

CREDIT OPINION

15 April 2021

Update



Rate this Research

RATINGS

Veolia Environnement S.A.

Domicile	France
Long Term Rating	Baa1
Туре	LT Issuer Rating
Outlook	Stable

Please see the <u>ratings section</u> at the end of this report for more information. The ratings and outlook shown reflect information as of the publication date.

Contacts

Celine Cherubin +33.1.5330.3366 VP-Senior Analyst

celine.cherubin@moodys.com

Neil Griffiths- +44.20.7772.5543

Associate Managing Director neil.griffiths-lambeth@moodys.com

Aurore Haas +33.1.5330.3397

Associate Analyst
aurore.haas@moodys.com

CLIENT SERVICES

Americas	1-212-553-1653
Asia Pacific	852-3551-3077
Japan	81-3-5408-4100
EMEA	44-20-7772-5454

Veolia Environnement S.A.

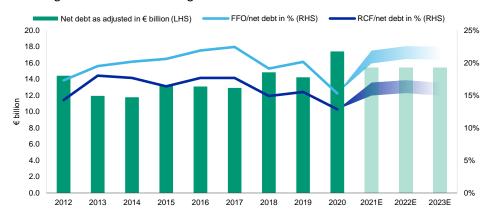
Update to credit analysis

Summary

<u>Veolia Environnement S.A.</u>'s (Veolia's) credit quality is underpinned by its size and position as one of the largest groups in global environmental services, a sector supported by positive structural dynamics; the diversification of its revenue base by business, contract type and geography; and the relatively low-risk profile of its water business, which accounted for 42% of its 2020 revenue. These factors are offset by Veolia's exposure to the macroeconomic cycle through its waste business, which accounted for 37% of revenue over the same period, and the increasing proportion of short-term contracts with industrial clients in its revenue mix.

On 6 October 2020, Veolia purchased a 29.9% stake in <u>SUEZ</u> (Baa1 stable) from <u>ENGIE SA</u> (ENGIE, Baa1 stable) and launched an offer for SUEZ's remaining capital on 7 February 2021, which was firmly opposed by SUEZ's board of directors. On 12 April 2021, Veolia and SUEZ agreed to merge the two groups, subject to conditions. Following completion of the acquisition, Veolia's scale and geographical diversification will increase significantly. From a financial risk perspective, we expect Veolia to act as necessary to support credit quality, and that measures, including disposals, will mitigate the strain on financial metrics (see Exhibit 1).

Veolia's standalone financial profile is likely to recover towards financial metrics commensurate with the guidance for the Baa1 rating



The 2021-23 estimates represent Moody's forward view, and not the view of the issuer. Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

Credit strengths

- » Large scale and diversification, which support cash flow stability
- » Integration of regulated water activities if Veolia succeeds in acquiring full ownership of SUEZ, which will support cash flow predictability
- » Supportive long-term industry dynamics
- » Low-risk water activities, with a recovery in price indexation in Europe (notably in France), which has been slightly above inflation since 2019
- » Solid track record of a sound financial profile, primarily driven by the cost-saving programme

Credit challenges

- » Execution risks in acquiring full ownership of and successfully integrating SUEZ related to measures to maintain credit quality
- » Exposure of the waste business to the cyclical macroeconomic environment in Europe, although the correlation between volume and industrial production is slowly decreasing
- » Increasing share of the industrial sector in the company's client mix, which increases volatility in earnings
- » Growing presence in riskier emerging markets, although mitigated by a balanced approach to capital deployment
- » Rising competition, in particular from Chinese groups, although this risk is mitigated by the company's more sophisticated environmental solutions, such as for hazardous waste, which increase the barriers to entry

Rating outlook

The stable outlook reflects our expectation that Veolia's management will implement measures, as necessary, to restore financial flexibility at the current rating level following the acquisition of the remaining share capital in SUEZ. The guidance for the Baa1 rating includes funds from operations (FFO)/net debt of around 20%, retained cash flow (RCF)/net debt at least in the midteens in percentage terms and FFO interest cover above 4x. It also factors in our assumption that any potential deterioration in the company's business risk profile because of increased exposure to industrial clients could be offset by a further improvement in its credit metrics.

Factors that could lead to an upgrade

A rating upgrade is unlikely in the next two years because of the current weak operating environment and the adverse effect of the planned SUEZ acquisition on the company's credit metrics. In the longer term, the rating could be upgraded if Veolia's RCF/net debt approached 20% on a sustained basis. In this scenario, we would take into account management's future financial policy and its use of the financial flexibility that the company could develop in the medium term.

Factors that could lead to a downgrade

Veolia's rating could be downgraded if its credit metrics appear likely to remain below our guidance for the Baa1 rating on a sustained basis, which includes FFO/net debt of around 20%, RCF/net debt at least in the midteens in percentage terms and FFO interest cover above 4x, because of weaker-than-expected operating performance or increased investments.

This publication does not announce a credit rating action. For any credit ratings referenced in this publication, please see the ratings tab on the issuer/entity page on www.moodys.com for the most updated credit rating action information and rating history.

Key indicators

Exhibit 2
Veolia Environnement S.A.

