

STAR GAS PARTNERS LP
Form DEFA14A
January 25, 2006

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

STAR GAS PARTNERS, L.P.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Not applicable

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box)

No filing fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11:

4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

6) Amount Previously Paid:

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7) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

8) Filing Party:

9) Date Filed:

News Announcement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STAR GAS PARTNERS COMMENCES MAILING OF PROXY MATERIALS
IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROPOSED RECAPITALIZATION**

STAMFORD, CT (January 25, 2006) Star Gas Partners, L.P. (the Partnership or Star) (NYSE: SGU, SGH), a home energy distributor and services provider specializing in heating oil, today announced it has begun mailing proxy materials in conjunction with a special meeting of Star Gas unitholders to be held at 11:00 a.m. on March 17, 2006 at the law offices of Phillips Nizer LLP 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY. At the special meeting, Star Gas unitholders will vote on the previously announced recapitalization transaction.

The matters to be considered are more fully described in the proxy materials filed by Star Gas with the SEC. Star has also filed a registration statement on Form S-3. The registration statement relates to the rights offering being made to common unitholders in connection with the recapitalization. All filings are available at www.star-gas.com, or at the www.sec.gov website.

The Star Gas Board and senior management are strongly IN FAVOR of all three proposals, and they urge all eligible unitholders to vote by telephone, internet or by mail. Specific voting instructions will be included on your proxy card. All votes are important, and not voting will have the same effect as a vote against the recapitalization.

If approved by unitholders of record (as of January 24, 2006), the recapitalization proposals would result in, among other things:

Strengthening Star Gas's balance sheet, helping it to meet liquidity and capital requirements, and allowing the Partnership to operate more efficiently with less debt.

Quarterly distributions commence accruing at a rate of \$0.27 per year, which would start in October 2008.

Should the proposed recapitalization not be approved, it is unlikely that Star Gas unitholders would receive any distributions in the foreseeable future.

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Allowing the Partnership to resume strategic acquisitions of home heating oil distributors.

Common unitholders being offered rights to purchase additional SGU common units.

These valuable rights will allow common unitholders to purchase additional units at \$2.00 per unit which is below the trading price of the common units as of the day of this release.

Resolution of a significant disagreement with certain of Star Gas's senior noteholders that could have a material adverse effect on the Partnership's ability to continue as a going concern.

All unitholders are encouraged to read the proxy materials in their entirety as they contain important information regarding the proposed recapitalization.

Forward Looking Information

This news release includes forward-looking statements which represent the Partnership's expectations or beliefs concerning future events that involve risks and uncertainties, including those associated with the approval of the recapitalization; the effect of weather conditions on our financial performance; the price and supply of home heating oil; the consumption patterns of our customers; our ability to obtain satisfactory gross profit margins; our ability to obtain new customers and retain existing customers; our ability to effect strategic acquisitions or redeploy underperforming assets; the ultimate disposition of excess proceeds from the sale of the propane segment should the recapitalization not be consummated; the impact of litigation; the ongoing impact of the business process redesign project at the heating oil segment and our ability to address issues related to that project; natural gas conversions; future union relations and the outcome of current and future union negotiations; the impact of current and future environmental, health and safety regulations; customer creditworthiness; and marketing plans.

All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this news release are forward-looking statements. Although the Partnership believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, it can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to have been correct. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Partnership's expectations (Cautionary Statements) are disclosed in this news release and in the Partnership's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2005 including without limitation and in conjunction with the forward-looking statements included in this news release. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to the Partnership or persons acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the Cautionary Statements. Unless otherwise required by law, the Partnership undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise after the date of this news release.

About Star Gas Partners

Star Gas Partners, L.P. is the nation's largest retail distributor of home heating oil. Additional information is available by obtaining the Partnership's SEC filings and by visiting Star's website at www.star-gas.com.

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