

United States Natural Gas Fund, LP  
Form 10-Q  
August 07, 2017

**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-Q**

Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2017.

**OR**

Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the transition period from        to        .

**Commission File Number: 001-33096**

**United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware                                  20-5576760**  
**(State or other jurisdiction of    (I.R.S. Employer**  
**incorporation or organization) Identification No.)**

**1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1530**

**Oakland, California 94612**

**(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)**

**(510) 522-9600**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

N/A

**(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. x Yes     No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). x Yes     No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer”, “smaller reporting company” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).   
Yes    x No

The registrant had 71,866,476 shares outstanding as of August 2, 2017.

**UNITED STATES NATURAL GAS FUND, LP**

**Table of Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
<b><u>Part I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	
<u>Item 1. Condensed Financial Statements.</u>	1
<u>Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.</u>	15
<u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.</u>	30
<u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures.</u>	31
<b><u>Part II. OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>	
<u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings.</u>	31
<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors.</u>	31
<u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.</u>	32
<u>Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.</u>	32
<u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.</u>	32
<u>Item 5. Other Information.</u>	32
<u>Item 6. Exhibits.</u>	32

**Part I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Condensed Financial Statements.**

**Index to Condensed Financial Statements**

<b>Documents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<u>Condensed Statements of Financial Condition at June 30, 2017 (Unaudited) and December 31, 2016</u>	2
<u>Condensed Schedule of Investments (Unaudited) at June 30, 2017</u>	3
<u>Condensed Statements of Operations (Unaudited) for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016</u>	4
<u>Condensed Statement of Changes in Partners' Capital (Unaudited) for the six months ended June 30, 2017</u>	5
<u>Condensed Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited) for the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016</u>	6
<u>Notes to Condensed Financial Statements for the period ended June 30, 2017 (Unaudited)</u>	7

*United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**Condensed Statements of Financial Condition**At June 30, 2017 (Unaudited) and December 31, 2016*

	June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents (Notes 2 and 5)	\$ 394,372,298	\$ 522,819,857
Equity in trading accounts:		
Cash and cash equivalents	48,122,106	44,966,225
Unrealized gain (loss) on open commodity futures contracts	5,291,350	37,435,507
Receivable for shares sold	–	4,646,990
Dividends receivable	12,352	14,954
Directors' fees and insurance receivable	8,901	–
Prepaid registration fees	241,547	187,798
ETF transaction fees receivable	–	2,000
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$448,048,554</b>	<b>\$ 610,073,331</b>
<b>Liabilities and Partners' Capital</b>		
Payable due to Broker	\$–	\$ 44,770,339
Payable for shares redeemed	–	26,641,069
General Partner management fees payable (Note 3)	217,760	303,354
Professional fees payable	273,567	437,218
Brokerage commissions payable	72,800	85,200
Directors' fees and insurance payable	–	5,417
License fees payable	7,359	19,932
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>571,486</b>	<b>72,262,529</b>
<b>Commitments and Contingencies (Notes 3, 4 and 5)</b>		
<b>Partners' Capital</b>		
General Partner	–	–
Limited Partners	447,477,068	537,810,802
<b>Total Partners' Capital</b>	<b>447,477,068</b>	<b>537,810,802</b>
<b>Total liabilities and partners' capital</b>	<b>\$448,048,554</b>	<b>\$ 610,073,331</b>
Limited Partners' shares outstanding	65,966,476	57,866,476
Net asset value per share	\$6.78	\$ 9.29
Market value per share	\$6.78	\$ 9.34

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

*United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**Condensed Schedule of Investments (Unaudited)**At June 30, 2017*

	Number of Contracts	Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Open Commodity Contracts	% of Partners' Capital
Open Futures Contracts - Long			
United States Contracts			
ICE Natural Gas Futures LD1 H August 2017 contracts, expiring August 2017	20,000	\$ 1,078,750	0.24
NYMEX Natural Gas Futures NG August 2017 contracts, expiring July 2017	9,745	4,212,600	0.94
Total Open Futures Contracts*	29,745	\$ 5,291,350	1.18
	Principal Amount	Market Value	
Cash Equivalents			
United States Treasury Obligations			
U.S. Treasury Bills:			
0.62%, 7/06/2017	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 9,999,146	2.23
0.59%, 7/13/2017	15,000,000	14,997,075	3.35
0.61%, 7/20/2017	10,000,000	9,996,807	2.23
0.60%, 7/27/2017	5,000,000	4,997,851	1.12
0.61%, 8/10/2017	10,000,000	9,993,222	2.23
0.65%, 8/17/2017	10,000,000	9,991,514	2.23
0.67%, 8/24/2017	15,000,000	14,984,925	3.35
0.76%, 8/31/2017	15,000,000	14,980,810	3.35
0.84%, 9/07/2017	10,000,000	9,984,133	2.23
0.87%, 9/21/2017	10,000,000	9,980,183	2.23
0.89%, 9/28/2017	15,000,000	14,966,996	3.35
0.90%, 10/05/2017	15,000,000	14,964,200	3.34
0.92%, 10/12/2017	20,000,000	19,947,642	4.46
0.91%, 10/19/2017	20,000,000	19,944,694	4.46
0.95%, 10/26/2017	10,000,000	9,969,125	2.23
0.97%, 11/02/2017	15,000,000	14,950,142	3.34
1.01%, 11/09/2017	15,000,000	14,945,144	3.34
0.98%, 11/16/2017	20,000,000	19,924,867	4.45
1.05%, 11/24/2017	20,000,000	19,915,239	4.45
1.05%, 11/30/2017	20,000,000	19,911,755	4.45
1.08%, 12/07/2017	15,000,000	14,929,113	3.34
1.09%, 12/14/2017	20,000,000	19,900,400	4.45

Edgar Filing: United States Natural Gas Fund, LP - Form 10-Q

1.11%, 12/21/2017	20,000,000	19,894,278	4.45
1.10%, 12/28/2017	20,000,000	19,890,500	4.45
Total Treasury Obligations		353,959,761	79.11
United States - Money Market Funds			
Fidelity Investments Money Market Funds - Government Portfolio	10,000,000	10,000,000	2.23
Goldman Sachs Financial Square Funds - Government Fund - Class FS	10,000,000	10,000,000	2.23
Total Money Market Funds		20,000,000	4.46
Total Cash Equivalents		\$ 373,959,761	83.57

\* Collateral amounted to \$48,122,106 on open futures contracts.

