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PRESS RELEASE

## **AEG Affiliated Energy Group Retained to Explore Merger** & Acquisition Opportunities for Texas Rep With Load **Exceeding 2MM MWH/Year**

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Last update: 2:04 p.m. EST Feb. 3, 2009

HOUSTON, Feb 03, 2009 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- AEG Affiliated Energy Group has been retained by a large Texas retail electricity provider seeking to explore strategic merger, acquisition and sale opportunities. The REP has strong historic customer growth rates, substantially positive EBITDA of approximately \$15,000,000 on an annual basis and serves almost 100,000 meters with load exceeding 2,000,000 megawatt hours per year.

According to Chad Price, Executive Vice President of AEG, "This REP presents a unique opportunity for an international entity to establish a strong foothold in North America's most vibrant deregulated energy markets, constituting perhaps the only full scale Texas-based REP achieving profitability during each month of 2008 despite the international financial crisis and a number of obstacles that knocked several other large REPs out of the Texas markets. Our client's ability to earn consistent and substantial profits during times of great turmoil emphasizes the strength of their unrivaled management team."

The aggregate credit score of the REP's customer-portfolio is among the highest in the industry. It is principally composed of small commercial and residential, with some large commercial users.

AEG is fielding inquiries on behalf of this REP on a blind-inquiry basis. Having completed the sale of Commerce Energy's Texas assets for an estimated \$14,800,000 two months ago, among other transactions, AEG provides a range of financial and consulting services specializing in energyrelated mergers, acquisitions and venture capital transactions, due diligence services, bridge financing transactions, wholesale and retail energy procurement, and power plant/project development services. Commerce Energy was previously listed on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol "EGR".

### About AEG Affiliated Energy Group

AEG is an energy and financial services firm headquartered in Houston, Texas. AEG specializes in energy-related mergers, acquisitions, and venture capital transactions; bridge loans; retail and wholesale energy procurement; consulting for commercial and governmental end users of electricity; regulatory and legislative services; electric power plant development services along with consulting services to energy market participants. For more information, visit www.affiliatedenergy.com. Nothing herein constitutes any type of offer, solicitation, recommendation or advice with regard to the sale, marketing, brokerage, dealing, or purchase of any securities or commodities.

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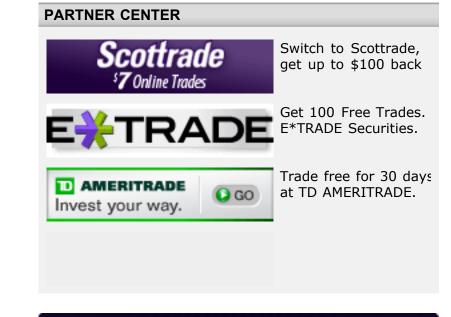
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