer Agent as of the open of business on a particular Business Day.

1.42 *Redeemable Units* shall mean any Units for which a redemption notice has been given.

1.43 *Redemption Basket* shall mean 100,000 Units or such other number of Units as may be determined by the General Partner from time to time, redeemed by a Participant.

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1.44 *Revolving Credit Facility* shall mean a revolving credit facility that the Partnership may enter into on behalf of the Partnership with one or more commercial banks or other lenders for liquidity or other purposes for the benefit of the Partnership.

1.45 *Substituted Limited Partner* shall mean a Person who is admitted as a Limited Partner to the Partnership pursuant to Article 11.2 in place of and with all the rights of a Limited Partner and who is shown as a Limited Partner on the books and records of the Partnership.

1.46 *Tax Certificate* shall mean an Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 (or the substantial equivalent thereof) in the case of a Limited Partner that is a U.S. person within the meaning of the Code, or an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN or other applicable form in the case of a Limited Partner that is not a U.S. person.

1.47 *Transfer Agent* shall mean Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. or such bank, trust company or other Person (including, without limitation, the General Partner or one of its Affiliates) as shall be appointed from time to time by the Partnership to act as registrar and transfer agent for the Units or any applicable Partnership Securities.

1.48 *Transfer Application* shall mean an application and agreement for transfer of Units, which shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit D.

1.49 *Unit* shall mean an interest of a Limited Partner or an assignee of the Partnership representing such fractional part of the interests of all Limited Partners and assignees as shall be determined by the General Partner pursuant to this Agreement.

1.50 *Unit Register* shall have the meaning assigned to such term in Article 9.2.1.

1.51 *Unitholders* shall mean the General Partner and all holders of Units, where no distinction is required by the context in which the term is used.

1.52 *Valuation Date* shall mean the last Business Day of any Accounting Period.

1.53 *Valuation Time* shall mean (i) Close of Business on a Valuation Date or (ii) such other time or day as the General Partner in its discretion may determine from time to time either in any particular case or generally.

## ARTICLE 2

### General Provisions

2.1 This Agreement shall become effective on the date set forth in the preamble of this Agreement. The rights and liabilities of the Partners shall be as set forth in the Act, except as herein otherwise expressly provided. The Partnership shall continue without interruption as a limited partnership pursuant to the provisions of the Act.

2.2 The name of the Partnership shall be United States Natural Gas Fund, LP; however, the business of the Partnership may be conducted, upon compliance with all applicable laws, under any other name designated in writing by the General Partner to the Limited Partners.

2.3 The Partnership's principal place of business shall be located at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502 or such other place as the General Partner may designate from time to time. The registered agent for the Partnership is Corporation Service Company and the registered office is located at 2711 Centerville Road, Suite 400, Wilmington, Delaware 19808, County of New Castle. The Partnership may maintain such other offices at such other places as the General Partner deems advisable.

2.4 The investment objective of the Partnership is for changes in percentage terms of the Units' NAV to reflect the changes in percentage terms of the spot price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub in Louisiana, as measured by the Benchmark Futures Contract, less the Partnership's expenses. It is not the intent of the Partnership to be operated in such a fashion such that its NAV will equal, in dollar terms, the dollar price of spot natural gas or any particular futures contract based on natural gas. The Partnership will invest in futures contracts for natural gas, other types of natural gas, heating oil, gasoline, oil and other petroleum based fuels that are traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange, ICE Futures or other U.S. and foreign

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exchanges (collectively, *Natural Gas Futures Contracts*) and other natural gas interests such as cash-settled options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas, oil, and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, other petroleum-based fuels, Natural Gas Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing.

2.5 The term of the Partnership shall be from the date of its formation in perpetuity, unless earlier terminated in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

2.6 The General Partner shall execute, file and publish all such certificates, notices, statements or other instruments required by law for the formation or operation of a limited partnership in all jurisdictions where the Partnership may elect to do business. The General Partner shall not be required to deliver or mail to the Limited Partners a copy of the certificate of limited partnership of the Partnership or any certificate of amendment thereto.

2.7 The Partnership shall be empowered to do any and all acts and things necessary, appropriate, proper, advisable, incidental to or convenient for the furtherance and accomplishment of the purposes, business, protection and benefit of the Partnership.

2.8 The business and affairs of the Partnership shall be managed by the General Partner in accordance with Article 7 hereof. The General Partner has seven directors, a majority of whom may also be executive officers of the General Partner. The General Partner shall establish and maintain an audit committee of its board of directors for the Partnership (the *Audit Committee*) in compliance with, and granted the requisite authority and funding pursuant to, any applicable (1) federal securities laws and regulations, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and (2) rules, policies and procedures of any national securities exchange on which the securities issued by the Partnership are listed and traded.

## ARTICLE 3

### Partners and Capital Contributions

#### 3.1 *General Partner.*

3.1.1 The name of the General Partner is Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC, which maintains its principal business office at 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502.

3.1.2 In consideration of management and administrative services rendered by the General Partner, the Partnership shall pay the Management Fee to the General Partner (or such other person or entity designated by the General Partner) including the payment of expenses in the ordinary course of business. Expenses in the ordinary course of business shall not include the payment of (i) brokerage fees, (ii) licensing fees for the use of intellectual property used by the Partnership, or (iii) registration or other fees paid to the Securities and Exchange Commission ( *SEC* ), the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ( *FINRA* ), or any other regulatory agency in connection with the offer and sale of the Units and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated therewith; provided, however, that the fees and expenses incurred under (iii) in connection with the initial public offering of the Units shall be paid by the General Partner. The Partnership also pays (i) the fees and expenses, including directors and officers liability insurance, of the independent directors, and (ii) the fees and expenses associated with its tax accounting and reporting requirements with the exception of any fees for implementation of services and base service fees charged by the accounting firm responsible for preparing the Partnership's tax reporting forms, as such fees will be paid by the General Partner. Fees and expenses, including the Management Fee, are calculated on a daily basis and paid on a monthly basis (accrued at 1/365 of applicable percentage of NAV on that day). The initial Management Fee shall be set forth on Exhibit A attached hereto, as may be amended from time to time. The General Partner may, in its sole discretion, waive all or part of the Management Fee. The Partnership shall be responsible for all extraordinary expenses (i.e., expenses not in the ordinary course of business, including, without limitation, the items listed above in this Section 3.1.2, the indemnification of any Person against liabilities and obligations to the extent permitted by law and required under this Agreement and the bringing and defending of actions at law or in equity and otherwise engaging in the conduct of litigation and the incurring of legal expense and the settlement of claims and litigation).

3.1.3 In connection with the formation of the Partnership under the Act, the General Partner acquired a 2% interest in the profits and losses of the Partnership and made an initial capital contribution to the

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Partnership in the amount of \$20.00, and the Organizational Limited Partner acquired a 98% interest in the profits and losses of the Partnership and made an initial capital contribution to the Partnership in the amount of \$980.00. As of the date of the initial offering of Units to the public, the interest of the Organizational Limited Partner and the General Partner was redeemed, the initial capital contribution of the Organizational Limited Partner and the General Partner was refunded, and the Organizational Limited Partner thereupon withdrew and ceased to be a Limited Partner.

Ninety-eight percent of any interest or other profit that may have resulted from the investment or other use of such initial capital contribution was allocated and distributed to the Organizational Limited Partner, and the balance thereof was allocated and distributed to the General Partner. The General Partner may but shall not be required to make Capital Contributions to the Partnership on or after the date hereof. If the General Partner does make a Capital Contribution to the Partnership on or after the date hereof, it shall be issued Units based on the same terms and conditions applicable to the purchase of a Creation Basket under Article 16 hereof.

3.1.4 The General Partner may not, without written approval by all of the Limited Partners or by other written instrument executed and delivered by all of the Limited Partners subsequent to the date of this Agreement, take any action in contravention of this Agreement, including, without limitation, (i) any act that would make it impossible to carry on the ordinary business of the Partnership, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement; (ii) possess Partnership property, or assign any rights in specific Partnership property, for other than a Partnership purpose; (iii) admit a Person as a Partner, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement; (iv) amend this Agreement in any manner, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement or under applicable law; or (v) transfer its interest as general partner of the Partnership, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

3.1.5 Except as otherwise provided herein, the General Partner may not sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the Partnership's assets in a single transaction or a series of related transactions (including by way of merger, consolidation or other combination with any other Person) or approve on behalf of the Partnership the sale, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Partnership, taken as a whole, without the approval of at least a majority of the Limited Partners; provided, however, that this provision shall not preclude or limit the General Partner's ability to mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or grant a security interest in all or substantially all of the Partnership's assets and shall not apply to any forced sale of any or all of the Partnership's assets pursuant to the foreclosure of, or other realization upon, any such encumbrance.

3.1.6 Unless approved by a majority of the Limited Partners, the General Partner shall not take any action or refuse to take any reasonable action the effect of which, if taken or not taken, as the case may be, would be to cause the Partnership, to the extent it would materially and adversely affect the Limited Partners, to be taxable as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

3.1.7 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the General Partner is not authorized to institute or initiate on behalf of, or otherwise cause the Partnership to:

- (a) make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors;
- (b) file a voluntary bankruptcy petition; or
- (c) file a petition seeking for the Partnership a reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under any law.

3.2 *Issuance of Units.* Units in the Partnership will only be issued in a Creation Basket or whole number multiples thereof.

3.3 *Initial Limited Partner*. The name of the Initial Limited Partner is Kellogg Capital Group, LLC ( *Initial Limited Partner* ). The business address and Capital Contribution of the Initial Limited Partner are 55 Broadway New York, NY 10006. The Initial Limited Partner shall purchase the initial Creation Basket at an initial offering price per Unit equal to the closing price of near-month Natural Gas Futures Contracts as listed on the New York Mercantile Exchange on the last Business Day prior to the effective date of the registration statement relating to the Prospectus.

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3.4 *Capital Contribution*. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, no Partner shall have any right to demand or receive the return of its Capital Contribution to the Partnership. No Partner shall be entitled to interest on any Capital Contribution to the Partnership or on such Partner's Capital Account.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **Capital Accounts of Partners and Operation Thereof**

4.1 *Capital Accounts*. There shall be established on the books and records of the Partnership for each Partner (or Beneficial Owner in the case of Units held by a nominee) a capital account (a *Capital Account* ). It is intended that each Partner's Capital Account shall be maintained at all times in a manner consistent with Section 704 of the Code and applicable Treasury regulations thereunder, and that the provisions hereof relating to the Capital Accounts shall be interpreted in a manner consistent therewith. For each Accounting Period, the Capital Account of each Partner shall be:

- (i) credited with the amount of any Capital Contributions made by such Partner during such Accounting Period;
- (ii) credited with any allocation of Profit made to such Partner for such Accounting Period;
- (iii) debited with any allocation of Loss made to such Partners for such Accounting Period; and
- (iv) debited with the amount of cash paid to such Partner as an amount withdrawn or distributed to such Partner during such Accounting Period, or, in the case of any payment of a withdrawal or distribution in kind, the fair value of the property paid or distributed during such Accounting Period.

4.1.1 For any Accounting Period in which Units are issued or redeemed for cash or other property, the General Partner shall, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(f), adjust the Capital Accounts of all Partners and the carrying value of each Partnership asset upward or downward to reflect any unrealized gain or unrealized loss attributable to each such Partnership asset, as if such unrealized gain or unrealized loss had been recognized on an actual sale of the asset and had been allocated to the Partners at such time pursuant to Article 4.2 of this Agreement in the same manner as any item of gain or loss actually recognized during such period would have been allocated.

4.1.2 To the extent an adjustment to the adjusted tax basis of any Partnership asset pursuant to Section 734(b) or 743(b) of the Code is required, pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(m), to be taken into account in determining Capital Accounts, the amount of such adjustment to the Capital Accounts shall be treated as an item of gain (if the adjustment increases the basis of the asset) or loss (if the adjustment decreases such basis), and such item of gain or loss shall be specially allocated to the Partners in a manner consistent with the manner in which their Capital Accounts are required to be adjusted pursuant to such Section of the Treasury regulations.

*4.2 Allocation of Profit or Loss.* Profit or Loss for an Accounting Period shall be allocated among the Partners in proportion to the number of Units each Partner holds as of the Close of Business on the last Business Day of such Accounting Period. The General Partner may revise, alter or otherwise modify this method of allocation to the extent it deems necessary to comply with the requirements of Section 704 or Section 706 of the Code and Treasury regulations or administrative rulings thereunder.

*4.3 Allocations for Tax Purposes*

4.3.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, for each fiscal year of the Partnership, items of income, deduction, gain, loss, and credit recognized by the Partnership for federal income tax purposes shall be allocated among the Partners in a manner that equitably reflects the amounts credited or debited to each Partner's Capital Account for each Accounting Period during such fiscal year. Allocations under this Article 4.3 shall be made by the General Partner in accordance with the principles of Sections 704(b) and 704(c) of the Code and in conformity with applicable Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder (including, without limitation, Treasury regulations Sections 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(f), 1.704-1(b)(4)(i), and 1.704-3(e)).

4.3.2 Notwithstanding anything else contained in this Article 4, if any Partner has a deficit Capital Account for any Accounting Period as a result of any adjustment of the type described in Treasury Regulation Section 1.704-1(b)(2)(ii)(d)(5) or 1.704-1(b)(2)(ii)(d) (6), then the Partnership's income and gain shall be

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specially allocated to such Partner in an amount and manner sufficient to eliminate such deficit as quickly as possible.

Any special allocation of items of income or gain pursuant to this Article 4.3.2 shall be taken into account in computing subsequent allocations pursuant to this Article 4 so that the cumulative net amount of all items allocated to each Partner shall, to the extent possible, be equal to the amount that would have been allocated to such Partner if there had never been any allocation pursuant to the first sentence of this Article 4.3.2.

4.3.3 Allocations that would otherwise be made to a Limited Partner under the provisions of this Article 4 shall instead be made to the Beneficial Owner of Units held by a nominee.

*4.4 Compliance.* In applying the provisions of this Article 4, the General Partner is authorized to utilize such reasonable accounting conventions, valuation methods and assumptions as the General Partner shall determine to be appropriate and in compliance with the Code and applicable Treasury regulations. The General Partner may amend the provisions of this Agreement to the extent it determines to be necessary to comply with the Code and Treasury regulations.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **Records and Accounting; Reports**

*5.1 Records and Accounting.* The Partnership will keep proper books of record and account of the Partnership at its office located in 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502 or such office, including that of an administrative agent, as it may subsequently designate upon notice to the Limited Partners. These books and records are open to inspection by any person who establishes to the Partnership's satisfaction that such person is a Limited Partner upon reasonable advance notice at all reasonable times during the usual business hours of the Partnership.

**5.2 Annual Reports.** Within 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, the General Partner shall cause to be delivered to each Person who was a Partner at any time during the fiscal year, an annual report containing the following:

(i) financial statements of the Partnership, including, without limitation, a balance sheet as of the end of the Partnership's fiscal year and statements of income, Partners' equity and changes in financial position, for such fiscal year, which shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles consistently applied and shall be audited by a firm of independent certified public accountants registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board,

(ii) a general description of the activities of the Partnership during the period covered by the report, and

(iii) a report of any material transactions between the Partnership and the General Partner or any of its Affiliates, including fees or compensation paid by the Partnership and the services performed by the General Partner or any such Affiliate for such fees or compensation.

**5.3 Quarterly Reports.** Within 45 days after the end of each quarter of each fiscal year, the General Partner shall cause to be delivered to each Person who was a Partner at any time during the quarter then ended, a quarterly report containing a balance sheet and statement of income for the period covered by the report, each of which may be unaudited but shall be certified by the General Partner as fairly presenting the financial position and results of operations of the Partnership during the period covered by the report. The report shall also contain a description of any material event regarding the business of the Partnership during the period covered by the report.

**5.4 Monthly Reports.** Within 30 days after the end of each month, the General Partner shall cause to be delivered to each Person who was a Partner at any time during the month then ended, a monthly report containing an account statement, which will include a statement of income (or loss) and a statement of changes in NAV, for the prescribed period. In addition, the account statement will disclose any material business dealings between the Partnership, General Partner, commodity trading advisor (if any), futures commission merchant, or the principals thereof that previously have not been disclosed in the Partnership's Prospectus or any amendment thereto, other account statements or annual reports.

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**5.5 Tax Information.** The General Partner shall use its best efforts to prepare and to transmit a U.S. federal income tax form K-1 for each Partner, Assignee, or Beneficial Owner or a report setting forth in sufficient detail such transactions effected by the Partnership during each fiscal year as shall enable each Partner, Assignee, or Beneficial Owner to prepare its U.S. federal income tax return, if any, within a reasonable period after the end of such fiscal year.

