

## PRESS RELEASE

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### SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT

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### SUEZ ENVIRONMENT WINS EUR 730 MILLION, 30 YEAR WASTE CONTRACT IN CORNWALL, UK

SITA UK, SUEZ Environment's local waste management company, has been selected by Cornwall County Council as preferred bidder for a 30-year integrated waste management contract. Subject to final negotiations, SITA UK will manage the 300,000 tonnes of household waste generated annually by the County's 550,000 inhabitants.

The contract will require SITA to modernize and invest in the County's current sites and develop existing material recycling facilities (MRF), new transfer stations, composting facilities and an energy-from-waste plant (EfW) for the treatment of non-recyclable residual waste. The EfW plant alone will divert nearly 250,000 tonnes of waste away from landfill sites and will provide electricity for the local and national grid.

The contract is a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) in response to European legislation that requires local authorities in the UK to increase the amount of waste diverted from landfill sites. Within the PFI framework, the diversion rate from landfill in Cornwall, England's most south-westerly county, will increase from 25 per cent to around 90 per cent when all the proposed facilities are fully operational.

Jean-Louis Chaussade, SUEZ Environment Chief Executive Officer, stated: *"We are delighted to have won this prestigious contract which fits with our strategic development plans for Europe. The UK waste market offers enormous potential with its PFI framework and we have every intention of making this contract a showcase for the industry and hope it will stand us in good stead in future tenders."*

*SUEZ Environment, a SUEZ business line, provides equipment and services that protect the environment and deliver the essentials of life. Its activities include drinking water production and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, and waste treatment and recovery. Backed by its experience in the water and waste cycles, SUEZ Environment has a wide-ranging portfolio of know-how providing a sustainable solution to the requirements of local authorities and businesses. SUEZ Environment employs over 72,780 people worldwide and in 2004, generated turnover of 11.4 billion euros.*

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