PRESS RELEASE

October 30th, 2013

UNITED WATER, a SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT SUBSIDIARY, ANNOUNCED IT WAS INSTITUTING ITS NEW BUSINESS MODEL IN BAYONNE, NEW JERSEY

By partnering with the Clinton Foundation and the Clinton Global Initiative, United Water, a SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT subsidiary, has committed to offering an innovative solution to better manage water resources in the United States. This has taken shape through a new business model founded on a public-private partnership designed to modernise water and sanitation systems. It is now being successfully applied in the city of Bayonne, New Jersey.

A large portion of the infrastructure in the US is obsolete and in need of improvement, if not an entire overhaul, in order to provide consumers with quality drinking water. Some municipalities however cannot fund these projects because of their debt caused by the economic crisis. With this in mind, United Water has taken on the task of attracting long-term private investment as part of its commitment to the Clinton Foundation and the Clinton Global Initiative.

One year after this solution was presented at the annual meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative, United Water announced that it was implementing the new business model in Bayonne, New Jersey. In fact, 20 million dollars will be invested over the next 5 years, including half of that sum over the first 2 years, by the company managing the contract, 10% of which is owned by United Water and the remaining 90% by the infrastructure fund KKR, to operate its water and sanitation systems out of the total 130 million dollars earmarked for the 40-year contract. Smart water meters are currently being installed in homes and businesses. In addition, employees of the Bayonne Municipal Utilities Authority (BMUA) have received training and new equipment to ensure efficient operations and proper use of the meters.

During this 5-year period, United Water also plans to invest around 1 billion dollars in its own assets to overhaul the existing infrastructure, thereby improving water service and quality.

This one-of-a-kind initiative in the US has allowed authorities to upgrade the infrastructure while reducing their debt and restoring their financial standing.

"We are proud of the progress we've made thus far. Applying this new model is very encouraging for Bayonne and other American municipalities facing the same technical and budgetary restrictions. This example demonstrates that reliable and innovative solutions can be offered that combine long-term financing and recognised expertise”, concludes Marie-Ange Debon, Deputy Chief Officer in charge of International activities at SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT.
SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT
Natural resources are not infinite. Each day, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT (Paris: SEV, Brussels: SEVB) and its subsidiaries deal with the challenge of protecting resources by providing innovative solutions to industry and to millions of people. SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT supplies drinking water to 96.6 million people, provides wastewater treatment services for 66.3 million people and collects the waste produced by 50 million people. SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT has 79,550 employees and, with its presence on five continents, is a world leader exclusively dedicated to water and waste management services. In 2012, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT generated revenues of EUR 15.1 billion.

UNITED WATER
United Water is one of the leading environmental companies in the US, providing water and wastewater services to approximately 5.7 million people in that country. In addition to owning and operating 20 water utilities, United Water operates 100 municipal and industrial water and wastewater systems through innovative public-private partnerships and contract agreements. Founded in 1869, United Water is a subsidiary of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT.

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