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*



*United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**Condensed Statements of Operations (Unaudited)**For the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016*

	Three months ended June 30, 2017	Three months ended June 30, 2016	Six months ended June 30, 2017	Six months ended June 30, 2016
<b>Income</b>				
Gain (loss) on trading of commodity futures contracts:				
Realized gain (loss) on closed futures contracts	\$ (27,757,990 )	\$ 94,006,028	\$ (106,447,328 )	\$ 86,671,888
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on open futures contracts	(16,848,660 )	58,739,254	(32,144,157 )	(47,814,042 )
Realized gain (loss) on short-term investments	—	—	(1,172 )	—
Dividend income	34,328	26,867	53,607	44,718
Interest income	766,409	432,045	1,406,816	699,204
ETF transaction fees	60,000	21,000	144,000	46,000
<b>Total income (loss)</b>	<b>(43,745,913 )</b>	<b>153,225,194</b>	<b>(136,988,234 )</b>	<b>39,647,768</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
General Partner management fees (Note 3)	660,512	819,510	1,400,322	1,545,668
Professional fees	362,158	67,459	722,608	118,006
Brokerage commissions	380,958	522,847	800,656	1,085,522
Directors' fees and insurance	14,400	40,623	29,607	62,146
License fees	16,513	20,488	35,008	38,642
Registration fees	39,266	100,645	121,724	201,290
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,473,807</b>	<b>1,571,572</b>	<b>3,109,925</b>	<b>3,051,274</b>
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ (45,219,720 )</b>	<b>\$ 151,653,622</b>	<b>\$ (140,098,159 )</b>	<b>\$ 36,596,494</b>
Net income (loss) per limited partnership share	\$ (0.79 )	\$ 2.01	\$ (2.51 )	\$ (0.04 )
Net income (loss) per weighted average limited partnership share	\$ (0.74 )	\$ 1.95	\$ (2.21 )	\$ 0.50
Weighted average limited partnership shares outstanding	60,804,938	77,732,410	63,321,725	72,876,916

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*



*United States Natural Gas Fund, LP*

*Condensed Statement of Changes in Partners' Capital (Unaudited)*

*For the six months ended June 30, 2017*

	General Partner	Limited Partners	Total
Balances, at December 31, 2016	\$ —	\$ 537,810,802	\$537,810,802
Addition of 125,600,000 partnership shares	—	922,309,024	922,309,024
Redemption of 117,500,000 partnership shares	—	(872,544,599 )	(872,544,599)
Net income (loss)	—	(140,098,159 )	(140,098,159)
Balances, at June 30, 2017	\$ —	\$ 447,477,068	\$447,477,068
Net Asset Value Per Share:			
At December 31, 2016			\$9.29
At June 30, 2017			\$6.78

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

*United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**Condensed Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)**For the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016*

	Six months ended June 30, 2017	Six months ended June 30, 2016
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ (140,098,159 )	\$ 36,596,494
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
(Increase) decrease in commodity futures trading account - cash and cash equivalents	(3,155,881 )	(78,556,895 )
Unrealized (gain) loss on open futures contracts	32,144,157	47,814,042
(Increase) decrease in dividends receivable	2,602	(8,073 )
(Increase) decrease in directors' fees and insurance receivable	(8,901 )	17,569
(Increase) decrease in prepaid registration fees	(53,749 )	201,290
(Increase) decrease in ETF transaction fees receivable	2,000	—
Increase (decrease) in payable due to Broker	(44,770,339 )	(40,863,950 )
Increase (decrease) in General Partner management fees payable	(85,594 )	30,477
Increase (decrease) in professional fees payable	(163,651 )	(832,687 )
Increase (decrease) in brokerage commissions payable	(12,400 )	1,450
Increase (decrease) in directors' fees and insurance payable	(5,417 )	—
Increase (decrease) in license fees payable	(12,573 )	(3,603 )
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(156,217,905 )	(35,603,886 )
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Addition of partnership shares	926,956,014	234,539,401
Redemption of partnership shares	(899,185,668 )	(216,547,252 )
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	27,770,346	17,992,149
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(128,447,559 )	(17,611,737 )
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b> , beginning of period	522,819,857	453,830,484
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b> , end of period	\$ 394,372,298	\$ 436,218,747

*See accompanying notes to condensed financial statements.*

**United States Natural Gas Fund, LP**

**Notes to Condensed Financial Statements**

**For the period ended June 30, 2017 (Unaudited)**

**NOTE 1 — ORGANIZATION AND BUSINESS**

The United States Natural Gas Fund, LP (“UNG”) was organized as a limited partnership under the laws of the state of Delaware on September 11, 2006. UNG is a commodity pool that issues limited partnership shares (“shares”) that may be purchased and sold on the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the “NYSE Arca”). Prior to November 25, 2008, UNG’s shares traded on the American Stock Exchange (the “AMEX”). UNG will continue in perpetuity, unless terminated sooner upon the occurrence of one or more events as described in its Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership dated as of March 1, 2013 (the “LP Agreement”). The investment objective of UNG is for the daily changes in percentage terms of its shares’ per share net asset value (“NAV”) to reflect the daily changes in percentage terms of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana as measured by the daily changes in the price of the futures contract on natural gas as 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 the futures contract will be the next month contract to expire (the “Benchmark Futures Contract”), less UNG’s expenses.

UNG’s investment objective is *not* for its NAV or market price of shares to equal, in dollar terms, the spot price of natural gas or any particular futures contract based on natural gas, *nor* is UNG’s investment objective for the percentage change in its NAV to reflect the percentage change of the price of any particular futures contract as measured over a time period *greater than one day*.

United States Commodity Funds LLC (“USCF”), the general partner of UNG, believes that it is not practical to manage the portfolio to achieve such an investment goal when investing in Natural Gas Futures Contracts (as defined below) and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments (as defined below). The net assets of UNG consist primarily of investments in futures contracts for natural gas that are traded on the NYMEX, ICE Futures Exchange (“ICE Futures”) or other U.S. and foreign exchanges (collectively, “Natural Gas Futures Contracts”) and, to a lesser extent, in order to comply with regulatory requirements or in view of market conditions, other natural gas-related investments such as cash-settled options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas, cleared swap contracts, and non-exchange traded over-the-counter (“OTC”) transactions that are based on the price of natural gas, crude oil and other petroleum-based fuels, as well as futures contracts for crude oil, diesel-heating oil, gasoline and other petroleum-based fuels and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, “Other Natural Gas-Related Investments”). Market conditions that USCF currently anticipates could cause UNG to invest in Other Natural Gas-Related Investments including those allowing UNG to obtain greater liquidity or to execute transactions with more favorable pricing. For convenience and unless otherwise specified, Natural Gas Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments collectively are referred to as “Natural Gas Interests” in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q. As

## Edgar Filing: United States Natural Gas Fund, LP - Form 10-Q

of June 30, 2017, UNG held 9,745 NG Futures August 2017 Contracts traded on the NYMEX and 20,000 LD1 H Futures August 2017 Contracts traded on the ICE Futures US.

UNG commenced investment operations on April 18, 2007 and has a fiscal year ending on December 31. USCF is responsible for the management of UNG. USCF is a member of the National Futures Association (the “NFA”) and became registered as a commodity pool operator with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) effective December 1, 2005 and a swaps firm on August 8, 2013. USCF is also the general partner of the United States Oil Fund, LP (“USO”), the United States 12 Month Oil Fund, LP (“USL”), the United States Gasoline Fund, LP (“UGA”) and the United States Diesel-Heating Oil Fund, LP (“UHN”), which listed their limited partnership shares on the AMEX under the ticker symbols “USO” on April 10, 2006, “USL” on December 6, 2007, “UGA” on February 26, 2008 and “UHN” on April 9, 2008, respectively. As a result of the acquisition of the AMEX by NYSE Euronext, each of USO’s, USL’s, UGA’s and UHN’s shares commenced trading on the NYSE Arca on November 25, 2008. USCF is also the general partner of the United States Short Oil Fund, LP (“DNO”), the United States 12 Month Natural Gas Fund, LP (“UNL”) and the United States Brent Oil Fund, LP (“BNO”), which listed their limited partnership shares on the NYSE Arca under the ticker symbols “DNO” on September 24, 2009, “UNL” on November 18, 2009 and “BNO” on June 2, 2010, respectively. USCF is also the sponsor of the United States Commodity Index Fund (“USCI”), the United States Copper Index Fund (“CPER”), the United States Agriculture Index Fund (“USAG”) and the USCF Canadian Crude Oil Index Fund (“UCCO”), each a series of the United States Commodity Index Funds Trust. USCI, CPER and USAG listed their shares on the NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol “USCI” on August 10, 2010, “CPER” on November 15, 2011 and “USAG” on April 13, 2012, respectively. UCCO is currently in registration and has not commenced operations.

