

Squire Patton Boggs Advises District of **Columbia Water and Sewer Authority** on US\$300 Million Bond Issue

April 30, 2018

Squire Patton Boggs served as co-bond and disclosure counsel to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) on a US\$300 million bond issue, which included US\$100 million of Green Bonds. DC Water is an independent authority of the District of Columbia, which provides retail water and wastewater services to approximately 700,000 residents in the District and wholesale wastewater conveyance and treatment to approximately 1.6 million people in major suburban areas of Prince George's and Montgomery counties in Maryland, and Fairfax and Loudoun counties in Virginia.

DC Water is using Green Bond proceeds to finance a portion of the DC Clean Rivers Project, which has been designated as a "Green Project" based on, among other things, an independent assessment of DC Water's environmental, social and governance characteristics. Pursuant to the DC Clean Rivers Project, DC Water will construct 17 miles of tunnels with a combined storage capacity of 187 million gallons, five new tunnels, a low-lift pumping station, several diversion structures and sewers to collect combined sewer overflows, and green infrastructure to control selected overflows. The remainder of the bond proceeds will be used to repay outstanding commercial paper notes and finance a portion of other capital improvements to the water and wastewater system, reflected in the overall 10-year capital improvement program, which is estimated at US\$4 billion. The Squire Patton Boggs lawyers who worked on this transaction included David Goodman, Ryan Callender, Tatjana Misulic and Robert Eidnier.

Squire Patton Boggs has served with Leftwich LLC as co-bond counsel to DC Water since 2002 and as disclosure counsel since 2013. During that time, DC Water has issued several billion dollars of bonds to fund its capital improvement program, including the first green bond issued for a US public utility with an independent, second-party sustainability opinion; the first municipal century bonds (i.e., bonds that mature over 100 years) issued by a water/wastewater utility in the US; and the first environmental impact bond.

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