	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20	Moody's 12-18 Month Forward View
(FFO + Interest Expense) / Interest Expense	5.5x	6.0x	6.1x	6.2x	6.5x	6.6x	6.5x - 7.5x
FFO / Net Debt	20.6%	21.9%	22.4%	19.1%	20.2%	15.3%	19% - 22%
RCF / Net Debt	16.4%	17.7%	17.7%	14.9%	15.5%	12.9%	15.5% - 18.5%
FCF / Net Debt	0.3%	0.7%	-1.2%	-3.0%	-2.6%	-0.8%	-1% - 5%

All ratios are based on 'Adjusted' financial data and incorporate Moody's Global Standard Adjustments for Non-Financial Corporations. The 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 key indicators are adjusted for IFRIC 12. Free cash flow excludes divestments. For definitions of our most common ratio terms, please see the accompanying <u>User's Guide</u>.

Source: Moody's Investors Service

Profile

Headquartered in Aubervilliers, France, Veolia Environnement S.A. (Veolia) is one of the world's largest providers of environmental services, with revenue of €26.0 billion and EBITDA of €3.6 billion in 2020. As of December 2020, it provided drinking water to 95 million people, wastewater treatment services to 62 million people and waste management services to 40 million people. Veolia is listed on the Paris Stock Exchange, with a market capitalisation of around €12.6 billion as of 8 April 2021.

Exhibit 3 Revenue breakdown by geography (for 2020)

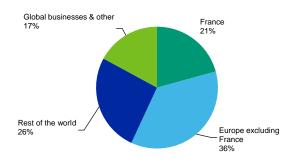
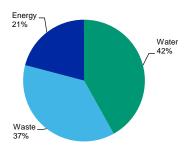


Exhibit 4
Revenue breakdown by activity (for 2020)



Source: Company reports

Source: Company reports

Detailed credit considerations

Successful acquisition of SUEZ will reinforce Veolia's international presence, but entails execution risk

In October 2020, Veolia purchased ENGIE's 29.9% stake in SUEZ for €18 per share, or €3.4 billion. Upon the completion of the cash purchase, Veolia reaffirmed its intention to launch a takeover offer for SUEZ's remaining capital at €18 per share but subject to conditions, including approval from SUEZ's board of directors and the European Commission with regard to antitrust concerns. On 7 February 2021, Veolia officially submitted a takeover offer at €18 per share despite persistent disagreement from SUEZ's board and several pending legal actions initiated from both sides.

Before proposing to buy 29.9% of SUEZ from ENGIE, Veolia partnered with the French infrastructure fund Meridiam intending to dispose of SUEZ's French water business (€2.15 billion revenue in 2019) and address the associated antitrust issue. Meridiam formally committed to this acquisition by submitting an offer to Veolia that remains valid until 31 December 2022. This partnership was extended to SUEZ's French waste activities in March 2021 to keep in a single entity the scope of SUEZ French activities, and address SUEZ's management' concerns about potential company break-up in France.

On 21 March 2021, SUEZ made a counter-proposal to Veolia. The proposal, which has not been accepted, was planning the acquisition by two funds, Ardian and Global Infrastructure Partners (GIP), of SUEZ's French activities and some international water assets, totalling

€9.1 billion of revenue in 2019, for a cash consideration of €11.9 billion or €15.8 billion enterprise value, leading to an implicit valuation of €20/share.

On 12 April, Veolia and SUEZ announced principles of agreement to merge the two groups. Veolia increased the offer price to €20.5/ share and is committed inter alia to dispose SUEZ assets representing c. €7 billion of revenue into a new SUEZ entity. Many points have still to be negotiated and a detailed agreement will be unveiled by May 2021, 14.

Veolia has not said how it intends to finance the transaction but reaffirmed on 12 April its commitment to maintaining credit quality. On this basis, we anticipate mitigating measures including disposals and cost savings sufficient to buffer the adverse effect of the acquisition on the company's financial metrics. Veolia reaffirmed its leverage objective of maintaining its net financial debt/EBITDA below 3.0x in the medium term.

The group's business risk profile will benefit from a marked increase in scale and geographical diversification following the acquisition. With the somewhat complementary geographies of the two groups, the transaction will increase Veolia's international presence in the context of rising competition in a highly fragmented market, and facilitate the ongoing shift towards offering more sophisticated environmental solutions, such as for hazardous waste. The focus on the water, waste and energy services businesses will remain unchanged.

This combination will make Veolia the leading group in waste and water activities worldwide, with revenue of more than €37 billion, after the proposed disposals to address competition issues, mainly in France, and EBITDA close to €7 billion. About 80% of revenue will be derived outside France. In 2020, Veolia reported €26.0 billion in revenue and €3.6 billion in EBITDA.

