

United Utilities Group PLC

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United Utilities ebbs lower as full-year profits fall

Shares United Utilities Group PLC (LON:UU.) flowed lower on Thursday morning after the UK's largest listed water company reported a fall in full-year profits.

Revenues in the year to March 31 climbed just shy of 2% to £1.74bn (2017: £1.70bn), reflecting Ofwat's regulatory changes and in line with what analysts had been expecting.

But a £40m increase in net finance costs meant underlying pre-tax profits dipped to £370m (2017: £389m).

United Utilities raised its dividend to 26.49p, taking the total pay-out to 39.73p over the year - 2.2% higher than last year.

"The significant progress we have made positions us well as we look towards the next regulatory period and gives us confidence that we can rise to the longer-term challenges resulting from a growing population, affordability concerns and the impact of more volatile weather," said chief executive Steve Mogford.

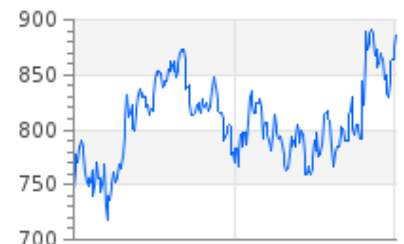
The company's smaller rival, Severn Trent PLC (LON:SVT), **posted a 4% rise in full-year profits** on Wednesday.

United shares fell 3.3% to 776.6p in early deals.

Price: 877.8

Market Cap: £5.99 billion

1 Year Share Price Graph



November 2018 May 2019 November 20

Share Information

Code: UU.

Listing: LSE

52 week	High	Low
	895.6	713

Sector: Power & Utilities

Website: www.unitedutilities.com

Company Synopsis:

United Utilities Group Plc (United Utilities), formerly United Utilities PLC, is a United Kingdom-based company. The Company's regulated subsidiary, United Utilities Water PLC (United Utilities Water), holds licenses to provide water and sewage services to a population of some seven million people in north west England.

action@proactiveinvestors.com

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Contact us +44 (0)207 989 0813 action@proactiveinvestors.com

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