All funds listed previously, other than UCCO, are referred to collectively herein as the “Related Public Funds.”

In addition, USCF is the sponsor of the USCF Funds Trust, a Delaware statutory trust, and each of its series, the REX S&P MLP Fund and the REX S&P MLP Inverse Fund which are currently in registration and have not commenced operations and the United States 3X Oil Fund and the United States 3X Short Oil Fund which were in registration as of June 30, 2017 and commenced operations on July 20, 2017. The funds that are series of the USCF Funds Trust are not included in the Related Public Funds.

UNG issues shares to certain authorized purchasers (“Authorized Participants”) by offering baskets consisting of 100,000 shares (“Creation Baskets”) through ALPS Distributors, Inc., as the marketing agent (the “Marketing Agent”). The purchase price for a Creation Basket is based upon the NAV of a share calculated shortly after the close of the core trading session on the NYSE Arca on the day the order to create the basket is properly received.

In addition, Authorized Participants pay UNG a \$1,000 fee for each order placed to create one or more Creation Baskets or to redeem one or more baskets (“Redemption Baskets”), consisting of 100,000 shares. Shares may be purchased or sold on a nationally recognized securities exchange in smaller increments than a Creation Basket or Redemption Basket. Shares purchased or sold on a nationally recognized securities exchange are not purchased or sold at the per share NAV of UNG but rather at market prices quoted on such exchange.

In April 2007, UNG initially registered 30,000,000 shares on Form S-1 with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). On April 18, 2007, UNG listed its shares on the AMEX under the ticker symbol “UNG” and switched to trading on the NYSE Arca under the same ticker symbol on November 25, 2008. On that day, UNG established its’ initial per share NAV by setting the price at \$50.00 and issued 200,000 shares in exchange for \$10,001,000. UNG also commenced investment operations on April 18, 2007, by purchasing Natural Gas Futures Contracts traded on the NYMEX based on natural gas. As of June 30, 2017, UNG had registered a total of 2,080,000,000 shares.

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

## **NOTE 2 — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Basis of Presentation**

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. GAAP as detailed in the Financial Accounting Standards Board’s (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification. UNG is an investment company and follows the accounting and reporting guidance in FASB Topic 946.

## **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 statements of financial condition and represent 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 statements of operations. UNG earns income on funds held at the custodian or futures commission merchant (“FCM”) at prevailing market rates earned on such investments.

Investments in OTC total return swap contracts (see Note 5) are arrangements to exchange a periodic payment for a market-linked return, each based on a notional amount. To the extent that the total return of the commodity future, security or index underlying the transaction exceeds or falls short of the offsetting periodic payment obligation, UNG receives a payment from, or makes a payment to, the swap counterparty. The OTC swap contracts are valued daily based upon the appreciation or depreciation of the underlying securities subsequent to the effective date of the contract. Changes in the value of the swaps are reported as unrealized gains and losses and periodic payments are recorded as realized gains or losses in the accompanying condensed statements of operations.

## **Brokerage Commissions**

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

## **Income Taxes**

UNG 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.



In accordance with U.S. GAAP, UNG is required to determine whether a tax position is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, including resolution of any tax related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits of the position. UNG files an income tax return in the U.S. federal jurisdiction, and may file income tax returns in various U.S. states. UNG is not subject to income tax return examinations by major taxing authorities for years before 2013. The tax benefit recognized is measured as the largest amount of benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. De-recognition of a tax benefit previously recognized results in UNG recording a tax liability that reduces net assets. However, UNG's conclusions regarding this policy may be subject to review and adjustment at a later date based on factors including, but not limited to, on-going analysis of and changes to tax laws, regulations and interpretations thereof. UNG recognizes interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax fees payable, if assessed. No interest expense or penalties have been recognized as of and for the period ended June 30, 2017.

### **Creations and Redemptions**

Authorized Participants may purchase Creation Baskets or redeem Redemption Baskets only in blocks of 100,000 shares at a price equal to the NAV of the shares calculated shortly after the close of the core trading session on the NYSE Arca on the day the order is placed.

UNG receives or pays the proceeds from shares sold or redeemed within three business days after the trade date of the purchase or redemption. The amounts due from Authorized Participants are reflected in UNG's condensed statements of financial condition as receivable for shares sold, and amounts payable to Authorized Participants upon redemption are reflected as payable for shares redeemed.

Authorized Participants pay UNG a transaction fee of \$1,000 for each order placed to create one or more Creation Baskets or to redeem one or more Redemption Baskets.

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

Profit or loss shall be allocated among the partners of UNG in proportion to the number of shares each partner holds as of the close of each month. USCF may revise, alter or otherwise modify this method of allocation as described in the LP Agreement.

### **Calculation of Per Share Net Asset Value (“NAV”)**

UNG’s per share NAV is calculated on each NYSE Arca trading day by taking the current market value of its total assets, subtracting any liabilities and dividing that amount by the total number of shares outstanding. UNG uses the closing price for the contracts on the relevant exchange on that day to determine the value of contracts held on such exchange.

### **Net Income (Loss) Per Share**

Net income (loss) per share is the difference between the per share NAV at the beginning of each period and at the end of each period. The weighted average number of shares outstanding was computed for purposes of disclosing net income (loss) per weighted average share. The weighted average shares are equal to the number of shares outstanding at the end of the period, adjusted proportionately for shares added and redeemed based on the amount of time the shares were outstanding during such period. There were no shares held by USCF at June 30, 2017.

### **Offering Costs**

Offering costs incurred in connection with the registration of additional shares after the initial registration of shares are borne by UNG. These costs include registration fees paid to regulatory agencies and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated with such offerings. These costs are 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 equivalents include money market funds and overnight deposits or time deposits with original maturity dates of six months or less.

### **Reclassification**

Certain amounts in the accompanying condensed financial statements were reclassified to conform to the current presentation.



## **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of condensed financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires USCF 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 the reported amounts of the revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from those estimates and assumptions.

## **NOTE 3 — FEES PAID BY THE FUND AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

### **USCF Management Fee**

Under the LP Agreement, USCF is responsible for investing the assets of UNG in accordance with the objectives and policies of UNG. In addition, USCF has arranged for one or more third parties to provide administrative, custody, accounting, transfer agency and other necessary services to UNG. For these services, UNG is contractually obligated to pay USCF a fee, which is paid monthly, that is equal to 0.60% per annum of average daily total net assets of \$1,000,000,000 or less and 0.50% per annum of average daily total net assets that are greater than \$1,000,000,000.

