

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
March 9, 2000**

CASE NO: EM-2000-506

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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)	
UtiliCorp United Inc. for Authority to)	
Acquire, Indirectly, the Capital Stock of)	<u>Case No. EM-2000-506</u>
860023 Alberta Ltd., and to Take all Other)	
Actions Reasonably Necessary to Effectuate)	
Said Transactions)	

ORDER GRANTING STAFF'S MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL TIME

On February 18, 2000, UtiliCorp United Inc. (UtiliCorp) filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) for approval of the acquisition of TransAlta Corporation. UtiliCorp requested an order no later than June 1, 2000, with an effective date of no later than June 13, 2000, authorizing the acquisition.

The Commission issued its order on March 1, 2000, directing the Staff of the Commission (Staff) to respond within five (5) days of the order, stating whether or not it would be able to complete its investigation of the proposed transaction and be able to file its report and recommendation to the Commission in a timely fashion.

On March 7, 2000, Staff filed its motion for additional time to file its response. Staff stated that its coordinator for the case was unavailable until at least March 9, 2000. Additionally, Staff stated, one of the other Staff persons assigned to determining whether Staff can comply with the Commission's order is serving on a jury in Jackson

County, Missouri, and is not expected to be available until later in the week of March 6, 2000.

Staff stated that it had contacted UtiliCorp and the Office of the Public Counsel and that neither party objected to Staff's being granted an extension until March 14, 2000.

The Commission will order that Staff be allowed to file its pleading stating whether or not it can comply with the Commission's order on March 14, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Staff of the Commission shall file a pleading no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 14, 2000, stating whether or not it will be able to complete its investigation of the proposed transaction and be able to file its report no later than May 9, 2000.
2. That this order shall become effective March 9, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale H. Roberts
Chief Regulatory Law Judge/Secretary

(S E A L)

Bill Hopkins, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
4 CSR 240-2.120(1) (November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 9th day of March, 2000.

**STATE OF MISSOURI
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,
Missouri, this 9th day of March 2000.

Dale Hardy Roberts

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

