DRAFT

Interoffice Memorandum

To: Jim Sandt

From: AnnMarie Tiller and Brent Vasconcellos

Department: Corporate Tax Planning

Subject: Enron Credit Linked Notes Due 2005

Date: April 10, 2001

Background

On August 25, 2000, at the direction of the Enron Global Finance department, Enron North America ("ENA," a wholly-owned subsidiary of Enron Corp.) borrowed a total of $499,995,000 from Citibank N.A. ("Citibank") in a transaction that took the form of a $474,995,000 prepaid swap (the "Swap") and in a related transaction, Enron Corp. borrowed $25M from Citibank in the form of a direct loan. (ENA and Enron Corp. are hereafter referred to in the aggregate as "Enron.") To the extent the borrowing is characterized as a Swap, it appears on Enron's financial statements as a price risk management liability rather than a loan. The format is beneficial to Citibank as well because the transaction is reported as part of the bank's credit derivative activities rather than as a loan to Enron. **[Travis Winfrey is checking into whether the $5,000 difference is attributable to fees or a trading spread paid to Delta under the Swap or an error.]**

In order to avoid utilizing Citibank's limited capacity for Enron credit, Citibank and Enron designed the Swap to be part of a larger contemporaneous transaction which had the result of transferring Citibank's Enron credit risk related to the Swap over to investors who purchased the securities of a special purpose trust established on August 11, 2000 by Citibank called the Enron Credit Linked Notes Trust (the "Trust").

Trust Notes

At the same time that ENA and Citibank entered into the Swap, the Trust issued $500M 8.00% Enron Credit Linked Notes due 2005 (the "Notes") in a 144A offering and $50M 9.00% Trust Certificates (the "Certificates") to one entity, the Royal Bank of Canada Europe Limited ("RBC"). The certificates in the Trust represent beneficial interests in the Trust and are subordinate in right of repayment to the Notes. [The Trust is also prohibited under the Indenture Agreement from creating, assuming, or incurring any further indebtedness.] As discussed further below, since the Trust has only one owner, the Trust is disregarded for federal income tax purposes and is treated as a branch of RBC.

The Notes issued by the Trust are debt for federal income tax purposes. Enron's obligation under the "Swap" and the Trust's obligation to repay the principal amount of the Notes, along with any accrued and unpaid interest, both come due on August 15, 2005 to the extent the Notes have not been redeemed, accelerated, or repaid prior to that date. The interest accruing on the principal amount of the Notes at a rate of 8.0% is payable semi-annually in arrears on February 15 and August 15 of each year starting on February 15, 2001.

The Notes were issued at a slight discount of 99.827% to their stated redemption price at maturity or face amount giving rise to proceeds of $499,135,000. The discount of $865,000 falls below the de minimis threshold of Section 1273(a)(3) ($6,250,000 computed as .0025 x $500,000,000 x 5 years) and, thus, can be treated as zero.

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The Noteholders are part of a group called the "Secured Parties" who receive protection under a Collateral Security Agreement that provides them with a security interest in all of the assets of the Trust. Citibank is also a Secured Party although the bank's rights are superior to the rights of the Noteholders in all of the collateral except as to a credit swap running between Citibank and the Trust (the "Credit Swap") and any Enron Deliverable Obligations that may be delivered under the Credit Swap as described further below.

The Notes were sold to qualified institutional buyers ("QIBs") in the U.S. in reliance on Rule 144A of the Securities Act and to non-U.S. persons in reliance upon Regulation S of the Securities Act. Both sets of Notes were issued in fully registered form without interest coupons. [At least initially, approximately __% of the Notes were sold to domestic holders and approximately ___% of the Notes were sold to non-US holders.]

Trust Investments

The $550M in proceeds from the sale of the Notes and the Certificates must be used by the Trust to invest in a select group of investments (the "Trust Investments") defined to include (1) time deposits, promissory notes, and commercial paper of certain U.S. money center banks; (2) promissory notes of, or guaranteed investment contracts from, certain insurance companies; or (3) direct obligations of the United States government as long as the Trust Investments represent no more than nine separate obligors and each Trust Investment is scheduled to mature on or before the maturity date of the Notes. No Trust Investment may be purchased at a premium and no existing Trust Investment may be sold at a discount unless in default. At least initially, the Trust used the entire $550M in funds received from the issuance of the Notes and Certificates, and as discussed below, from a one-time payment under the Credit Swap, to acquire a certificate of deposit issued by Citibank and carrying an interest rate of 6%.

The Trust obtains the funds necessary to pay interest on the Notes and yield on the Certificates from periodic payments received by the Trust from Citibank under the Credit Swap as described below.

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Credit Swap.

The Trust and Citibank entered into the Credit Swap that provides for certain periodic payments and, upon an Enron Credit Event, calls for physical settlement of all or part of the Credit Swap. On a periodic basis as the Trust receives interest payments on the Trust Investments, the Trust delivers those funds to Citibank. On each February 15 and August 15, starting on February 15, 2001, Citibank is required to pay the Trust an amount equal to the interest accrued on the outstanding Notes and the yield on the Certificates.

