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November 23, 1999

FILED²

NOV 23 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

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

**Re: In the Matter of the Application of UtiliCorp United Inc./Horizon Energy
Distribution Limited
Case No. EF-2000-270**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of UtiliCorp United Inc., I deliver herewith an original and fourteen (14) copies of a **Notice of Withdrawal of Request for Expedited Consideration of Application** for filing with the Commission in the referenced matter. I would appreciate it if you would see that the copies are distributed to the appropriate Commission personnel. Service copies have been mailed or hand-delivered this date.

I have also enclosed an extra copy of the document which I request that you stamp "Filed" and return to the person delivering it 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 the Public Counsel

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

NOV 23 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of)
UtiliCorp United Inc. for authority)
to increase its ownership interest in)
Horizon Energy Distribution Limited,)
a New Zealand electric distribution)
utility, by acquiring indirectly)
approximately 47.7% of the capital)
stock thereof, and to take all other actions)
reasonably necessary to effectuate said)
transaction.)

Case No. EF-2000-270

**NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR
EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION**

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

1. On October 2, 1999, UtiliCorp filed an Application requesting authority to acquire, indirectly, 47.7% of the capital stock of Horizon Energy Distribution Limited, a New Zealand electric distribution utility. The Application requested that the Commission issue an order approving the Application no later than December 15, 1999.

2. On October 28, 1999, the Commission issued an Order Directing Response. In said Order, the Commission directed its Staff to advise the Commission of the earliest date Staff could file a recommendation regarding the Application.

3. On or about November 10, 1999, the Commission Staff filed a Response of Staff to Order Directing Response setting forth the date by which Staff anticipated that it would be in a position to file its recommendation.

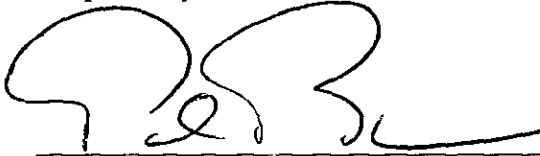
4. Since the filing of Staff's Response, certain developments have occurred with respect to the transaction which is the subject of the Application which have had the consequence of making

4

it no longer necessary that UtiliCorp obtain an order by year end 1999. As a result of these developments, UtiliCorp hereby withdraws its request for expedited consideration of the Application.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons aforesaid, UtiliCorp hereby withdraws its request for expedited consideration of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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 23rd day of November, 1999, to:

The Office of the Public Counsel
Truman Building, Room 250
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102-7800

