



Alinta Limited  
ABN 40 087 857 001

The Quadrant  
1 William Street  
Perth WA 6000  
GPO Box W2030  
Perth WA 6846

Telephone 08 9486 3000  
Facsimile 08 9486 3030

3 August 2006

To: Company Announcements Office  
ASX

By: Electronic Lodgement

**Alinta Welcomes ACCC Approval of Merger with AGL**

Attached is a News Release regarding the above.

**Murray King**  
**Company Secretary**

Enclosure

# News Release



**3 August 2006**

## **ALINTA WELCOMES ACCC APPROVAL OF MERGER WITH AGL**

Alinta Limited today welcomed the approval by the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) of its merger with Australian Gas & Light (AGL).

The ACCC approval is an important milestone in the progression of the merger with AGL.

As part of the approval, Alinta has provided an undertaking that it will divest the units it acquires in the Australian Pipeline Trust (APT) and, subject to the ACCC's final views, the Agility operating contracts over the Parmelia and Moomba to Sydney pipelines owned by APT. The undertaking is enforceable unless varied by the ACCC.

Alinta is confident that any divestiture of the Agility contracts over these two pipelines would not adversely affect the synergies that Alinta estimates are available by merging Agility with Alinta Asset Management.

Alinta will investigate all options relating to the divestiture of these assets, including a trade sale or a sale of the units to the equity markets. Alinta has agreed that AGL Energy has a first right to purchase the APT units should the merged Alinta/AGL group seek to sell the APT units in the 12 months after implementation of the proposed infrastructure merger. The period during which Alinta may cause a divestiture of the assets exceeds this 12 month period. The timetable for any divestiture is the subject of a confidential agreement with the ACCC.

Alinta CEO, Bob Browning, said he was pleased that with ACCC approval now obtained, Alinta's shareholders will have the opportunity to approve the acquisition of a unique and valuable set of infrastructure assets.

"This transaction will catapult Alinta into the largest energy infrastructure utility and asset manager in the country, with the potential for strong organic growth," Mr Browning said.

"With this logical extension to our established strategy we believe that significant cost savings and synergies will be available, and we will continue to deliver superior shareholder returns."



### **Current Completion Timetable**

- Submission of the Scheme Booklet for both companies to ASIC in the next few days.
- Court hearing to order convening of Extraordinary General Meetings of both companies and dispatch of Scheme Booklets targeted for late-August.
- Extraordinary General Meetings of both companies to approve the Schemes targeted for first week of October.
- Final Court approval to be sought immediately after the EGMs.
- Implementation of transition action plans and initial synergies/cost saving initiatives to follow thereafter.

---

For more information please contact:

#### Media

Tony Robertson  
Group Manager External Affairs  
Mobile: 0419 867 230

Jim Kelly  
Director, Third Person Communications  
Phone: (02) 8298 6100  
Mobile: 0412 549 083

#### Investor Relations

Shaun Duffy  
Manager Investor Relations  
Phone: (08) 9486 3229  
Mobile: 0404 094 384