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March 21, 2000

**HAND DELIVERY**

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

**FILED<sup>3</sup>**  
MAR 21 2000  
Missouri Public  
Service Commission

**Re: UtiliCorp United Inc. - Case No. EM-2000-358**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

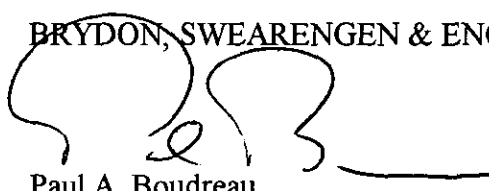
Please find enclosed for filing an original and fourteen (14) copies of Status Report of UtiliCorp United Inc. in the above-referenced case. Also, enclosed is a receipt copy which I ask that you stamp "Filed" and return to me.

Thank you for your attention to the filing of this document.

Sincerely,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:

  
Paul A. Boudreau

PAB/ss

Enclosure

cc: The Office of the Public Counsel

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED<sup>3</sup>

MAR 21 2000

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of )  
UtiliCorp United Inc. for authority to )  
acquire, indirectly, an ownership )  
interest in Companhia Energetica De )  
Pernambuco, an electric utility )  
distribution business located in )  
Brazil, and to take all other actions )  
reasonably necessary to effectuate said )  
transaction. )

Case No. EM-2000-358

**STATUS REPORT OF UTILICORP UNITED INC.**

COMES NOW UtiliCorp United Inc. ("UtiliCorp"), and for its status report to the Commission in the referenced case, states as follows:

1. On January 27, 2000, the Commission issued its Order Approving Application in the referenced case. Paragraph Ordered: 9 provided as follows:

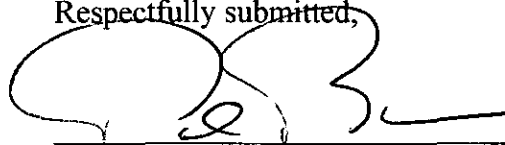
That UtiliCorp United Inc. file a status report in this proceeding beginning 60 days from the date of this order and each 30 days thereafter advising of the status of the transaction so that the Commission may be apprised of the status of the transactions presented in this case and when this case may be closed.

2. Shortly before the sale of CELPE by the Brazilian government, UtiliCorp announced that it would not be submitting a bid. Consequently, the successful bidder for CELPE was the Spanish company, Iberdrola. A copy of a Reuter's News Wire Report concerning this matter is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3. Given the foregoing circumstances, UtiliCorp submits that no further purpose will be served by filing status reports with regard to this matter and, also, that it would be appropriate for this case to be closed.

WHEREFORE, for good cause shown, UtiliCorp prays it be relieved of any further obligation to file status reports with regard to this matter and that the Commission close this case.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Swearengen #21510

Paul A. Boudreau #33155

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Certificate of Service

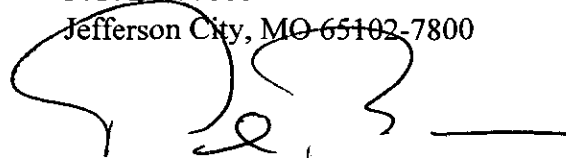
I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 21st day of March, 2000, to:

The Office of the Public Counsel

Truman Building, Room 250

P.O. Box 7800

Jefferson City, MO 65102-7800



**\*Key Contenders Drop Out Of Brazil Celpe Bidding**

Reuters - 02/16/2000

By Noriko Yamaguchi

SAO PAULO -- Two contenders have dropped out of the \$1 billion privatization auction for Brazilian electricity distributor Celpe at the last minute, leaving a group led by Spain's Iberdrola as the sole bidder.

The northeastern state of Pernambuco is due to sell 56.8 billion common shares in Cia Energetica de Pernambuco (Celpe), or 79.6 percent of its capital, for a minimum base price of 1.78 billion reais (\$1 billion).

The auction is slated for 10 a.m. (1200 GMT) Thursday on the Rio de Janeiro Stock Exchange.

Celpe is one of Brazil's last electric energy suppliers to be privatized, but a group led by Iberdrola will be the only one present at the auction after U.S.-based UtiliCorp United Inc. and Chilean-based Enersis decided not to participate.

"We will not bid at tomorrow's auction," said Jerry Cosley, spokesman for UtiliCorp in Kansas City, Mo. Cosley did not explain further.

Latin America's largest private electric conglomerate, Chilean-based Enersis, had also withdrawn from bidding, citing restructuring at home. Enersis is controlled by Spain's Endesa.

While Celpe is located in Brazil's less-developed northeast, where demand for energy could grow in the coming years, industry analysts said Iberdrola was the only one to find strategic reasons to snap up the firm.

Iberdrola was seen buying Celpe to strengthen its presence in the northeastern region after it bought collective stakes in Cia de Electricidade do Estado de Bahia (Coelba) and Cia Energetica do Rio Grande do Norte (Cosern).

Thursday's subdued auction may be a big contrast to past privatization auctions, in which Brazilian states managed to sell off their electric utilities with high premiums.

Sao Paulo electric generator Paranapanema was sold last year to U.S.-based Duke Energy Corp. for 1.239 billion reais (\$688 million at the exchange rate of the time), or 90 percent over its base offering price.