**5.6 Tax Returns.** The General Partner shall cause income tax returns of the Partnership to be prepared and timely filed with the appropriate authorities.

**5.7 Tax Matters Partner.** The General Partner is hereby designated as the Partnership's *Tax Matters Partner*, as defined under Section 6231(a)(7) of the Code. The General Partner is specifically directed and authorized to take whatever steps the General Partner, in its discretion, deems necessary or desirable to perfect such designation, including filing any forms or documents with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and taking such other action as may from time to time be required under U.S. Treasury regulations. Any Partner shall have the right to participate in any administrative proceedings relating to the determination of Partnership items at the Partnership level. Expenses of such administrative proceedings undertaken by the Tax Matters Partner shall be expenses of the Partnership. Each Partner who elects to participate in such proceedings shall be responsible for any expenses incurred by such Partner in connection with such participation. The cost of any resulting audits or adjustments of a Partner's tax return shall be

borne solely by the affected Partner. In the event of any audit, investigation, settlement or review, for which the General Partner is carrying out the responsibilities of Tax Matters Partner, the General Partner shall keep the Partners reasonably apprised of the status and course of such audit, investigation, settlement or review and shall forward copies of all written communications from or to any regulatory, investigative or judicial authority with regard thereto.

## ARTICLE 6

### Fiscal Affairs

6.1 *Fiscal Year.* The fiscal year of the Partnership shall be the calendar year. The General Partner may select an alternate fiscal year.

6.2 *Partnership Funds.* Pending application or distribution, the funds of the Partnership shall be deposited in such bank account or accounts, or invested in such interest-bearing or non-interest bearing investment, including, without limitation, checking and savings accounts, certificates of deposit and time or demand deposits in commercial banks, U.S. government securities and securities guaranteed by U.S. government agencies as shall be designed by the General Partner. Such funds shall not be commingled with funds of any other Person. Withdrawals therefrom shall be made upon such signatures as the General Partner may designate.

6.3 *Accounting Decisions.* All decisions as to accounting principles, except as specifically provided to the contrary herein, shall be made by the General Partner.

6.4 *Tax Elections.* The General Partner shall, from time to time, make such tax elections as it deems necessary or desirable in its sole discretion to carry out the business of the Partnership or the purposes of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the General Partner shall make a timely election under Section 754 of the Code.

6.5 *Partnership Interests.* Title to the Partnership assets shall be deemed to be owned by the Partnership as an entity, and no Partner or Assignee, individually or collectively, shall have any ownership interest in such Partnership assets or any portion thereof. Title to any or all of the Partnership assets may be held in the name of the Partnership, the General Partner or one or more nominees, as the General Partner may determine. The General Partner hereby declares and warrants that any Partnership assets for which record title is held in the name of the General Partner shall be held by the General Partner for the exclusive use and benefit of the Partnership in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement; provided, however, that the General Partner shall use its reasonable efforts to cause record title to such assets (other than those assets in respect of which the General Partner determines that the expense and difficulty of conveyancing makes transfer of record title to the Partnership impracticable) to be vested in the Partnership as soon as reasonably practicable; provided, that prior to the withdrawal or removal of the General Partner or as soon thereafter as practicable, the General Partner will use reasonable efforts to effect the transfer of record title to the Partnership and, prior to any such

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transfer, will provide for the use of such assets in a manner satisfactory to the Partnership. All Partnership assets shall be recorded as the property of the Partnership in its books and records, irrespective of the name in which record title to such Partnership assets are held.



## ARTICLE 7

### Rights and Duties of the General Partner

**7.1 Management Power.** The General Partner shall have exclusive management and control of the business and affairs of the Partnership, and all decisions regarding the management and affairs of the Partnership shall be made by the General Partner. The General Partner shall have all the rights and powers of general partner as provided in the Act and as otherwise provided by law. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, the General Partner is hereby granted the right, power and authority to do on behalf of the Partnership all things which, in its sole judgment, are necessary, proper or desirable to carry out the aforementioned duties and responsibilities, including but not limited to, the right, power and authority from time to time to do the following:

- (a) the making of any expenditures, the lending or borrowing of money, the assumption or guarantee of, or other contracting for, indebtedness and other liabilities, the issuance of evidences of indebtedness and the incurring of any other obligations and the securing of same by mortgage, deed of trust or other lien or encumbrance;
- (b) the making of tax, regulatory and other filings, or rendering of periodic or other reports to governmental or other agencies having jurisdiction over the business or assets of the Partnership;
- (c) the acquisition, disposition, mortgage, pledge, encumbrance, hypothecation or exchange of any or all of the assets of the Partnership, or the merger or other combination of the Partnership with or into another Person (the matters described in this clause (c) being subject, however, to any prior approval that may be required in accordance with this Agreement);
- (d) the use of the assets of the Partnership (including, without limitation, cash on hand) for any purpose consistent with the terms of this Agreement including, without limitation, the financing of the conduct of the operations of the Partnership, the lending of funds to other Persons, and the repayment of obligations of the Partnership;
- (e) the negotiation, execution and performance of any contracts, conveyances or other instruments (including, without limitation, instruments that limit the liability of the Partnership under contractual arrangements to all or particular assets of the Partnership with the other party to the contract to have no recourse against the General Partner or its assets other than its interest in the Partnership, even if same results in the terms of the transaction being less favorable to the Partnership than would otherwise be the case);
- (f) the distribution of Distributable Cash;
- (g) the selection and dismissal of employees (including, without limitation, employees having titles such as *president*, *vice president*, *secretary* and *treasurer*), agents, outside attorneys, accountants, consultants and contractors and the determination of their compensation and other terms of employment or hiring;
- (h) the maintenance of insurance for the benefit of the Partners and the Partnership (including, without limitation, the assets and operations of the Partnership);
- (i) the formation of, or acquisition of an interest in, and the contribution of property to, any further limited or general partnerships, joint ventures or other relationships;
- (j) the control of any matters affecting the rights and obligations of the Partnership, including, without limitation, the bringing and defending of actions at law or in equity and otherwise engaging in the conduct of litigation and the incurring of legal expense and the settlement of claims and litigation;

(k) the indemnification of any Person against liabilities and contingencies to the extent permitted by law;

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(l) the entering into of listing agreements with the American Stock Exchange and any other securities exchange and the delisting of some or all of the Units from, or requesting that trading be suspended on, any such exchange; and

(m) the purchase, sale or other acquisition or disposition of Units.

*7.2 Best Efforts.* The General Partner will use its best efforts to cause the Partnership to be formed, reformed, qualified or registered under assumed or fictitious name statutes or similar laws in any state in which the Partnership owns property or transacts business if such formation, reformation, qualification or registration is necessary in order to protect the limited liability of the Limited Partners or to permit the Partnership lawfully to own property or transact business.

*7.3 Right of Public to Rely on Authority of a General Partner.* No person shall be required to determine the General Partner's authority to make any undertaking on behalf of the Partnership.

*7.4 Obligation of the General Partner.* The General Partner shall:

(a) devote to the Partnership and apply to the accomplishment of the Partnership purposes so much of its time and attention as is necessary or advisable to manage properly the affairs of the Partnership;

(b) maintain the Capital Account for each Partner; and

(c) cause the Partnership to enter into and carry out the obligations of the Partnership contained in the agreements with Affiliates of the General Partner as described in the Prospectus and cause the Partnership not to take any action in violation of such agreements.

*7.5 Good Faith.* The General Partner has a responsibility to the Limited Partners to exercise good faith and fairness in all dealings. In the event that a Limited Partner believes that the General Partner has violated its fiduciary duty to the Limited Partners, he may seek legal relief individually or on behalf of the Partnership under applicable laws, including under the Act and under securities and commodities laws, to recover damages from or require an accounting by the General Partner. Limited Partners should be aware that performance by the General Partner of its fiduciary duty is measured by the terms of this Agreement as well as applicable law. Limited Partners may also have the right, subject to applicable procedural and jurisdictional requirements, to bring class actions in federal court to enforce their rights under the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the SEC. Limited Partners who have suffered losses in connection with the purchase or sale of the Units may be able to recover such losses from the General Partner where the losses result from a violation by the General Partner of the federal securities laws. State securities laws may also provide certain remedies to limited partners. Limited Partners are afforded certain rights to institute reparations proceedings under the Commodity Exchange Act for violations of the Commodity Exchange Act or of any rule, regulation or order of the Commodities Futures Trading Commission ( *CFTC* ) by the General Partner.

*7.6 Indemnification*

*7.6.1* Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, neither a General Partner nor any employee or other agent of the Partnership nor any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of a General Partner (a *Protected Person* ) shall be liable to any Partner or the Partnership for any mistake of judgment or for any action or inaction taken, nor for any losses due to any mistake of judgment or to any action or inaction or to the negligence,

dishonesty or bad faith of any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of the Partnership or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of such General Partner, provided that such officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of the Partner or officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of such General Partner was selected, engaged or retained by such General Partner with reasonable care, except with respect to any matter as to which such General Partner shall have been finally adjudicated in any action, suit or other proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such Protected Person's action was in the best interests of the Partnership and except that no Protected Person shall be relieved of any liability to which such Protected Person would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of the Protected Person's office. A General Partner and its officers, directors, employees or partners may consult with counsel and accountants (except for the Partnership's independent auditors) in respect of

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Partnership affairs and be fully protected and justified in any action or inaction which is taken in accordance with the advice or opinion of such counsel or accountants (except for the Partnership's independent auditors), provided that they shall have been selected with reasonable care.

Notwithstanding any of the foregoing to the contrary, the provisions of this Article 7.6.1 and of Article 7.6.2 hereof shall not be construed so as to relieve (or attempt to relieve) a General Partner (or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of such General Partner) of any liability to the extent (but only to the extent) that such liability may not be waived, modified or limited under applicable law, but shall be construed so as to effectuate the provisions of this Article 7.6.1 and of Article 7.6.2 hereof to the fullest extent permitted by law.

7.6.2 The Partnership shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, but only out of Partnership assets, indemnify and hold harmless a General Partner and each officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent thereof (including persons who serve at the Partnership's request as directors, officers or trustees of another organization in which the Partnership has an interest as a Unitholder, creditor or otherwise) and their respective legal representatives and successors (hereinafter referred to as a *Covered Person*) against all liabilities and expenses, including but not limited to amounts paid in satisfaction of judgments, in compromise or as fines and penalties, and counsel fees reasonably incurred by any Covered Person in connection with the defense or disposition of any action, suit or other proceedings, whether civil or criminal, before any court or administrative or legislative body, in which such Covered Person may be or may have been involved as a party or otherwise or with which such Covered Person may be or may have been threatened, while in office or thereafter, by reason of an alleged act or omission as a General Partner or director or officer thereof, or by reason of its being or having been such a General Partner, director or officer, except with respect to any matter as to which such Covered Person shall have been finally adjudicated in any such action, suit or other proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such Covered Person's action was in the best interest of the Partnership, and except that no Covered Person shall be indemnified against any liability to the Partnership or Limited Partners to which such Covered Person would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such Covered Person's office. Expenses, including counsel fees so incurred by any such Covered Person, may be paid from time to time by the Partnership in advance of the final disposition of any such action, suit or proceeding on the condition that the amounts so paid shall be repaid to the Partnership if it is ultimately determined that the indemnification of such expenses is not authorized hereunder.

As to any matter disposed of by a compromise payment by any such Covered Person, pursuant to a consent decree or otherwise, no such indemnification either for said payment or for any other expenses shall be provided unless such compromise shall be approved as in the best interests of the Partnership, after notice that it involved such indemnification by any disinterested person or persons to whom the questions may be referred by the General Partner,

provided that there has been obtained an opinion in writing of independent legal counsel to the effect that such Covered Person appears to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his or her action was in the best interests of the Partnership and that such indemnification would not protect such persons against any liability to the Partnership or its Limited Partners to which such person would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of office. Approval by any disinterested person or persons shall not prevent the recovery from persons of indemnification if such Covered Person is subsequently adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such Covered Person's action was in the best interests of the Partnership or to have been liable to the Partnership or its Limited Partners by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such Covered Person's office.

The right of indemnification hereby provided shall not be exclusive of or affect any other rights to which any such Covered Person may be entitled. As used in this Article 7.6.2, an *interested Covered Person* is one against whom the action, suit or other proceeding on the same or similar grounds is then or has been pending and a *disinterested person* is a person against whom no actions, suits or other proceedings or another action, suit or other proceeding on the same or similar grounds is then or has been pending. Nothing

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contained in this Article 7.6.2 shall affect any rights to indemnification to which personnel of a General Partner, other than directors and officers, and other persons may be entitled by contract or otherwise under law, nor the power of the Partnership to purchase and maintain liability insurance on behalf of any such person.

Nothing in this Article 7.6.2 shall be construed to subject any Covered Person to any liability to which he or she is not already liable under this Agreement or applicable law.

7.6.3 Each Limited Partner agrees that it will not hold any Affiliate or any officer, director, stockholder, partner, employee or agent of any Affiliate of the General Partner liable for any actions of such General Partner or any obligations arising under or in connection with this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby.

### *7.7 Resolutions of Conflicts of Interest; Standard of Care.*

7.7.1 Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement or any other agreement contemplated hereby, whenever a conflict of interest exists or arises between the General Partner on the one hand, and the Partnership or any Limited Partner, on the other hand, any resolution or course of action by the General Partner in respect of such conflict of interest shall be permitted and deemed approved by all Partners and shall not constitute a breach of this Agreement or of any agreement contemplated hereby or of a duty stated or implied by law or equity, if the resolution or course of action is, or by operation of this Agreement is deemed to be, fair and reasonable to the Partnership. If a dispute arises, it will be resolved through negotiations with the General Partner or by a court located in the State of Delaware. Any resolution of a dispute is deemed to be fair and reasonable to the Partnership if the resolution is:

approved by the Audit Committee, although no party is obligated to seek such approval and the General Partner may adopt a resolution or course of action that has not received such approval;  
on terms no less favorable to the Limited Partners than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or  
fair to the Limited Partners, taking into account the totality of the relationships of the parties involved including other transactions that may be particularly favorable or advantageous to the Limited Partners.

7.7.2 Whenever this Agreement or any other agreement contemplated hereby provides that the General Partner is permitted or required to make a decision (i) in its discretion or under a grant of similar authority or latitude, the

General Partner shall be entitled to the extent permitted by applicable law, to consider only such interest and factors as it desires and shall have no duty or obligation to give any consideration to any interest of or factors affecting the partnership or the Limited Partners, or (ii) in its good faith or under another express standard, the General Partner shall act under such express standard and except as required by applicable law, shall not be subject to any other different standards imposed by this Agreement, any other agreement contemplated hereby or applicable law.

*7.8 Other Matters Concerning the General Partner.*

7.8.1 The General Partner (including the Audit Committee) may rely on and shall be protected in acting or refraining from acting upon any certificate, document or other instrument believed by it to be genuine and to have been signed or presented by the proper party or parties.

7.8.2 The General Partner (including the Audit Committee) may consult with legal counsel, accountants, appraisers, management consultants, investment bankers and other consultants and advisors selected by it and any opinion or advice of any such person as to matters which the General Partner (including the Audit Committee) believes to be within such person's professional or expert competence shall be the basis for full and complete authorization of indemnification and provide legal protection with respect to any action taken or suffered or omitted by the General Partner (including the Audit Committee) hereunder in good faith and in accordance with such opinion or advice.

7.8.3 The General Partner (including the Audit Committee) may exercise any of the powers granted to it by this Agreement and perform any of the duties imposed upon it hereunder either directly or by or through

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its agents, and the General Partner (including the Audit Committee) shall not be responsible for any misconduct or negligence on the part of any such agent appointed by the General Partner in good faith.

7.9 *Other Business Ventures.* Any Partner, director, employee, Affiliate or other person holding a legal or beneficial interest in any entity which is a Partner, may engage in or possess an interest in other business ventures of every nature and description, independently or with others, whether such ventures are competitive with the Partnership or otherwise; and, neither the Partnership nor the Partners shall have any right by virtue of this Agreement in or to such independent ventures or to the income or profits derived there from.

7.10 *Contracts with the General Partner or its Affiliates.* The General Partner may, on behalf of the Partnership, enter into contracts with any Affiliate. The validity of any transaction, agreement or payment involving the Partnership and any General Partner or any Affiliate of a General Partner otherwise permitted by the terms of this Agreement shall not be affected by reason of (i) the relationship between the Partnership and the Affiliate of the General Partner, or (ii) the approval of said transaction agreement or payment by officers or directors of the General Partner.

