

**Belgrade, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

## **BEO ČISTA ENERGIJA – the joint-venture formed by SUEZ, ITOCHU Corporation and MARGUERITE - achieves financial close for a €290 million loan for its investment in the waste management Public-Private Partnership with the City of Belgrade**

**BEO ČISTA ENERGIJA starts drawing this month on a €290 million non-recourse credit facility issued by International Finance Corporation (IFC), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Development Bank of Austria (OeEB) to build and operate a 103 MW energy-from-waste facility and a demolition waste recycling unit, allowing the closure of one of the largest dumpsites still active in Europe.**

By achieving financial close under a €290 million non-recourse loan agreement with the International Finance Corporation<sup>1</sup> (IFC), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Development Bank of Austria (OeEB), the consortium of SUEZ, ITOCHU and MARGUERITE is delivering on its commitment to finance, build and operate new waste management facilities as part of the 25-year Public-Private Partnership concluded in 2017 with the City of Belgrade.

Planned infrastructure includes the construction of a 103 MW energy-from-waste facility, processing up to 43 tons of waste per hour, delivering power to the national grid and heat to Belgrade's municipal district heating company Beogradske Elektrane, thus reducing its dependency on natural gas. Additional facilities include the construction of a waste recycling unit with a capacity of 200,000 tons per year of demolition waste and an engineered landfill with biogas recovery.

Beo Čista Energija will benefit from 12-year guaranteed feed-in tariffs for the sale of electricity produced by the energy-from-waste facility and the landfill gas recovery plant – a premiere for a waste project in Serbia.

Progress of the works, which started in October 2019, continues despite the Covid-19 pandemic, with full commercial operations planned to start in 2022.

All facilities will be operated by SUEZ under a 25-year operation & maintenance contract.

Developed by the City of Belgrade with the support of IFC, this innovative PPP is designed as a model for mid-income countries willing to bundle the closure of their dumpsites with the development of efficient waste recovery infrastructure, under a commercially viable scheme tapping into private sector's finance and expertise.

The new facilities will allow to close and remediate the current Belgrade dumpsite located in the immediate suburbs of Vinča. Opened in 1977 on the banks of the Danube, the 40-hectare dumpsite is one of the 50 largest non-sanitary landfills active in the world and the only one located in Europe<sup>2</sup>. Remediation works are part of the investment plan and will significantly contribute to improving the environmental impact as well as the water quality of the Danube.

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<sup>1</sup> IFC is a member of the World Bank Group

<sup>2</sup> "A Roadmap for Closing Waste Dumpsites – The World's Most Polluted Places," International Solid Waste Association, 2016; available at [www.iswa.org/fileadmin/galleries/About%20ISWA/ISWA\\_Roadmap\\_Report.pdf](http://www.iswa.org/fileadmin/galleries/About%20ISWA/ISWA_Roadmap_Report.pdf).

**Goran Vesic, Deputy Mayor of Belgrade**, declared: *“Thanks to our partnership with BEO ČISTA ENERGIJA and its sponsors SUEZ, ITOCHU and MARGUERITE, and with the support of some of the world’s most reputed financial institutions, we will deliver on our promise to close the Vinca dumpsite and develop state-of-the-art waste management solutions for the citizens of Belgrade.”*

**Vladimir Milovanovic, Managing Director, BEO ČISTA ENERGIJA**, commented: *“BEO ČISTA ENERGIJA is looking forward to delivering to the City of Belgrade the environmental benefits of this landmark and pathfinder project, a model for the Western Balkans region and beyond.”*

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**About SUEZ:** (<https://www.suez.com/en>)

Since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, SUEZ has built expertise aimed at helping people to constantly improve their quality of life by protecting their health and supporting economic growth. With an active presence on five continents, SUEZ and its 90,000 employees strive to preserve our environment’s natural capital: water, soil, and air. SUEZ provides innovative and resilient solutions in water management, waste recovery, site remediation and air treatment, optimizing municipalities’ and industries’ resource management through “smart” cities and improving their environmental and economic performance. The Group delivers sanitation services to 64 million people and produces 7.1 billion m<sup>3</sup> of drinking water. SUEZ is also a contributor to economic growth, with more than 200,000 jobs created directly and indirectly on an annual basis, and a provider of new resources, with 4.2 million tons of secondary raw materials produced. By 2030, the Group is targeting 100% sustainable solutions, with a positive impact on our environment, health and climate. SUEZ generated total revenue of €18.0 billion in 2019.

**About ITOCHU** (<https://www.itochu.co.jp/en/index.html>)

ITOCU Corporation, established in 1858, having its headquarters in Tokyo and Osaka with approximately 110 bases in 63 countries (including Serbia) is a leading Japanese trading and investment conglomerate, engaging in domestic trading, import/export, and overseas trading of various products such as textile, machinery, metals, minerals, energy, chemicals, food, general products, realty, information and communications technology, and finance, as well as business investment in Japan and overseas. ITOCHU generated total revenues of 101 billion USD and Net profit was 5.14 billion USD with total assets of 100 billion USD in Japanese fiscal year ending 31 March 2020.

**About MARGUERITE**

Marguerite, established in 2010 with offices in Luxembourg and Paris, is an alternative investment fund manager licensed in Luxembourg. It is independently owned by its partners and manages three investment funds:

- Marguerite Fund, a EUR 710m infrastructure fund raised in 2010 and now fully invested across 20 investments
- Marguerite Pantheon SCSp, an investment vehicle owning stakes in renewables and transport assets in Europe
- Marguerite II SCSp, a EUR 745m infrastructure fund raised in 2017 with commitments from EIB, KfW, CDC, CDP, BGK, and ICO.