



## **NEWS RELEASE** **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Agrium extends tender offer for UAP**

**January 18, 2008 - ALL AMOUNTS ARE STATED IN U.S.\$**

CALGARY, Alberta — Agrium Inc. (TSX and NYSE: AGU) today extended its previously announced tender offer for all of the common stock of UAP Holding Corp. (NASDAQ: UAPH) until 12:00 midnight, New York City time, on Monday, February 25, 2008. The tender offer was previously set to expire at midnight, New York City time, on Thursday, January 17, 2008.

Agrium extended the offer because all of the conditions to completion of the offer have not yet been satisfied. In particular, the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act has not yet expired or been terminated and an advance ruling certificate or a “no-action” letter under the Competition Act (Canada) has not yet been obtained.

As of midnight, New York City time, on Thursday, January 17, 2008, approximately 35.8 million shares of common stock of UAP had been tendered in and not withdrawn from the offer.

#### About Agrium

Agrium Inc. is a major retail supplier of agricultural products and services in both North and South America and a leading global producer and marketer of agricultural nutrients and industrial products. Agrium produces and markets three primary groups of nutrients: nitrogen, phosphate and potash as well as controlled release fertilizers and micronutrients. Agrium’s strategy is to grow through incremental expansion of its existing operations and acquisitions as well as the development, commercialization and marketing of new products and international opportunities.

#### ADVISORY

This announcement is for informational purposes only and is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell shares of Agrium or UAP.

**THE TENDER OFFER IS BEING MADE SOLELY BY THE TENDER OFFER STATEMENT. THE TENDER OFFER STATEMENT (INCLUDING AN OFFER TO PURCHASE, A RELATED LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND ALL OTHER OFFER DOCUMENTS) AND THE SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE ANY DECISION IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE TENDER OFFER.**

The Offer to Purchase, the related Letter of Transmittal and certain other offer documents, as well as the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement are available to all stockholders of UAP, at no expense to them. The Tender Offer Statement (including the Offer to Purchase, the related Letter of Transmittal and all other offer documents filed by Agrium with the SEC) and the

Solicitation/Recommendation Statement are also available for free at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Investors and security holders are strongly advised to read both the Tender Offer Statement and the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement regarding the tender offer referred to in this press release because they contain important information.

*Forward-Looking Statements*

*This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the "safe harbor" provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are not based on historical facts, but rather on current expectations and projections about future events, and are therefore subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from the future results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Such statements are qualified in their entirety by the inherent risks and uncertainties surrounding future expectations. These risk factors relative to these statements include: that the transaction may not be timely completed, success in achieving anticipated synergies and accretion, reliance on UAP's publicly available information, success in integrating the retail distribution systems, and the integration of supply chain management processes, as well as other risk factors listed from time to time in Agrium's reports and comprehensive public disclosure documents including Agrium's Annual Information Form, and in other Agrium filings with securities commissions in Canada (on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com)) and the United States (on EDGAR at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)).*

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