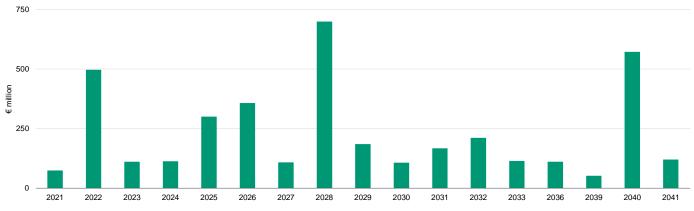
Scale and diversification support cash flow stability

Veolia's credit quality is underpinned by its large scale and diversification, which have contributed to its leading market positions in different geographies across its three businesses: water, environmental and energy services. The diversification of the company's revenue base by business, contract type and geography (see Exhibits 3 and 4) helps mitigate the negative effect on earnings from a deterioration in any one activity or region, and supports the relative stability of its cash flow. In addition, the granularity of Veolia's portfolio of contracts means that it has limited exposure to the risk of nonrenewal of any single contract. However, in 2022, the group will face a relatively high number of renewals compared with earlier years.

Exhibit 5

Veolia's portfolio of contracts has limited concentration

Expiration of contracts of more than €50 million in annual revenue



Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

Increasing share of industrial clients in revenue mix will increase cash flow volatility

Veolia's revenue comes from a portfolio of thousands of multiyear contracts, which range from long-term concessions with low-risk public-sector counterparties to shorter-term contracts with industrial and commercial (I&C) customers. Contracts vary by market and can be either capital intensive, requiring the group to invest in infrastructure in exchange for the right to provide services on a long-term basis, or structured as operating and maintenance or management contracts, requiring little investment.

Public authorities accounted for 52% of Veolia's turnover in 2020 and I&C customers accounted for the remaining 48%, a proportion that is likely to grow to 50% in 2022, when Veolia completes the SUEZ acquisition. This is because antitrust remedies will mostly concern French activities that are highly exposed to municipalities and reported total revenue of around €4 billion in 2019. Over a longer period, I&C customers' contribution will continue to grow, resulting from the group's strategic business plan, with 65% of the investment spending dedicated to industrial clients. This shift in client mix might, over time, increase Veolia's business risk because it entails greater reliance on shorter-term, asset-light contracts.

Supportive long-term industry dynamics in an increasingly competitive environment

Veolia operates in sectors that benefit from positive long-term underlying dynamics but are not immune to short-term economic constraints. Positive factors include population growth, the trend towards urbanisation and industrialisation, the implication of energy transition programmes for energy services, and our expectation of rising standards of living in emerging economies.

Together with the public concern over the effect of climate change on scarce resources and increasingly stricter environmental regulations, these positive dynamics support increased demand for existing technologies for the provision of water, wastewater and waste management services; and new services and technologies that, for example, facilitate water preservation in the context of climate change, the ongoing shift towards waste recovery, in particular, in the food chain or new energy services.

Against this backdrop, there is intense competition, especially in the lower part of the value chain. Upon SUEZ acquisition, the group will have no competitors in its sector on a global scale for the time being. However, even if markets remain fragmented, some Chinese competitors are emerging, alongside both global and local specialists (for example, energy companies, equipment manufacturers, companies specialising in energy efficiency or facility management). Veolia's main competitive advantages are its scale and ability to provide a wide range of services and technologies across business lines and geographies.

Water activities bear low risk, but exposure of the waste business to cyclical macroeconomic conditions is a challenge

Veolia benefits from the low-risk profile of its water business, which provides essential water and wastewater management services to individuals and businesses, often on behalf of local municipalities under long-term concession agreements. Although demand for water continues to experience a slow structural decline in advanced economies, especially in Europe, because of a more resource-aware population, variations in water consumption are mainly driven by weather (see Exhibit 6). Typical contract renewal rates of around 90% in the municipal sector provide revenue visibility and stability.

Exhibit 6
Water volume in mature economies exhibits low volatility and growth ...
(Annual percentage change in Veolia's water volume in France)

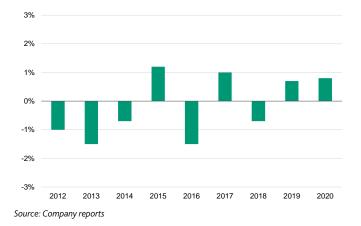
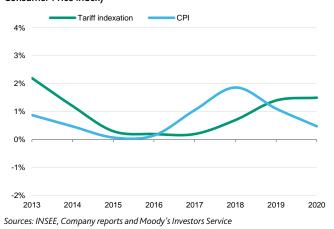


Exhibit 7 ... while tariff indexation has been recovering since the beginning of 2017, to catch up with the inflation level (Annual percentage change in Veolia's water tariffs in France versus the Consumer Price Index)



The waste management business is more exposed to the cyclical macroeconomic conditions, reflecting the higher proportion of I&C customers; the fact that the contract terms are often linked to collected or processed volume, which, in turn, is linked to industrial

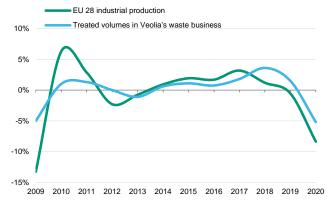
production (see Exhibit 8); and the exposure, although moderate, of the recycling business to paper and scrap metal prices. The coronavirus pandemic highlights the company's exposure to any economic downturn: Veolia's waste volume fell 5.2% in 2020, driven by the economic fallout linked to the pandemic-related lockdown measures, especially in Europe and the US.

