

China, 20/02/2020

## SUEZ NWS pledges full support to China's efforts to fight COVID-19 epidemic

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, SUEZ NWS has swiftly implemented a series of measures to ensure the safety and reliability of its water supply, as well as its waste collection and wastewater treatment services across China. The company has also made charitable donations to Wuhan, Chongqing and Qidong, among other cities. In addition, the SUEZ Group has leveraged its global reach and partnered with peers and local governments to source emergency supplies of medical and protective equipment, such as masks and protective suits, from around the world. The Group has also mobilized employees to volunteer for local communities.

Steve Clark, CEO of SUEZ Asia, said, *"We all remain optimistic that we can overcome the current challenges and beat this epidemic. At SUEZ, we look to support the government in every way possible and contribute towards efforts against COVID-19. We're harnessing our expertise and doing our best to maintain water supply, wastewater treatment and solid waste treatment services across China, so that health and environmental safety can be restored as soon as possible."*

**Safe, reliable water supply:** SUEZ NWS is sparing no effort to ensure that services remain uncompromised. Furthermore, in terms of service continuity and operational stability, SUEZ has a track record of over two decades of running unmanned operations in Macao. During the current epidemic, SUEZ will fully demonstrate the robustness of its water plant automation, risk management and emergency response measures. Similar models have proven effective in water plants in Shanghai Chemical Industry Park, Chongqing, and Tanzhou. **Water quality control:** Disinfection protocols in water production are being strictly enforced during these extraordinary times. The removal of bacteria and viruses during the enhanced purification process ensures that water quality is 100% compliant with drinking water standards. **Customer service:** Macao Water is working with the Macao SAR government to extend the billing cycle for water users. Chongqing Water has also committed to levy no penalties on default payment of water fees during the epidemic. It will also not cut off water supply to customers who default.

**Wastewater and sludge treatment:** SUEZ NWS has adopted an additional number of rigorous process parameters to match the changes in water usage and raw water profiles. In light of in-process risk factors like solid waste storage in wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs), surface exposure of biochemical processes, and sludge treatment systems, SUEZ NWS has enforced a more stringent personal protection policy and taken comprehensive measures that include adding disinfectants, ultraviolet radiation and ozone processes to further remove bacteria and viruses in the effluence, and to ensure that fecal coliform bacterial concentrations meet discharge standards.

**Hazardous waste and medical waste treatment:** SUEZ NWS has scheduled its activities in strict accordance with local government requirements. SCIP SITA is collecting and incinerating discarded masks in centralized depositaries, to prevent secondary hazards. Nantong Recycling and Recovery is treating solid waste as it arrives. Alongside consistent enforcement of existing processes, special medical waste generated during the epidemic is now subject to a series of emergency protocols, including three layers of packaging, separate storage and transfer, logging and escort by dedicated staff. It is also subject to priority disposal. Each medical waste recycling box is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to ensure that waste is promptly, efficiently and harmlessly disposed of in a timely fashion to stop onward transmission of the virus.

**Municipal sanitation:** SUEZ NWS provides 24/7 uninterrupted services in Hong Kong and Macao, and has intensified disinfection efforts at waste collection points, customs ports and immigration checkpoints.



Not only did SUEZ NWS staff compassionately give donations, the company has also partnered with peers and local governments to source emergency supplies of medical and protective equipment like masks and protective suits from around the world through its global procurement network.

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**SUEZ**

*With 90,000 people on the five continents, SUEZ is a world leader in smart and sustainable resource management. We provide water and waste management solutions that enable cities and industries optimize their resource management and strengthen their environmental and economic performances, in line with regulatory standards. With the full potential of digital technologies and innovative solutions, the Group treats over 45 million tons of waste a year, produces 4.4 million tons of secondary raw materials and 7.7 TWh of local renewable energy. It also secures water resources, delivering wastewater treatment services to 66 million people and reusing 1.1 billion m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater. SUEZ generated total revenues of 17.3 billion euros in 2018.*

**NWS Holdings Limited**

*NWS Holdings Limited (Hong Kong Stock Code: 659), as the diversified industries flagship of New World Development Company Limited (Hong Kong Stock Code: 17), invests and operates a wide range of businesses predominantly in Hong Kong and across Greater China. Our core businesses include toll roads, commercial aircraft leasing, construction and insurance, while we also manage a strategic portfolio spanning sectors from environment, logistics, facilities management to transport. Please visit [www.nws.com.hk](http://www.nws.com.hk) for details.*

**SUEZ NWS Limited**

*SUEZ NWS Limited (“SUEZ NWS”) is a joint venture between SUEZ and NWS Holdings Limited that encompasses our essential business segments – Water Management, Recycling and Waste Recovery and Water Treatment Infrastructure in the Greater China region. With 8,000 employees and over 70 joint ventures with local partners, SUEZ NWS is helping authorities and industries develop innovative solutions to address climate change and sustainable resource management. It has built over 260 water and wastewater treatment plants in Greater China, with more than 32 million people benefiting from our water and waste services. It is a leading operator of waste management in Hong Kong and delivers its expertise in the management of environmental services to 16 industrial parks in Mainland China.*

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