### **Ongoing Registration Fees and Other Offering Expenses**

UNG pays all costs and expenses associated with the ongoing registration of its shares subsequent to the initial offering. These costs include registration or other fees paid to regulatory agencies in connection with the offer and sale of shares, and all legal, accounting, printing and other expenses associated with such offer and sale. For the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, UNG incurred \$121,724 and \$201,290, respectively, in registration fees and other offering expenses.

### **Independent Directors' and Officers' Expenses**

UNG is responsible for paying its portion of the directors' and officers' liability insurance for UNG and the Related Public Funds and the fees and expenses of the independent directors who also serve as audit committee members of UNG and the Related Public Funds. UNG shares the fees and expenses on a pro rata basis with each Related Public Fund, as described above, based on the relative assets of each Related Public Fund computed on a daily basis. These

fees and expenses for the year ending December 31, 2017 are estimated to be a total of \$62,300 for UNG and, in the aggregate for UNG and the Related Public Funds, \$539,350.

### **Licensing Fees**

As discussed in Note 4 below, UNG entered into a licensing agreement with the NYMEX on April 10, 2006, as amended on October 20, 2011. Pursuant to the agreement, UNG and the Related Public Funds, other than BNO, USCI, CPER and USAG, pay a licensing fee that is equal to 0.015% on all net assets. During the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, UNG incurred \$35,008 and \$38,642, respectively, under this arrangement.

### **Investor Tax Reporting Cost**

The fees and expenses associated with UNG's audit expenses and tax accounting and reporting requirements are paid by UNG. These costs are estimated to be \$1,000,000 for the year ending December 31, 2017. Tax reporting costs fluctuate between years due to the number of shareholders during any given year.

### **Other Expenses and Fees**

In addition to the fees described above, UNG pays all brokerage fees, transaction costs for OTC swaps, if any, and other expenses in connection with the operation of UNG, but excluding costs and expenses paid by USCF as outlined in *Note 4 – Contracts and Agreements* below.

## **NOTE 4 — CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS**

### **Marketing Agent Agreements**

UNG is party to a marketing agent agreement, dated as of April 17, 2007, as amended from time to time, with the Marketing Agent and USCF, whereby the Marketing Agent provides certain marketing services for UNG as outlined in the agreement. The fee of the Marketing Agent, which is borne by USCF, is equal to 0.06% on UNG's assets up to \$3 billion and 0.04% on UNG's assets in excess of \$3 billion. In no event may the aggregate compensation paid to the Marketing Agent and any affiliate of USCF for distribution-related services exceed 10% of the gross proceeds of UNG's offering.



The above fee does not include website construction and development, which are also borne by USCF.

### **Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. Agreements**

UNG is also party to a custodian agreement, dated March 5, 2007, as amended from time to time, with Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. (“BBH&Co.”) and USCF, whereby BBH&Co. holds investments on behalf of UNG. USCF pays the fees of the custodian, which are determined by the parties from time to time. In addition, UNG is party to an administrative agency agreement, dated March 5, 2007, as amended from time to time, with USCF and BBH&Co., whereby BBH&Co. acts as the administrative agent, transfer agent and registrar for UNG. USCF also pays the fees of BBH&Co. for its services under such agreement and such fees are determined by the parties from time to time.

Currently, USCF pays BBH&Co. for its services, in the foregoing capacities, a minimum amount of \$75,000 annually for its custody, fund accounting and fund administration services rendered to UNG and each of the Related Public Funds, as well as a \$20,000 annual fee for its transfer agency services. In addition, USCF pays BBH&Co. an asset-based charge of (a) 0.06% for the first \$500 million of the Related Public Funds’ combined net assets, (b) 0.0465% for the Related Public Funds’ combined net assets greater than \$500 million but less than \$1 billion, and (c) 0.035% once the Related Public Funds’ combined net assets exceed \$1 billion. The annual minimum amount will not apply if the asset-based charge for all accounts in the aggregate exceeds \$75,000. USCF also pays BBH&Co. transaction fees ranging from \$7 to \$15 per transaction.

### **Brokerage and Futures Commission Merchant Agreements**

On October 8, 2013, UNG entered into a brokerage agreement with RBC Capital Markets, LLC (“RBC Capital” or “RBC”) to serve as UNG’s FCM effective October 10, 2013. The agreement with RBC requires it to provide services to UNG in connection with the purchase and sale of Natural Gas Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments that may be purchased and sold by or through RBC Capital for UNG’s account. In accordance with the agreement, RBC Capital charges UNG commissions of approximately \$7 to \$8 per round-turn trade, including applicable exchange, clearing and NFA fees for Natural Gas Futures Contracts and options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts. Such fees include those incurred when purchasing Natural Gas Futures Contracts and options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts when UNG issues shares as a result of a Creation Basket, as well as fees incurred when selling Natural Gas Futures Contracts and options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts when UNG redeems shares as a result of a Redemption Basket. Such fees are also incurred when Natural Gas Futures Contracts and options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts are purchased or redeemed for the purpose of rebalancing the portfolio. UNG also incurs commissions to brokers for the purchase and sales of Natural Gas Futures Contracts, Other Natural Gas-Related Investments or short-term obligations of the United States of two years or less (“Treasuries”).

	For the six months ended June 30, 2017		For the six months ended June 30, 2016	
Total commissions accrued to brokers	\$ 800,656		\$ 1,085,522	
Total commissions as an annualized percentage of average net assets	0.34	%	0.42	%
Commissions accrued as a result of rebalancing	\$ 647,003		\$ 1,030,262	
Percentage of commissions accrued as a result of rebalancing	80.81	%	94.91	%
Commissions accrued as a result of creation and redemption activity	\$ 153,653		\$ 55,260	
Percentage of commissions accrued as a result of creation and redemption activity	19.19	%	5.09	%

The decrease in the total commissions accrued to brokers for the six months ended June 30, 2017, as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016, was due primarily to a lower number of futures contracts being held and traded as a result of UNG's smaller size in terms of average net assets.

#### **NYMEX Licensing Agreement**

UNG and the NYMEX entered into a licensing agreement on April 10, 2006, as amended on October 20, 2011, whereby UNG was granted a non-exclusive license to use certain of the NYMEX's settlement prices and service marks. Under the licensing agreement, UNG and the Related Public Funds, other than BNO, USCI, CPER and USAG, pay the NYMEX an asset-based fee for the license, the terms of which are described in Note 3. UNG expressly disclaims any association with the NYMEX or endorsement of UNG by the NYMEX and acknowledges that "NYMEX" and "New York Mercantile Exchange" are registered trademarks of the NYMEX.



**NOTE 5 — FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, OFF-BALANCE SHEET RISKS AND CONTINGENCIES**

UNG engages in the trading of futures contracts, options on futures contracts, cleared swaps and OTC swaps (collectively, “derivatives”). UNG 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.