With low entry barriers in the collection and disposal of nonhazardous waste, Veolia continues to invest in higher-value-added activities. These include sorting and processing hazardous materials, which is a core expertise that Veolia wants to further develop to achieve revenue of €4 billion by 2023 compared with €2.5 billion in 2020; and generating energy from waste, which reduces the correlation between treated volume and industrial production, even though energy from waste might increase the group's exposure to fluctuations in energy prices in some cases (see Exhibit 9).

Exhibit 8

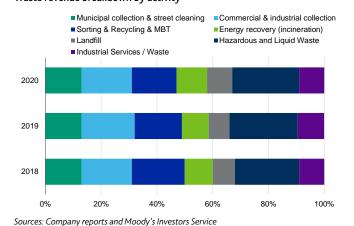
Veolia's waste business is exposed to the macroeconomic cycle

Annual percentage change



In 2010, waste volume was from industrial clients only. Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 9 Shift from collection and landfill to recycling and hazardous waste treatment continues Waste revenue breakdown by activity



In Veolia's energy business, more than 60% of revenue comes from the management of district heating and cooling networks under long-term contracts. These contracts include indexation and pass-through clauses covering variations in energy prices, although they can be subject to some regulatory risk. These features underpin a relatively predictable cash flow. However, cash flow is exposed to weather conditions and the seasonal demand for heating and cooling. In addition to managing networks, the group acts as a subcontractor for public and private customers to manage or maintain various energy installations (including decentralised electricity generation, such as biomass), which, in turn, can expose it to fluctuations in energy prices.

Growing focus on specialised services and growth markets outside Europe, mitigated by a balanced approach towards capital deployment

In February 2020, Veolia unveiled its new four-year strategic plan focused on accelerating growth in sectors that require specialist expertise, in particular, hazardous waste treatment, where the group aims to double its existing platforms, targeting €4 billion in revenue by 2023. Veolia expects industrial customers' needs for greater expertise to increase barriers to entry, profitability and cash flow predictability. In parallel, the strategy seeks to improve the profitability of noncyclical activities, such as municipal water, I&C waste collection, and water treatment technologies and services, which are the foundations of the group.

The planned strategic acceleration will be driven by both organic and external growth: Veolia initially planned to invest €5 billion, of which 40% would have corresponded to industrial spending and 60% would have been allocated to medium-sized acquisitions in 2020-23 to shape the group's development. Following the move to acquire full ownership of SUEZ, the group will very likely suspend other (significant) external growth activities.

Veolia's strategy also focuses on shifting progressively from mature economies to growth markets outside Europe, which will account for only 40% of the investments over the next three years. We expect this shift to slow down following SUEZ's acquisition because the focus will be on the integration of teams. In the long term, this shift will imply an increase in risks, already illustrated by the unilateral

termination of Veolia's water and energy contract in Gabon in 2018. We expect the group to maintain its cautious approach towards capital deployment to limit the scale of the investment it takes on in any individual country.

The planned shift in emphasis and geographical footprint will be mainly financed through additional cash flow resulting from a higher return on capital employed (ROCE); a cost-saving programme targeting a further €250 million per year (excluding 2020, when a larger cost reduction programme will support operating profitability in the context of the revenue shortfall caused by the pandemic); and a disposal programme initially planned for a total of €3 billion.

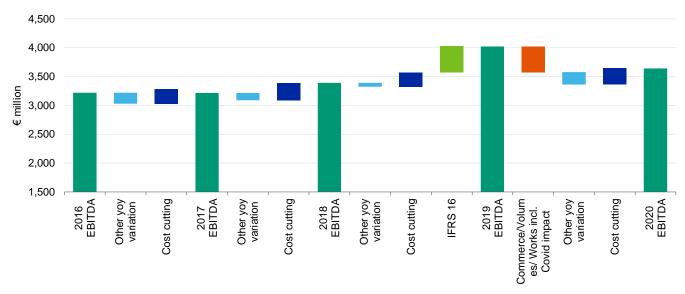
As mentioned, we expect the planned disposals will increase, in particular because Veolia's management has stated its intention to implement measures to maintain credit quality, including disposals. The group aims to gradually reduce businesses that are deemed mature or commoditised, which mainly consist of construction, municipal waste collection (if isolated) and facility management.

Cost reduction programme supports operating profitability

The group's profitability is mostly predicated on continued successful execution of its cost-saving programme, which has, in earlier years, more than offset strain from weak price indexation and subdued industrial production in Europe. Successful execution of this programme was the main driver behind Veolia's profitability in recent years (see Exhibit 10).

In addition to its initial cost-saving programme, Veolia implemented an additional "Recover and Adapt" plan to offset part of the effect of the pandemic on the group's profitability. Veolia's total savings amounted to €550 million in 2020, €272 million of which was from its additional plan following the pandemic. Veolia expects to achieve €350 million of cost cutting in 2021, including €250 million of recurring efficiencies and €100 million from its complementary plan.

Exhibit 10
EBITDA growth continues to be driven by cost savings



Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

In 2020, Veolia's revenue fell 2.9% at a constant exchange rate, to €26.0 billion. After a sharp decline in H1 2020, mostly because of the halt in construction work in France and reduced hazardous waste volumes, Veolia reported a significant rebound in H2. Revenue grew faster in the fourth quarter than in the third quarter as a result of tariff increases in water and energy activities, recovery in hazardous waste volumes and higher recycled paper prices. These offset the lower volumes resulting from the second wave because of the pandemic. Veolia's EBITDA was down 8.0% organically at €3,641 million in 2020. Veolia's Moody's-adjusted net debt increased by around 22% to €17.4 billion as of year-end 2020 as a result of the payment for SUEZ 29.9% stake, driving FFO/net debt to 15.3% from 20.2% in 2019.

