**National Fuel Declares Quarterly Dividend**

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WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y., Feb 16, 2006 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- National Fuel Gas Company's (NYSE:NFG) Board of Directors today approved payment of a regular quarterly dividend of 29 cents per share on the Company's common stock. The dividend is payable April 15, 2006, to shareholders of record on March 31, 2006.

National Fuel has paid dividends for 103 consecutive years and has increased its annual dividend for 35 straight years. In June 2005, the dividend was increased by 3.57 percent to its current annual rate of $1.16 per share.

The Company has approximately 84.5 million shares of common stock outstanding. It has no preferred stock outstanding.

National Fuel is an integrated energy company with $3.9 billion in assets comprised of the following five operating segments: Utility, Pipeline and Storage, Exploration and Production, Energy Marketing, and Timber. Additional information about National Fuel is available on its Internet Web site: http://www.nationalfuelgas.com or through its investor information service at 1-800-334-2188.

National Fuel Gas Company
Media:
Julie Coppola Cox, 716-857-7079

Analyst:
Margaret Suto, 716-857-6987