#### RATINGS UPGRADE REPORT

[SEC RULE 15c2-12(b)(5)]

March 26, 2018

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD

#### DRAINAGE SYSTEM BONDS, SERIES 2014

The New Orleans Board of Liquidation, City Debt; City of New Orleans, Louisiana (the "Issuer" or the "City") hereby submits on behalf of the Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans a continuing disclosure as a result of a rating upgrade from Standard & Poor's (S&P) Global Ratings on March 21, 2018, pursuant to SEC Rule 15c2-12 with respect to the above captioned bonds (the "Bonds"). On March 21, 2018, S&P Global Ratings upgraded its underlying rating on New Orleans, Louisiana Drainage System Refunding Bonds, Series 2014; to AA- from A+, while affirming the stable outlook on these limited tax bonds. The rating upgrade is based on the application of S&P Global Ratings criteria, titled "Issue Credit Ratings Linked To U.S. Public Finance Obligors' Creditworthiness," published January 22, 2018. These criteria include debt backed by an obligor's limited ad-valorem property tax pledge, even if that pledge is dedicated for debt service.

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

/s/ David W. Gernhauser
Secretary,
Board of Liquidation, City Debt

# \$14,900,000 DRAINAGE SYSTEM BONDS, SERIES 2014

### **CUSIP NUMBERS**

<u>MATURES</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>
December 1, 2018	64763F TE9
December 1, 2019	64763F TF6
December 1, 2020	64763F TG4
December 1, 2021	64763F TH2
December 1, 2022	64763F TJ8



# **RatingsDirect**®

## **Summary:**

# New Orleans; General Obligation

#### **Primary Credit Analyst:**

Stephen Doyle, Dallas (1) 214-765-5886; stephen.doyle@spglobal.com

#### **Secondary Contact:**

Thomas J Zemetis, Centennial + (303) 721-4278; thomas.zemetis@spglobal.com

#### **Table Of Contents**

Rationale

### **Summary:**

# New Orleans; General Obligation

#### **Credit Profile**

New Orleans audubon comm aquarium tax bnds ser 2011A-1 dtd 09/22/2011 due 10/01/2014-2021

Unenhanced Rating AA-(SPUR)/Stable Upgraded

New Orleans dr sys rfdg bnds ser 2014 dtd 11/20/2014 due 12/01/2014-2022

Long Term Rating AA-/Stable Upgraded

New Orleans taxable ltd tax rfdg bnds ser 2012 dtd 10/23/2012 due 09/01/2015-2027 2030

Long Term Rating AA-/Stable Upgraded

New Orleans taxable ltd tax rfdg bnds ser 2012 dtd 10/23/2012 due 09/01/2015-2027 2030

Unenhanced Rating AA-(SPUR)/Stable Upgraded

#### Union Parish School Board, Louisiana

Union Parish Cons Sch Dist #1, Louisiana

Union Parish School Board (Union Parish Cons Sch Dist #1)

Unenhanced Rating A(SPUR)/Stable Affirmed

Many issues are enhanced by bond insurance.

#### Rationale

S&P Global Ratings took various rating actions on certain limited-tax debt belonging to Louisiana issuers. The rating actions are based on the application of our criteria, titled "Issue Credit Ratings Linked To U.S. Public Finance Obligors' Creditworthiness," published Jan. 22, 2018, on RatingsDirect.

As outlined in our article, titled "Credit FAQ: An Overview Of S&P Global Ratings' Updated Methodology For Issue Credit Ratings Linked To U.S. Public Finance Obligors' Creditworthiness," Jan. 22, 2018, we apply the revised criteria to all new issues and surveillance reviews. We plan to complete our review of existing ratings covered by these criteria within 18 months. Furthermore, we intend to prioritize our reviews on issues that are likely to have a significant change.

For these issues, we generally rate the limited-ad valorem property tax debt on par with the obligor's general creditworthiness as reflected in the rating on the unlimited-tax general obligation bonds (or issuer credit rating). For more information, see "Criteria FAQ: S&P Global Ratings' Approach To Rating U.S. Local Government Bonds Secured By Dedicated Limited Ad Valorem Tax Pledges," published Feb. 5, 2018.