Veolia's 2021 guidance plans a recovery of operational performance and leverage towards the 2019 levels, supplemented by new investments. Veolia's revenue is likely to be higher than the level in 2019 and EBITDA is likely to grow more than 10% from that in 2020. Veolia has also implemented mitigation measures with a cost-cutting programme set at €350 million. Veolia's net debt is likely to decrease below €12 billion in 2021, with a leverage ratio below 3.0x. The proposed dividend for 2020 is €0.70 per share, while the objective is to return to the pre-crisis dividend policy in 2021. This action plan aims to preserve cash flow and financial flexibility, which is credit positive.

ESG considerations

Because of the essential nature of water treatment and increased environmental awareness among consumers, water, wastewater and waste management are subject to more stringent regulations and strict monitoring. In addition, the collection, transportation and treatment of hazardous waste inherently increases socially driven risks, mostly related to disasters caused by human error. Veolia is well positioned for such challenges with internal processes to coordinate the identification, assessment and control of risks, particularly pollution; and to monitor the efficiency of the implemented action plans covering the risks identified. The group reiterated, in February 2020, its strong commitment to the preservation of natural resources as part of its 2020-23 strategic plan through the promotion of innovative industrial processes. Veolia disclosed quantitative objectives to enhance its circular economy, prevent climate change and restore biodiversity.

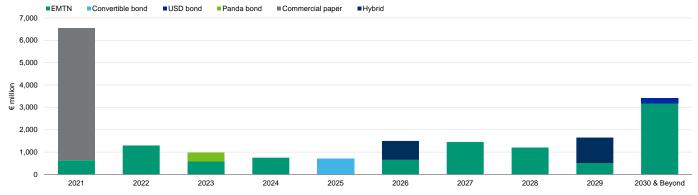
Liquidity analysis

Veolia's liquidity is sound, based on €6.5 billion of cash and cash equivalents (excluding restricted cash) on its balance sheet and undrawn credit lines of €4.0 billion in aggregate as of the end of December 2020. These credit lines mainly consist of a syndicated facility of €3 billion maturing in 2022, and undrawn bilateral facilities of €1.0 billion maturing between 2022 and 2025. These facilities contain no triggers, covenants, material adverse changes or general restrictions.

Veolia's liquidity has also been reinforced by bond issuances of €700 million in April 2020, €500 million in June 2020 and €700 million in January 2021. Veolia also issued a hybrid bond of €2 billion at the beginning of October 2020 to help restore financial flexibility after the €3.4 billion cash payment to buy 29.9% of SUEZ. Over the next 24 months, there are debt maturities of €638 million in Q1 2021 and €1.3 billion in H1 2022.

We expect the group to be broadly free cash flow neutral after dividend payments over the next 12 months (excluding the SUEZ takeover).

Exhibit 11
Veolia's debt maturity profile as of the end of December 2020



Sources: Veolia and Moody's Investors Service

Methodology and scorecard

The primary methodology used in rating Veolia was our Environmental Services and Waste Management Companies rating methodology, published in April 2018. The assigned Baa1 rating is two notches higher than the scorecard-indicated outcome of Baa3, which reflects the very broad diversification of its revenue base by sector and geography; and the low-risk profile of its concession-based water business, including its leading position in France, which accounted for 42% of revenue in FY 2020. The Baa1 rating also takes into account the group's moderate leverage when assessed on a net debt basis, taking into account its substantial cash holdings.

Exhibit 12
Rating factors
Veolia Environnement S.A.

Environmental Services and Waste Management Companies Industry Scorecard [1][2]	Current FY	12/31/2020
Factor 1 : BUSINESS PROFILE (15%)	Measure	Score
a) Business Profile	Aa	Aa
Factor 2 : SCALE (20%)		
a) Revenue (USD Billions)	\$29.9	Aa
Factor 3 : PROFITABILITY AND EFFICIENCY (10%)		
a) EBIT Margin %	3.4%	В
Factor 4 : LEVERAGE AND COVERAGE (40%)		
a) FFO / Debt	11.1%	В
b) Debt / EBITDA	7.4x	Ca
c) EBIT / Interest Expense	1.9x	В
Factor 5 : FINANCIAL POLICY (15%)		
a) Financial Policy	Baa	Baa
Rating:		-
a) Scorecard-Indicated Outcome		Ba1
b) Actual Rating Assigned	-	

Moody's 12-18 Month Forward View As of April 2021 [3]					
Measure	Score				
Aa	Aa				
Aa	Aa				
4% - 5%	В				
14.5% - 16.5%	B / Ba				
5.6x - 6.1x	Caa				
2.0x - 2.5x	Ва				
Baa	Baa				
	Baa3				
	Baa1				

^[1] All ratios are based on 'Adjusted' financial data and incorporate Moody's Global Standard Adjustments for Non-Financial Corporations. [2] As of 31 December 2020. [3] This represents Moody's forward view and not the view of the issuer.

