

NewsNewsNewsNews

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News

4 January 1993

SOUTH WEST WATER ACQUIRES HAUL-WASTE LIMITED

South West Water Plc is pleased to announce that it exchanged contracts on 31 December 1992 for the acquisition of Haul-Waste Limited in early February 1993.

Haul-Waste Limited, a subsidiary of English China Clays plc, is a well established waste management company with headquarters in Taunton, Somerset, engaged in the operation of landfill sites and the collection and disposal of dry and liquid wastes in the South West. The company had a turnover of £15m in its last reported financial year.

The total purchase price including deferred consideration is £27.5m, of which £25m will be payable in cash on completion; the balance will become payable, in part or in full, before the end of 1995, on the fulfilment of certain conditions.

The acquisition is being undertaken by the holding company, South West Water Plc. It does not involve finance from the regulated business, South West Water Services Ltd, and the massive £2 billion investment programme for improvements to treatment works, mains and sewers throughout the region is not affected.

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Colin Drummond, the main board director of South West Water Plc responsible for business development, will be the chief executive.

Commenting on the acquisition, Chairman of South West Water Plc, Keith Court, said today "This significant acquisition is part of our strategy of developing our waste processing and management activities.

"The acquisition complements our existing watercare and waste businesses, contributing strongly to our waste management capability.

"We are now linking expertise in dry and liquid waste disposal."

- ENDS -

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Haul-Waste Limited's headquarters are in Taunton, Somerset and the Company operates in Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire.
2. Haul-Waste Limited currently employs approximately 230 staff.
3. The Company currently operates the largest waste collection business in the South West, comprising 143 specialist vehicles, and over 8,000 collection bins, operating out of a network of eleven strategically located depots.

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