UNG may enter into futures contracts, options on futures contracts, cleared swaps and OTC swaps to gain exposure to changes in the value of an underlying commodity. A futures contract obligates the seller to deliver (and the purchaser to accept) the future delivery of a specified quantity and type of a commodity at a specified time and place. Some futures contracts may call for physical delivery of the asset, while others are settled in cash. The contractual obligations of a buyer or seller may generally be satisfied by taking or making physical delivery of the underlying 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. Cleared swaps are OTC agreements that are eligible to be cleared by a clearinghouse, e.g., ICE Clear Europe, but which are not traded on an exchange. A cleared swap is created when the parties to an off-exchange OTC swap transaction agree to extinguish their OTC swap and replace it with a cleared swap. Cleared swaps are intended to provide the efficiencies and benefits that centralized clearing on an exchange offers to traders of futures contracts, including credit risk intermediation and the ability to offset positions initiated with different counterparties.

The purchase and sale of futures contracts, options on futures contracts and cleared swaps 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.

Futures contracts, options on futures contracts and cleared swaps involve, to varying degrees, elements of market risk (specifically commodity price risk) and exposure to loss in excess of the amount of variation margin. The face or contract amounts reflect the extent of the total exposure UNG has in the particular classes of instruments. Additional risks associated with the use of futures contracts are an imperfect correlation between movements in the price of the futures contracts and the market value of the underlying securities and the possibility of an illiquid market for a futures contract. Buying and selling options on futures contracts exposes investors to the risks of purchasing or selling futures contracts.

All of UNG’s investment contracts were exchange-traded futures contracts through June 30, 2017. The risks associated with exchange-traded contracts are generally perceived to be less than those associated with OTC swaps, since, in OTC swaps, a party must rely solely on the credit of its respective individual counterparties. However, in the future, if UNG 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, on the transaction. UNG has credit risk under its futures contracts since the sole counterparty to all domestic and foreign futures contracts is the clearinghouse for the exchange on which the relevant contracts are traded. In addition, UNG bears the risk of financial failure by the clearing broker.

UNG's cash and other property, such as Treasuries, 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. The insolvency of an FCM could result in the complete loss of UNG's assets posted with that FCM; however, the majority of UNG's assets are held in Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents with UNG's custodian and would not be impacted by the insolvency of an FCM. The failure or insolvency of UNG's custodian, however, could result in a substantial loss of UNG's assets.

USCF invests a portion of UNG's cash in money market funds that seek to maintain a stable per share NAV. UNG is exposed to any risk of loss associated with an investment in such money market funds. As of June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, UNG held investments in money market funds in the amounts of \$20,000,000 and \$50,000,000, respectively. UNG also holds cash deposits with its custodian. Pursuant to a written agreement with BBH&Co., uninvested overnight cash balances are swept to offshore branches of U.S. regulated and domiciled banks located in Toronto, Canada; London, United Kingdom; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; and Nassau, Bahamas; which are subject to U.S. regulation and regulatory oversight. As of June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, UNG held cash deposits and investments in Treasuries in the amounts of \$422,494,404 and \$517,786,082, respectively, with the custodian and FCM. Some or all of these amounts may be subject to loss should UNG's custodian and/or FCM cease operations.

For derivatives, risks arise from changes in the market value of the contracts. Theoretically, UNG 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, UNG 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.

UNG'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, UNG has a policy of requiring review of the credit standing of each broker or counterparty with which it conducts business.

The financial instruments held by UNG are reported in its condensed statements 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 6 — FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following table presents per share performance data and other supplemental financial data for the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 for the shareholders. This information has been derived from information presented in the condensed financial statements.

	For the six months ended June 30, 2017 (Unaudited)		For the six months ended June 30, 2016 (Unaudited)	
Per Share Operating Performance:				
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 9.29		\$ 8.69	
Total income (loss)	(2.46	)	0.00	**
Total expenses	(0.05	)	(0.04	)
Net increase (decrease) in net asset value	(2.51	)	(0.04	)
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 6.78		\$ 8.65	
Total Return	(27.02	)%	(0.46	)%
Ratios to Average Net Assets				
Total income (loss)	(29.11	)%	7.65	%
Management fees*	0.60	%	0.60	%
Expenses excluding management fees*	0.73	%	0.58	%
Net income (loss)	(29.77	)%	7.06	%

\* Annualized.

\*\* Amount less than \$0.005.

Total returns are calculated based on the change in value during the period. An individual shareholder's total return and ratio may vary from the above total returns and ratios based on the timing of contributions to and withdrawals from UNG.

**NOTE 7 — FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

UNG values its investments in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 820 – Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (“ASC 820”). ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurement. The changes to past practice resulting from the application of ASC 820 relate to the definition of fair value, the methods used to measure fair value, and the expanded disclosures about fair value measurement. ASC 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between: (1) market participant assumptions developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of UNG (observable inputs) and (2) UNG’s own assumptions about market participant assumptions developed based on the best information available under the circumstances (unobservable inputs). The three levels defined by the ASC 820 hierarchy are as follows:

Level I – Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for *identical* assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date.

Level II – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level I that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level II assets include the following: quoted prices for *similar* assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means (market-corroborated inputs).

Level III – Unobservable pricing input at the measurement date for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs shall be used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available.

In some instances, the inputs used to measure fair value might fall within different levels of the fair value hierarchy. The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety shall be determined based on the lowest input level that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

The following table summarizes the valuation of UNG's securities at June 30, 2017 using the fair value hierarchy:

At June 30, 2017	Total	Level I	Level II	Level III
Short-Term Investments	\$373,959,761	\$373,959,761	\$ —	\$ —
Exchange-Traded Futures Contracts				
United States Contracts	5,291,350	5,291,350	—	—

During the six months ended June 30, 2017, there were no transfers between Level I and Level II.

The following table summarizes the valuation of UNG's securities at December 31, 2016 using the fair value hierarchy:

At December 31, 2016	Total	Level I	Level II	Level III
Short-Term Investments	\$484,298,065	\$484,298,065	\$ —	\$ —
Exchange-Traded Futures Contracts				
United States Contracts	37,435,507	37,435,507	—	—

During the year ended December 31, 2016, there were no transfers between Level I and Level II.

Effective January 1, 2009, UNG adopted the provisions of Accounting Standards Codification 815 — Derivatives and Hedging, which require presentation of qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts and gains and losses on derivatives.

### Fair Value of Derivative Instruments

Derivatives not Accounted for as Hedging Instruments	Condensed Statements of Financial	Fair Value At June 30, 2017	Fair Value At December 31, 2016
--	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------

	Condition	Location		
Futures - Commodity Contracts	Assets		\$ 5,291,350	\$ 37,435,507

**The Effect of Derivative Instruments on the Condensed Statements of Operations**

Derivatives not Accounted for as Hedging Instruments	Location of Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized in Income	For the six months ended June 30, 2017		For the six months ended June 30, 2016	
		Realized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized in Income	Change in Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized in Income	Realized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized in Income	Change in Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives Recognized in Income
Futures - Commodity Contracts	Realized gain (loss) on closed futures contracts	\$(106,447,328)		\$86,671,888	
	Change in unrealized gain (loss) on open futures contracts		\$(32,144,157 )		\$(47,814,042 )

**NOTE 8 — SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

UNG has performed an evaluation of subsequent events through the date the condensed financial statements were issued. This evaluation did not result in any subsequent events that necessitated disclosures and/or adjustments.