In the absence of an Enron Credit Event, the Trust will repay the principal amount of the Notes and the Certificateholder's investment from the principal proceeds of the Trust Investments. If an Enron Credit Event should occur (defined to include an Enron failure to pay under the Credit Swap as well as the general condition of Enron being either insolvent or bankrupt), the Credit Swap permits Citibank to physically settle the Credit Swap by delivering to the Trust certain senior unsecured obligations of Enron called Enron Deliverable Obligations in exchange for a like amount of Trust Investments then held by the Trust. In this event, the principal amount of the Notes would be repaid from any proceeds recovered from any of the Enron Deliverable Obligations received by the Trust and any remaining Trust Investments then held by the Trust.

On the closing date of August 25, 2000, Citibank made a one-time payment under the Credit Swap to the Trust of $865,000, an amount representing the discount on the Notes. This additional amount when added to the $499,135,000 in proceeds received on the sale of the Notes and $50M received on the sale of the Certificates equaled the $550M amount required to be invested in Trust Investments on the Closing Date and serve as security for the Noteholders and Certificateholders during the 5-year tenor of the deal. Citibank received the $865,000 by reducing the proceeds delivered to Enron under the Debt Security from the $25M face amount to $24,135,000.

Trust Certificateholder

Certificateholders in the Trust are restricted to U.S. persons within the meaning of Section 7701(a)(3) or non-U.S. persons who can supply an executed Form W-8ECI or W-8BEN claiming the benefits of a treaty that provides for no withholding of U.S. tax with respect to payments to the Certificateholder. Certificateholders cannot exceed a number that directly or indirectly exceeds the 99-person threshold of the publicly traded partnership rules of Section 7704. Similarly, a Certificateholder must represent, warrant, and covenant that it has not and will not transfer any Certificate on or through an established securities market within the meaning of Section 7704(b)(1).

The Trust Agreement acknowledges that if there is more than one Certificateholder, then the Trust will be a partnership but as long as there is a single Certificateholder, the Trust will be disregarded within the meaning of Reg. 301.7701-3(b)(1)(ii). As the sole owner of the Trust, RBC will be treated as owning everything the Trust owns, including the $550M Citibank certificate of deposit and the Trust's rights and obligations in a notional principal contract with Citibank.

RBC will recognize ordinary income in each calendar year equal to the interest accrued on the Trust Investments and periodic payments received by Citibank under the Credit Swap. *See* Reg. Section 1.446-3(e). RBC will deduct the expenses of the Trust, the periodic payments made by the Trust to Citibank under the Credit Swap, and interest paid out to the Noteholders. [RBC will also recognize over the five year tenor of the deal the upfront $865,000 payment received from Citibank by amorting the amount .... Was the parenthetical in Section 10.9(a)(iv) stating "the Trust shall not be deemed to have paid any amount for the right to enter into the Credit Swap" intended to address this last minute change?]. *See* Reg. Section 1.446-3(f).

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Prepaid Swap and Direct Loan

References herein to the prepaid swap or the "Swap" are actually references to the combination of two contemporaneous cash-settled commodity swaps. The first such swap between Enron and Citibank is a cash-settled commodity swap on 22,238,748 barrels of crude oil. In return for an up-front payment of $439,677,103 from Citibank, Enron is obligated to make (1) floating payments to Citibank each January 14 and July 14 based on the NYMEX spot price for 568,024 barrels of crude at the closing price three commodity business days prior to the payment date; (2) one up-front floating payment to Citibank based on the NYMEX spot price for 533,312 barrels of crude at the closing price three commodity business days prior to the payment date; and (3) on the final floating payment date, a floating payment to Citibank equal to $475,000,000 or, if less, the NYMEX spot price for 23,238,748 barrels of crude at the closing price three commodity business days prior to the payment date.

The second cash-settled commodity swap runs between Enron and Delta Energy Corp., a Cayman Islands exempt LLC ("Delta") under which Enron will receive an up-front payment of $35,317,897 from Delta. Additionally, over the term of the swap, Delta is obligated to make (1) floating payments to Enron each January 14 and July 14 based on the NYMEX spot price for 568,024 barrels of crude at the closing price three commodity days prior to the payment date; and (2) one up-front floating payment to Enron based on the NYMEX spot price for 533,312 barrels of crude at the closing price three commodity business days prior to the payment date. In consideration for these payments under the second swap, Enron is obligated to make fixed payments of $17,750,750 with an initial fixed stub payment of $16,665,982.

Contemporaneously, Enron borrowed $25M from Citibank in return for a Debt Security calling for semi-annual interest payments payable in arrears with an interest rate of 24.83% from August 25, 2000 to January 14, 2001 and an interest rate of 23.994% thereafter. The Debt Security has a maturity date of July 14, 2005.

The result of the combination of the two swaps and the direct loan is that Enron will receive a net up-front payment of $499,995,000 and Enron must make fixed payments to Delta on January 14 and July 14 of $17,750,750. In five years, Enron must repay a total of $500M to Citibank under the terms of both the swap and the Debt Security.

