

Stocks to watch on the Australian stock exchange at Close

SYDNEY, Oct 15 AAP - Stocks to watch on the Australian stock exchange at noon:

AGK - AGL ENERGY LTD - up eight cents to \$13.52

AGL Energy has confirmed its earning guidance for fiscal 2009, forecasting net profit after tax of between \$360 million and \$390 million.

ORG - ORIGIN ENERGY LTD - down eleven cents to \$15.39

Origin Energy, Australia's second largest power retailer, says it expects underlying earnings this financial year to be up to 40 per cent higher than last year.

SGP - STOCKLAND - up 27 cents, or 5.73 per cent, to \$4.98

Property developer Stockland bought a five per cent stake in retirement home operator FKP Property Group through a share placement.

FFF - FIRSTFOLIO LTD - steady at three cents

Home loan provider Firstfolio says it has entered a 45-day period of exclusive negotiations on the possible acquisition of NSW-based Domain Financial Services.

TEL - TELECOM CORPORATION OF NEW ZEALAND LTD - down eleven cents, or 4.82 per cent, to \$2.17

NZ Telecom says it will invest \$NZ574 million (\$A509.25 million) in a nationwide rollout of its new mobile network.

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SYDNEY, Oct 15 AAP - Stocks to watch on the Australian stock exchange at close:

RIO - RIO TINTO LTD - down \$4.30, or 5.19 per cent, to \$78.50

Rio Tinto Ltd, the focus of a takeover by BHP Billiton Ltd, says the long-term outlook for the company is positive despite the turmoil on financial markets.

The company has set quarterly production records for iron ore, bauxite, hard coking coal and US coal during its third quarter.

AGK - AGL ENERGY LTD - up 16 cents to \$13.60

AGL Energy has confirmed its earning guidance for fiscal 2009, forecasting net profit after tax of between \$360 million and \$390 million.

ORG - ORIGIN ENERGY LTD - up 25 cents to \$15.75

Origin Energy, Australia's second largest power retailer, says it expects underlying earnings this financial year to be up to 40 per cent higher than last year.

SGP - STOCKLAND - up 19 cents to \$4.90

Property developer Stockland bought a five per cent stake in retirement home operator FKP Property Group through a share placement.

FFF - FIRSTFOLIO LTD - steady at three cents

Home loan provider Firstfolio says it has entered a 45-day period of exclusive negotiations on the possible acquisition of NSW-based Domain Financial Services.

ILU - ILUKA RESOURCES LTD - up 17 cents to \$3.86

Shares in Iluka Resources Ltd surged after the minerals sands miner sharply upgraded its profit outlook for the full year following a fall in the Australian dollar and higher commodity prices.

TEL - TELECOM CORPORATION OF NEW ZEALAND LTD - down 10 cents to \$2.18

NZ Telecom says it will invest \$NZ574 million (\$A509.25 million) in a nationwide rollout of its new mobile network.

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