

#### **Information Circular 09-161**

Date: November 24, 2009

Re: United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, L.P.

Pursuant to Rule 14.1(c)(2) of the Rules of BATS Exchange, Inc. ("BATS" or the "Exchange"), this Information Circular is being issued to advise you that the following security has been approved for trading on the Exchange as a UTP Derivative Security pursuant to Chapter XIV of the Exchange's Rules.

## Securities (the "Fund")

**Symbol** 

United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, L.P.

UNL

Commencement of Trading: November 25, 2009

**Issuer/Trust:** United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, L.P.

Issuer Website: www.unitedstates12monthnaturalgasfund.com/

Primary Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca

Primary Exchange Circular: RB 09-173 (November 18, 2009)

Registration Statement: No. 333-144409

The purpose of this information circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in these new products pursuant to the Exchange's unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website, examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, the Issuer Registration Statement and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Issuer Disclosure Materials."

# **Background Information on the Fund**

As more fully explained in the Registration Statement (No. 333-144409), the United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP (the "Fund" or "US12NG"), is a commodity pool that is not registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Each Unit of the Fund (the "Unit" or "Units" or "Shares") represents a fractional undivided beneficial interest in the net assets of the Fund. US12NG is not a mutual fund registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and is not subject to regulation under such Act.

The investment objective of US12NG is to have the changes in percentage terms of its units' net asset value ("NAV") 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 average of the prices of 12 futures contracts on natural gas traded on the NYMEX (the "Benchmark Futures Contracts"), 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. It is not the intent of US12NG 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.

The Fund was organized as a limited partnership under Delaware law on June 27, 2007. The Fund is operated pursuant to the Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership dated October 30, 2009. It is expected that the initial limited partner of the Fund will be Kellogg Capital Group, LLC. It is managed and controlled by its general partner, United States Commodity Funds 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 with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and is a member of the National Futures Association ("NFA"). Prior to June 13, 2008, the General Partner's name was Victoria Bay Asset Management, LLC. US12NG will pay the General Partner a management fee of 0.75% of NAV on its average net assets.

The net assets of US12NG 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 (the "NYMEX"), ICE Futures (formerly, the International Petroleum Exchange) 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, cleared swap contracts, and over-the-counter transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, crude 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 US12NG in its sole judgment to employ, establish the terms of employment for, and terminate commodity trading advisors or other futures commission merchants.

The Fund 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 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 General Partner believes that holding futures contracts whose expiration dates are spread out over a 12 month period of time will cause the total return of such a portfolio to vary compared to a portfolio that holds only a single month's contract (such as the near month contract). In particular, the General Partner believes that the total return of a portfolio holding contracts with a range of expiration months will be impacted differently by the price relationship between different contract months of the same commodity future compared to the total return of a portfolio consisting of the near month contract. For example, in cases in which the near month contract's price is higher than the price of contracts that expire later in time (a situation known as "backwardation" in the futures markets), then absent the impact of the overall movement in natural gas prices the value of the near month contract would tend to rise as it approaches expiration. Conversely, in cases in which the near month contract's price is lower than the price of contracts that expire later in time (a situation known as "contango" in the futures markets), then absent the impact of the overall movement in natural gas prices the value of the near month contract would tend to decline as it approaches expiration. The total return of a portfolio that owned the near month contract and "rolled" forward each month by selling the near month contract as it approached expiration and purchasing the next month to expire would be positively impacted by a backwardation market, and negatively impacted by a contango market. Depending on the exact price relationship of the different month's prices, portfolio expenses, and the overall movement of natural gas prices, the impact of backwardation and contango could have a major impact on the total return of such a portfolio over time. The General Partner believes that based on historical evidence a portfolio that held futures contracts with a range of expiration dates spread out over a 12 month period of time would typically be impacted less by the positive effect of backwardation and the negative effect of contango compared to a portfolio that held

contracts of a single near month. As a result, absent the impact of any other factors, a portfolio of 12 different monthly contracts would tend to have a lower total return than a near month only portfolio in a backwardation market and a higher total return in a contango market. However there can be no assurance that such historical relationships would provide the same or similar results in the future.

It is not the intent of US12NG 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 or contracts based on natural gas. US12NG will invest in interests other than the Benchmark Futures Contract to comply with accountability levels and position limits.

As a specific benchmark, the General Partner will endeavor to place US12NG's trades in Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments and otherwise manage US12NG's investments so that "A" will be within plus/minus 10 percent of "B", where:

- A is the average daily change in US12NG's NAV for any period of 30 successive valuation days, i.e., any NYSE Arca trading day as of which US12NG calculates its NAV, and
- B is the average daily change in the average of the prices of the Benchmark Futures Contracts over the same period.

An investment in the units is intended to 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 composition of the Benchmark Futures Contracts will be changed or "rolled" by selling the near month contract during one day and buying the contract which at that time is the thirteenth month contract. For example, the Benchmark Futures Contracts on June 1 of any given year would include the near month contract that would expire in July, and the next eleven contract months, which would be August of the current year through June of the following year, for a total of 12 months. When the July contract is within two weeks of expiration, the Benchmark would no longer make use of the July contract of the current year and would instead add the July contract of the next year. The Benchmark Futures Contracts would remain 12 consecutive contract months but they would now consist of the August contract of the current year through the July contract of the next year.

