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September 11, 2000

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

**FILED<sup>2</sup>**  
SEP 11 2000  
Missouri Public  
Service Commission

**Re: In the Matter of UtiliCorp United Inc./TransAlta  
Case No. EM-2000-506**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of UtiliCorp United Inc., I deliver herewith an original and eight (8) copies of a Status Report to be filed with the Commission in the referenced case. A copy is also being hand-delivered to The Office of the Public Counsel this date.

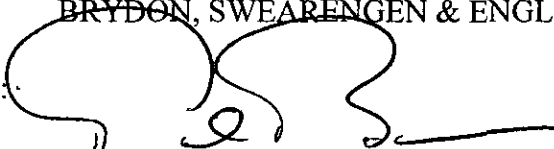
I have also enclosed an extra copy of the Status Report which I request that you stamp "Filed" and return to the person delivering same to you.

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

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED<sup>2</sup>

SEP 11 2000

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of )  
UtiliCorp United Inc. for authority to )  
acquire, indirectly, the capital stock of )  
860023 Alberta Ltd., and to take all )  
other actions reasonably necessary )  
to effectuate said transaction. )

Case No. EM-2000-506

**STATUS REPORT**

COMES NOW UtiliCorp United Inc. ("UtiliCorp") and provides the following report to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") concerning the status of this case:

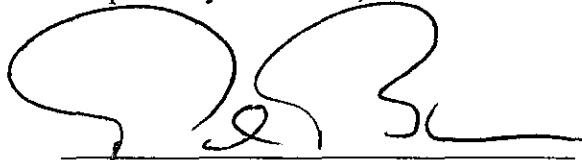
1. By Order Directing Filing dated September 7, 2000, the Commission directed UtiliCorp to file a report concerning the status of this case.

2. UtiliCorp is pleased to inform the Commission that on August 31, 2000, UtiliCorp closed the purchase of TransAlta Corporation's Alberta electricity and distribution retail businesses which were the subject of the Application in the captioned matter. With regard to this development, a related news release is attached hereto as Appendix A and is incorporated herein by reference.

3. UtiliCorp is unaware of any further action or reporting requiring that this case remain open. Accordingly, UtiliCorp suggests that this case may be closed at the Commission's earliest convenience.

WHEREFORE, UtiliCorp has fully complied with the Commission's Order Directing Filing.

Respectfully submitted,



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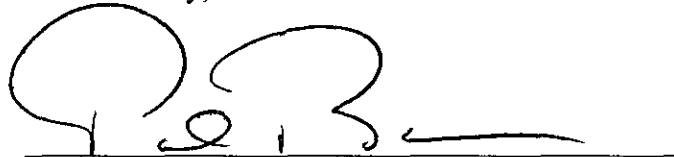
Attorneys for UtiliCorp United Inc.

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 11th day of September, 2000, to:

The Missouri Public Service Commission  
Nathan Williams, Staff Attorney  
Governor Office Building  
200 Madison Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

The Office of the Public Counsel  
Governor Office Building  
200 Madison Street  
Room 650  
Jefferson City, MO 65102



**News Release**

**UTILICORP UNITED**

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**UtiliCorp United Media Contacts:**  
Jerry Cosley – 816-467-3677  
Media Relations – 816-467-3000

**UtiliCorp United Investor Contacts:**  
Ellen Fairchild – 816-467-3506  
Dale Wolf – 816-467-3536

**UTILICORP NETWORKS CANADA AND  
TRANSALTA CORP. CLOSE DEAL**

CALGARY, Alberta, August 31, 2000 -- UtiliCorp Networks Canada, a unit of U.S.-based UtiliCorp United (NYSE:UCU), today announced the financial closing of the purchase of TransAlta Corporation's Alberta electricity distribution and retail businesses. Regulatory approval was granted by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board in July.

The approximately CA\$700 million (US\$480 million) purchase was announced in February and involves 350,000 retail customers, the management and operation of 90,000 kilometers (54,000 miles) of low-voltage power distribution lines, and a 24-hour customer call center in Calgary.

"The closing is an important milestone, representing quality, professional effort by both companies," said Robert W. Holzwarth, Calgary-based CEO of UtiliCorp's Canadian operations. "We anticipate now being able to move quickly to discuss our plans for the future with our employees and customers."

Alberta began the process of deregulating wholesale electricity with the passage of the Electric Utility Act in 1995. A 1998 amendment to the act moved the province further along the path to deregulation by allowing retail customers to choose among competitive electricity suppliers beginning January 1, 2001.

The other Canadian utility operation of UtiliCorp United is West Kootenay Power, an integrated electric utility with headquarters in Trail, British Columbia. Aquila Canada, UtiliCorp United's wholesale energy marketing and trading arm for all of Canada, also is located in Calgary.

UtiliCorp United is a Kansas City, Missouri-based multinational energy company with about 4 million customers. It operates in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, Norway, New Zealand and Australia. At June 30, 2000,

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## UtiliCorp/TransAlta Closing - 2

UtiliCorp had CA\$13 billion (US \$8.8 billion) in assets and 12-month sales of CA\$31.6 billion (US\$21.4 billion).

TransAlta is an international electric energy company with more than CA\$6 billion (US\$4.1 billion) in assets. The company is focused on achieving strong earnings growth, enhancing its competitive edge as a low-cost operator of generation and transmission assets, and developing gas-fired independent power projects. The company is concentrating its growth in Canada, the United States, Australia and Mexico. TransAlta owns and operates more than 8,000 megawatts of generation plus significant transmission assets in Alberta.

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