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9 February 2004

To: Company Announcements Office

ASX

By: Electronic Lodgement

## ALINTA WITHDRAWS FROM DBNGP BIDDING PROCESS

Attached is a News Release dated 9 February 2004 regarding the above matter.

Murray King Company Secretary

**Enclosure** 

## **News Release**



9 February 2004

## **Alinta withdraws from DBNGP Bidding Process**

Alinta announced today that it did not intend to submit an offer under the current bidding process for the sale of the Dampier to Bunbury Gas Natural Pipeline (DBNGP).

Alinta has been denied access to due diligence information, which makes it impossible for Alinta to submit an offer by the proposed closing date Thursday 19 February 2004.

Alinta Chief Executive Officer Bob Browning said the company would reconsider its position if the sale process changed.

For more information please contact:

Mr David Franklyn, General Manager, Corporate Communications

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## About Alinta

Alinta seeks to be recognised as the leading provider of energy-related products and infrastructure solutions. It is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange, ranking among the top 200 companies by market capitalisation. The ASX code for its ordinary shares is **ALN** and for the reset preference shares **ALNPA**.

Alinta's business activities are structured as follows:

**Energy Networks** - Alinta is an **investor, manager and operator** of energy infrastructure assets. Alinta has equity investments in the United Energy electricity distribution network in Victoria (34%), the Multinet gas network in Victoria (20.1%) and the AlintaGas Networks distribution system in Western Australia (74.1%). Alinta Network Services (ANS) has long term service agreements with all these assets. Through its wholly owned subsidiary National Power Services (NPS) Alinta also provides a range of construction and maintenance services.

**Energy Sales** - Alinta is the leading supplier of gas to Western Australian business and households with over 480,000 customers. It has committed to selling electricity to customers from mid 2005.

**Energy Supply** - Alinta, in partnership with Alcoa of Australia Ltd ("Alcoa"), has commenced construction of its first 140 megawatt cogeneration electricity unit at Alcoa's Pinjarra Alumina refinery site in the south west of Western Australia. The unit will cost approximately \$160 million with commissioning scheduled for mid 2005.

Alinta also retains a 66% shareholding in the listed telecommunications carrier Uecomm.

Additional information can be found on our website <u>www.alinta.net.au</u> or by phoning Josephine O'Brien on (08) 9486 3042.