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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3

May 22, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 47

DATED: May 18, 2001

(To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001, and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001)

Rule 424(b)(3)

File No. 333-52902

\$9,015,893,162
THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$35,000,000		Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Note					ry Notes	[x]
Original Issue Date: 5/22/	Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes [s []	
Maturity Date: 5/22/2002	CUSIP#: 073928UE1							
Option to Extend Maturity:		No Yes		Final Matu	rity	Date:		
	edempt: Price(s			Optional Repayment Date(s)			Optional Repayment Price(s)	

N/A

N/A

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

N/A

Interest Rate:

N/A

Interest Payment Dates:

Index Maturity: N/A

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis: Maximum Interest Rate: N/A

[] Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate: N/A

[X] Federal Funds Rate Interest Reset Date(s): Daily

[] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Daily

[] LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): *

[] LIBOR Telerate

[] Prime Rate

[] CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 4.20% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

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Spread (plus or minus): + 0.20%

* On the 22nd of August, November, February and at Maturity.

The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.