Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B2

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B2 October 23, 2006

| | Maximum Aggregate | Amount of Registration |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| | | |
| Title of Each Class of Securities Offered | Offering Price | Fee (1) |
| Medium-Term Notes, Series B | \$525,000,000 | \$56,175 |

⁽¹⁾ Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The filing fee of \$56,175 is being paid in connection with the registration of these Medium-Term Notes, Series B.

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 4 DATED: October 18, 2006 (To Prospectus dated August 16, 2006, and Prospectus Supplement dated August 16, 2006)

Rule 424(b)(2) File No. 333-136666

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. Medium-Term Notes, Series B

| Principal Amount: \$525,000,000 | Floating Rate Notes [x] | Book Entry Notes [x] |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Original Issue Date: 10/23/2006 | Fixed Rate Notes [] | Certificated Notes [] |
| Maturity Date: 10/22/2010 | CUSIP#: 073928R88 | |

Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]

Yes [] Final Maturity Date:

| | | Optional | Optional |
|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Redemption | Repayment | Repayment |
| Redeemable On | Price(s) | Date(s) | Price(s) |
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Dates:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Spread (plus or minus): +0.14%

| Interest Rate Basis: | Maximum Interest Rate: N/A |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| [] Commercial Paper Rate | Minimum Interest Rate: N/A |
| [] Federal Funds Effective Rate | |
| [] Federal Funds Open Rate | Interest Reset Date(s): * |
| [] Treasury Rate | Interest Reset Period: Quarterly |
| [] LIBOR Reuters | Interest Payment Date(s): ** |
| [x] LIBOR Telerate | |
| [] Prime Rate | |
| [] CMT Rate | |
| Initial Interest Rate: [TBD] | Interest Payment Period: Quarterly |
| Index Maturity: Three months | |

^{*} Commencing January 22, 2007 and on the 22nd of each April, July, October and January thereafter prior to Maturity.

^{**} Commencing January 22, 2007 and on the 22nd of each April, July, October and January thereafter up to and including the Maturity date.

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The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules. We intend to treat the Notes as variable rate debt instruments that bear interest that is unconditionally payable at least annually at a single qualified floating rate for U.S. federal income tax purposes.