## **Item 2. 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 the United States Natural Gas Fund, LP (“UNG”) included elsewhere in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

### *Forward-Looking Information*

This quarterly report on Form 10-Q, including this “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” contains forward-looking statements regarding the plans and objectives of management for future operations. This information may involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause UNG’s actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by any forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements, which involve assumptions and describe UNG’s future plans, strategies and expectations, are generally identifiable by use of the words “may,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” “believe,” “intend” or “project,” the negative of these words or variations on these words or comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements are based on assumptions that may be incorrect, and UNG cannot assure investors that the projections included in these forward-looking statements will come to pass. UNG’s actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors.

UNG has based the forward-looking statements included in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q on information available to it on the date of this quarterly report on Form 10-Q, and UNG assumes no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Although UNG undertakes no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, investors are advised to consult any additional disclosures that UNG may make directly to them or through reports that UNG in the future files with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K.

### **Introduction**

UNG, a Delaware limited partnership, is a commodity pool that issues shares that may be purchased and sold on the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the “NYSE Arca”). The investment objective of UNG is for the daily changes in percentage terms of its shares’ per share net asset value (“NAV”) to reflect the daily changes, in percentage terms, of the price of natural gas delivered at the Henry Hub, Louisiana, as measured by the daily changes, in the price of a specified short-term futures contract for natural gas 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 (the “Benchmark Futures Contract”), plus interest earned on

the Fund's collateral holdings, less UNG's expenses. "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.

UNG's investment objective is *not* for its NAV or market price of shares to equal, in dollar terms, the spot price of natural gas or any particular futures contract based on natural gas, *nor* is UNG's investment objective for the percentage change in its NAV to reflect the percentage change of the price of any particular futures contract as measured over a time period *greater than one day*. The general partner of UNG, United States Commodity Funds LLC ("USCF"), believes that it is not practical to manage the portfolio to achieve such an investment goal when investing in Natural Gas Futures Contracts (as defined below) and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments (as defined below).

UNG invests primarily in futures contracts for natural gas, 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, "Natural Gas Futures Contracts") and to a lesser extent, in order to comply with regulatory requirements or in view of market conditions, other natural gas-related investments such as cash-settled options on Natural Gas Futures Contracts, forward contracts for natural gas, cleared swap contracts and OTC swaps that are based on the price of natural gas, crude oil and other petroleum-based fuels, Natural Gas Futures Contracts and indices based on the foregoing (collectively, "Other Natural Gas-Related Investments"). For convenience and unless otherwise specified, Natural Gas Futures Contracts and Other Natural Gas-Related Investments collectively are referred to as "Natural Gas Interests" in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

USCF believes that market arbitrage opportunities will cause daily changes in UNG's share price on the NYSE Arca on a percentage basis to closely track daily changes in UNG's per share NAV on a percentage basis. USCF further believes that daily changes in prices of the Benchmark Futures Contract have historically closely tracked the daily changes in spot prices of natural gas. USCF believes that the net effect of these relationships will be that the daily changes in the price of UNG's shares on the NYSE Arca on a percentage basis will closely track the daily changes in the spot price of natural gas on a percentage basis, plus interest earned on the Fund's collateral holdings, less UNG's expenses.



UNG seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing so that the average daily percentage change in UNG's NAV for any period of 30 successive valuation days will be within plus/minus ten percent (10%) of the average daily percentage change in the price of the Benchmark Futures Contract over the same period.

## Regulatory Disclosure

*Accountability Levels, Position Limits and Price Fluctuation Limits.* Designated contract markets, such as the NYMEX and ICE Futures, 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 by UNG is not) may hold, own or control. These levels and position limits apply to the futures contracts that UNG invests in to meet its investment objective. In addition to accountability levels and position limits, the NYMEX and ICE Futures also set daily price fluctuation limits on futures contracts. The daily price fluctuation limit establishes the maximum amount that the price of a 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.

The accountability levels for the Benchmark Futures Contract and other Natural Gas Futures Contracts traded on U.S.-based futures exchanges, such as the NYMEX, are not a fixed ceiling, but rather a threshold above which the NYMEX may exercise greater scrutiny and control over an investor's positions. The current accountability level for investments for any one-month in the Benchmark Futures Contract is 6,000 net contracts. In addition, the NYMEX imposes an accountability level for all months of 12,000 net futures contracts for natural gas. In addition, the ICE Futures maintains accountability levels, position limits and monitoring authority for its Henry Hub natural gas contracts. If UNG and the Related Public Funds exceed these accountability levels for investments in the futures contract for natural gas, the NYMEX and ICE Futures will monitor such exposure and may ask for further information on their activities, including the total size of all positions, investment and trading strategy, and the extent of liquidity resources of UNG and the Related Public Funds. If deemed necessary by the NYMEX and/or ICE Futures, UNG could be ordered to reduce its aggregate net futures contracts back to the accountability level. As of June 30, 2017, UNG held 9,745 NYMEX Natural Gas Futures NG contracts and 20,000 Natural Gas Futures LD1 H Contracts traded on the ICE Futures US. UNG exceeded accountability levels of the NYMEX during the six months ended June 30, 2017, when it held a maximum of 14,682 Natural Gas Futures NG contracts. UNG exceeded accountability levels of ICE Futures during the six months ended June 30, 2017, when it held a maximum of 20,000 Natural Gas Futures LD1 H Contracts, exceeding the "any" month limit. No action was taken by the NYMEX or ICE Futures and UNG did not reduce the number of Natural Gas Futures Contracts held as a result.

Position limits differ from accountability levels in that they represent fixed limits on the maximum number of futures contracts that any person may hold and cannot allow such limits to be exceeded without express CFTC authority to do so. In addition to accountability levels and position limits that may apply at any time, the NYMEX and the ICE Futures impose position limits on contracts held in the last few days of trading in the near month contract to expire. It is unlikely that UNG will run up against such position limits because UNG's investment strategy is to close out its

positions and “roll” from the near month contract to expire to the next month contract during a four-day period beginning two weeks from expiration of the contract. For the six months ended June 30, 2017, UNG did not exceed position limits imposed by the NYMEX and ICE Futures.

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 SEC, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”), CFTC, the National Futures Association (the “NFA”), the futures exchanges, clearing organizations and other regulatory bodies.

### *Futures Contracts and Position Limits*

The CFTC is generally 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 on non-U.S. exchanges to be offered and sold in the United States.

The CFTC has proposed to adopt limits on speculative positions in 25 physical commodity futures and option contracts as well as swaps that are economically equivalent to such contracts in the agriculture, energy and metals markets (the “Position Limit Rules”). The Position Limit Rules would, among other things: identify which contracts are subject to speculative position limits; set thresholds that restrict the size of speculative positions that a person may hold in the spot month, other individual months, and all months combined; create an exemption for positions that constitute bona fide hedging transactions; impose responsibilities on designated contract markets (“DCMs”) and swap execution facilities (“SEFs”) to establish position limits or, in some cases, position accountability rules; and apply to both futures and swaps across four relevant venues: OTC, DCMs, SEFs as well as certain non-U.S. located platforms. The CFTC’s first attempt at finalizing the Position Limit Rules, in 2011, was successfully challenged by market participants in 2012 and, since then, the CFTC has re-proposed them and solicited comments from market participants multiple times. At this time, it is unclear how the Position Limit Rules may affect UNG, but the effect may be substantial and adverse. By way of example, the Position Limit Rules may negatively impact the ability of UNG to meet its investment objectives through limits that may inhibit USCF’s ability to sell additional Creation Baskets of UNG.