7.11 *Additional General Partners.* Additional general partners may be admitted with the consent of the General Partner.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **Rights and Obligations of Limited Partners**

8.1 *No Participation in Management.* No Limited Partner (other than a General Partner if it has acquired an interest of a Limited Partner) shall take part in the management of the Partnership's business, transact any business in the

Partnership's name or have the power to sign documents for or otherwise bind the Partnership.

**8.2 Limitation of Liability.** Except as provided in the Act, the debts, obligations, and liabilities of the Partnership, whether arising in contract, tort or otherwise, shall be solely the debts, obligations and liabilities of the Partnership. A Limited Partner will not be liable for assessments in addition to its initial capital investment in any capital securities representing limited partnership interests. However, a Limited Partner may be required to repay to the Partnership any amounts wrongfully returned or distributed to it under some circumstances.

**8.3 Indemnification and Terms of Admission.** Each Limited Partner shall indemnify and hold harmless the Partnership, the General Partner and every Limited Partner who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of or arising from any actual or alleged misrepresentation or misstatement of facts or omission to state facts made (or omitted to be made) by such Limited Partner in connection with any assignment, transfer, encumbrance or other disposition of all or any part of an interest, or the admission of a Limited Partner to the Partnership, against expenses for which the Partnership or such other Person has not otherwise been reimbursed (including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding.

**8.4 Effective Date.** The effective date of admission of a Limited Partner shall be the date designated by the General Partner in writing to such assignee or transferee.

**8.5 Death or Incapacity of Limited Partner.** The death or legal incapacity of a Limited Partner shall not cause dissolution of the Partnership.

**8.6 Rights of Limited Partner Relating to the Partnership.**

(a) In addition to other rights provided by this Agreement or by applicable law, and except as otherwise limited under this Agreement, each Limited Partner shall have the right, for a purpose reasonably related to such Limited Partner's interest as a Limited Partner in the Partnership, upon reasonable demand and at such Limited Partner's own expense:

- (i) to obtain true and full information regarding the status of the business and financial condition of the Partnership;
- (ii) promptly after becoming available, to obtain a copy of the Partnership's federal, state and local tax returns for each year;

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- (iii) to have furnished to it, upon notification to the General Partner, a current list of the name and last known business, residence or mailing address of each Partner;
- (iv) to have furnished to it, upon notification to the General Partner, a copy of this Agreement and the Certificate of Limited Partnership and all amendments thereto;
- (v) to obtain true and full information regarding the amount of cash contributed by and a description and statement of the value of any other Capital Contribution by each Partner and which each Partner has agreed to contribute in the future, and the date on which each became a Partner; and
- (vi) to obtain such other information regarding the affairs of the Partnership as is just and reasonable.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the General Partner may keep confidential from the Limited Partners and Assignees for such period of time as the General Partner deems reasonable, any information that the General Partner reasonably believes to be in the nature of trade secrets or other information, the disclosure of which the General Partner in good faith believes is not in the best interests of the Partnership or could damage the Partnership or that the Partnership is required by law or by agreements with third parties to keep confidential (other than agreements with Affiliates the primary purpose of which is to circumvent the obligations set forth in this Article 8.6).

## ARTICLE 9

### Unit Certificates

9.1 *Unit Certificates.* Certificates shall be executed on behalf of the Partnership by any officer either of the General Partner or, if any, of the Partnership.

#### 9.2 *Registration Form, Registration of Transfer and Exchange.*

9.2.1 The General Partner shall cause to be kept on behalf of the Partnership a register (the *Unit Register*) in which, subject to such reasonable regulations as it may prescribe, the General Partner will provide for the registration and the transfer of Units. The Transfer Agent has been appointed registrar and transfer agent for the purpose of registering and transferring Units as herein provided. The Partnership shall not recognize transfers of Certificates representing Units unless same are effected in the manner described in this Article 9.2. Upon surrender for registration of transfer of any Units evidenced by a Certificate, the General Partner on behalf of the Partnership will execute, and the Transfer Agent will countersign and deliver, in the name of the holder or the designated transferee or transferees, as required pursuant to the holder's instructions, one or more new Certificates evidencing the same aggregate number of Units as was evidenced by the Certificate so surrendered.

#### 9.2.2 *Book-Entry-Only System.*

(a) *Global Certificate Only.* Unless otherwise authorized by the General Partner, Certificates for Units will not be issued, other than the one or more Global Certificates issued to the Depository. So long as the Depository Agreement is in effect, Creation Baskets will be issued and redeemed and Units will be transferable solely through the book-entry systems of the Depository and the DTC Participants and their Indirect Participants as more fully described below.

(1) *Global Certificate.* The Partnership and the General Partner will enter into the Depository Agreement pursuant to which the Depository will act as securities depository for the Units. Units will be represented by the Global Certificate (which may consist of one or more certificates as required by the Depository), which will be registered, as the Depository shall direct, in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for the Depository and deposited with, or on behalf of, the Depository. No other certificates evidencing Units will be issued. The Global Certificate shall be in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B and shall represent such Units as shall be specified therein, and may provide that it shall represent the aggregate amount of outstanding Units from time to time endorsed thereon and that the aggregate amount of outstanding Units represented thereby may from time to time be increased or decreased to reflect creations or redemptions of Baskets (as defined in Section 16.1). Any endorsement of a Global Certificate to reflect the amount, or any increase or decrease in the amount, of outstanding Units represented thereby

shall be made in such manner and upon instructions given by the General Partner on behalf of the Partnership as specified in the Depository Agreement.

(2) *Legend.* Any Global Certificate issued to the Depository or its nominee shall bear a legend substantially to the following effect:

UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION ( DTC ), TO THE FUND OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUIRED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE, OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

(3) *The Depository.* The Depository has advised the Partnership and the General Partner as follows: the Depository is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York, a member of the U.S. Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Depository was created to hold securities of DTC Participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions among the DTC Participants in such securities through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of the DTC Participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations, some of whom (and/or their representatives) own the Depository. Access to the Depository's system is also available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant, either directly or indirectly ( *Indirect Participants* ). The Depository may determine to discontinue providing its service with respect to Creation Baskets and Units by giving notice to the General Partner pursuant to and in conformity with the provisions of the Depository Agreement and discharging its responsibilities with respect thereto under applicable law. Under such circumstances, the General Partner shall take action either to find a replacement for the Depository to perform its functions at a comparable cost and on terms acceptable to the General Partner or, if such a replacement is unavailable, to terminate the Partnership.

(4) *Beneficial Owners.* As provided in the Depository Agreement, upon the settlement date of any creation, transfer or redemption of Units, the Depository will credit or debit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the number of Units so created, transferred or redeemed to the accounts of the appropriate DTC Participants. The accounts to be credited and charged shall be designated by the General Partner on behalf of the Partnership and each Participant, in the case of a creation or redemption of Baskets. Ownership of beneficial interest in Units will be limited to DTC Participants, Indirect Participants and persons holding interests through DTC Participants and Indirect Participants. Beneficial Owners will be shown on, and the transfer of beneficial ownership by Beneficial Owners will be effected only through, in the case of DTC Participants, records maintained by the Depository and, in the case of Indirect Participants and Beneficial Owners holding through a DTC Participant or an Indirect Participant, through those records or the records of the relevant DTC Participants. Beneficial Owners are expected to receive, from or through the broker or bank that maintains the account through which the Beneficial Owner has purchased Units, a written confirmation relating to their purchase of Units.

(5) *Reliance on Procedures.* Except for those who have provided Transfer Applications to the General Partner, so long as Cede & Co., as nominee of the Depository, is the registered owner of Units, references herein to the registered or record owners of Units shall mean Cede & Co. and shall not mean the Beneficial Owners of Units. Beneficial Owners of Units will not be entitled to have Units registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificates in definitive form and will not be considered the record or registered holder of Units under this Agreement. Accordingly, to



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exercise any rights of a holder of Units under the Agreement, a Beneficial Owner must rely on the procedures of the Depository and, if such Beneficial Owner is not a DTC Participant, on the procedures of each DTC Participant or Indirect Participant through which such Beneficial Owner holds its interests. The Partnership and the General Partner understand that under existing industry practice, if the Partnership requests any action of a Beneficial Owner, or a Beneficial Owner desires to take any action that the Depository, as the record owner of all outstanding Units, is entitled to take, the Depository will notify the DTC Participants regarding such request, such DTC Participants will in turn notify each Indirect Participant holding Units through it, with each successive Indirect Participant continuing to notify each person holding Units through it until the request has reached the Beneficial Owner, and in the case of a request or authorization to act that is being sought or given by a Beneficial Owner, such request or authorization is given by the Beneficial Owner and relayed back to the Partnership through each Indirect Participant and DTC Participant through which the Beneficial Owner's interest in the Units is held.

(6) *Communication between the Partnership and the Beneficial Owners.* As described above, the Partnership will recognize the Depository or its nominee as the owner of all Units for all purposes except as expressly set forth in this Agreement. Conveyance of all notices, statements and other communications to Beneficial Owners will be effected in accordance with this paragraph. Pursuant to the Depository Agreement, the Depository is required to make available to the Partnership, upon request and for a fee to be charged to the Partnership, a listing of the Unit holdings of each DTC Participant. The Partnership shall inquire of each such DTC Participant as to the number of Beneficial Owners holding Units, directly or indirectly, through such DTC Participant. The Partnership shall provide each such DTC Participant with sufficient copies of such notice, statement or other communication, in such form, number and at such place as such DTC Participant may reasonably request, in order that such notice, statement or communication may be transmitted by such DTC Participant, directly or indirectly, to such Beneficial Owners. In addition, the Partnership shall pay to each such DTC Participant an amount as reimbursement for the expenses attendant to such transmittal, all subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

(7) *Distributions.* Distributions on Units pursuant to this Agreement shall be made to the Depository or its nominee, Cede & Co., as the registered owner of all Units. The Partnership and the General Partner expect that the Depository or its nominee, upon receipt of any payment of distributions in respect of Units, shall credit immediately DTC Participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in Units as shown on the records of the Depository or its nominee. The Partnership and the General Partner also expect that payments by DTC Participants to Indirect Participants and Beneficial Owners held through such DTC Participants and Indirect Participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in a *street name*, and will be the responsibility of such DTC Participants and Indirect Participants. Neither the Partnership nor the General Partner will have any responsibility or liability for any aspects of the records relating to or notices to Beneficial Owners, or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in Units, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests or for any other aspect of the relationship between the Depository and the DTC Participants or the relationship between such DTC Participants and the Indirect Participants and Beneficial Owners owning through such DTC Participants or Indirect Participants or between or among the Depository, any Beneficial Owner and any person by or through which such Beneficial Owner is considered to own Units.

(8) *Limitation of Liability.* The Global Certificate to be issued hereunder is executed and delivered solely on behalf of the Partnership by the General Partner in its capacity as such and in the exercise of the powers and authority conferred and vested in it by this Agreement. The representations, undertakings and agreements made on the part of the Partnership in the Global Certificate are made and intended not as personal representations, undertakings and agreements by the General Partner, but are made and intended for the purpose of binding only the Partnership. Nothing in the Global Certificate shall be construed as creating any liability on the General Partner, individually or

personally, to fulfill any representation, undertaking or agreement other than as provided in this Agreement.

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(9) *Successor Depository*. If a successor to the Depository shall be employed as Depository hereunder, the Partnership and the General Partner shall establish procedures acceptable to such successor with respect to the matters addressed in this Section 9.2.2.

(10) *Transfer of Units*. Beneficial Owners that are not DTC Participants may transfer Units by instructing the DTC Participant or Indirect Participant holding the Units for such Beneficial Owner in accordance with standard securities industry practice. Beneficial Owners that are DTC Participants may transfer Units by instructing the Depository in accordance with the rules of the Depository and standard securities industry practice.

9.2.3 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Partnership shall not recognize any transfer of Units until the Certificates (if applicable) and a Transfer Application have been provided to the General Partner evidencing such Units are surrendered for registration of transfer. Such Certificates must be accompanied by a Transfer Application duly executed by the transferee (or the transferee's attorney-in-fact duly authorized in writing). No charge shall be imposed by the Partnership for such transfer, provided, that, as a condition to the issuance of any new Certificate under this Article 9.2, the General Partner may require the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed with respect thereto.

*9.3 Mutilated, Destroyed, Lost or Stolen Certificates.*

9.3.1 If any mutilated Certificate is surrendered to the Transfer Agent, the General Partner on behalf of the Partnership, shall execute, and upon its request, the Transfer Agent shall countersign and deliver in exchange therefore, a new Certificate evidencing the same number of Units as the Certificate so surrendered.

9.3.2 The General Partner, on behalf of the Partnership, shall execute, and upon its request, the Transfer Agent shall countersign and deliver a new Certificate in place of any Certificate previously issued if the Record Holder of the Certificate:

- (a) makes proof by affidavit, in form and substance satisfactory to the General Partner, that a previously issued Certificate has been lost, destroyed or stolen;
- (b) requests the issuance of a new Certificate before the Partnership has received notice that the Certificate has been acquired by a purchaser for value in good faith and without notice of an adverse claim;
- (c) if requested by the General Partner, delivers to the Partnership a bond or such other form of security or indemnity as may be required by the General Partner, in form and substance satisfactory to the General Partner, with surety or sureties and with fixed or open penalty as the General Partner may direct, in its sole discretion, to indemnify the Partnership, the General Partner and the Transfer Agent against any claim that may be made on account of the alleged loss, destruction or theft of the Certificate; and
- (d) satisfies any other reasonable requirements imposed by the General Partner.

If a Limited Partner or Assignee fails to notify the Partnership within a reasonable time after it has notice of the loss, destruction or theft of a Certificate, and a transfer of the Units represented by the Certificate is registered before the Partnership, the General Partner or the Transfer Agent receives such notification, the Limited Partner or Assignee shall be precluded from making any claim against the Partnership, the General Partner or the Transfer Agent for such

transfer or for a new Certificate.

9.3.3 As a condition to the issuance of any new Certificate under this Article 9.3, the General Partner may require the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in relation thereto and any other expenses (including, without limitation, the fees and expenses of the Transfer Agent) connected therewith.

9.4 *Record Holder*. The Partnership shall be entitled to recognize the Record Holder as the Limited Partner or Assignee with respect to any Units and, accordingly, shall not be bound to recognize any equitable or other claim to or interest in such Units on the part of any other Person, whether or not the Partnership shall have actual or other notice thereof, except as otherwise provided by law or any applicable rule, regulation,

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guideline or requirement of any national securities exchange on which the Units are listed for trading. Without limiting the foregoing, when a Person (such as a broker, dealer, bank trust company or clearing corporation or an agent of any of the foregoing) is acting as nominee, agent or in some other representative capacity for another Person in acquiring and/or holding Units, as between the Partnership on the one hand and such other Persons on the other hand such representative Person (a) shall be the Limited Partner or Assignee (as the case may be) of record and beneficially, (b) must execute and deliver a Transfer Application and (c) shall be bound by this Agreement and shall have the rights and obligations of a Limited Partner or Assignee (as the case may be) hereunder and as provided for herein.

9.5 *Partnership Securities*. The General Partner is hereby authorized to cause the Partnership to issue Partnership Securities, for any Partnership purpose, at any time or from time to time, to the Partners or to other Persons for such consideration and on such terms and conditions as shall be established by the General Partner in its sole discretion, all without the approval of any Limited Partners. The General Partner shall have sole discretion, subject to the requirements of the Act, in determining the consideration and terms and conditions with respect to any future issuance of Partnership Securities.

9.5.1 The General Partner shall do all things necessary to comply with the Act and is authorized and directed to do all things it deems to be necessary or advisable in connection with any future issuance of Partnership Securities, including, without limitation, compliance with any statute, rule, regulation or guideline of any federal, state or other governmental agency or any national securities exchange on which the Units or other Partnership Securities are listed for trading.

# **ARTICLE 10**

## **Transfer of Interests**

### *10.1 Transfer.*

10.1.1 The term *transfer*, when used in this Article 10 with respect to an interest, shall be deemed to refer to an appropriate transaction by which the General Partner assigns its interest as General Partner to another Person or by which the holder of a Unit assigns such Unit to another Person who is or becomes an Assignee and includes a sale, assignment, gift, pledge, encumbrance, hypothecation, mortgage, exchange or any other disposition by law or otherwise.

10.1.2 No interest shall be transferred in whole or in part, except in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Article 10. Any transfer or purported transfer of an interest not made in accordance with this Article 10 shall be null and void.

