



SUEZ LYONNAISE DES EAUX

Paris, December 7, 2000

## **PRESSE RELEASE**

### **Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux prepares to dispose of its investment in Union Minière**

In coordination with Société Générale de Belgique, Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux is preparing to dispose of its investment in Union Minière through a EUR 247 million bond issue exchangeable into Union Minière shares.

This issue of bonds exchangeable into shares concerns 22.2% of Union Minière's share capital, the balance of the participation (3%) being sold by Société Générale de Belgique to members of Union Minière management in the form of options.

At the conclusion of these transactions, assuming all options to exchange bonds for shares and all management options are exercised, the Group will have disposed of its entire investment in Union Minière (25.2%).

Terms and conditions of the bond issue are as follows :

Final redemption premium : 20 % on closing price (December 6, 2000 : EUR 40.5)

The investor will nevertheless have the possibility of opting for an early exchange incentive with a premium reduced to 7 % during the first year, 11 % during the second year and 15 % during the third year.

Term : 4 years

Coupon and yield to maturity : 2.5%

Call option : after 2 years at Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux's initiative with a 120 % trigger on the conversion price at that moment.

Put option : at the end of the second year on the investor's decision. In case of a put option, the yield to put would be 3.5 %.

UBS Warburg is sole lead manager for this issue.

This transaction enables the Group to refinance existing credit lines at attractive rates and to continue to refocus on its four core businesses : energy, water, waste services, and communications.

This issue is being placed with international institutional investors. In accordance with applicable laws, it will be placed with investors as defined by Article 3.2° of the Royal order of July 7, 1999 and will not be placed with Belgian qualified investors.

Press contacts:

Susanne Trabitshch : 01 40 06 66 50

Financial analyst contact :

Isabelle Jouet Pastre : 01 40 06 66 37

For Belgium :

Guy Dellicour : 32 2 507 02 77

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