These criteria include debt backed by an obligor's limited-ad valorem property tax pledge, even if that pledge is dedicated for debt service. In some cases, this represents a change from our past approach, where we applied our Special Tax Bonds criteria, published June 13, 2007, to certain dedicated limited-tax obligations. The Special Tax Bonds criteria, as they relate to dedicated property tax obligations, are superseded following the release of the Ratings Linked criteria. In our view, the likelihood of payment is tied to the credit fundamentals of the obligor, and resources are generally fungible even if specific revenues are designated for a particular purpose. We typically consider these

limited-ad valorem property tax pledges as general operating pledges. We believe property taxes are closely linked to an issuer's core operating risk, and thus, debt repayment risk. Property taxes levied for all purposes share the lien on the property being taxed, making it harder, in our view, to separate revenues pledged for different purposes such as operations.

For additional information and for examples of when we might rate an issue a notch or more below the issuer credit rating, please see the published criteria.

Certain terms used in this report, particularly certain adjectives used to express our view on rating relevant factors, have specific meanings ascribed to them in our criteria, and should therefore be read in conjunction with such criteria. Please see Ratings Criteria at www.standardandpoors.com for further information. Complete ratings information is available to subscribers of RatingsDirect at www.capitaliq.com. All ratings affected by this rating action can be found on the S&P Global Ratings' public website at www.standardandpoors.com. Use the Ratings search box located in the left column.

Copyright © 2018 by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. All rights reserved.

No content (including ratings, credit-related analyses and data, valuations, model, software or other application or output therefrom) or any part thereof (Content) may be modified, reverse engineered, reproduced or distributed in any form by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or its affiliates (collectively, S&P). The Content shall not be used for any unlawful or unauthorized purposes. S&P and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents (collectively S&P Parties) do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or availability of the Content. S&P Parties are not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, for the results obtained from the use of the Content, or for the security or maintenance of any data input by the user. The Content is provided on an "as is" basis. S&P PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, FREEDOM FROM BUGS, SOFTWARE ERRORS OR DEFECTS, THAT THE CONTENT'S FUNCTIONING WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED OR THAT THE CONTENT WILL OPERATE WITH ANY SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE CONFIGURATION. In no event shall S&P Parties be liable to any party for any direct, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs or losses caused by negligence) in connection with any use of the Content even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Credit-related and other analyses, including ratings, and statements in the Content are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact. S&P's opinions, analyses and rating acknowledgment decisions (described below) are not recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or to make any investment decisions, and do not address the suitability of any security. S&P assumes no obligation to update the Content following publication in any form or format. The Content should not be relied on and is not a substitute for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. S&P does not act as a fiduciary or an investment advisor except where registered as such. While S&P has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, S&P does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives.

To the extent that regulatory authorities allow a rating agency to acknowledge in one jurisdiction a rating issued in another jurisdiction for certain regulatory purposes, S&P reserves the right to assign, withdraw or suspend such acknowledgment at any time and in its sole discretion. S&P Parties disclaim any duty whatsoever arising out of the assignment, withdrawal or suspension of an acknowledgment as well as any liability for any damage alleged to have been suffered on account thereof.

S&P keeps certain activities of its business units separate from each other in order to preserve the independence and objectivity of their respective activities. As a result, certain business units of S&P may have information that is not available to other S&P business units. S&P has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received in connection with each analytical process.

S&P may receive compensation for its ratings and certain analyses, normally from issuers or underwriters of securities or from obligors. S&P reserves the right to disseminate its opinions and analyses. S&P's public ratings and analyses are made available on its Web sites, www.standardandpoors.com (free of charge), and www.ratingsdirect.com and www.globalcreditportal.com (subscription), and may be distributed through other means, including via S&P publications and third-party redistributors. Additional information about our ratings fees is available at www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees.

STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P and RATINGSDIRECT are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.