*10.2 Transfer of General Partner's Interest.*

10.2.1 Except as set forth in this Article 10.2.1, the General Partner may transfer all, but not less than all, of its interest as the general partner to a single transferee if, but only if, (i) at least a majority of the Limited Partners approve of such transfer and of the admission of such transferee as general partner, (ii) the transferee agrees to assume the rights and duties of the General Partner and be bound by the provisions of this Agreement and other applicable agreements, and (iii) the Partnership receives an Opinion of Counsel that such transfer would not result in the loss of limited liability of any Limited Partner or of the Partnership or cause the Partnership to be taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purposes. The foregoing notwithstanding, the General Partner is expressly permitted to pledge its interest as General Partner to secure the obligations of the Partnership under a Revolving Credit Facility, as the same may be amended, supplemented, replaced, refinanced or restated from time to time, or any successor or subsequent loan agreement.

10.2.2 Neither Article 10.2.1 nor any other provision of this Agreement shall be construed to prevent (and all Partners do hereby consent to) (i) the transfer by the General Partner of all of its interest as a general partner to an Affiliate or (ii) the transfer by the General Partner of all its interest as a general partner upon its merger or consolidation with or other combination into any other Person or the transfer by it of all or substantially all of its assets to another Person if, in the case of a transfer described in either clause (i) or (ii) of this sentence, the rights and duties of the General Partner with respect to the interest so transferred are assumed by the transferee and the transferee agrees to be bound by the provisions of this Agreement; provided, that in

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either such case, such transferee furnishes to the Partnership an Opinion of Counsel that such merger, consolidation, combination, transfer or assumption will not result in a loss of limited liability of any Limited Partner or of the Partnership or cause the Partnership to be taxable as a corporation or otherwise taxed as an entity for federal income tax purpose. In the case of a transfer pursuant to this Article 10.2.2, the transferee or successor (as the case may be) shall be admitted to the Partnership as the General Partner immediately prior to the transfer of the interest, and the business of the Partnership shall continue without dissolution.

*10.3 Transfer of Units.*

10.3.1 Units may be transferred only in the manner described in Article 9.2. The transfer of any Units and the admission of any new Partner shall not constitute an amendment to this Agreement.

10.3.2 Until admitted as a Substituted Limited Partner pursuant to Article 11, the Record Holder of a Unit shall be an Assignee in respect of such Unit. Limited Partners may include custodians, nominees or any other individual or entity in its own or any representative capacity.

10.3.3 Each distribution in respect of Units shall be paid by the Partnership, directly or through the Transfer Agent or through any other Person or agent, only to the Record Holders thereof as of the Record Date set for the distribution. Such payment shall constitute full payment and satisfaction of the Partnership's liability in respect of such payment, regardless of any claim of any Person who may have an interest in such payment by reason of an assignment or otherwise.

10.3.4 A transferee who has completed and delivered a Transfer Application provided by the seller of the Units (or if purchased on an exchange directly from the Partnership), shall be deemed to have (i) requested admission as a Substituted Limited Partner, (ii) agreed to comply with and be bound by and to have executed this Agreement, (iii) represented and warranted that such transferee has the capacity and authority to enter into this Agreement, (iv) made the powers of attorney set forth in this Agreement, and (v) given the consents and made the waivers contained in this Agreement.

10.4 *Restrictions on Transfers.* Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Article 10, no transfer of any Unit or interest therein of any Limited Partner or Assignee shall be made if such transfer would (a) violate the then applicable federal or state securities laws or rules and regulations of the SEC, any state securities commission, the CFTC, or any other governmental authorities with jurisdiction over such transfer, (b) cause the Partnership to be taxable as a corporation or (c) affect the Partnership's existence or qualification as a limited partnership under the Act. The General Partner may request each Record Holder to furnish certain information, including that holder's nationality, citizenship or other related status. A transferee who is not a U.S. resident may not be eligible to become a Record Holder or a Limited Partner if such ownership would subject the Partnership to the risk of cancellation or forfeiture of any of its assets under any federal, state or local law or regulation. If the Record Holder fails to furnish the information or if the General Partner determines, on the basis of the information furnished by the holder in response to the request, that such holder is not qualified to become a Limited Partner, the General Partner may be substituted as a holder for the Record Holder, who will then be treated as a non-citizen assignee, and the Partnership will have the right to redeem those securities held by the Record Holder.

#### 10.5 *Tax Certificates.*

10.5.1 All Limited Partners or Assignees (or, if the Limited Partner or Assignee is a nominee holding for the account of a Beneficial Owner, the Beneficial Owner) are required to provide the Partnership with a properly completed Tax Certificate.

10.5.2 If a Limited Partner or Assignee (or, if the Limited Partner or Assignee is a nominee holding for the account of a Beneficial Owner, the Beneficial Owner) fails to provide the Partnership with a properly completed Tax Certificate, the General Partner may request at any time and from time to time, that such Limited Partner or Assignee (or Beneficial Owner) shall, within 15 days after request (whether oral or written) therefore by the General Partner, furnish to the Partnership, a properly completed Tax Certificate. If a Limited Partner or Assignee fails to furnish to the General Partner within the aforementioned 15-day period such Tax Certificate, the Units owned by such Limited Partner or Assignee (or in the case of a Limited Partner or

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Assignee that holds Units on behalf of a Beneficial Owner, the Units held on behalf of the Beneficial Owner) shall be subject to redemption in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.6.

#### 10.6 *Redemption of Units for Failure to Provide Tax Certificate.*

10.6.1 If at any time a Limited Partner or Assignee fails to furnish a properly completed Tax Certificate within the 15-day period specified in Article 10.5.2, the Partnership may redeem the Units of such Limited Partner or Assignee as follows:

(a) The General Partner shall not later than the tenth (10th) Business Day before the date fixed for redemption, give notice of redemption to the Limited Partner or Assignee, at its last address designated on the records of the Partnership or the Transfer Agent, by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid. The notice shall be deemed to have been given

when so mailed (the *Notice Date* ). The notice shall specify the Redeemable Units, the date fixed for redemption, the place of payment, and that payment of the redemption price will be made upon surrender of the certification evidencing the Redeemable Units.

(b) The aggregate redemption price for Redeemable Units shall be an amount equal to the market price as of the Close of Business on the Business Day immediately prior to the date fixed for redemption of Units to be so redeemed multiplied by the number of Units included among the Redeemable Units. The redemption price shall be paid in the sole discretion of the General Partner, in cash or by delivery of a promissory note of the Partnership in the principal amount of the redemption price, bearing interest at the Prime Rate (as established by the Federal Reserve Board) and payable in three equal annual installments of principal together with accrued interest commencing one year after the redemption date.

(c) Upon surrender by or on behalf of the Limited Partner or Assignee, at the place specified in the notice of redemption, of the certification evidencing the Redeemable Units, duly endorsed in blank or accompanied by an assignment duly executed in blank, the Limited Partner or Assignee or its duly authorized representative shall be entitled to receive the payment therefore.

(d) In the event the Partnership is required to pay withholding tax or otherwise withhold any amount on behalf of, or with respect to, a Limited Partner or Assignee (or Beneficial Owner) who has failed to provide a properly completed Tax Certificate, such amounts paid or withheld by the Partnership shall be deemed to have been paid to such Limited Partner or Assignee (or Beneficial Owner) as part of the redemption price for the Redeemable Units and the Partnership shall reduce the amount of the payment made to such Limited Partner or Assignee (or Beneficial owner) in redemption of such Redeemable Units by any amounts so withheld.

10.6.2 After the Notice Date, Redeemable Units shall no longer constitute issued and Outstanding Units and no allocations or distributions shall be made with respect to such Redeemable Units. In addition, after the Notice Date, the Redeemable Units shall not be transferable.

10.6.3 The provisions of this Article 10.6 shall also be applicable to Units held by a Limited Partner or Assignee as nominee of a Beneficial Owner.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **Admission of Partners**

11.1 *Admission of Initial Limited Partners and Other Creation Basket Purchases.* Subject to the requirements of this Article 11, upon the issuance by the Partnership of Units to the Initial Limited Partner and any other purchasers of a Creation Basket, the General Partner shall admit the Initial Limited Partner and such other purchasers of the Creation Basket to the Partnership as Limited Partners in respect of the Units purchased.

11.2 *Admission of Substituted Limited Partners.* By transfer of a Unit in accordance with Article 10, the transferor shall be deemed to have given the transferee the right to seek admission as a Substituted Limited Partner subject to the conditions of, and in the manner permitted under, this Agreement. A transferor of a Certificate shall, however, only have the authority to convey to a purchaser or other transferee who does not execute and deliver a Transfer Application (i) the right to negotiate such Certificate to a purchaser or other transferee, and (ii) the right to transfer the right to request admission as a Substituted Limited Partner to such purchaser or other transferee in respect of the transferred Units. Each transferee of a Unit (including, without

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limitation, any nominee holder or an agent acquiring such Unit for the account of another Person) who executes and delivers a Transfer Application shall, by virtue of such execution and delivery, be an Assignee and be deemed to have applied to become a Substituted Limited Partner with respect to the Units so transferred to such Person. Such Assignee shall become a Substituted Limited Partner (i) at such time as the General Partner consents thereto, which consent may be given or withheld in the General Partner's sole discretion, and (ii) when any such admission is shown on the books and records of the Partnership, following the consent of the General Partner to such admission. If such consent is withheld, such transferee shall be an Assignee. An Assignee shall have an interest in the Partnership equivalent to that of a Limited Partner with respect to allocations and distributions, including, without limitation, liquidating distributions, of the Partnership. With respect to voting rights attributable to Units that are held by Assignees, the General Partner shall be deemed to be the Limited Partner with respect thereto and shall, in exercising the voting rights in respect of such Units on any matter, vote such Units at the written direction of the Assignee who is the Record Holder of such Units. If no such written direction is received, such Units will not be voted. An Assignee shall have none of the other rights of a Limited Partner.

*11.3 Admission of Successor General Partner.* A successor General Partner approved pursuant to this Article 11.3 or the transferee of or successor to all of the General Partner's interest pursuant to Article 10.2 who is proposed to be admitted as a successor General Partner shall be admitted to the Partnership as the General Partner, effective immediately prior to the withdrawal or removal of the General Partner pursuant to Article 12 or the transfer of the General Partner's interest pursuant to Article 10.2; provided, however, that no such successor shall be admitted to the Partnership until compliance with the terms of Article 10.2 has occurred. Any such successor shall carry on the business of the Partnership without dissolution. In each case, the admission shall be subject to the successor General Partner executing and delivering to the Partnership an acceptance of all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement and such other documents or instruments as may be required to effect the admission.

*11.4 Admission of Additional Limited Partners.*

11.4.1 A Person (other than the General Partner, an Initial Limited Partner or a Substituted Limited Partner) who makes a Capital Contribution to the Partnership in accordance with this Agreement shall be admitted to the Partnership as an Additional Limited Partner only upon furnishing to the General Partner (i) evidence of acceptance in form satisfactory to the General Partner of all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including, without limitation, the power of attorney granted in this Agreement, and (ii) such other documents or instruments as may be required in the discretion of the General Partner to effect such Person's admission as an Additional Limited Partner.

11.4.2 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Article 11.4, no Person shall be admitted as an Additional Limited Partner without the consent of the General Partner, which consent may be given or withheld in the General Partner's sole discretion. The admission of any Person as an Additional Limited Partner shall become effective on the date upon which the name of such Person is recorded on the books and records of the Partnership, following the consent of the General Partner to such admission.

*11.5 Amendment of Agreement and Certificate of Limited Partnership.* To effect the admission to the Partnership of any Partner, the General Partner shall take all steps necessary and appropriate under the Act to amend the records of the Partnership and if necessary, to prepare as soon as practical an amendment of this Agreement and if required by law, to prepare and file an amendment to the Certificate of Limited Partnership and may for this purpose, among others, exercise the power of attorney granted pursuant to Article 15.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **Withdrawal or Removal of Partners**

*12.1 Withdrawal of the General Partner.*

12.1.1 The General Partner shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Partnership upon the occurrence of any one of the following events (each such event herein referred to as an Event of Withdrawal):

(a) the General Partner voluntarily withdraws from the Partnership by giving written notice to the other Partners;

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(b) the General Partner transfers all of its rights as general partner pursuant to this Agreement;

(c) the General Partner is removed;

(d) the General Partner (1) makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors; (2) files a voluntary bankruptcy petition; (3) files a petition or answer seeking for itself a reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under any law; (4) files an answer or other pleading admitting or failing to contest the material allegations of a petition filed against the General Partner in a proceeding of the type described in clauses (1) (3) of this sentence; or (5) seeks, consents to or acquiesces in the appointment of a trustee, receiver or liquidator of the General Partner or of all or any substantial part of its properties;

(e) a final and non-appealable judgment is entered by a court with appropriate jurisdiction ruling that the General Partner is bankrupt or insolvent or a final and non-appealable order for relief is entered by a court with appropriate jurisdiction against the General Partner, in each case under any federal or state bankruptcy or insolvency laws as now or hereafter in effect; or

(f) a certificate of dissolution or its equivalent is filed for the General Partner, or 90 days expire after the date of notice to the General Partner of revocation of its charter without a reinstatement of its charter, under the laws of its state of incorporation.

If an Event of Withdrawal specified in this Article 12.1.1(d), (e) or (f) occurs, the withdrawing General Partner shall give written notice to the Limited Partners within 30 days after such occurrence. The Partners hereby agree that only the Events of Withdrawal described in this Article 12.1 shall result in the withdrawal of the General Partner from the Partnership.

12.1.2 Withdrawal of the General Partner from the Partnership upon the occurrence of an Event of Withdrawal will not constitute a breach of this Agreement under the following circumstances: (i) the General Partner voluntarily withdraws by giving at least 90 days advance notice to the Limited Partners, such withdrawal to take effect on the date specified in such notice; or (ii) at any time that the General Partner ceases to be a General Partner pursuant to Article 12.1.1(b) or is removed pursuant to Article 12.2. If the General Partner gives a notice of withdrawal pursuant to Article 12.1.1(a), holders of at least a majority of such Outstanding Units (excluding for purposes of such determination any Units owned by the General Partner and its Affiliates) may, prior to the effective date of such withdrawal, elect a successor General Partner. If, prior to the effective date of the General Partner's withdrawal, a successor is not selected by the Unitholders as provided herein, the Partnership shall be dissolved in accordance with Article 13. If a successor General Partner is elected, such successor shall be admitted immediately prior to the effective time of the withdrawal or removal of the Departing Partner and shall continue the business of the Partnership without dissolution.

*12.2 Removal of the General Partner.* The General Partner may be removed only if such removal is approved by the Unitholders holding at least 66 2/3% of the Outstanding Units (excluding for this purpose any Units held by the



General Partner and its Affiliates). Any such action by such holders for removal of the General Partner must also provide for the election of a successor General Partner by the Unitholders holding a majority of the Outstanding Units (excluding for this purpose any Units held by the General Partner and its Affiliates). Such removal shall be effective immediately following the admission of a successor General Partner.

12.3 *Withdrawal of a Limited Partner other than the Organizational Limited Partner.* In addition to withdrawal of a Limited Partner due to its redemption of Units constituting a Redemption Basket under this Agreement, the General Partner may, at any time, in its sole discretion, require any Limited Partner to withdraw entirely from the Partnership or to withdraw a portion of its Partner Capital Account, by giving not less than 15 days advance written notice to the Limited Partner thus designated. In addition, the General Partner without notice may require at any time, or retroactively, withdrawal of all or any portion of the Capital Account of any Limited Partner: (i) that made a misrepresentation to the General Partner in connection with its purchase of Units; or (ii) whose ownership of Units would result in the violation of any law or regulations applicable to the Partnership or a Partner. The Limited Partner thus designated shall withdraw from the Partnership or withdraw that portion of its Partner Capital Account specified in such notice, as the case may be, as

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of the Close of Business on such date as determined by the General Partner. The Limited Partner thus designated shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Partnership or to have made a partial withdrawal from its Partner Capital Account, as the case may be, without further action on the part of said Limited Partner and the provisions of Article 17.6 shall apply.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **Termination and Distribution**

13.1 *Termination.* The Partnership shall continue in effect from the date of its formation in perpetuity, unless sooner terminated upon the occurrence of any one or more of the following events:

- (a) The death, adjudication of incompetence, bankruptcy, dissolution, withdrawal, or removal of a General Partner who is the sole remaining General Partner, unless a majority in interest of the Limited Partners within 90 days after such event elects to continue the Partnership and appoints a successor General Partner; or
- (b) The affirmative vote of a majority in interest of the Limited Partners; provided, however, that any such termination shall be subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement.