The General Partner will employ a "neutral" investment strategy intended to track the changes in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contracts regardless of whether these prices go up or go down. US12NG's "neutral" investment strategy is designed to permit investors generally to purchase and sell US12NG'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 markets 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 US12NG involves the risk that the changes in the price of US12NG's units will not accurately track the changes in the average of the prices of the Benchmark Futures Contracts. For example, US12NG will also invest in Treasuries, cash and/or 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. US12NG does not expect there to be any meaningful correlation between the performance of its 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 US12NG'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 the Fund's NAV and the changes in the price of natural gas.

The Fund will create and redeem 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. It is expected that baskets will be 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 NYSE Arca, to the public at per unit offering prices that are expected to reflect, among other factors, the trading price of the units on the NYSE Arca, the NAV of the Fund 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 Crude Oil-Related Investments. The prices of units offered by Authorized Purchasers are expected to fall between the Fund's NAV and the trading price of the units on the NYSE Arca at the time of sale. Similarly, it is expected that baskets will be 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 NYSE Arca, at the market price per unit, rather than in connection with the creation or redemption of baskets.

The NAV is calculated by taking the current market value of US12NG's total assets and subtracting any liabilities. Under US12NG's current operational procedures, the Administrator calculates the NAV of US12NG once each NYSE Arca trading day. The NAV for a particular trading day is released after 4:00 p.m. New York time. Trading during the core trading session of the NYSE Arca typically closes at 4:00 p.m. New York time. The Administrator uses the NYMEX closing price (determined at the earlier of the close of the NYMEX or 2:30 p.m. New York time) for the contracts held on the NYMEX, but calculates or determines the value of all other US12NG investments as of the earlier of the close of the New York Stock Exchange or 4:00 p.m. New York time. The NYSE Arca currently calculates an approximate net asset value every 15 seconds throughout each day US12NG's units are traded on the NYSE Arca for as long as the NYMEX's main pricing mechanism is open.

The Fund will pay the General Partner a management fee of 0.75% of NAV on its average net assets. Brokerage fees for Treasuries, Futures Contracts, and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments are estimated to be 0.022% and will be paid to unaffiliated brokers.

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 Administrator with the Depository Trust Company ("DTC") and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC.

Investors should note that there is no regulated source of last-sale information regarding physical commodities, such as natural gas. Also, the Securities & Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has no regulatory jurisdiction over the trading of natural gas. Instead, that responsibility lies with the CFTC.

The registration statement for the Trust describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund's Shares. For a more complete description of the Fund and the underlying Index, visit the Issuer Website.

#### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the prospectus for a description of risks associated with an investment in the Shares. These risks include the risk that a Fund's return may not match the return of its index for a number of reasons including the incursion by a Fund of operating expenses and costs not applicable to its index. In addition, as noted in the prospectus, the Shares may trade at market prices that differ from their NAV. The NAV of the Shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's holdings. The market prices of the Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the supply and demand for the Shares on the Exchange.

#### **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on BATS is subject to BATS equity trading rules.

# **Trading Hours**

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during Regular Trading Hours.

The Shares will trade on BATS between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's pre-opening session may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Pre-Opening and After Hours Trading Sessions, (2) the indicative value may not be updated during the pre-opening session, (3) lower liquidity in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (4) higher volatility in the pre-opening session may impact pricing, (5) wider spreads may occur in the pre-opening session, and (6) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the pre-opening session, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in that session may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

## **Delivery of a Prospectus**

BATS Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's website. The prospectus for a Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund's 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 the Fund, please refer to its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and in the future make available a written product description, BATS Rule 14.1(c)(3) requires that BATS Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, BATS Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a BATS member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [the UTP Derivative Securities] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Derivative Securities]."

A BATS member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to BATS member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, BATS Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

#### Suitability

Trading in the securities on BATS will be subject to the provisions of Exchange Rule 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

#### **Trading Halts**

BATS will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with BATS Rule 14.1(c)(4). The grounds for a halt under BATS Rule 14.1(c)(4) include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, BATS will stop trading the Shares of a security if the primary market de-lists the security.

# **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

## **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, the Fund is exempted from Rule 101 pursuant to paragraph (c)(4) of Rule 101, permitting persons who may be deemed to be participating in a distribution of the Shares to bid for or purchase Shares during their participation in such distribution. The Fund is exempted under Rule 102(d)(4), permitting a Fund to redeem Shares during the continuous offering of Shares.

# Rule 10b-10 (Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares)

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemption is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c); and
- 3) Except for the identity, number, and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

#### Rule 10b-17 (Untimely Announcement of Record Dates)

The SEC has granted an exemption from the requirements of Rule 10b-17 that will cover transactions in the Shares.

# Section 11(d)(1); Rule 11d1-2 (Customer Margin)

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) that will permit broker-dealers that do not create Shares but engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in such Shares exclusively in the secondary market to extend or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on the

Shares, in connection with such secondary market transactions. For broker-dealers that engage in the creation of Shares, the SEC has also taken a no-action position under Rule 11d1-2 that will cover the extension or maintenance or the arrangement for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days.

#### **Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a
  basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or
  any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchase;
  or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

## SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6 (Disclosure of Control and interest in Distributions)

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-5 that will permit a broker-dealer to execute transactions in Shares without disclosing any control relationship with an issuer of a component security. In addition, the SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-6 that will permit a broker dealer to execute transactions in the Shares without disclosing its participation or interest in a primary or secondary distribution of a component security.

This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BATS Members should consult the prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please contact Eric Swanson, 212.378.8523, <a href="mailto:eswanson@batstrading.com">eswanson@batstrading.com</a>, with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.