



Alinta

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To: Company Announcements Office
ASX

By: Electronic Lodgement

Alinta will not bid for Origin Assets

Attached is a News Release regarding the above.

Patrick McCole
Company Secretary

Enclosure

News Release



24 January 2007

Alinta will not bid for Origin assets

Alinta announced today that it would not be pursuing a potential bid for the infrastructure assets currently owned by Origin Energy (Origin).

Alinta Acting Chief Executive Peter Magarry said it was not in shareholders' interests to pursue a bid in the current circumstances.

"Alinta's aim for the short-term is two-fold: to provide stability and certainty for any parties who may be interested in putting a proposal to the Company; and to focus on the core business, its many organic growth opportunities and in bedding down the integration of the former AGL business," Mr Magarry said.

On 27 November 2006, Origin announced it was reviewing the ownership of its networks business, which includes a 17 per cent interest in Envestra, a 33.3 per cent interest in the SEA Gas Pipeline, and the asset management business Origin Energy Asset Management (OEAM).

In December, Alinta began discussions with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to ascertain its views on any competition concerns that might arise should Alinta proceed with a bid.

On January 9, the ACCC announced it had begun public market inquiries into the potential acquisition.

Mr Magarry said Alinta had today written to the ACCC asking it to cease public market inquiries as the Company would not be pursuing a bid.

Any preliminary assessment of a potential bid for Origin had been done in-house, which meant no significant external costs had been incurred.

For more information, please contact:

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