13.2 *Assumption of Agreements.* No vote by the Limited Partners to terminate the Partnership pursuant to Section 13.1(b) shall be effective unless, prior to or concurrently with such vote, there shall have been established procedures for the assumption of the Partnership's obligations arising under any agreement to which the Partnership is a party and which is still in force immediately prior to such vote regarding termination, and there shall have been an irrevocable appointment of an agent who shall be empowered to give and receive notices, reports and payments under such agreements, and hold and exercise such other powers as are necessary to permit all other parties to such agreements to deal with such agent as if the agent were the sole owner of the Partnership's interest, which procedures are agreed to in writing by each of the other parties to such agreements.

#### *13.3 Distribution*

13.3.1 Upon termination of the Partnership, the affairs of the Partnership shall be wound up and all of its debts and liabilities discharged or otherwise provided for in the order of priority as provided by law. The fair market value of the remaining assets of the Partnership shall then be determined by the General Partner. Thereupon, the assets of the Partnership shall be distributed to the Partners pro rata in accordance with their Units. Each Partner shall receive its share of the assets in cash or in kind, and the proportion of such share that is received in cash may vary from Partner to Partner, all as the General Partner in its sole discretion may decide. If such distributions are insufficient to return to any Partner the full amount of its Capital Contributions, such Partner shall have no recourse against any other Partner.

13.3.2 The winding up of the affairs of the Partnership and the distribution of its assets shall be conducted exclusively by the General Partner or its successor, which is hereby authorized to do all acts authorized by law for these purposes. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the General Partner, in carrying out such winding up and distribution, shall have full power and authority to sell all or any of the Partnership's assets or to distribute the same in kind to the Partners.

## ARTICLE 14

### Meetings

14.1 *Meeting of Limited Partners.* Upon the written request of 20% or more in interest of the Limited Partners, the General Partner may, but is not required to, call a meeting of the Limited Partners. Notice of such meeting shall be given within 30 days after, and the meeting shall be held within 60 days after, receipt of such request. The General Partner may also call a meeting not less than 20 and not more than 60 days prior to the meeting. Any such notice shall state briefly the purpose of the meeting, which shall be held at a reasonable time and place.

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## ARTICLE 15

### Power of Attorney

15.1 *Appointment.* Each Limited Partner and each Assignee hereby constitutes and appoints each of the General Partner and, if a liquidator shall have been selected, the liquidator severally (and any successor to either thereof by merger, transfer, assignment, election or otherwise) and each of their respective authorized officers and attorneys-in-fact with full power of substitution, as its true and lawful agent and attorney-in-fact with full power and authority in its name, place and stead to:

(a) execute, swear to, acknowledge, deliver, file and record in the appropriate public offices (i) all certificates, documents and other instruments (including, without limitation, this Agreement and the Certificate of Limited Partnership and all amendments or restatements thereof) that the General Partner or the liquidator deems necessary or appropriate to form, qualify or continue the existence or qualification of the Partnership as a limited partnership (or a partnership in which the limited partners have limited liability) in the State of Delaware and in all other jurisdictions in which the Partnership may conduct business or own property, (ii) all certificates, documents and other instruments that the General Partner or the liquidator deems necessary or appropriate to reflect, in accordance with its terms, any amendment, change, modification or restatement of this Agreement, (iii) all certificates, documents and other instruments (including, without limitation, conveyances and a certificate of cancellation) that the General Partner or the liquidator deems necessary or appropriate to reflect the dissolution and liquidation of the Partnership pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, (iv) all certificates, documents and other instruments relating to the admission,

withdrawal, removal or substitution of any Partner or the Capital Contribution of any Partner, (v) all certificates, documents and other instruments relating to the determination of the rights, preferences and privileges of Units issued, and (vi) all certificates documents and other instruments (including, without limitation, agreements and a certificate of merger) relating to a merger or consolidation of the Partnership;

(b) execute, swear to, acknowledge, deliver, file and record all ballots, consents, approval waivers, certificates and other instruments necessary or appropriate, in the sole discretion of the General Partner or the liquidator, to make, evidence, give, confirm or ratify any vote, consent, approval, agreement or other action that is made or given by the Partners hereunder or is consistent with the terms of this Agreement or is necessary or appropriate, in the sole discretion of the General Partner or the liquidator, to effectuate the terms or intent of this Agreement, provided, that when required by this Agreement that establishes a percentage of the Limited Partners or of the Limited Partners of any class or series required to take any action, the General Partner or the liquidator may exercise the power of attorney made in this Article 15 only after the necessary vote, consent or approval of the Limited Partners or of the Limited Partners of such class or series;

15.2 *Survival*. The foregoing power of attorney is hereby declared to be irrevocable and a power coupled with an interest and it shall survive and not be affected by the subsequent death, incompetence, disability, incapacity, dissolution, bankruptcy or termination of any Limited Partner or Assignee and the transfer of all or any portion of such Limited Partner's or Assignee's Partnership interest and shall extend to such Limited Partners or Assignee's heirs, successors, assigns and personal representatives. Each such Limited Partner or Assignee hereby agrees to be bound by any representation made by the General Partner or the liquidator acting in good faith pursuant to such power of attorney; and each such Limited Partner or Assignee hereby waives any and all defenses that may be available to contest, negate or disaffirm the action of the General Partner or the liquidator taken in good faith under such power of attorney. Each Limited Partner or Assignee shall execute and deliver to the General Partner or the liquidator, within 15 days after receipt of the General Partner's or the liquidator's request therefor, such further designations, powers of attorney and other instruments as the General Partner or the liquidator deems necessary to effectuate this Agreement and the purposes of the Partnership.

## ARTICLE 16

### Creation of Units

16.1 *General*. The Partnership will create and redeem Units from time to time, but only in one or more Creation Baskets or Redemption Baskets (a block of 100,000 Units shall be referred to as a Basket). The

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creation and redemption of Baskets will only be made in exchange for delivery to the Partnership or the distribution by the Partnership of the amount of United States government securities with maturities of 2 years or less ( *Treasuries* ) and any cash represented by the Baskets being created or redeemed, the amount of which will be based on the combined NAV of the number of Units included in the Baskets being created or redeemed determined on the day the order to create or redeem Baskets is properly received.

16.2 *Creation Procedures*. On any Business Day, a Participant, may place an order with the Partnership's marketing agent to create one or more Baskets. Purchase orders must be placed by 12:00 PM New York time or the close of regular trading on the American Stock Exchange, whichever is earlier; except in the case of the Initial Limited Partner's initial order to purchase one or more Creation Baskets on the first day the Baskets are to be offered and sold, when such orders shall be placed by 9:00 AM New York time on the day agreed to by the General Partner and the

Initial Limited Partner. The day on which the marketing agent receives a valid purchase order is the purchase order date. By placing a purchase order, the Participant agrees to deposit Treasuries with the Partnership, or a combination of Treasuries and cash. Prior to the delivery of Baskets for a purchase order, the Participant must also have wired to the custodian the non-refundable creation transaction fee described in this Article 16.

**16.3 Determination of Required Deposits.** The total deposit required to create each Basket ( *Creation Basket Deposit* ) is an amount of Treasuries and cash with a value that is in the same proportion to the total assets of the Partnership (net of estimated accrued but unpaid fees, expenses and other liabilities) on the date the order to purchase is properly received as the number of Units to be created under the purchase order is in proportion to the total number of Units outstanding on the date the order is received. The General Partner determines, in its sole discretion or in consultation with the administrator of the Partnership, the requirements for Treasuries that may be included in deposits to create Baskets and publishes, or its agent publishes on its behalf, such requirements at the beginning of each Business Day.

The amount of cash deposit required is the difference between (i) the aggregate market value of the Treasuries included in a Creation Basket Deposit as of 4:00 PM on the date the order to purchase properly was made and (ii) the total required deposit.

**16.4 Delivery of Required Deposits.** A Participant who places a purchase order is responsible for transferring to the Partnership's account with the custodian the required amount of Treasuries and cash by the end of the third Business Day following the purchase order date. Upon receipt of the deposit amount, the administrator will direct DTC to credit the number of Baskets ordered to the Participant's DTC account on the third Business Day following the purchase order date. The expense and risk of delivery and ownership of Treasuries until such Treasuries have been received by the custodian on behalf of the Partnership shall be borne solely by the Participant.

**16.5 Rejection of Purchase Orders.** The General Partner, or its marketing agent on its behalf, may reject a purchase order or a Creation Basket Deposit if: (1) it determines that the purchase order or the Creation Basket Deposit is not in proper form; (2) the General Partner believes that the purchase order or the Creation Basket Deposit would have adverse tax consequences to the Partnership or Limited Partners; (3) the acceptance or receipt of the Creation Basket Deposit would, in the opinion of counsel to the General Partner, be unlawful; or (4) circumstances outside the control of the General Partner, marketing agent or custodian make it, for all practical purposes, not feasible to process creations of Baskets. None of the General Partner, marketing agent or custodian will be liable for the rejection of any purchase order or Creation Basket Deposit.

**16.6 Creation Transaction Fee.** To compensate the Partnership for its expenses in connection with the creation of Baskets, a Participant is required to pay a transaction fee to the Partnership of \$1,000 per order to create Baskets. An order may include multiple Baskets. The transaction fee may be reduced, increased or otherwise changed by the General Partner. The General Partner shall notify DTC in advance of any change in the transaction fee and will not implement any increase in the fee for the creation of Baskets until 30 days after the date of the notice.

## **ARTICLE 17**

### **Redemption of Units**

**17.1 General.** The procedures by which a Participant can redeem one or more Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Baskets. On any Business Day, a Participant may place an order with the marketing agent to redeem one or more Baskets. Redemption orders must be placed by 12:00 PM New York time or the

close of regular trading on the American Stock Exchange, whichever is earlier. A redemption order so received is effective on the date it is received in satisfactory form by the marketing agent. The day on which the marketing agent receives a valid redemption order is the redemption order date. By placing a redemption order, a Participant agrees to deliver the Baskets to be redeemed through DTC's book-entry system to the Partnership not later than 3:00 PM New York time on the third Business Day following the effective date of the redemption order. Prior to the delivery of the redemption distribution for a redemption order, the Participant must also have wired to the Partnership's account with the custodian the non-refundable redemption transaction fee described in this Article 17.

*17.2 Determination of Redemption Distribution.* The redemption distribution from the Partnership consists of a transfer to the redeeming Participant of an amount of Treasuries and/or cash with a value that is in the same proportion to the total assets of the Partnership (net of estimated accrued but unpaid fees, expenses and other liabilities) on the date the order to redeem is properly received as the number of Units to be redeemed under the redemption order is in proportion to the total number of Units outstanding on the date the order to redeem is received. The General Partner, directly or through its agent, will determine the requirements for Treasuries and the amount of cash, including the maximum permitted remaining maturity of a Treasury, and the proportions of Treasuries and cash, that may be included in distributions to redeem Baskets. The marketing agent will publish such requirements as of 4:00 PM New York time on the redemption order date.

*17.3 Delivery of Redemption Distribution.* The redemption distribution due from the Partnership is delivered to the Participant by 3:00 PM New York time on the third Business Day following the redemption order date if, by 3:00 PM New York time on such third Business Day, the Partnership's DTC account has been credited with the Baskets to be redeemed. If the Partnership's DTC account has not been credited with all of the Baskets to be redeemed by such time, the redemption distribution is delivered to the extent of whole Baskets received. Any remainder of the redemption distribution is delivered on the next Business Day to the extent of remaining whole Baskets received if the Partnership (1) receives the fee applicable to the extension of the redemption distribution date which the General Partner may, from time to time, determine and (2) the remaining Baskets to be redeemed are credited to the Partnership's DTC account by 3:00 PM New York time on such next Business Day. Any further remaining amount of the redemption order shall be cancelled and the Participant will indemnify the Partnership for any losses, if any, due to such cancellation, including but not limited to the difference in the price of investments sold as a result of the redemption order and investments made to reflect that such order has been cancelled. The custodian is also authorized to deliver the redemption distribution notwithstanding that the Baskets to be redeemed are not credited to the Partnership's DTC account by 3:00 PM New York time on the third Business Day following the redemption order date if the Participant has collateralized its obligation to deliver the Baskets through DTC's book entry system on such terms as the General Partner may from time to time determine.

*17.4 Suspension or Rejection of Redemption orders.* The General Partner may, in its discretion, suspend the right of redemption, or postpone the redemption settlement date, (1) for any period during which any of the New York Mercantile Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the New York Stock Exchange is closed other than customary weekend or holiday closings, or trading on the American Stock Exchange is suspended or restricted, (2) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which delivery, disposal or evaluation of Treasuries is not reasonably practicable, or (3) for such other period as the General Partner determines to be necessary for the protection of the Limited Partners. None of the General Partner, the marketing agent or the custodian will be liable to any person or in any way for any loss or damages that may result from any such suspension or postponement. The General Partner will reject a redemption order if the order is not in proper form or if the fulfillment of the order, in the opinion of its counsel, might be unlawful.

*17.5 Redemption Transaction Fee.* To compensate the Partnership for its expenses in connection with the redemption of Baskets, a Participant is required to pay a transaction fee to the Partnership of \$1,000 per order to redeem Baskets. An order may include multiple Baskets. The transaction fee may be reduced, increased or otherwise changed by the General Partner. The General Partner shall notify DTC in advance of any change in the transaction fee and will not implement any increase in the fee for the redemption of Baskets until 30 days after the date of the notice.

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**17.6 Required Redemption.** The General Partner may, at any time, in its sole discretion, require any Limited Partner to withdraw entirely from the Partnership or to withdraw a portion of its Partner Capital Account, by giving not less than 15 days advance written notice to the Limited Partner thus designated. In addition, the General Partner without notice may require at any time, or retroactively, withdrawal of all or any portion of the Capital Account of any Limited Partner: (i) that the General Partner determines is a benefit plan investor (within the meaning of the Department of Labor Regulation (s) 2510.3-101(f)(2)) in order for the assets of the Partnership not to be treated as plan assets under ERISA; (ii) that made a misrepresentation to the General Partner in connection with its purchase of Units; or (iii) whose ownership of Units would result in the violation of any law or regulations applicable to the Partnership or a Partner. The Limited Partner thus designated shall withdraw from the Partnership or withdraw that portion of its Partner Capital Account specified in such notice, as the case may be, as of the Close of Business on such date as determined by the General Partner. The Limited Partner thus designated shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Partnership or to have made a partial withdrawal from its Partner Capital Account, as the case may be, without further action on the part of said Limited Partner.

## ARTICLE 18

### Miscellaneous

**18.1 Notices.** Any notice, offer, consent or other communication required or permitted to be given or made hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been sufficiently given or made when delivered personally to the party (or an officer of the party) to whom the same is directed, or (except in the event of a mail strike) 5 Business Days after being mailed by first-class mail, postage prepaid, if to the Partnership or to a General Partner, or if to a Limited Partner, to the address set forth on Exhibit C hereof. Any Partner may change its address for the purpose of this Article by giving notice of such change to the Partnership, such change to become effective on the 10th Business Day after such notice is given.

**18.2 Waiver of Partition.** Each Partner hereby irrevocably waives during the term of the Partnership any right that it may have to maintain any action for partition with respect to any Partnership property.

**18.3 Governing Law, Successors, Severability.** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware, as such laws are applied by Delaware courts to agreements entered into and to be performed in Delaware by and between residents of Delaware and shall, subject to the restrictions on transferability set forth herein, bind and inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, personal representatives, successors and assigns of the parties hereto. If any provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby.

**18.4 Consent to Jurisdiction.** The General Partner and the Limited Partners hereby (i) irrevocably submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of any Delaware state court or federal court sitting in Wilmington, Delaware in any action arising out of or relating to this Agreement, and (ii) consent to the service of process by mail. Nothing herein shall affect the right of any party to serve legal process in any manner permitted by law or affect its right to bring any action in any other court. Each party agrees that, in the event that any dispute arising from or relating to this Agreement becomes subject to any judicial proceeding, such party, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, waives any right it may otherwise have to (a) seek punitive or consequential damages, or (b) request a trial by jury.

**18.5 Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the parties; it supersedes any prior agreement or understanding among them, oral or written, all of which are hereby canceled. This Agreement may not be modified or amended other than pursuant to Articles 3 and 15.

18.6 *Headings*. The headings in this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not affect interpretation of this Agreement. Wherever from the context it appears appropriate, each term stated in either the singular or the plural shall include the singular and the plural and pronouns stated in either the masculine or the neuter gender shall include the masculine, the feminine and the neuter.

18.7 *No Waiver*. The failure of any Partner to seek redress for violation, or to insist on strict performance, of any covenant or condition of this Agreement shall not prevent a subsequent act which would have constituted a violation from having the effect of an original violation.