Until such time as the Position Limit Rules are adopted, the regulatory architecture in effect prior to the adoption of the Position Limit Rules will govern transactions in commodities and related derivatives (collectively, “Referenced Contracts”). Under that system, the CFTC enforces federal limits on speculation in agricultural products (e.g., corn, wheat and soy), while futures exchanges establish and enforce position limits and accountability levels for other agricultural and certain energy products (e.g., oil and natural gas). As a result, UNG may be limited with respect to the size of its investments in any commodities subject to these limits.

Under existing and recently adopted CFTC regulations, for the purpose of position limits, a market participant is generally required, subject to certain narrow exceptions, to aggregate all positions for which that participant controls the trading decisions with all positions for which the participant has a 10 percent or greater ownership interest in an account or position, as well as the positions of two or more persons acting pursuant to an express or implied agreement or understanding with that participant (the “Aggregation Rules”). The Aggregation Rules will also apply with respect to the Position Limit Rules if and when such Position Limit Rules are adopted.

### ***“Swap” Transactions***

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) imposes regulatory requirements on certain “swap” transactions that UNG is authorized to engage in that may ultimately impact the ability of UNG to meet its investment objective. The term “swap” is broadly defined to include various types of OTC derivatives, including swaps and options.

CFTC regulations require that certain transactions ultimately falling within the definition of “swap” be executed on organized exchanges or “swap execution facilities” and cleared through regulated clearing organizations (“CCPs”). “Clearing” refers to the process by which a trade that is bilaterally executed by two parties is submitted to a CCP, via a clearing member (*i.e.*, an “FCM”), and replaced by two mirror swaps, with the CCP becoming the counterparty to both of the initial parties to the swap. CCPs have several layers of protection against default including margin, member capital contributions and FCM guarantees of their customers’ transactions with the CCP. FCMs also pre-qualify the counterparties to all swaps that are sent to the CCP from a credit perspective, setting limits for each counterparty and collecting initial and variation margin daily from each counterparty for changes in the value of cleared swaps. The margin collected from both parties to the swap protects against credit risk in the event a counterparty defaults. The initial and variation margin requirements are set by and held for the benefit of the CCP. Additional initial margin may be required and held by the FCM.

Current rules and regulations require enhanced customer protections, risk management programs, internal monitoring and controls, capital and liquidity standards, customer disclosures and auditing and examination programs for FCMs. The rules are intended to afford greater assurances to market participants that customer segregated funds and secured amounts are protected, customers are provided with appropriate notice of the risks of futures trading and of the FCMs

with which they may choose to do business, FCMs are monitoring and managing risks in a robust manner, the capital and liquidity of FCMs are strengthened to safeguard the continued operations and the auditing and examination programs of the CFTC and the self-regulatory organizations are monitoring the activities of FCMs in a thorough manner.

Certain index-based credit default swaps and interest rate swaps are subject to mandatory clearing. If UNG enters into index-based credit default swaps or interest rate swaps that are subject to mandatory clearing, UNG will be required to centrally clear those swaps.

To the extent that a swap is required to be cleared, it must also be executed on a SEF or DCM if it is designated as “made available to trade” by a SEF or DCM. “Made available to trade” refers to the regulatory process by which the SEF or DCM execution requirement is implemented by the CFTC. To date, only certain of the index-based credit default swaps and interest rate swaps that are required to be cleared are made available to trade on a SEF. If UNG enters into index-based credit default swaps or interest rate swaps that are subject to mandatory clearing, UNG will be required to execute those swaps on a SEF if they are designated as made available to trade. In order to execute swaps on a SEF, UNG will have to be a member of a SEF or it may access the SEF through an intermediary. Members of a SEF are subject to additional requirements under CFTC regulations and are subject to the rules and jurisdiction of the relevant SEF.

Swaps that are not required to be cleared and executed on a SEF but that are executed bilaterally are also subject to various requirements pursuant to CFTC regulations, including, among others, reporting and recordkeeping requirements and, depending on the status of the counterparties, trading documentation requirements and dispute resolution requirements. In addition, U.S. regulators are in the process of adopting rules to impose initial and variation margin requirements that will apply to swap dealers and major swap participants and their counterparties. If UNG engages in non-cleared swap transactions it may be subject to some or all of these requirements.

In addition to the rules and regulations imposed under the Dodd-Frank Act, swap dealers that are European banks may also be subject to European Market Infrastructure Regulation (“EMIR”) and other European laws and regulations. Such laws and regulations impose requirements on non-cleared derivatives that are similar to those imposed by the CFTC and other regulators in the United States and which are described above. UNG may be impacted by European laws and regulations to the extent that it engages in derivatives transactions with European entities. Other non-US jurisdictions also impose obligations with respect to OTC swaps that could impact UNG if it were to engage in OTC swaps with non-US persons.

### ***Money Market Reform***

The SEC adopted Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 on July 23, 2014, which became effective on October 14, 2016, to reform money market funds (“MMFs”). While the new rule applies only to MMFs, it may indirectly affect institutional investors such as UNG. The new rule requires institutional prime MMFs to price their shares using market-based values instead of the amortized cost method (i.e., to use a “floating net asset value per share” or “floating NAV”). Government and retail funds can continue to use the amortized cost method to value their portfolio securities. Additionally, liquidity fees and gates allow an MMF’s board of directors to directly address runs on a fund. MMFs’ boards of directors are required to implement rules to discourage and prevent runs by investors through the use of redemption fees and gates (temporary suspension of redemptions). The fees and gates could be imposed on a fund whose portfolios fail to meet certain liquidity thresholds although they are optional for government MMFs. UNG currently invests in government MMFs, as well as Treasuries with a maturity date of two years or less, as an investment for assets not used for margin or collateral in the Futures Contracts. UNG does not hold any non-government MMFs and, currently, does not anticipate investing in any non-government MMFs. The new rule further decreases the likelihood that UNG would invest in any non-governmental MMFs. However, if UNG were to make investments in non-government MMFs in the future, such investments could negatively impact UNG because of the changes to MMFs resulting from the new rule.

