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April 17, 2000

FILED

APR 17 2000

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Re: In the Matter of UtiliCorp United Inc. and AlintaGas Limited
Case No. GM-2000-637

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of UtiliCorp United Inc., I deliver herewith an original and fourteen (14) copies of a Status Report to be filed with the Commission. A copy is also being hand-delivered to The Office of the Public Counsel this date.

I have also enclosed an extra copy of the Status Report which I request that you stamp "Filed" and return to the person delivering same to you.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By: 

Paul A. Boudreau

PAB/aw

Enclosures

cc: The Office of Public Counsel

FILED

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION APR 17 2000
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of UtiliCorp)
United Inc. for Authority to Acquire, Indirectly,)
an Ownership Interest in AlintaGas Limited,) Case No. GM-2000-637
and to Take All Other Actions Reasonably)
Necessary to Effectuate said Transaction.)

STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW UtiliCorp United Inc. ("UtiliCorp"), Applicant in the captioned matter, and states to the Commission as follows:

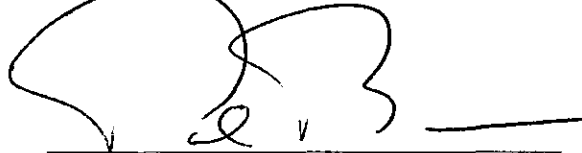
1. On April 11, 2000, UtiliCorp caused to be filed with the Commission an *Application* in the captioned matter. The Application seeks an order authorizing UtiliCorp to acquire, indirectly, up to and including 45% of the capital stock of AlintaGas, an Australian natural gas distribution, retail and marketing business being privatized by the West Australian Government.

2. Thereafter, on April 13, 2000, UtiliCorp filed a *Motion for Expedited Consideration* requesting that the Commission issue an order approving the Application bearing an effective date of no later than June 8, 2000.

3. UtiliCorp's Application described the general outline of the bidding process for AlintaGas. Along those lines, UtiliCorp reported to the Commission that it had already placed a non-binding, indicative bid from which the West Australian Government was to choose a number of finalists from which the successful bidder would ultimately be chosen.

4. UtiliCorp is pleased to report to the Commission that it has been chosen as one of the finalists in this process. Attached for the Commission's information is a copy of a Dow Jones press release dated April 14, 2000, stating that UtiliCorp is one of four companies chosen by the West Australian government and placed on a "short list" of bidders for AlintaGas.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Swearengen #21510

Paul A. Boudreau #33155

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Attorneys for UtiliCorp United Inc.

Certificate of Service

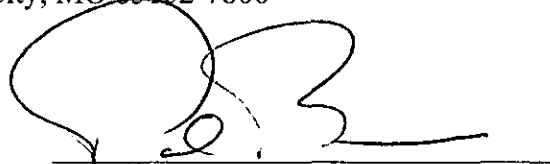
I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 17th day of April, 2000, to:

The Office of the Public Counsel

Truman Building, Room 250

P.O. Box 7800

Jefferson City, MO 65102-7800



*W Australia Names Shortlisted Bidders For AlintaGas
Dow Jones - 04/14/2000

PERTH - The state government of Western Australia Friday said four companies have been shortlisted as potential "cornerstone" investors in AlintaGas, the government's A\$1 billion natural gas utility.

The four companies are Australian Gas Light Co. (A.AGL), a gas distribution company, and Wesfarmers Ltd. (A.WES), a chemicals, energy, rural services and hardware concern; and U.S. companies UtiliCorp United Inc. (UCU) and CMS Energy Corp. (CMS).

The four will have in-depth access to AlintaGas' commercial data from May 1, at the start of the due diligence and final bid stage.

Final bids are due around eight weeks later, and the government plans to announce the successful bidder at the end of June.

"The successful cornerstone investor would acquire 45% of AlintaGas with the other 55% being made available to the public through an initial public offering in July or August," the government said.