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18.8 *Legends*. If certificates for any interest or interests are issued evidencing a Limited Partner's interest in the Partnerships, each such certificate shall bear such legends as may be required by applicable federal and state laws, or as may be deemed necessary or appropriate by the General Partner to reflect restrictions upon transfer contemplated herein.

18.9 *Counterparts*. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

18.10 *Relationship between the Agreement and the Act*. Regardless of whether any provisions of this Agreement specifically refer to particular Default Rules (as defined below), (a) if any provision of this Agreement conflicts with a Default Rule, the provision of this Agreement controls and the Default Rule is modified or negated accordingly, and (b) if it is necessary to construe a Default Rule as modified or negated in order to effectuate any provision of this Agreement, the Default Rule is modified or negated accordingly. For purposes of this Article 18.10, *Default Rule* shall mean a rule stated in the Act that applies except to the extent it is negated or modified through the provisions of the Partnership's certificate of limited partnership or this Agreement.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the date first appearing above.

**General Partner**

Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC

By:

Name:

Title:

**Initial Limited Partner**

Kellogg Capital Group, LLC

By:

Name:

Title:

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## EXHIBIT A

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Assets  | Management Fee |
| First \$1,000,000,000   | 0.60% of NAV   |
| After the first \$1,000,000,000   | 0.50% of NAV   |
| Fees and Expenses are calculated on a daily basis and paid on a monthly basis (accrued at 1/365 of applicable percentage of the NAV on that day). |                |

Exhibit A-1

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## EXHIBIT B

### FORM OF GLOBAL CERTIFICATE

### Evidencing Units Representing Limited Partner Interests in United States Natural Gas Fund, LP

UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION ( *DTC* ), TO THE FUND OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUIRED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

This is to certify that Cede & Co. is the owner and registered holder of this Certificate evidencing the ownership of issued and outstanding Limited Partner Units ( *Units* ), each of which represents a fractional undivided unit of a beneficial interest in United States Natural Gas Fund, LP (the *Fund* ), a Delaware limited partnership. Capitalized terms used not defined herein have the meaning given to such terms in the Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership, as amended, supplemented or restated to the date hereof (the *Limited Partnership Agreement* ).

At any given time, this Certificate shall represent the limited units of beneficial interest in the Fund purchased by a particular authorized Participant on the date of this Certificate. The Limited Partnership Agreement of the Fund provides for the deposit of cash with the Fund from time to time and the issuance by the Fund of additional Creation Baskets representing the undivided units of beneficial interest in the assets of the Fund. At the request of the registered holder, this Certificate may be exchanged for one or more Certificates issued to the registered holder in such denominations as the registered holder may request; provided, however, that in the aggregate, the Certificates issued to the registered holder hereof shall represent all Units outstanding at any given time.

Each authorized Participant hereby grants and conveys all of its rights, title and interest in and to the Fund to the extent of the undivided interest represented hereby to the registered holder of this Certificate subject to and in



pursuance of the Limited Partnership Agreement, all the terms, conditions and covenants of which are incorporated herein as if fully set forth at length.

The registered holder of this Certificate is entitled at any time upon tender of this Certificate to the Fund, endorsed in blank or accompanied by all necessary instruments of assignment and transfer in proper form, at its principal office in the State of California and, upon payment of any tax or other governmental charges, to receive at the time and in the manner provided in the Limited Partnership Agreement, such holder's ratable portion of the assets of the Fund for each Redemption Basket tendered and evidenced by this Certificate.

The holder of this Certificate, by virtue of the purchase and acceptance hereof, assents to and shall be bound by the terms of the Limited Partnership Agreement, copies of which are on file and available for inspection at reasonable times during business hours at the principal business office of the General Partner.

The Fund may deem and treat the person in whose name this Certificate is registered upon the books of the Fund as the owner hereof for all purposes and the Fund shall not be affected by any notice to the contrary.

The Limited Partnership Agreement and this Certificate are executed and delivered by Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC as General Partner of the Fund, in the exercise of the powers and authority conferred and vested in it by the Limited Partnership Agreement. The representations, undertakings and agreements made on the part of the Fund in the Limited Partnership Agreement or this Certificate are made and intended not as personal representations, undertakings and agreements by the General Partner, other than acting in its capacity as such, but are made and intended for the purpose of binding only the Fund. Nothing in the Limited Partnership Agreement or this Certificate shall be construed as imposing any liability on the General Partner, individually or personally, to fulfill any representation, undertaking or agreement other than as provided in the Limited Partnership Agreement or this Certificate.

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THE HOLDER OF THIS SECURITY ACKNOWLEDGES FOR THE BENEFIT OF UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP THAT THIS SECURITY MAY NOT BE SOLD, OFFERED, RESOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED IF SUCH TRANSFER WOULD VIOLATE THE THEN APPLICABLE FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS OR RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY WITH JURISDICTION OVER SUCH TRANSFER, TERMINATE THE EXISTENCE OR QUALIFICATION OF UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, OR CAUSE UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP TO BE TREATED AS AN ASSOCIATION TAXABLE AS A CORPORATION OR OTHERWISE TO BE TAXED AS AN ENTITY FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES (TO THE EXTENT NOT ALREADY SO TREATED OR TAXED). VICTORIA BAY ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC, THE GENERAL PARTNER OF UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP, MAY IMPOSE ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON THE TRANSFER OF THIS SECURITY IF IT RECEIVES AN OPINION OF COUNSEL THAT SUCH RESTRICTIONS ARE NECESSARY TO AVOID A SIGNIFICANT RISK OF UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP BECOMING TAXABLE AS A CORPORATION OR OTHERWISE BECOMING TAXABLE AS AN ENTITY FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES. THE RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH ABOVE SHALL NOT PRECLUDE THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING THIS SECURITY ENTERED INTO THROUGH THE FACILITIES OF ANY NATIONAL SECURITIES EXCHANGE ON WHICH THIS SECURITY IS LISTED OR ADMITTED TO TRADING.

This Certificate shall not become valid or binding for any purpose until properly executed by the General Partner.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the General Partner of the Fund has caused this Certificate to be executed in its name by the manual or facsimile signature of one of its Authorized Persons.

**Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC,**  
as General Partner

By:

Date:

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**EXHIBIT C**

**ADDRESSES FOR NOTICE**

**Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC**  
1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145  
Alameda, California 9450

with a copy to

**Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.**  
40 Water Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
Attention: Manager, Fund Administration Department

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**EXHIBIT D**

**APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF UNITS**

Transferees of Units must execute and deliver this application to **United States Natural Gas Fund, LP, c/o Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC, 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 145, Alameda, California 94502**, to be admitted as limited partners to United States Natural Gas Fund, LP.

The undersigned ( *Assignee* ) hereby applies for transfer to the name of the Assignee of the Units evidenced hereby and hereby certifies to United States Natural Gas Fund, LP (the *Partnership* ) that the Assignee (including to the best of Assignee's knowledge, any person for whom the Assignee will hold the Units) is an Eligible Holder.\*

The Assignee (a) requests admission as a Limited Partner and agrees to comply with and be bound by, and hereby executes, the Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of the Partnership, as amended, supplemented or restated to the date hereof (the *Limited Partnership Agreement* ), (b) represents and warrants that the

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Assignee has all right, power and authority and, if an individual, the capacity necessary to enter into the Limited Partnership Agreement, (c) appoints the General Partner of the Partnership and, if a Liquidator shall be appointed, the Liquidator of the Partnership as the Assignee's attorney-in-fact to execute, swear to, acknowledge and file any document, including, without limitation, the Limited Partnership Agreement and any amendment thereto and the Certificate of Limited Partnership of the Partnership and any amendment thereto, necessary or appropriate for the Assignee's admission as a Substituted Limited Partner and as a party to the Limited Partnership Agreement, (d) gives the powers of attorney provided for in the Limited Partnership Agreement, and (e) makes the waivers and gives the consents and approvals contained in the Limited Partnership Agreement. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings given to such terms in the Limited Partnership Agreement.

Date:

Social Security or other identifying  
number of Assignee

Signature of Assignee

Purchase Price including commissions, if any

Name and Address of Assignee

Type of Entity (check one):

- ☐ Individual
- ☐ Trust

- ☐ Partnership
- ☐ Other (specify)

- ☐ Corporation

If not an individual (check one):

- ☐ the entity is subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership;
- ☐ the entity is not subject to United States federal income taxation, but it is a pass-through entity and all of its beneficial owners are subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership;
- ☐ the entity is not subject to United States federal income taxation and it is (a) not a pass-through entity or (b) a pass-through entity, but not all of its beneficial owners are subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership. **Important Note** by checking this box, the Assignee is contradicting its certification that it is an Eligible Holder.

The Term *Eligible Holder* means (a) an individual or entity subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership; or (b) an entity not subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership, so long as all of the entity's owners are subject to United States federal income taxation on the income generated by the Partnership. Individuals or entities are subject to taxation, in the context of defining an Eligible Holder, to the extent they are taxable on the items of income and gain allocated by the Partnership.

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Schedule I hereto contains a list of various types of investors that are categorized and identified as either Eligible Holders or Non-Eligible Holders.

Nationality (check one):

- ☐ U.S. Citizen, Resident or Domestic Entity\*\*
- ☐ Non-resident Alien\*\*
- ☐ Foreign Corporation\*\*

\*\*

As those terms are defined in the Code.

If the U.S. Citizen, Resident or Domestic Entity box is checked, the following certification must be completed.

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Under Section 1445(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), the Partnership must withhold tax with respect to certain transfers of property if a holder of an interest in the Partnership is a foreign person. To inform the Partnership that no withholding is required with respect to the undersigned interestholder's interest in it, the undersigned hereby certifies the following (or, if applicable, certifies the following on behalf of the interestholder).

Complete Either A or B:

A. Individual Interestholder

1. I am not a non-resident alien for purposes of U.S. income taxation.
2. My U.S. taxpayer identification number  
(Social Security Number) is
- My home address is
- 3.

B. Partnership, Corporation or Other Interestholder

1. The interestholder is not a foreign corporation, foreign partnership, foreign trust or foreign estate (as those terms are defined in the Code and Treasury regulations).  
The interestholder's U.S. employer identification number is
- 2.
3. The interestholder's office address and place of incorporation (if applicable) is

The interestholder agrees to notify the Partnership within sixty (60) days of the date the interestholder becomes a foreign person.

The interestholder understands that this certificate may be disclosed to the Internal Revenue Service by the Partnership and that any false statement contained herein could be punishable by fine, imprisonment or both.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this certification and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct and complete and, if applicable, I further declare that I have authority to sign this document on behalf of:

Name of Interestholder  
Signature and Date  
Title (if applicable)

Note: If the Assignee is a broker, dealer, bank, trust company, clearing corporation, other nominee holder or an agent of any of the foregoing, and is holding for the account of any other person, this application should be completed by an officer thereof or, in the case of a broker or dealer, by a registered representative who is a member of a registered national securities exchange or a member of FINRA, or, in the case of any other nominee holder, a person performing a similar function. If the Assignee is a broker, dealer, bank, trust company, clearing corporation, other nominee owner or an agent of any of the foregoing, the above certification as to any person for whom the Assignee will hold the Units shall be made to the best of the Assignee's knowledge.

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# STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP

Before you decide whether to invest, you should read this entire Prospectus carefully and consider the risk factors beginning on page 10.

This Prospectus is in two parts: a disclosure document and a statement of additional information. These parts are bound together, and both parts contain important information.

This statement of additional information and accompanying disclosure document are both dated November 21, 2007.

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## UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP

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*The following information was taken from the United States Government's Energy Information Administration's (EIA) website.*

## Production of Natural Gas

Geologists search for natural gas by locating the types of rock that are usually found near gas and oil deposits. Tools such as seismic surveys are used to find the correct places to drill wells. Seismic surveys use echoes from a vibration source at the earth's surface to collect information about the rocks beneath. Sometimes it is necessary to use small amounts of dynamite to provide the vibration that is needed.

Scientists and engineers explore a chosen area by studying rock samples from the earth and taking measurements. If the site seems promising, drilling begins. Some of these areas are on land but many are offshore, deep in the ocean. Once the gas is found, it flows up through the well to the surface of the ground and into large pipelines. Some of the gases that are produced along with methane, such as butane and propane (the by-products), are separated and cleaned at a gas processing plant. Because natural gas is colorless, odorless and tasteless, mercaptan is added before

distribution, to give it a distinct odor. This serves as a safety device by allowing it to be detected in the atmosphere, in cases where leaks occur.

Natural gas is moved by pipelines from the producing fields to consumers. Gas is stored in large underground storage systems, such as old oil and gas wells or caverns formed in old salt beds. The gas remains there until it is added back into the pipeline. When chilled to very cold temperatures, approximately -260 degrees Fahrenheit, natural gas changes into a liquid and can be stored in this form. Natural gas is measured and sold in cubic feet or in British thermal units.

One Btu is the heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree.

## Natural Gas Reserves

The most widely accepted theory about how natural gas was created is that it was formed by the underground decomposition of organic matter. If the organic matter is buried deeply enough, much of the carbon and hydrogen is converted to methane, the major component of natural gas. Large volumes of methane can be trapped in reservoirs.

Proved reserves of natural gas are estimated quantities that analyses of geological and engineering data have demonstrated to be economically recoverable in future years from known reservoirs. Produced natural gas placed in temporary underground storage is not included in proved reserves.

The capacity to produce gas is related to the level of proved natural gas reserves, which in turn is closely tied to the level of gas well drilling. Because production rates from new gas wells typically decline rapidly, maintenance of the levels of proved gas reserves and production capacity requires continual drilling of new gas wells in sufficient numbers.

As of December 31, 2004, the estimated U.S. total proved reserves, wet after lease separation, were 201,200 billion cubic feet ( Bcf ). Of that quantity, non-associated gas (natural gas not in contact with significant quantities of crude oil) accounted for 173,551 Bcf. The remaining natural gas occurred with crude oil, either as free gas (associated) or in solution (dissolved), and accounted for 27,649 Bcf. Estimated proved reserves of dry natural gas in the United States were 192,513 Bcf. (Dry natural gas is the volume of natural gas that remains after the economically liquefiable hydrocarbon portion has been removed from the produced gas stream at a natural gas processing plant.) U.S. total discoveries of dry natural gas reserves were 20,163 Bcf in 2004, up 4 percent from 2003 at 19,286 Bcf. Coalbed methane production increased 7 percent in 2004 to 1,720 Bcf, and accounted for 10 percent of U.S. dry gas production.

In addition to proved natural gas reserves, there are large volumes of natural gas classified as undiscovered recoverable resources. Those resources are expected to exist because the geologic settings are favorable. Over half of all onshore undiscovered gas resources are located in the Alaska and Gulf Coast regions. Over one-third of all undiscovered gas resources are estimated to be in Federal offshore areas, primarily near Alaska, in the Gulf of Mexico, and along the Atlantic Coast.

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## Natural Gas and the Environment

Approximately 23 percent of the energy consumption of the U.S. comes from natural gas. Over one-half of the homes in the U.S. use natural gas as their main heating fuel. Natural gas is also an essential raw material for many common products, such as: paints, fertilizer, plastics, antifreeze, dyes, photographic film, medicines, and explosives.

It is also used to produce steel, glass, paper, clothing, brick, and electricity. More than 62.5 million homes use natural gas to fuel stoves, furnaces, water heaters, clothes dryers and other household appliances.

Natural gas burns more cleanly than other fossil fuels. It has fewer emissions of sulfur, carbon, and nitrogen than coal or oil, and it has almost no ash particles left after burning. Being a clean fuel is one reason that the use of natural gas, especially for electricity generation, has grown so much and is expected to grow even more in the future. Of course, there are environmental concerns with the use of any fuel. As with other fossil fuels, burning natural gas produces carbon dioxide, which is the most important greenhouse gas. Many scientists believe that increasing levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere are changing the global climate. As with other fuels, natural gas also affects the environment when it is produced, stored and transported. Because natural gas is made up mostly of methane, small amounts of methane can sometimes leak into the atmosphere from wells, storage tanks and pipelines. The natural gas industry is working to prevent any methane from escaping. Exploring and drilling for natural gas will always have some impact on land and marine habitats. However, new technologies have greatly reduced the number and size of areas disturbed by drilling. Satellites, global positioning systems, remote sensing devices, and 3-D and 4-D seismic technologies, make it possible to discover natural gas reserves while drilling fewer wells. In addition, the use of horizontal and directional drilling make it possible for a single well to produce gas from much bigger areas.

