

# COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

May 21 st, 2013

**THE DOUAISIS URBAN AREA COMMUNITY IS ENTRUSTING  
EAUX DU NORD, A LYONNAISE DES EAUX (SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT) SUBSIDIARY  
WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF ITS WASTE WATER TREATMENT SERVICE  
AS PART OF A CONTRACT AMOUNTING TO €70 MILLION OVER 11 YEARS**

The Urban Area Council has voted to delegate the public waste water treatment service (collecting and treating waste water and managing urban run-off water for the Urban Area Community's 120,000 residents) to Eaux du Nord, a Lyonnaise des Eaux subsidiary. Both agreements (networks and treatment stations), which generate annual revenues of over €6 million, will enter into effect as from 1 July 2013 for a period of 11 years.

Christian Poiret, Chairman of the Douaisis Urban Area Community, said *"In a highly technical area like waste water treatment, you need to be able to call on recognised skills". This is why the Douaisis Urban Area Community was looking for a partner who is cutting-edge and innovative, while offering the best cost/services rendered ratios. I am therefore particularly pleased with the agreement that we have entered into with Lyonnaise des Eaux. This agreement, which is under a public service delegation framework, will offer us flexibility, transparency and efficiency, and will enable the Urban District Community to provide a high-quality service to the residents in its area.*

Philippe Maillard, Chief Executive Officer of Lyonnaise des Eaux, added *"The Douaisis Urban Area Community is a pioneer in waste water management, and stands out from a technical perspective through its high standards in terms of the quality of its waste water discharges. We are proud to be contributing to Douaisis' recognised expertise and performance in the waste water and environmental quality fields."*

## A NEW GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

### - Real-time service management

To guarantee the local authority's ability to monitor the waste water treatment operations and agreements on an ongoing basis, a **joint platform** dedicated to the waste water treatment service has been set up. This website, which is known as "SEVE" (*Suivre Ensemble Votre Exploitation*, or Monitor your Operations Together) is a tool that provides information, and manages and shares the operator's technical and business data in real time.

### - Local associations are special partners in this new governance system

Environmental protection organisations (AAPPMA, etc.) will be involved in a project aimed at setting up an "environmental sentry network", which will monitor the quality of the area's natural environment.

## PRIORITISING LOCAL JOBS

As a regional economic player, Lyonnaise des Eaux is committing to prioritise the development and retention of **local jobs**; the sub-contracting activities relating to the execution of the agreements will be awarded to local SMCs as a priority. This activity will actually support several dozen local jobs.

## PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAVING ENERGY

### - **Supporting innovative management of the area's run-off water**

Lyonnaise des Eaux will put its expertise at the service of sustainable and integrated management of run-off water, which it has been offering in the region since 2007, in partnership with ADOPTA (*Association pour le Développement Opérationnel et la Promotion des Techniques Alternatives en matière d'eaux pluviales* or *Organisation for the Operational Development and Promotion of Alternative Run-Off Water Techniques*). The alternative techniques developed by ADOPTA (run-off channels, swales, seepage shafts and green roofs) are making an effective contribution to preserving the area's water resources and to combating flooding or the discharge of polluting substances into the natural environment.

### - **Certified energy performance**

An ISO 50001 certification initiative will be launched for the Fort de Scarpe water treatment plant (165,000 equivalent inhabitants). This standard proves a very high level of energy expenditure management.

Developments aimed at optimising energy consumption and at reducing greenhouse gas emissions will be introduced within a two-year period, in order to make the plant fully independent from an energy standpoint in the coming years.

Improving energy performance is an economic and environmental goal, and makes a direct contribution to the execution of the Urban District Community's Regional Climate Plan.

## A VIRTUOUS ECONOMIC MODEL: PERFORMANCE-BASED REMUNERATION

The Urban District Community wanted a new governance system, in order to enable it to play its full role as the body responsible for organising the waste water treatment service.

An innovative **performance-based remuneration mechanism**, which is a symbol of this new governance system, has been introduced. 15 indicators have been determined to assess this performance; they include the achievement of both technical and societal targets by the sub-contractor's operations.

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### ***The Douaisis Urban Area Community***

*The Urban Area Community is an inter-municipality organisation that includes around 155,000 inhabitants. It fulfils the remits assigned to it by its 35 member-municipalities, like economic development, housing, sanitation, the removal of household waste, preventive archaeology, social integration, sustainable development, and the upkeep of natural areas, etc. Among the major projects that are currently underway, we would mention the Raquet eco-district (166 hectares and 4,000 homes) a "sports and well-being" aquatic centre (investment of €31 million), a museum, and an archaeological park.*

### ***Lyonnaise des Eaux***

*Lyonnaise des Eaux, a subsidiary of SUEZ Environnement, has 11,300 employees, supplies drinking water to 11 million residents and provides wastewater treatment for more than 12 million people in France.*

*Protecting the quantity and quality of water resources is at the heart of its concerns. To guarantee the future of water on a collective basis, Lyonnaise des Eaux, launched the Contract for Water Health in November 2011; this is a modern partnership with local authorities that offers innovative proposals where governance, innovation, and business models are concerned. The effectiveness of its commitments is monitored by Vigeo, and independent extra-financial rating agency.*

### **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, a subsidiary in which GDF SUEZ has a 35.7% interest, generated revenues of EUR 15.1 billion.*