Note: Commodity swaps generally settle on the fifth day of the month following the payment date. As a result, Enron's obligation to make payments under the Prepaid Swap on January 14 and July 14 are actually settled on February 5 and August 5, respectively. A lead time of 10 days was considered necessary for the obligations of Citibank and the Trust under the Credit Swap and the obligations of the Trust to make interest and yield payments to the Noteholders and Certificateholders all on February 15 and August 15.

U.S. Withholding Taxes

With respect to the Noteholders, the Indenture Agreement provides that the United States Trust Company of New York as Indenture Trustee is responsible for furnishing to the Noteholders and taxing authorities any forms of information required by applicable federal or state law, including, but not limited to appropriate Forms 1099 and/or 1042-S and provide any other such information requested by a Noteholder in order for the Noteholder to prepare its tax returns. The Indenture Agreement further provides that if the Indenture Trustee is required to make a deduction and pay over withholding taxes, no additional amounts will be payable by the Trust in respect of those taxes.

Since all of the Notes are registered bonds, interest payable to non-U.S. holders will qualify for the portfolio interest exemption [upon receipt of the proof of the holders' foreign status]. Section 881(c)(2)(B) and Section 871(h)(2)(B); Reg. Section 1.1441-1(b)(4)(i). Additionally, such payments are exempt from information reporting and backup withholding.....Reg. section 1.6049-5(b)(8); Reg. Section 1.6045-1(g)(1)(i).

If an Enron Credit Event should occur and Citibank physically settles the Credit Swap by delivering Enron Deliverable Obligations to the Trust in exchange for a like amount of Trust Investments then held by the Trust, interest on the Enron Deliverable Obligations will also qualify for the portfolio interest exemption. Section 871(h)(4)(C)(v)(I) and Section 881(c)(4).

With respect to the Certificateholder, no withholding forms should be necessary while the Trust is wholly owned by RBC and is thereby disregarded as a separate entity. If the Trust should become an independent entity for tax purposes, the Trust Agreement provides that the Trust will comply with any withholding requirements and that to the extent the Trust is required to withhold and pay over any amounts to any taxing authority with respect to distributions or allocations to any Certificateholder, any amount withheld will be treated as a distribution of cash and thereby reduce the amount of cash otherwise distributable to the Certificateholder.

Payments by Enron to Delta will qualify for exemption from withholding under Reg. Section 1.863-7(b)(1)....

Federal Tax Reporting.

The Trust Agreement provides that if Trust has more than one Certificateholder and becomes a partnership, Wilmington Trust Company ("Wilmington") as Trustee is responsible for maintaining the books of the partnership and filing such tax returns and making such elections as may from time to time be required as well as delivering Schedules K-1 to each partner. A side letter entered into contemporaneously between Enron Corp. and Wilminington provides that Wilmington will engage Enron Corp. to provide these servies on its behalf. Since the Trust is a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes, no income tax or information return should be required.

Enron's rights and obligations under the Swap and the Debt Security with Citibank are for tax purposes the equivalent of a borrowing of $500M with a five year tenor and a fixed rate of interest. In accordance with Reg. Section 1.446-3(g)(2)(iii)(A), the upfront payment together with the principal amount extended under the Debt Security should be amortized by assuming that $[500]M represents ...

For book purposes, Enron will record the upfront payment under the Prepaid Swap in income and record Enron's obligation under the Prepaid Swap as a price risk management expense and liability. For tax purposes, these income and expense entries will be reversed with an M-1 adjustment.

Approximately $[5]M in expenses have been paid to-dated by [Enron Corp.] in connection with the transaction. Enron paid up-front underwriting fees of $1.925M to Salomon Smith Barney and $825,000 to Lehman Brothers. Additionally, Enron is obligated to pay a "balance sheet" fee of 30 basis points per annum to [Salomon Smith Barney] calculated on the $500M principal of the Notes or $1.5M and a [$275,000 fee to RBC as additional compensation for their role as Certificateholder?] [Travis Winfrey is still checking on the annual fee equal to 36 basis points....] [Finally, Enron must also pay approximately $20,000 annually in fees to Wilmington Trust Company as Trustee of the Enron Credit Linked Notes Trust and $25,000 to United States Trust Company of New York as Indenture Trustee.]

These up-front expenses were deducted in calendar year 2000 for book purposes so Enron will make an M-1 adjustment to amortize the expenses for tax purposes over the five year tenor of the transaction. Purely to accomplish a book accounting objective that has no tax implications, the implicit rate of return that Citibank receives under the Swap was set at a rate lower than Enron's cost of funds. When Enron's obligation under the Swap is fair valued starting on the closing date of the transaction at Enron's higher cost of funds rate, Enron will recognize a book (but not a tax) gain that is expected to offset the fees expensed by Enron for book purposes. Enron will make another M-1 adjustment to reverse this and all other fair value or mark-to-market adjustments made for book purposes.

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