## Factors That Affect Current Natural Gas Prices

There are a number of underlying factors that have prevailed for most of 2006 that have affected natural gas prices. These factors include:

**Weak production** Production decreased by 3 percent in 2005, reaching the lowest production level since the early 1990s. The industry in 2005 drilled a record number of gas wells for a single year, and in the first seven months of 2006 rigs drilling for gas hit a record level, which indicates the number of gas well completions will be even higher this year. However, production has not increased proportionally or much at all. Production in 2006 is weak and is expected to be about 1 percent lower than the 2005 production level, despite an expected 14 percent increase in natural gas well completions in 2006.

**Rising net imports** Net imports accounted for approximately 22 percent of the natural gas used in the United States in 2005. Current trends suggest net imports will expand by 4 percent in 2006, as capacity has been added to existing pipelines. In addition, though not as significant a source of imported natural gas as gas delivered by pipeline, all five of the existing LNG terminals in the Lower 48 States are actively receiving imports. In the future, increased dependence on supply of natural gas from foreign sources will cause natural gas prices to be influenced by natural gas prices outside of North America.

**High Demand** Natural gas demand has remained strong in 2006, owing to the continued strong performance of the economy. Additionally, unusually high temperatures prevailing across the country this summer have increased the need for home cooling, which adds to natural gas demand used by electric power generators.

**High Oil Prices** Due to an interrelation between fuel markets, high world oil prices through out 2006 has put competitive pressure on the natural gas market, driving the price of natural gas higher. One reason is that some large-volume customers (primarily industrial consumers and electricity generators), can switch between natural gas and other fuels, such as oil, depending on the prices of each. The ability to switch fuels, however, is limited, as many users cannot easily switch fuel

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sources due to regulatory obstacles or operational considerations and the correlation of changes in oil prices and natural gas prices is not as close as that between changes in oil prices and other petroleum based fuels such as heating oil and gasoline.

**Adequate inventories** Underground storage facilities, as of November 3, 2006, held working gas stocks of 3,445 Bcf, 246 Bcf above the 5-year average of 3,199 Bcf. This left natural gas inventory levels in early November 2006 at 7.7 percent above the 5-year average level. The natural gas inventories are expected to track above normal levels through the rest of 2006 as long as weather conditions remain close to normal. Higher levels of inventory may moderate natural gas prices.

**Hurricane Activity** In August and September 2005, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita caused major service disruptions and production shut-ins, resulting in record high prices of natural gas. The effect of those hurricanes and the threat of future hurricane activity has resulted in upward price pressure in the markets.

Other factors that may affect the price of natural gas:

Worldwide or regional demand for energy, which is affected by economic conditions;

The domestic and foreign supply and inventories, of oil and gas;

Weather conditions, including abnormally mild winter or summer weather, and abnormally harsh winter or summer weather;

Availability and adequacy of pipeline and other transportation facilities;

Domestic and foreign governmental regulations and taxes;

Political conditions in gas or oil producing regions;

The ability of members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ( OPEC ) to agree upon and maintain oil prices and production levels;

The price and availability of alternative fuels; and

The impact of energy conservation efforts.

## **Average Natural Gas Prices in the United States**

Since 1999, residential natural gas prices in the United States have exhibited an overall increasing trend. The 2005 national average residential price of \$12.81 per thousand cubic feet ( Mcf ) exceeded the 1999 average price by more than \$6 per Mcf. The national average price of natural gas is only part of the story as the prices in individual states can differ greatly. These differences are often related to a market 's proximity to the producing areas, the number of pipelines in the State, and the transportation charges associated with them, as well as State regulations and degree of competition.

## **The Commodity Interest Markets**

### **General**

The Commodity Exchange Act or CEA governs the regulation of commodity interest transactions, markets and intermediaries. In December 2000, the CEA was amended by the Commodity Futures Modernization Act of 2000, or CFMA, which substantially revised the regulatory framework governing certain commodity interest transactions and the markets on which they trade. The CEA, as amended by the CFMA, now provides for varying degrees of regulation of commodity interest transactions depending upon the variables of the transaction. In general, these variables include (1) the type of instrument being traded (e.g., contracts for future delivery, options, swaps or spot contracts), (2) the type of commodity underlying the instrument (distinctions are made between instruments based on agricultural commodities, energy and metals commodities and financial commodities), (3) the nature of the parties to the transaction (retail, eligible contract participant, or eligible commercial entity), (4) whether the transaction is entered into on a principal-to-principal or intermediated basis, (5) the type of market on which the transaction occurs, and (6) whether the transaction is subject to clearing through a clearing organization. Information regarding commodity interest transactions, markets and intermediaries, and their associated regulatory environment, is provided below.

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## **Futures Contracts**

A futures contract such as a Futures Contract is a standardized contract traded on, or subject to the rules of, an exchange that calls for the future delivery of a specified quantity and type of a commodity at a specified time and place. Futures contracts are traded on a wide variety of commodities, including agricultural products, bonds, stock indices, interest rates, currencies, energy and metals. The size and terms of futures contracts on a particular commodity are identical and are not subject to any negotiation, other than with respect to price and the number of contracts traded between the buyer and seller.

The contractual obligations of a buyer or seller may generally be satisfied by taking or making physical delivery of the underlying of commodity or by making an offsetting sale or purchase of an identical futures contract on the same or linked exchange before the designated date of delivery. The difference between the price at which the futures contract is purchased or sold and the price paid for the offsetting sale or purchase, after allowance for brokerage commissions, constitutes the profit or loss to the trader. Some futures contracts, such as stock index contracts, settle in cash (reflecting the difference between the contract purchase/sale price and the contract settlement price) rather than by delivery of the underlying commodity.

In market terminology, a trader who purchases a futures contract is long in the market and a trader who sells a futures contract is short in the market. Before a trader closes out his long or short position by an offsetting sale or purchase, his outstanding contracts are known as open trades or open positions. The aggregate amount of open positions held by traders in a particular contract is referred to as the open interest in such contract.

## **Forward Contracts**

A forward contract is a contractual obligation to purchase or sell a specified quantity of a commodity at or before a specified date in the future at a specified price and, therefore, is economically similar to a futures contract. Unlike futures contracts, however, forward contracts are typically traded in the over-the-counter markets and are not standardized contracts. Forward contracts for a given commodity are generally available for various amounts and maturities and are subject to individual negotiation between the parties involved. Moreover, generally there is no direct means of offsetting or closing out a forward contract by taking an offsetting position as one would a futures contract on a U.S. exchange. If a trader desires to close out a forward contract position, he generally will establish an opposite position in the contract but will settle and recognize the profit or loss on both positions simultaneously on the delivery date. Thus, unlike in the futures contract market where a trader who has offset positions will recognize profit or loss immediately, in the forward market a trader with a position that has been offset at a profit will generally not receive such profit until the delivery date, and likewise a trader with a position that has been offset at a loss will generally not have to pay money until the delivery date. In recent years, however, the terms of forward contracts have become more standardized, and in some instances such contracts now provide a right of offset or cash settlement as an alternative to making or taking delivery of the underlying commodity.

The forward markets provide what has typically been a highly liquid market for foreign exchange trading, and in certain cases the prices quoted for foreign exchange forward contracts may be more favorable than the prices for foreign exchange futures contracts traded on U.S. exchanges. The forward markets are largely unregulated. Forward contracts are, in general, not cleared or guaranteed by a third party. Commercial banks participating in trading foreign exchange forward contracts often do not require margin deposits, but rely upon internal credit limitations and their judgments regarding the creditworthiness of their counterparties. In recent years, however, many over-the-counter market participants in foreign exchange trading have begun to require that their counterparties post margin.

Further, as the result of the CFMA, over-the-counter derivative instruments such as forward contracts and swap agreements (and options on forwards and physical commodities) may begin to be traded on lightly-regulated exchanges or electronic trading platforms that may, but are not required to, provide for clearing facilities. Exchanges and electronic trading platforms on which over-the-counter instruments may be traded and the regulation and criteria for that trading are more fully described below under Futures Exchanges and Clearing Organizations. Nonetheless, absent a clearing facility, USNG's trading in foreign exchange and other forward contracts is exposed to the creditworthiness of the counterparties on the other side of the trade.

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### **Options on Futures Contracts**

Options on futures contracts are standardized contracts traded on an exchange. An option on futures contract gives the buyer of the option the right, but not the obligation, to take a position at a specified price (the striking, strike, or exercise price) in the underlying futures contract or underlying interest. The buyer of a call option acquires the right, but not the obligation, to purchase or take a long position in the underlying interest, and the buyer of a put option acquires the right, but not the obligation, to sell or take a short position in the underlying interest.

The seller, or writer, of an option is obligated to take a position in the underlying interest at a specified price opposite to the option buyer if the option is exercised. Thus, the seller of a call option must stand ready to take a short position in the underlying interest at the strike price if the buyer should exercise the option. The seller of a put option, on the other hand, must stand ready to take a long position in the underlying interest at the strike price.

A call option is said to be in-the-money if the strike price is below current market levels and out-of-the-money if the strike price is above current market levels. Conversely, a put option is said to be in-the-money if the strike price is above the current market levels and out-of-the-money if the strike price is below current market levels.

Options have limited life spans, usually tied to the delivery or settlement date of the underlying interest. Some options, however, expire significantly in advance of such date. The purchase price of an option is referred to as its premium, which consists of its intrinsic value (which is related to the underlying market value) plus its time value. As an option nears its expiration date, the time value shrinks and the market and intrinsic values move into parity. An option that is out-of-the-money and not offset by the time it expires becomes worthless. On certain exchanges, in-the-money options are automatically exercised on their expiration date, but on others unexercised options simply become worthless after their expiration date.

Regardless of how much the market swings, the most an option buyer can lose is the option premium. The option buyer deposits his premium with his broker, and the money goes to the option seller. Option sellers, on the other hand, face risks similar to participants in the futures markets. For example, since the seller of a call option is assigned a short futures position if the option is exercised, his risk is the same as someone who initially sold a futures contract.

Because no one can predict exactly how the market will move, the option seller posts margin to demonstrate his ability to meet any potential contractual obligations.

### **Options on Forward Contracts or Commodities**

Options on forward contracts or commodities operate in a manner similar to options on futures contracts. An option on a forward contract or commodity gives the buyer of the option the right, but not the obligation, to take a position at a specified price in the underlying forward contract or commodity. However, similar to forward contracts, options on forward contracts or on commodities are individually negotiated contracts between counterparties and are typically

traded in the over-the-counter market. Therefore, options on forward contracts and physical commodities possess many of the same characteristics of forward contracts with respect to offsetting positions and credit risk that are described above.

## Swap Contracts

Swap transactions generally involve contracts between two parties to exchange a stream of payments computed by reference to a notional amount and the price of the asset that is the subject of the swap. Swap contracts are principally traded off-exchange, although recently, as a result of regulatory changes enacted as part of the CFMA, certain swap contracts are now being traded in electronic trading facilities and cleared through clearing organizations.

Swaps are usually entered into on a net basis, that is, the two payment streams are netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the agreement, with the parties receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. Swaps do not generally involve the delivery of underlying assets or principal. Accordingly, the risk of loss with respect to swaps is generally limited to the net amount of payments that the party is contractually obligated to make. In some swap transactions one or both parties may require collateral deposits from the counterparty to support that counterparty's obligation under

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the swap agreement. If the counterparty to such a swap defaults, the risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that the party is contractually entitled to receive less to any collateral deposits it is holding.

## Participants

The two broad classes of persons who trade commodities are hedgers and speculators. Hedgers include financial institutions that manage or deal in interest rate-sensitive instruments, foreign currencies or stock portfolios, and commercial market participants, such as farmers and manufacturers, that market or process commodities. Hedging is a protective procedure designed to lock in profits that could otherwise be lost due to an adverse movement in the underlying commodity, for example, the adverse price movement between the time a merchandiser or processor enters into a contract to buy or sell a raw or processed commodity at a certain price and the time he must perform the contract. In such a case, at the time the hedger contracts to physically sell the commodity at a future date he will simultaneously buy a futures or forward contract for the necessary equivalent quantity of the commodity. At the time for performance of the contract, the hedger may accept delivery under his futures contract and sell the commodity quantity as required by his physical contract or he may buy the actual commodity, sell it under the physical contract and close out his position by making an offsetting sale of a futures contract.

The commodity interest markets enable the hedger to shift the risk of price fluctuations. The usual objective of the hedger is to protect the profit that he expects to earn from farming, merchandising, or processing operations rather than to profit from his trading. However, at times the impetus for a hedge transaction may result in part from speculative objectives.

Unlike the hedger, the speculator generally expects neither to make nor take delivery of the underlying commodity. Instead, the speculator risks his capital with the hope of making profits from price fluctuations in the commodities. The speculator is, in effect, the risk bearer who assumes the risks that the hedger seeks to avoid. Speculators rarely make or take delivery of the underlying commodity; rather they attempt to close out their positions prior to the delivery date. Because the speculator may take either a long or short position in commodities, it is possible for him to make profits or incur losses regardless of whether prices go up or down.

## **Futures Exchanges and Clearing Organizations**

Futures exchanges provide centralized market facilities in which multiple persons have the ability to execute or trade contracts by accepting bids and offers from multiple participants. Futures exchanges may provide for execution of trades at a physical location utilizing trading pits and/or may provide for trading to be done electronically through computerized matching of bids and offers pursuant to various algorithms. Members of a particular exchange and the trades executed on such exchange are subject to the rules of that exchange. Futures exchanges and clearing organizations are given reasonable latitude in promulgating rules and regulations to control and regulate their members. Examples of regulations by exchanges and clearing organizations include the establishment of initial margin levels, rules regarding trading practices, contract specifications, speculative position limits, daily price fluctuation limits, and execution and clearing fees.

Clearing organizations provide services designed to mutualize or transfer the credit risk arising from the trading of contracts on an exchange or other electronic trading facility. Once trades made between members of an exchange or electronic trading facility have been confirmed, the clearing organization becomes substituted for the clearing member acting on behalf of each buyer and each seller of contracts traded on the exchange or trading platform and in effect becomes the other party to the trade. Thereafter, each clearing member party to the trade looks only to the clearing organization for performance. The clearing organization generally establishes some sort of security or guarantee fund to which all clearing members of the exchange must contribute; this fund acts as an emergency buffer that is intended to enable the clearing organization to meet its obligations with regard to the other side of an insolvent clearing member's contracts. Furthermore, the clearing organization requires margin deposits and continuously marks positions to market to provide some assurance that its members will be able to fulfill their contractual obligations. Thus, a central function of the clearing organization is to ensure the integrity of trades, and members effecting transactions on an exchange need not concern themselves with the solvency of the party on the opposite side of the trade; their only remaining concerns are the respective solvencies of their own customers, their clearing broker and the clearing organization. The clearing organizations do not deal with customers, but only with their member firms and the guarantee of performance for open positions provided by the clearing organization does not run to customers.

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## **U.S. Futures Exchanges**

Futures exchanges in the United States are subject to varying degrees of regulation by the CFTC based on their designation as one of the following: a designated contract market, a derivatives transaction execution facility, an exempt board of trade or an electronic trading facility.

A designated contract market is the most highly regulated level of futures exchange. Designated contract markets may offer products to retail customers on an unrestricted basis. To be designated as a contract market, the exchange must demonstrate that it satisfies specified general criteria for designation, such as having the ability to prevent market manipulation, rules and procedures to ensure fair and equitable trading, position limits, dispute resolution procedures, minimization of conflicts of interest and protection of market participants. Among the principal designated contract markets in the United States are the Chicago Board of Trade, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the New York Mercantile Exchange. Each of the designated contract markets in the United States must provide for the clearance and settlement of transactions with a CFTC-registered derivatives clearing organization.

A derivatives transaction execution facility, or DTEF, is a new type of exchange that is subject to fewer regulatory requirements than a designated contract market but is subject to both commodity interest and participant limitations. DTEFs limit access to eligible traders that qualify as either eligible contract participants or eligible commercial

entities for futures and option contracts on commodities that have a nearly inexhaustible deliverable supply, are highly unlikely to be susceptible to the threat of manipulation, or have no cash market, security futures products, and futures and option contracts on commodities that the CFTC may determine, on a case-by-case basis, are highly unlikely to be susceptible to the threat of manipulation. In addition, certain commodity interests excluded or exempt from the CEA, such as swaps, etc. may be traded on a DTEF. There is no requirement that a DTEF use a clearing organization, except with respect to trading in security futures contracts, in which case the clearing organization must be a securities clearing agency. However, if futures contracts and options on futures contracts on a DTEF are cleared, then it must be through a CFTC-registered derivatives clearing organization, except that some excluded or exempt commodities traded on a DTEF may be cleared through a clearing organization other than one registered with the CFTC.

