Edgar Filing: CONNECTICUT WATER SERVICE INC / CT - Form 425

CONNECTICUT WATER SERVICE INC / CT Form 425 June 04, 2018

Filed pursuant to Rule 425 under the

Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and

deemed filed under Rule 14a-12 under the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended

Filer: SJW Group

Commission File No.: 1-08966

Subject Company: Connecticut Water Service, Inc.

Commission File No.: 0-08084

SJW Group Board of Directors Mails Important Message to Fellow SJW Group Stockholders

San Jose, CA June 4, 2018 SJW Group (NYSE: SJW) today announced that its Board of Directors mailed an important message to its fellow SJW Group stockholders regarding SJW Group s Merger of Equals with Connecticut Water Service, Inc. (NASDAQ: CTWS) (Connecticut Water). The message, which is included in its entirety below, urges stockholders to discard all materials from California Water Service Group (NYSE: CWT) (Cal Water).

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FOR SJW GROUP STOCKHOLDERS

STOP.

LOOK. LISTEN.

You may have received materials from California Water Service Group (Cal Water) asking you to vote against SJW Group s merger with Connecticut Water Service, Inc. (Connecticut Water) by disparaging our value accretive transaction with Connecticut Water.

We re writing to ask you to discard those materials.

Cal Water is asking you to vote down a highly compelling transaction, but has not offered a real alternative. Cal Water s indication of interest is non-binding and it is free to simply walk away from SJW stockholders whenever it chooses without any consequences.

In fact, if you vote Cal Water s way, you are voting to reject a transaction where you will continue to own SJW shares and participate in the future upside of a merger that we believe will bring superior value to our stockholders in the form of continued, robust dividends and potential stock price appreciation.

And, if giving all that up is not bad enough, if Cal Water s non-binding indication of interest ever materializes, you may be subjecting yourself to significant tax consequences and you will most certainly be giving up a dividend that has increased every year for 50 consecutive years.

Don t be fooled. All Cal Water is trying to do is get you to vote at a meeting that hasn t even been scheduled. We urge you to DISCARD any material you receive from Cal Water, including their white proxy card.

We will be sending you a proxy statement describing the strategic merits of what we consider to be our superior merger with Connecticut Water along with a **GREEN** proxy card. You should read these materials carefully. We urge you to vote on the **GREEN** card **FOR** all proposals related to our merger with Connecticut Water.

Sincerely,

The SJW Group Board of Directors

If you have any questions please call our proxy solicitors:

Georgeson LLC

866-357-4029, SJW@Georgeson.com

Forward Looking Statements

This document contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. Some of these forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as believes, expects, may, will, should, seeks, approximately, intends, plans, estimates, projects, or the negative of those words or other comparable terminology.

The accuracy of such statements is subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions including, but not limited to, the following factors: (1) the risk that the conditions to the closing of the transaction are not satisfied, including the risk that required approvals from the shareholders of Connecticut Water or the shareholders of SJW Group for the transaction are not obtained; (2) the risk that the regulatory approvals required for the transaction are not obtained, or that in order to obtain such regulatory approvals, conditions are imposed that adversely affect the anticipated benefits from the proposed transaction or cause the parties to abandon the proposed transaction; (3) the risk that the anticipated tax treatment of the transaction is not obtained; (4) the effect of water, utility, environmental and other governmental policies and regulations; (5) litigation relating to the transaction; (6) uncertainties as to the timing of the consummation of the transaction and the ability of each party to consummate the transaction; (7) risks that the proposed transaction disrupts the current plans and operations of Connecticut Water or SJW Group; (8) the ability of Connecticut Water and SJW Group to retain and hire key personnel; (9) competitive responses to the proposed transaction; (10) unexpected costs, charges or expenses resulting from the transaction; (11) potential adverse reactions or changes to business relationships resulting from the announcement or completion of the transaction; (12) the combined companies ability to achieve the growth prospects and synergies expected from the transaction, as well as delays, challenges and expenses associated with integrating the combined companies existing businesses; and (13) legislative and economic developments. These risks, as well as other risks associated with the proposed transaction, are more fully discussed in the joint proxy statement/prospectus that is included in the Registration Statement on Form S-4 that has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in connection with the proposed transaction.

In addition, actual results are subject to other risks and uncertainties that relate more broadly to SJW Group s overall business, including those more fully described in SJW Group s filings with the SEC, including its annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 and its quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2018, and Connecticut Water s overall business and financial condition, including those more fully described in Connecticut Water s filings with the SEC, including its annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 and its quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2018. Forward looking statements are not guarantees of performance, and speak only as of the date made, and neither SJW Group or its management nor Connecticut Water or its management undertakes any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.

Additional Information and Where to Find It

In connection with the proposed transaction between SJW Group and Connecticut Water, on April 25, 2018, SJW Group filed with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-4 that includes a joint proxy statement of SJW Group and Connecticut Water that also constitutes a prospectus of SJW Group. These materials are not yet final and will be amended. SJW Group and Connecticut Water may also file other documents with the SEC regarding the proposed transaction. This document is not a substitute for the joint proxy statement/prospectus, Form S-4 or any other document which SJW Group or Connecticut Water may file with the SEC. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF S.JW GROUP AND CONNECTICUT WATER ARE URGED TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT, THE JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND ALL OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS THAT ARE FILED OR WILL BE FILED WITH THE SEC, AS WELL AS ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THESE DOCUMENTS, CAREFULLY AND IN THEIR ENTIRETY BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN OR WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION AND RELATED MATTERS. Investors and security holders may obtain free copies of the Form S-4 and the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other documents filed with the SEC by SJW Group and Connecticut Water through the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov. Copies of documents filed with the SEC by SJW Group are available free of charge on SJW Group s investor relations website at https://sjwgroup.com/investor relations. Copies of documents filed with the SEC by Connecticut Water are available free of charge on Connecticut Water s investor relations website at https://ir.ctwater.com/.

No Offer or Solicitation

This communication is for informational purposes only and is not intended to and does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to subscribe for or buy, or a solicitation of any vote or approval in any jurisdiction, nor shall there be any sale, issuance or transfer of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, sale or solicitation would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offer of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and otherwise in accordance with applicable law.

Participants in the Solicitation

SJW Group, Connecticut Water and certain of their respective directors and officers, and other members of management and employees, may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the holders of SJW Group and Connecticut Water securities in respect of the proposed transaction. Information regarding SJW Group s directors and officers is available in SJW Group s annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 and its proxy statement for its 2018 annual meeting dated March 6, 2018, which are filed with the SEC. Information regarding Connecticut Water s directors and officers is available in Connecticut Water s annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, and its proxy statement for its 2018 annual meeting dated April 6, 2018, which are filed with the SEC. Investors may obtain additional information regarding the interest of such participants by reading the Form S-4 and the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other documents filed with the SEC by SJW Group and Connecticut Water. These documents are available free of charge from the sources indicated above.

Contacts

Investors

Andrew Walters

Chief Administrative Officer, SJW Group

408-279-7818, andrew.walters@sjwater.com

Georgeson LLC

William Fiske / Edward Greene

212-440-9800; 866-357-4029, SJW@Georgeson.com

Media

Jayme Ackemann

Director, Corporate Communications, SJW Group

408-918-7247, jayme.ackemann@sjwater.com

Abernathy MacGregor

Ian Campbell, 213-630-6550, idc@abmac.com

Chuck Dohrenwend, 212-371-5999, cod@abmac.com

Kendell Moore, 212-371-5999, kem@abamac.com