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MWRD BOARD APPOINTS DAVID ST. PIERRE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(Chicago--) Today at a special board meeting the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to appoint David St. Pierre as the MWRD's executive director.

Mr. St. Pierre holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

Mr. St. Pierre comes to Chicago with more than 25 years working in the water industry in various cities across the United States, and was most recently the Deputy Commissioner of the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management, where he was responsible for the city's drinking water supply system and water reclamation treatment facilities.

Prior to working in Atlanta, Mr. St. Pierre was the operations director for the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, where he managed the city's collection system and wastewater treatment facilities. Earlier in his career Mr. St. Pierre worked on the design and installation of instrumentation control panels at water distribution and wastewater treatment facilities in Eugene, Oregon and Seattle, Washington.

Under Mr. St. Pierre's administration in Atlanta, operating costs decreased by \$37 million per year - a reduction of nearly 40 per cent - while at the same time Atlanta wastewater treatment facilities earned four Platinum, nine Gold and three Silver awards from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). Water reclamation facilities across the country compete each year for NACWA awards, which indicate that the facility is discharging effluent which meets or exceeds National Permit Discharge Elimination Standards (NPDES), a national benchmark for determining that wastewater facilities across the country consistently discharge high quality effluent.

While in St. Louis, Mr. St. Pierre initiated and implemented an innovative sewer cleaning program that reduced sewer backups into basements by 90 per cent. The success of the program was determined through follow up calls to residents which confirmed that no basement sewer backup occurred within five years on a line that had been cleaned.

Mr. St. Pierre is a member of the Water Environment Federation, the American Water Works Association and the Georgia Association of Water Professionals. He will begin working as executive director on June 20, 2011, and is looking forward to bringing his professional experience to the MWRD, and working with staff to continue the MWRD's mission of protecting the health of the citizens of Cook County and our water environment.

Board President Terrence J. O'Brien welcomed Mr. St. Pierre to the MWRD and noted that he and other Board members were impressed with Mr. St. Pierre's vision for the future of the MWRD. President O'Brien added, "After a nationwide search in which more than 50 candidates submitted their resumes, we are pleased and excited to welcome David St. Pierre as our new executive director."

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