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Total E&P Canada Ltd. Announces Commencement of Offer to Acquire all of the Common Shares of UTS Energy Corporation

For immediate release

Calgary – January 29, 2009 — Total E&P Canada Ltd. (the “**Offeror**”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Total S.A., today announced that it has commenced its previously announced offer to acquire all of the outstanding common shares of UTS Energy Corporation (“**UTS**”) at a price of Can \$1.30 per share (the “**Offer**”) by advertisement in the national edition of The Globe and Mail and in La Presse. A copy of the Offer and related circular (the “**Circular**”) has been delivered to UTS and filed with the securities regulatory authorities in Canada and will be publicly available through the internet under UTS’ profile at www.sedar.com.

A request has been made to UTS for a list of its shareholders, holders of options, holders of share appreciation rights and holders of deferred share units for purposes of disseminating the Offer and Circular. The Offeror expects to mail the Offer and Circular to all registered shareholders and other security holders of UTS as soon as practicable following receipt of the requested lists.

The Offer is a 100% cash offer and represents a premium of approximately 57% over the closing price of UTS’s shares on January 27, 2009 and approximately 51% over the volume weighted average trading price for the prior 30 trading days. The Offer will be open for acceptance until March 30, 2009. Further details of the Offer are contained in the Offer and Circular and in the aforementioned advertisement.

Questions and requests for assistance may be directed to Kingsdale Shareholder Services Inc. at 1-800-749-9197 (toll free) or 416-867-2272 (outside North America).