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NORTHERN BORDER PARTNERS, L.P. DECLARES SECOND QUARTER DISTRIBUTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, July 19, 2001

OMAHA – Northern Border Partners, L.P. (NYSE - NBP) today declared the Partnership's quarterly cash distribution of \$0.7625 per unit for the second quarter of 2001. The indicated annual rate is \$3.05 per unit. The second quarter distribution is payable August 14, 2001 to unitholders of record as of July 31, 2001.

Northern Border Partners, L.P. owns a 70 percent general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline Company, a 1,214-mile pipeline system that transports natural gas from the Montana-Saskatchewan border to markets in the Midwestern U. S. Additionally, the Partnership owns the 350-mile long Midwestern Gas Transmission system, which stretches from Portland, Tennessee to Joliet, Illinois. The Partnership also has gathering systems and processing plants in the Powder River, Wind River and Williston Basins in the U.S.; owns and operates processing plants and gathering pipelines in Alberta, Canada; and transports coal-water slurry via a pipeline in the Southwestern U.S. The general partners of NBP are owned by Enron Corp. (NYS E: ENE), one of the world's leading electricity, natural gas and communications companies and by Williams (NYSE: WMB), who through its subsidiaries, connects businesses to energy, delivering innovative, reliable products and services.

Northern Border Partners, L.P. information may be found at http://www.northernborderpartners.com.