



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

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100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For immediate release

May 18, 2016

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and Ostara to Open World's Largest Nutrient Recovery Facility

Nutrients from wastewater will be recovered to protect Chicago Area Waterways and Mississippi River Basin



**Metropolitan Water
Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago**



OSTARA

WHO: Hosted by the MWRD & Ostara with remarks by:

- Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Ostara Board Member, Environmental Advocate & Attorney
- Mariyana Spyropoulos, President of the MWRD Board of Commissioners
- Robert A. Kaplan, Acting Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5
- Phillip Abrary, President & CEO, Ostara

WHAT: The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) and Ostara Nutrient Recovery Technologies will host an unveiling ceremony to celebrate the completion of the world's largest nutrient recovery facility their Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, the largest wastewater treatment facility in the world.

WHERE: Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, 6001 W. Pershing St., Cicero, IL

WHEN: May 25, 2016, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

WHY: Nutrient pollution is a global challenge, affecting communities around the world. Phosphorus, a key nutrient in plant and crop growth, is considered a major contributor to nutrient pollution when it enters bodies of water in excess. The MWRD's implementation of Ostara's Pearl nutrient recovery technology will greatly reduce its nutrient effluent load to the Mississippi river basin, in turn, reducing its impact on hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico. As the largest nutrient recovery facility in the world, this signifies a fundamental shift in water resource management and water stewardship.

RSVP and INTERVIEWS: One-on-one interviews and advance tours available upon request. Please email dhadden@ostara.com or forea@mwrdd.org or call to secure media access to the press conference and organize interviews.

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About the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Established in 1889, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (www.mwrdd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in a 883.5 square mile service area in Cook County, Illinois. The MWRD's mission is to protect the health and safety of the public in its service area, the quality of the water supply source (Lake Michigan), improve and protect the quality of water in watercourses, protect businesses and homes from flood damages, and manage water as a vital resource. The MWRD is committed to achieving the highest standards of excellence in fulfilling its mission. For more information, visit www.mwrdd.org.

About Ostara Nutrient Recovery Technologies Inc. & Crystal Green:

Ostara helps protect precious water resources by changing the way cities around the world manage nutrients in wastewater streams. The company's Pearl® technology recovers phosphorus and nitrogen at municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants and transforms them into a high-value, eco-friendly fertilizer, Crystal Green®. The process greatly reduces nutrient management costs and helps plants meet increasingly stringent discharge limits while improving operating reliability. Crystal Green is the first continuous release

granular fertilizer to provide Root-Activated™ phosphorus, nitrogen and magnesium (5-28-0-10Mg) and is marketed through a global network of blenders and distributors to growers in the turf, horticultural and agriculture sectors. Its unique Root-Activated™ mode of action improves crop yields, enhances turf performance and significantly reduces the risk of leaching and runoff, thus protecting local waterways from nutrient pollution. Ostara operates multiple facilities throughout North America and Europe. For more information, visit www.ostara.com and www.crystalgreen.com.

Media Contacts:**Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago**

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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrdd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.