

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**JULY 22 2008**

### **SHAREHOLDERS APPROVE MERGER OF FRENCH ENERGY GIANT**

Shareholders have approved the merger of two of France's biggest corporations, SUEZ and Gaz de France, to form the massive energy giant GDF SUEZ.

On July 16 at a Combined Ordinary and Extraordinary SUEZ Shareholders Meeting, chaired by Chairman and CEO, Gérard Mestrallet, shareholders agreed to the merger to create a world energy leader in natural gas and electricity with 2007 revenues of EUR 74.3 billion (\$120 billion) and a worldwide workforce of 200,000.

Shareholders' have agreed to six resolutions including:

- the merger of SUEZ with Gaz de France to form a global energy giant; and
- the market listing of SUEZ Environment and distribution to SUEZ shareholders of 65% of the capital of SUEZ Environment.

The group's Australian subsidiaries include leading recycling and waste services company SITA Environmental Solutions and water infrastructure provider Degremont.

The merger creates a world energy leader with outstanding positions in natural gas and electricity. The new Group will enjoy superior advantages to meet the 21<sup>st</sup> century's major environmental challenges, particularly in energy supply security, major development energy infrastructure and new and renewable energy sources, as well as the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

The merger will be effective on July 22, 2008. The first day of trading in SUEZ Environment shares will take place the same day.

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*SITA Environmental Solutions, a SUEZ Environment subsidiary, provides weekly services to over 43,000 commercial and industrial clients and more than 800,000 households across Australia*

*SITA's services include domestic, commercial & industrial waste collection; waste assessments; resource recovery and recycling options; processing of organic materials into compost; renewable energy facilities; hygiene services; waste treatment; and product destruction.*

*More information on SITA's services can be obtained by calling 13 13 35 or visit [www.sita.com.au](http://www.sita.com.au)*

*With 62,000 employees and more than 120 years of efforts to constantly improve the quality of life for all, SUEZ Environment, a company present on the five continents, is exclusively dedicated to the environment business in which it has firmly secured its position as world leader.*

*SUEZ Environment and its subsidiaries are committed to the day-to-day challenge of conserving resources and protecting eco-systems by providing innovative solutions to millions of people and industries in the drinking water, wastewater treatment and waste management fields.*

*SUEZ Environment's waste and water management business expertise is a vital asset in responding to the stakes of the 21st Century: effectively, the world of tomorrow needs an economy which preserves natural resources and optimises the use of raw materials.*

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