Sources: Moody's Investors Service and Moody's Financial Metrics™

Appendix

Exhibit 13
Selected historical Moody's-adjusted financial data
Veolia Environnement S.A.

	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE
(in EUR million)	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20
INCOME STATEMENT						
Revenue	25,138	24,388	24,978	26,086	27,351	26,209
EBITDA	3,572	3,590	3,520	3,613	3,736	3,251
EBIT	1,408	1,416	1,306	1,350	1,395	894
Interest Expense	609	577	574	550	519	476
BALANCE SHEET						
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3,922	5,314	6,146	4,413	5,932	6,536
Total Debt	17,112	18,404	19,075	19,248	20,164	23,945
Total Liabilities	31,585	32,938	33,576	34,252	36,010	39,845
CASH FLOW						
Funds from Operations (FFO)	2,713	2,871	2,902	2,838	2,870	2,665
Dividends	548	556	614	625	661	426
Retained Cash Flow (RCF)	2,165	2,315	2,288	2,213	2,209	2,239
Cash Flow From Operations (CFO)	2,828	2,919	2,890	2,716	3,077	3,070
Free Cash Flow (FCF)	45	93	(150)	(444)	(369)	(135)
EBITDA margin %	14.2%	14.7%	14.1%	13.9%	13.7%	12.4%
EBIT margin %	5.6%	5.8%	5.2%	5.2%	5.1%	3.4%
INTEREST COVERAGE						
EBITDA / Interest Expense	5.9x	6.2x	6.1x	6.6x	7.2x	6.8x
(FFO + Interest Expense) / Interest Expense	5.5x	6.0x	6.1x	6.2x	6.5x	6.6x
LEVERAGE						
Debt / EBITDA	4.8x	5.1x	5.4x	5.3x	5.4x	7.4x
Net Debt / EBITDA	3.7x	3.6x	3.7x	4.1x	3.8x	5.4x
FFO / Net Debt	20.6%	21.9%	22.4%	19.1%	20.2%	15.3%
RCF / Net Debt	16.4%	17.7%	17.7%	14.9%	15.5%	12.9%
FCF / Net Debt	0.3%	0.7%	-1.2%	-3.0%	-2.6%	-0.8%

All figures are calculated using Moody's estimates and standard adjustments. Source: Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 14 **Peer comparison**

	Veolia	Veolia Environnement S.A.			SUEZ		Hera S.p.A.			ACEA S.p.A.			
		Baa1 Stable			Baa1 Stable			Baa2 Stable			Baa2 Stable		
	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	LTM	FYE	FYE	LTM	
(in EUR million)	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20	Dec-18	Dec-19	Jun-20	Dec-18	Dec-19	Jun-20	
Revenue	26,086	27,351	26,209	17,331	18,015	17,209	6,134	6,913	6,944	2,837	3,022	3,088	
EBITDA	3,613	3,736	3,251	2,991	2,713	2,107	919	1,081	1,083	860	893	958	
Total Debt	19,248	20,164	23,945	15,802	15,750	16,775	3,466	3,799	3,944	3,943	4,281	4,495	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	4,413	5,932	6,536	3,438	3,716	5,301	536	364	706	1,068	836	465	
EBIT Margin %	5.2%	5.1%	3.4%	6.2%	5.1%	2.0%	8.5%	9.4%	9.2%	17.0%	16.1%	16.6%	
EBIT / Interest Expense	2.5x	2.7x	1.9x	2.0x	2.0x	0.8x	4.9x	6.3x	6.8x	5.2x	5.3x	5.6x	
Debt / EBITDA	5.3x	5.4x	7.4x	5.3x	5.8x	8.0x	3.8x	3.5x	3.6x	4.6x	4.8x	4.7x	
FFO / Net Debt	19.1%	20.2%	15.3%	19.2%	20.3%	16.3%	23.2%	21.7%	23.5%	22.4%	22.0%	19.5%	
RCF / Net Debt	14.9%	15.5%	12.9%	13.8%	14.5%	12.0%	18.0%	17.0%	23.1%	17.7%	19.8%	17.5%	

All figures are calculated using Moody's estimates and standard adjustments. Source: Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 15 Adjusted debt breakdown Veolia Environnement S.A.

		FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE
(in EUR million)		Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20
As Reported Total Debt		12,341	13,351	14,273	16,308	16,996	19,950
	Pensions	701	797	657	644	693	692
	Leases	1,339	1,472	1,465	0	0	0
	Hybrid Securities	773	734	725	0	0	1,000
	Securitization	333	512	568	789	894	698
	Non-Standard Public Adjustments	1,626	1,539	1,386	1,507	1,581	1,606
Moody's Adjusted Total Debt		17,112	18,404	19,075	19,248	20,164	23,945
	Cash & Cash Equivalents	(3,922)	(5,314)	(6,146)	(4,413)	(5,932)	(6,536)
Moody's Adjusted Net Debt		13,190	13,090	12,928	14,835	14,233	17,409

All figures are calculated using Moody's estimates and standard adjustments. Source: Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 16

Adjusted EBITDA breakdown

Veolia Environnement S.A.