### **Price Movements**

Natural gas futures prices were volatile during the six months ended June 30, 2017. The price of the Benchmark Futures Contract started the period at \$3.724 per million British thermal shares (“MMBtu”). The high for the period was the starting price when the price reached \$3.724 per MMBtu. The low of the period was February 21, 2017, when the price dropped to \$2.691 per MMBtu. The period ended with the Benchmark Futures Contract at \$3.035 per MMBtu, a decrease of approximately (18.50)% over the period. UNG’s per share NAV began the period at \$9.29 and ended the period at \$6.78 on June 30, 2017, a decrease of approximately (27.02)% over the period. UNG’s per share NAV reached its high for the period on January 13, 2017 at \$8.53 and reached its low for the period on June 22, 2017 at \$6.52. The Benchmark Futures Contract prices listed above began with the February 2017 contracts and ended with the August 2017 Contracts. The decrease of approximately (18.50)% on the Benchmark Futures Contract listed above is a hypothetical return only and could not actually be achieved by an investor holding Natural Gas Futures Contracts. An investment in Natural Gas Futures Contracts would need to be rolled forward during the time period described in

order to simulate such a result. Furthermore, the change in the nominal price of these differing Natural Gas Futures Contracts, measured from the start of the period to the end of the period, does not represent the actual benchmark results that UNG seeks to track, which are more fully described below in the section titled “*Tracking UNG’s Benchmark.*”

During the six months ended June 30, 2017, the natural gas futures market was primarily in a state of contango. During periods of contango, the price of the near month natural gas Futures Contract was typically lower than the price of the next month natural gas Futures Contract, or contracts further away from expiration. On days when the market was in backwardation, the price of the near month natural gas Futures Contract was typically higher than the price of the next month natural gas Futures Contract, or contracts further away from expiration. For a discussion of the impact of contango and backwardation on total returns, see “*Term Structure of Natural Gas Futures Prices and the Impact on Total Returns*” below.

### **Valuation of Futures Contracts and the Computation of the Per Share NAV**

The per share NAV of UNG’s shares is calculated once each NYSE Arca trading day. The per share NAV for a particular trading day is released after 4:00 p.m. New York time. Trading during the core trading session on the NYSE Arca typically closes at 4:00 p.m. New York time. UNG’s 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 UNG investments, including, if any, cleared swaps or other futures contracts, as of the earlier of the close of the NYSE Arca or 4:00 p.m. New York time.

### **Results of Operations and the Natural Gas Market**

*Results of Operations.* On April 18, 2007, UNG listed its shares on the American Stock Exchange (the “AMEX”) under the ticker symbol “UNG.” On that day, UNG established its initial offering price at \$50.00 per share and issued 200,000 shares to the initial authorized purchaser in exchange for \$10,000,000 in cash. As a result of the acquisition of the AMEX by NYSE Euronext, UNG’s shares ceased trading on the AMEX and commenced trading on the NYSE Arca on November 25, 2008.

Since its initial offering of 30,000,000 shares, UNG has registered seven subsequent offerings of its shares: 50,000,000 shares which were registered with the SEC on November 21, 2007, 100,000,000 shares which were registered with the SEC on August 28, 2008, 300,000,000 shares which were registered with the SEC on May 6, 2009, 1,000,000,000 shares were registered with the SEC on August 12, 2009, 200,000,000 shares were registered on March 12, 2014, 200,000,000 shares were registered on April 28, 2015 and 200,000,000 shares were registered on April 28, 2017.

Shares offered by UNG in the subsequent offerings were sold by it for cash at the shares' per share NAV as described in the applicable prospectus. On March 8, 2011, after the close of trading on the NYSE Arca, UNG effected a 2-for-1 reverse share split and post-split shares of UNG began trading on March 9, 2011. As a result of the reverse share split, every two pre-split shares of UNG were automatically exchanged for one post-split share. Immediately prior to the reverse share split, there were 447,200,000 shares of UNG issued and outstanding, representing a per share NAV of \$5.16. Immediately after the reverse share split, the number of issued and outstanding shares of UNG decreased to 223,600,000, not accounting for fractional shares, and the per share NAV increased to \$10.31. On February 21, 2012, after the close of trading on the NYSE Arca, UNG effected a 4-for-1 reverse share split and post-split shares of UNG began trading on February 22, 2012. As a result of the reverse share split, every four pre-split shares of UNG were automatically exchanged for one post-split share. Immediately prior to the reverse share split, there were 174,297,828 shares of UNG issued and outstanding, representing a per share NAV of \$5.51. Immediately after the reverse share split, the number of issued and outstanding shares of UNG decreased to 43,574,457, not accounting for fractional shares, and the per share NAV increased to \$22.04. As of June 30, 2017, UNG had issued 1,826,900,000 shares, 65,966,476 of which were outstanding. As of June 30, 2017, there were 253,100,000 shares registered but not yet issued.

More shares may have been issued by UNG than are outstanding due to the redemption of shares. Unlike funds that are registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, shares that have been redeemed by UNG cannot be resold by UNG. As a result, UNG contemplates that additional offerings of its shares will be registered with the SEC in the future in anticipation of additional issuances and redemptions.

As of June 30, 2017, UNG had the following authorized purchasers: ABN Amro, BNP Paribas Prime Brokerage, Inc., BNP Paribas Securities Corp., Citadel Securities LLC, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities USA LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Goldman Sachs & Company, Goldman Sachs Execution & Clearing LP, JP Morgan Securities Inc., Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp., Morgan Stanley & Company LLC., Nomura Securities International Inc., RBC Capital Markets LLC, SG Americas Securities LLC, and Virtu Financial BD LLC.

For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2017 Compared to the Six Months Ended June 30, 2016

Edgar Filing: United States Natural Gas Fund, LP - Form 10-Q

	For the six months ended June 30, 2017		For the six months ended June 30, 2016	
Average daily total net assets	\$ 470,642,389		\$ 518,053,603	
Dividend and interest income earned on Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents	\$ 1,460,423		\$ 743,922	
Annualized yield based on average daily total net assets	0.63	%	0.29	%
Management fee	\$ 1,400,322		\$ 1,545,668	
Total fees and other expenses excluding management fees	\$ 1,709,603		\$ 1,505,606	
Fees and expenses related to the registration or offering of additional shares	\$ 121,724		\$ 201,290	
Total commissions accrued to brokers	\$ 800,656		\$ 1,085,522	
Total commissions as annualized percentage of average total net assets	0.34	%	0.42	%
Commissions accrued as a result of rebalancing	\$ 647,003		\$ 1,030,262	
Percentage of commissions accrued as a result of rebalancing	80.81	%	94.91	%
Commissions accrued as a result of creation and redemption activity	\$ 153,653		\$ 55,260	
Percentage of commissions accrued as a result of creation and redemption activity	19.19	%	5.09	%

*Portfolio Expenses.* UNG's expenses consist of investment management fees, brokerage fees and commissions, certain offering costs, licensing fees, the fees and expenses of the independent directors of USCF and expenses relating to tax accounting and reporting requirements. The management fee that UNG pays to USCF is calculated as a percentage of the total net assets of UNG. The fee is accrued daily and paid monthly.

Average interest rates earned on short-term investments held by UNG, including cash equivalents and Treasuries, were higher during the six months ended June 30, 2017, compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016. As a result, the amount of income earned by UNG as a percentage of average total net assets was higher during the six months ended June 30, 2017 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016.



The increase in total fees and expenses excluding management fees for the six months ended June 30, 2017, compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016, was primarily due to an increase in tax and reporting costs.

The decrease in the total commissions accrued to brokers for the six months ended June 30, 2017, as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2016, was due primarily to a lower number of futures contracts being held and traded.

For the Three Months Ended June 30, 2017 Compared to the Three Months Ended June 30, 2016

	For the three months ended June 30, 2017	For the three months ended June 30, 2016
Average daily total net assets	\$ 441,551,312	\$ 549,341,859
Dividend and interest income earned on Treasuries, cash and/or cash equivalents	\$ 800,737	\$ 458,912
Annualized yield based on average daily total net assets	0.73	%