An exempt board of trade is also a newly designated form of exchange. An exempt board of trade is substantially unregulated, subject only to CFTC anti-fraud and anti-manipulation authority. An exempt board of trade is permitted to trade futures contracts and options on futures contracts provided that the underlying commodity is not a security or securities index and has an inexhaustible deliverable supply or no cash market. All traders on an exempt board of trade must qualify as eligible contract participants. Contracts deemed eligible to be traded on an exempt board of trade include contracts on interest rates, exchange rates, currencies, credit risks or measures, debt instruments, measures of inflation, or other macroeconomic indices or measures. There is no requirement that an exempt board of trade use a clearing organization. However, if contracts on an exempt board of trade are cleared, then it must be through a CFTC-registered derivatives clearing organization. A board of trade electing to operate as an exempt board of trade must file a written notification with the CFTC.

An electronic trading facility is a new form of exchange that operates by means of an electronic or telecommunications network and maintains an automated audit trail of bids, offers, and the matching of orders or the execution of transactions on the electronic trading facility. The CEA does not apply to, and the CFTC has no jurisdiction over, transactions on an electronic trading facility in certain excluded commodities that are entered into between principals that qualify as eligible contract participants, subject only to CFTC anti-fraud and anti-manipulation authority. In general, excluded commodities include interest rates, currencies, securities, securities indices or other financial, economic or commercial indices or measures.

The General Partner intends to monitor the development of and opportunities and risks presented by the new less-regulated exchanges and exempt boards and may, in the future, allocate a percentage of USNG's assets to trading in products on these exchanges. Provided USNG maintains assets exceeding \$5 million, USNG would qualify as an eligible contract participant and thus would be able to trade on such exchanges.

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### **Non-U.S. Futures Exchanges**

Non-U.S. futures exchanges differ in certain respects from their U.S. counterparts. Importantly, non-U.S. futures exchanges are not subject to regulation by the CFTC, but rather are regulated by their home country regulator. In contrast to U.S. designated contract markets, some non-U.S. exchanges are principals' markets, where trades remain the liability of the traders involved, and the exchange or an affiliated clearing organization, if any, does not become substituted for any party. Due to the absence of a clearing system, such exchanges are significantly more susceptible to disruptions. Further, participants in such markets must often satisfy themselves as to the individual creditworthiness of each entity with which they enter into a trade. Trading on non-U.S. exchanges is often in the currency of the exchange's home jurisdiction. Consequently, USNG is subject to the additional risk of fluctuations in the exchange rate between such currencies and U.S. dollars and the possibility that exchange controls could be imposed in the future. Trading on non-U.S. exchanges may differ from trading on U.S. exchanges in a variety of ways and, accordingly, may

subject USNG to additional risks.

## **Accountability Levels and Position Limits**

The CFTC and U.S. designated contract markets have established accountability levels and position limits on the maximum net long or net short futures contracts in commodity interests that any person or group of persons under common trading control (other than a hedgor, which USNG is not) may hold, own or control. Among the purposes of accountability levels and position limits is to prevent a corner or squeeze on a market or undue influence on prices by any single trader or group of traders. The position limits currently established by the CFTC apply to certain agricultural commodity interests, such as grains (oats, barley, and flaxseed), soybeans, corn, wheat, cotton, eggs, rye, and potatoes, but not to interests in energy products. In addition, U.S. exchanges may set accountability levels and position limits for all commodity interests traded on that exchange. For example, the current accountability level for investments at any one time in natural gas Futures Contracts (including investments in the Benchmark Futures Contract) on the New York Mercantile Exchange is 12,000 contracts. The New York Mercantile Exchange also imposes position limits on contracts held in the last few days of trading in the near month contract to expire. Certain exchanges or clearing organizations also set limits on the total net positions that may be held by a clearing broker. In general, no position limits are in effect in forward or other over-the-counter contract trading or in trading on non-U.S. futures exchanges, although the principals with which USNG and the clearing brokers may trade in such markets may impose such limits as a matter of credit policy. For purposes of determining accountability levels and position limits, USNG's commodity interest positions will not be attributable to investors in their own commodity interest trading.

## **Daily Price Limits**

Most U.S. futures exchanges (but generally not non-U.S. exchanges) limit the amount of fluctuation in some futures contract or options on futures contract prices during a single trading period by regulations. These regulations specify what are referred to as daily price fluctuation limits or more commonly, daily limits. The daily limits establish the maximum amount that the price of a futures or options on futures contract may vary either up or down from the previous day's settlement price. Once the daily limit has been reached in a particular futures or option on a futures contract, no trades may be made at a price beyond the limit. Positions in the futures or options contract may then be taken or liquidated, if at all, only at inordinate expense or if traders are willing to effect trades at or within the limit during the period for trading on such day. Because the daily limit rule governs price movement only for a particular trading day, it does not limit losses and may in fact substantially increase losses because it may prevent the liquidation of unfavorable positions. Futures contract prices have occasionally moved the daily limit for several consecutive trading days, thus preventing prompt liquidation of positions and subjecting the trader to substantial losses for those days. The concept of daily price limits is not relevant to over-the-counter contracts, including forwards and swaps, and thus such limits are not imposed by banks and others who deal in those markets.

In contrast, the New York Mercantile Exchange does not impose daily limits but rather limits the amount of price fluctuation for Futures Contracts. For example, the New York Mercantile Exchange imposes a \$3.00 per mmBtu (\$30,000 per contract) price fluctuation limit for natural gas Futures Contracts. This limit is initially based off of the previous trading day's settlement price. If any natural gas Futures Contract is traded,

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bid, or offered at the limit for five minutes, trading is halted for five minutes. When trading resumes it begins at the point where the limit was imposed and the limit is reset to be \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction of that point. If another halt were triggered, the market would continue to be expanded by \$3.00 per mmBtu in either direction after each successive five-minute trading halt. There is no maximum price fluctuation limit during any one trading session.

## Commodity Prices

Commodity prices are volatile and, although ultimately determined by the interaction of supply and demand, are subject to many other influences, including the psychology of the marketplace and speculative assessments of future world and economic events. Political climate, interest rates, treaties, balance of payments, exchange controls and other governmental interventions as well as numerous other variables affect the commodity markets, and even with comparatively complete information it is impossible for any trader to predict reliably commodity prices.

## Regulation

Futures exchanges in the United States are subject to varying degrees of regulation under the CEA depending on whether such exchange is a designated contract market, DTEF, exempt board of trade or electronic trading facility. Derivatives clearing organizations are also subject to the CEA and CFTC regulation. The CFTC is the governmental agency charged with responsibility for regulation of futures exchanges and commodity interest trading conducted on those exchanges. The CFTC's function is to implement the CEA's objectives of preventing price manipulation and excessive speculation and promoting orderly and efficient commodity interest markets. In addition, the various exchanges and clearing organizations themselves exercise regulatory and supervisory authority over their member firms.

The CFTC possesses exclusive jurisdiction to regulate the activities of Commodity Pool Operators (CPOs) and commodity trading advisors and has adopted regulations with respect to the activities of those persons and/or entities. Under the CEA, a registered CPO, such as the General Partner, is required to make annual filings with the CFTC describing its organization, capital structure, management and controlling persons. In addition, the CEA authorizes the CFTC to require and review books and records of, and documents prepared by, registered CPOs. Pursuant to this authority, the CFTC requires CPOs to keep accurate, current and orderly records for each pool that they operate. The CFTC may suspend the registration of a CPO (1) if the CFTC finds that the operator's trading practices tend to disrupt orderly market conditions, (2) if any controlling person of the operator is subject to an order of the CFTC denying such person trading privileges on any exchange, and (3) in certain other circumstances. Suspension, restriction or termination of the General Partner's registration as a CPO would prevent it, until that registration were to be reinstated, from managing USNG, and might result in the termination of USNG. USNG itself is not required to be registered with the CFTC in any capacity.

The CEA gives the CFTC similar authority with respect to the activities of commodity trading advisors. If a trading advisor's commodity trading advisor registration were to be terminated, restricted or suspended, the trading advisor would be unable, until the registration were to be reinstated, to render trading advice to USNG.

The CEA requires all futures commission merchants, such as USNG's clearing brokers, to meet and maintain specified fitness and financial requirements, to segregate customer funds from proprietary funds and account separately for all customers' funds and positions, and to maintain specified books and records open to inspection by the staff of the CFTC. The CFTC has similar authority over introducing brokers, or persons who solicit or accept orders for commodity interest trades but who do not accept margin deposits for the execution of trades. The CEA authorizes the CFTC to regulate trading by futures commission merchants and by their officers and directors, permits the CFTC to require action by exchanges in the event of market emergencies, and establishes an administrative procedure under which customers may institute complaints for damages arising from alleged violations of the CEA. The CEA also gives the states powers to enforce its provisions and the regulations of the CFTC.

USNG's investors are afforded prescribed rights for reparations under the CEA. Investors may also be able to maintain a private right of action for violations of the CEA. The CFTC has adopted rules implementing the reparation provisions of the CEA, which provide that any person may file a complaint for a

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reparations award with the CFTC for violation of the CEA against a floor broker or a futures commission merchant, introducing broker, commodity trading advisor, CPO, and their respective associated persons.

Pursuant to authority in the CEA, the NFA has been formed and registered with the CFTC as a registered futures association. At the present time, the NFA is the only self-regulatory organization for commodity interest professionals, other than futures exchanges. The CFTC has delegated to the NFA responsibility for the registration of commodity trading advisors, CPOs, futures commission merchants, introducing brokers, and their respective associated persons and floor brokers. The General Partner, each trading advisor, the selling agents and the clearing brokers are members of the NFA. As such, they are subject to NFA standards relating to fair trade practices, financial condition and consumer protection. USNG itself is not required to become a member of the NFA. As the self-regulatory body of the commodity interest industry, the NFA promulgates rules governing the conduct of professionals and disciplines those professionals that do not comply with these rules. The NFA also arbitrates disputes between members and their customers and conducts registration and fitness screening of applicants for membership and audits of its existing members.

The regulations of the CFTC and the NFA prohibit any representation by a person registered with the CFTC or by any member of the NFA, that registration with the CFTC, or membership in the NFA, in any respect indicates that the CFTC or the NFA, as the case may be, has approved or endorsed that person or that person's trading program or objectives. The registrations and memberships of the parties described in this summary must not be considered as constituting any such approval or endorsement. Likewise, no futures exchange has given or will give any similar approval or endorsement.

The regulation of commodity interest trading in the United States and other countries is an evolving area of the law. The various statements made in this summary are subject to modification by legislative action and changes in the rules and regulations of the CFTC, the NFA, the futures exchanges, clearing organizations and other regulatory bodies.

The function of the CFTC is to implement the objectives of the CEA of preventing price manipulation and other disruptions to market integrity, avoiding systemic risk, preventing fraud and promoting innovation, competition and financial integrity of transactions. As mentioned above, this regulation, among other things, provides that the trading of commodity interest contracts generally must be upon exchanges designated as contract markets or DTEFs and that all trading on those exchanges must be done by or through exchange members. Under the CFMA, commodity interest trading in some commodities between sophisticated persons may be traded on a trading facility not regulated by the CFTC. As a general matter, trading in spot contracts, forward contracts, options on forward contracts or commodities, or swap contracts between eligible contract participants is not within the jurisdiction of the CFTC and may therefore be effectively unregulated. The trading advisors may engage in those transactions on behalf of USNG in reliance on this exclusion from regulation.

In general, the CFTC does not regulate the interbank and forward foreign currency markets with respect to transactions in contracts between certain sophisticated counterparties such as USNG or between certain regulated institutions and retail investors. Although U.S. banks are regulated in various ways by the Federal Reserve Board, the Comptroller of the Currency and other U.S. federal and state banking officials, banking authorities do not regulate the forward markets.

While the U.S. government does not currently impose any restrictions on the movements of currencies, it could choose to do so. The imposition or relaxation of exchange controls in various jurisdictions could significantly affect the market for that and other jurisdictions' currencies. Trading in the interbank market also exposes USNG to a risk of default since failure of a bank with which USNG had entered into a forward contract would likely result in a default



and thus possibly substantial losses to USNG.

The CFTC is prohibited by statute from regulating trading on non-U.S. futures exchanges and markets. The CFTC, however, has adopted regulations relating to the marketing of non-U.S. futures contracts in the United States. These regulations permit certain contracts traded on non-U.S. exchanges to be offered and sold in the United States.

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**Commodity Margin**

Original or initial margin is the minimum amount of funds that must be deposited by a commodity interest trader with the trader's broker to initiate and maintain an open position in futures contracts. Maintenance margin is the amount (generally less than the original margin) to which a trader's account may decline before he must deliver additional margin. A margin deposit is like a cash performance bond. It helps assure the trader's performance of the futures contracts that he purchases or sells. Futures contracts are customarily bought and sold on initial margin that represents a very small percentage (ranging upward from less than 2%) of the aggregate purchase or sales price of the contract. Because of such low margin requirements, price fluctuations occurring in the futures markets may create profits and losses that, in relation to the amount invested, are greater than are customary in other forms of investment or speculation. As discussed below, adverse price changes in the futures contract may result in margin requirements that greatly exceed the initial margin. In addition, the amount of margin required in connection with a particular futures contract is set from time to time by the exchange on which the contract is traded and may be modified from time to time by the exchange during the term of the contract.

Brokerage firms, such as USNG's clearing brokers, carrying accounts for traders in commodity interest contracts may not accept lower, and generally require higher, amounts of margin as a matter of policy to further protect themselves. The clearing brokers require USNG to make margin deposits equal to exchange minimum levels for all commodity interest contracts. This requirement may be altered from time to time in the clearing brokers' discretion.

Trading in the over-the-counter markets where no clearing facility is provided generally does not require margin but generally does require the extension of credit between counterparties.

When a trader purchases an option, there is no margin requirement; however, the option premium must be paid in full. When a trader sells an option, on the other hand, he or she is required to deposit margin in an amount determined by the margin requirements established for the underlying interest and, in addition, an amount substantially equal to the current premium for the option. The margin requirements imposed on the selling of options, although adjusted to reflect the probability that out-of-the-money options will not be exercised, can in fact be higher than those imposed in dealing in the futures markets directly. Complicated margin requirements apply to spreads and conversions, which are complex trading strategies in which a trader acquires a mixture of options positions and positions in the underlying interest.

Margin requirements are computed each day by a trader's clearing broker. When the market value of a particular open commodity interest position changes to a point where the margin on deposit does not satisfy maintenance margin requirements, a margin call is made by the broker. If the margin call is not met within a reasonable time, the broker may close out the trader's position. With respect to USNG's trading, USNG (and not its investors personally) is subject to margin calls.

Finally, many major U.S. exchanges have passed certain cross margining arrangements involving procedures pursuant to which the futures and options positions held in an account would, in the case of some accounts, be aggregated and

margin requirements would be assessed on a portfolio basis, measuring the total risk of the combined positions.

## Potential Advantages of Investment

### The Advantages of Non-Correlation

Given that historically, the price of natural gas and of Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments has had very little correlation to the stock and bond markets, the General Partner believes that the performance of USNG should also exhibit a substantial degree of non-correlation with the performance of traditional equity and debt portfolio components, in part because of the ease of selling commodity interests short. This feature of many commodity interest contracts — being able to be long or short a commodity interest position with similar ease — means that profit and loss from commodity interest trading is not dependent upon economic prosperity or stability.

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However, non-correlation will not provide any diversification advantages unless the non-correlated assets are outperforming other portfolio assets, and it is entirely possible that USNG may not outperform other sectors of an investor's portfolio, or may produce losses. Additionally, although adding USNG's units to an investor's portfolio may provide diversification, USNG is not a hedging mechanism vis-à-vis traditional debt and equity portfolio components and you should not assume that USNG units will appreciate during periods of inflation or stock and bond market declines.

Non-correlated performance should not be confused with negatively correlated performance. Negative correlation occurs when the performance of two asset classes are in opposite direction to each other. Non-correlation means only that USNG's performance will likely have little relation to the performance of equity and debt instruments, reflecting the General Partner's belief that certain factors that affect equity and debt prices may affect USNG differently and that certain factors that affect equity and debt prices may not affect USNG at all. USNG's net asset value per unit may decline or increase more or less than equity and debt instruments during both rising and falling cash markets. The General Partner does not expect that USNG's performance will be negatively correlated to general debt and equity markets.

### Interest Income

Unlike some alternative investment funds, USNG does not borrow money in order to obtain leverage, so USNG does not incur any interest expense. Rather, USNG's margin deposits are maintained in Treasuries and interest is earned on 100% of USNG's available assets, which include unrealized profits credited to USNG's accounts.

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