	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE	FYE
(in EUR million)	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20
As Reported EBITDA	2,699	2,648	2,661	3,216	3,671	2,849
Unusual Items - Income Statement	0	0	(8)	(4)	(326)	0
Pensions	9	27	(16)	7	2	(18)
Non-Standard Public Adjustments	447	470	428	394	394	429
Interest Expense - Discounting	(39)	(42)	(35)	(30)	(31)	(24)
Moody's Adjusted EBITDA	3,572	3,590	3,520	3,613	3,736	3,251

All figures are calculated using Moody's estimates and standard adjustments. Source: Moody's Investors Service

Ratings

Exhibit 17

Category	Moody's Rating
VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT S.A.	
Outlook	Stable
Issuer Rating	Baa1
Senior Unsecured	Baa1
Jr Subordinate -Dom Curr	Baa3
Commercial Paper	P-2
Source: Moody's Investors Service	

Moody's related publications

Rating Action:

» Moody's affirms Veolia Environnement's Baa1 ratings; stable outlook, 9 October 2020

To access any of these reports, click on the entry above. Note that these references are current as of the date of publication of this report and that more recent reports may be available. All research may not be available to all clients.

© 2021 Moody's Corporation, Moody's Investors Service, Inc., Moody's Analytics, Inc. and/or their licensors and affiliates (collectively, "MOODY'S"). All rights reserved.

CREDIT RATINGS ISSUED BY MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS AFFILIATES ARE THEIR CURRENT OPINIONS OF THE RELATIVE FUTURE CREDIT RISK OF ENTITIES, CREDIT COMMITMENTS, OR DEBT OR DEBT-LIKE SECURITIES, AND MATERIALS, PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND INFORMATION PUBLISHED BY MOODY'S (COLLECTIVELY, "PUBLICATIONS") MAY INCLUDE SUCH CURRENT OPINIONS. MOODY'S DEFINES CREDIT RISK AS THE RISK THAT AN ENTITY MAY NOT MEET ITS CONTRACTUAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AS THEY COME DUE AND ANY ESTIMATED FINANCIAL LOSS IN THE EVENT OF DEFAULT OR IMPAIRMENT. SEE APPLICABLE MOODY'S RATING SYMBOLS AND DEFINITIONS PUBLICATION FOR INFORMATION ON THE TYPES OF CONTRACTUAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS ADDRESSED BY MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS. CREDIT RATINGS, DO NOT ADDRESS ANY OTHER RISK, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: LIQUIDITY RISK, MARKET VALUE RISK, OR PRICE VOLATILITY. CREDIT RATINGS, NON-CREDIT ASSESSMENTS ("ASSESSMENTS"), AND OTHER OPINIONS INCLUDED IN MOODY'S PUBLICATIONS ARE NOT STATEMENTS OF CURRENT OR HISTORICAL FACT. MOODY'S PUBLICATIONS MAY ALSO INCLUDE QUANTITATIVE MODEL-BASED ESTIMATES OF CREDIT RISK AND RELATED OPINIONS OR COMMENTARY PUBLISHED BY MOODY'S ANALYTICS, INC. AND/OR ITS AFFILIATES. MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS, ASSESSMENTS, OTHER OPINIONS AND PUBLICATIONS DO NOT CONSTITUTE OR PROVIDE INVESTMENT OR FINANCIAL ADVICE, AND MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS, ASSESSMENTS, OTHER OPINIONS AND PUBLICATIONS ARE NOT AND DO NOT PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO PURCHASE, SELL, OR HOLD PARTICULAR SECURITIES. MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER OPINIONS AND PUBLICATIONS WITH THE EXPECTATION AND UNDERSTANDING THAT EACH INVESTOR WILL, WITH DUE CARE, MAKE ITS OWN STUDY AND EVALUATION OF EACH SECURITY THAT IS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR PURCHASE, HOLDING. OR SALE.

MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS, ASSESSMENTS, OTHER OPINIONS, AND PUBLICATIONS ARE NOT INTENDED FOR USE BY RETAIL INVESTORS AND IT WOULD BE RECKLESS AND INAPPROPRIATE FOR RETAIL INVESTORS TO USE MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS, ASSESSMENTS, OTHER OPINIONS OR PUBLICATIONS WHEN MAKING AN INVESTMENT DECISION. IF IN DOUBT YOU SHOULD CONTACT YOUR FINANCIAL OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVISER.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS PROTECTED BY LAW, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COPYRIGHT LAW, AND NONE OF SUCH INFORMATION MAY BE COPIED OR OTHERWISE REPRODUCED, REPACKAGED, FURTHER TRANSMITTED, TRANSFERRED, DISSEMINATED, REDISTRIBUTED OR RESOLD, OR STORED FOR SUBSEQUENT USE FOR ANY SUCH PURPOSE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, IN ANY FORM OR MANNER OR BY ANY MEANS WHATSOEVER, BY ANY PERSON WITHOUT MOODY'S PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT.

MOODY'S CREDIT RATINGS, ASSESSMENTS, OTHER OPINIONS AND PUBLICATIONS ARE NOT INTENDED FOR USE BY ANY PERSON AS A BENCHMARK AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED FOR REGULATORY PURPOSES AND MUST NOT BE USED IN ANY WAY THAT COULD RESULT IN THEM BEING CONSIDERED A BENCHMARK.

