Metropolitan Planning Council

Growing Blue: Water, Economic Growth, and Corporate Stewardship



Tuesday, June 7, 2011

Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Council Conference Center 140 S. Dearborn St. Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60603

Introduction

MarySue Barrett

President

Metropolitan Planning Council

Moderator

Josh Ellis

Project Manager Metropolitan Planning Council

Keynote Speaker

Laurent Auguste

President and CEO Veolia Water Americas

Panelists

Robert Miller

Founder and President Earthwise Environmental Inc.

John Hall

President Goose Island Beer Company

Benet Haller

Director of Urban Design and Planning City of Chicago Dept. of Housing and Economic Development

Moderated Questions from the Audience

Adjourn

Laurent Auguste

President and CEO Veolia Water Americas

Appointed president and CEO for Veolia Water Americas in 2008, Mr. Auguste leads Veolia Water's activities in North and South America. The company's North American operations serve 270 municipal and industrial customers and a population of approximately 15 million.

Mr. Auguste is a graduate of the engineering school École Centrale de Lyon. He began his environmental services career in Tokyo in 1991, and joined Veolia Water as a branch director in France in 1995. In 1999, he established the company's foothold in South Korea, developing some of parent company Veolia Environnement's largest industrial contracts and landing large wastewater build-operate-transfer projects.

In 2002, Mr. Auguste became president of Veolia Water Japan, the only substantial foreign water services company operating in Japan.

Robert Miller

Founder and President Earthwise Environmental Inc.

Mr. Miller has 30 years of hands-on experience as an industrial and commercial water management consultant. He is the founder and president of Bensenville, Ill.-based Earthwise Environmental Inc. The company provides environmentally sound water management options to clients, including Soldier Field, University of Chicago Hospitals, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and United Airlines World Headquarters.

A native of Park Ridge, Ill., Mr. Miller earned dual bachelor's degrees in production and personnel management from Loyola University Chicago. Before founding Earthwise in 1995, he was a technical representative at the Dearborn WR Grace (now GE Water) location in Lake Zurich, Ill. In 2005, Mr. Miller received professional designation as a Certified Water Technologist (CWT), the highest credential awarded to professionals in the industrial and commercial water treatment field.

Thanks to Veolia Water for sponsoring this event.



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John Hall

President Goose Island Beer Company

Goose Island Beer Co., which Mr. Hall founded in 1988, is one of the largest craft breweries in the Midwest. The original Goose Island brew pub was one of the first businesses to locate in the now-burgeoning Clybourn corridor. In 1996, the company opened its Fulton Street brewery and bottling plant, and added a second brewpub in Wrigleyville in 1999. Goose Island now distributes its beers to 15 states and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Hall earned an M.B.A. from the University of Iowa and a B.S. from the University of Northern Iowa. Prior to Goose Island, he spent 20 years with Container Corporation of America, where he traveled extensively. After enjoying local beers in Europe, he was amazed by the lack of beer choices available to Americans. An in-flight magazine article on boutique beers inspired Mr. Hall to begin a two-year process of researching and planning that eventually convinced him to leave the packaging industry and found the brewery.

Benet Haller

Director of Urban Design and Planning City of Chicago Dept. of Housing and Economic Development

As Chicago's director of urban design and planning, since 2004, Mr. Haller reviews large development projects within the city, leads city-wide planning efforts, conducts project design review, and works to ensure metro-wide planning policies promote reinvestment in the central city.

Mr. Haller has worked as a planner, architect, and in nonprofit housing development and management. After studying planning at the University of Illinois at Chicago, he worked for Teska Associates, a planning and landscape architecture firm in Evanston, Ill. In 1998, he began working for the City of Chicago, where he reviewed new development in neighborhoods including River North, Streeterville, Cabrini-Green, Illinois Center, and the Gold Coast. He also managed the development of the Central Area Plan, which will provide a framework for the development of Chicago's downtown for the next 20 years.