BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC
Form 424B3
July 27, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 61 Rule 424(b)(3)
DATED: July 26, 2001 File No. 333-52902
(To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001,
and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001)

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

Principal Amount: $25,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [ ] Book Entry Notes [x]

Original Issue Date: 8/17/2001 Fixed Rate Notes [x] Certificated Notes [ ]

Maturity Date: 8/17/2016 CUSIP#: 073928UU5

Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]
Yes [ ] Final Maturity Date:

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

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate: 7.00%

Interest Payment Dates: **

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis: Maximum Interest Rate:

[ ] Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate:

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

[ ] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period:

[ ] LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s):

[ ] LIBOR Telerate

[ ] Prime Rate

[ ] CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: Interest Payment Period:

Index Maturity:

Spread (plus or minus):

* Commencing August 17, 2004 and on the interest payment dates thereafter until Maturity, the Notes may be called in whole at par at the option of the Company on ten calendar days notice.

** Commencing September 17, 2001 and on the 17th of each month thereafter until Maturity or until the Notes are called.

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