All information contained herein is obtained by MOODY'S from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. Because of the possibility of human or mechanical error as well as other factors, however, all information contained herein is provided "AS IS" without warranty of any kind. MOODY'S adopts all necessary measures so that the information it uses in assigning a credit rating is of sufficient quality and from sources MOODY'S considers to be reliable including, when appropriate, independent third-party sources. However, MOODY'S is not an auditor and cannot in every instance independently verify or validate information received in the rating process or in preparing its Publications.

To the extent permitted by law, MOODY'S and its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, licensors and suppliers disclaim liability to any person or entity for any indirect, special, consequential, or incidental losses or damages whatsoever arising from or in connection with the information contained herein or the use of or inability to use any such information, even if MOODY'S or any of its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, licensors or suppliers is advised in advance of the possibility of such losses or damages, including but not limited to: (a) any loss of present or prospective profits or (b) any loss or damage arising where the relevant financial instrument is not the subject of a particular credit rating assigned by MOODY'S.

To the extent permitted by law, MOODY'S and its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, licensors and suppliers disclaim liability for any direct or compensatory losses or damages caused to any person or entity, including but not limited to by any negligence (but excluding fraud, willful misconduct or any other type of liability that, for the avoidance of doubt, by law cannot be excluded) on the part of, or any contingency within or beyond the control of, MOODY'S or any of its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, licensors or suppliers, arising from or in connection with the information contained herein or the use of or inability to use any such information.

NO WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AS TO THE ACCURACY, TIMELINESS, COMPLETENESS, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF ANY CREDIT RATING, ASSESSMENT, OTHER OPINION OR INFORMATION IS GIVEN OR MADE BY MOODY'S IN ANY FORM OR MANNER WHATSOEVER.

Moody's Investors Service, Inc., a wholly-owned credit rating agency subsidiary of Moody's Corporation ("MCO"), hereby discloses that most issuers of debt securities (including corporate and municipal bonds, debentures, notes and commercial paper) and preferred stock rated by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. have, prior to assignment of any credit rating, agreed to pay to Moody's Investors Service, Inc. for credit ratings opinions and services rendered by it fees ranging from \$1,000 to approximately \$5,000,000. MCO and Moody's Investors Service also maintain policies and procedures to address the independence of Moody's Investors Service credit ratings and credit rating processes. Information regarding certain affiliations that may exist between directors of MCO and rated entities, and between entities who hold credit ratings from Moody's Investors Service and have also publicly reported to the SEC an ownership interest in MCO of more than 5%, is posted annually at www.moodys.com under the heading "Investor Relations — Corporate Governance — Director and Shareholder Affiliation Policy."

Additional terms for Australia only: Any publication into Australia of this document is pursuant to the Australian Financial Services License of MOODY'S affiliate, Moody's Investors Service Pty Limited ABN 61 003 399 657AFSL 336969 and/or Moody's Analytics Australia Pty Ltd ABN 94 105 136 972 AFSL 383569 (as applicable). This document is intended to be provided only to "wholesale clients" within the meaning of section 761G of the Corporations Act 2001. By continuing to access this document from within Australia, you represent to MOODY'S that you are, or are accessing the document as a representative of, a "wholesale client" and that neither you nor the entity you represent will directly or indirectly disseminate this document or its contents to "retail clients" within the meaning of section 761G of the Corporations Act 2001. MOODY'S credit rating is an opinion as to the creditworthiness of a debt obligation of the issuer, not on the equity securities of the issuer or any form of security that is available to retail investors.

Additional terms for Japan only: Moody's Japan K.K. ("MJKK") is a wholly-owned credit rating agency subsidiary of Moody's Group Japan G.K., which is wholly-owned by Moody's Overseas Holdings Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of MCO. Moody's SF Japan K.K. ("MSFJ") is a wholly-owned credit rating agency subsidiary of MJKK. MSFJ is not a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization ("NRSRO"). Therefore, credit ratings assigned by MSFJ are Non-NRSRO Credit Ratings. Non-NRSRO Credit Ratings are assigned by an entity that is not a NRSRO and, consequently, the rated obligation will not qualify for certain types of treatment under U.S. laws. MJKK and MSFJ are credit rating agencies registered with the Japan Financial Services Agency and their registration numbers are FSA Commissioner (Ratings) No. 2 and 3 respectively.

MJKK or MSFJ (as applicable) hereby disclose that most issuers of debt securities (including corporate and municipal bonds, debentures, notes and commercial paper) and preferred stock rated by MJKK or MSFJ (as applicable) have, prior to assignment of any credit rating, agreed to pay to MJKK or MSFJ (as applicable) for credit ratings opinions and services rendered by it fees ranging from JPY125,000 to approximately JPY550,000,000.

MJKK and MSFJ also maintain policies and procedures to address Japanese regulatory requirements.

REPORT NUMBER

1275844

CLIENT SERVICES

 Americas
 1-212-553-1653

 Asia Pacific
 852-3551-3077

 Japan
 81-3-5408-4100

 EMEA
 44-20-7772-5454

