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THE WATER COUNCIL

March 13, 2017

The Honorable Russell Stamper  
Milwaukee Common Council  
City Hall  
200 E. Well Street  
Room 205  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Chairman Stamper:

On behalf of The Water Council, I want to express my appreciation for your assistance and leadership in advancing the resolution to establish a sister city relationship between the City of Milwaukee and Daegu Metropolitan City, South Korea.

As you are aware, Milwaukee is recognized as a World Water Hub for water research, economic development, and education. With this well-established foundation, The Water Council links together global water technology business people, entrepreneurs, education and government leaders, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and some of the nation's brightest and most energetic water professionals in a spirit of collaboration and shared commitment to finding innovative solutions to critical global water issues.

Evidence that Milwaukee is attracting water technology businesses and jobs can be seen by start-up businesses from across the world that are establishing their operations in this city. Further demonstration can be seen with a large company such as Zurn, which has located their global headquarters in Milwaukee and bringing 120 jobs to the Global Water Technology Business Park on Freshwater Way.

Increasingly this leadership is prompting cities, regions and countries from across the world to come to Milwaukee to explore possible relationships that will solve critical water issues as well as develop beneficial economic relationships. One of those cities is Daegu, South Korea.

Over the last several years, we have been engaged in fruitful discussions and exchanges with leaders from Daegu on developing a possible collaboration between our two cities. Establishing the sister city relationship will further such a collaboration. While many sister city agreements are cultural in nature, it is our collective interest to be additive and promote relationships focused on water technology, innovation and economic development.

Our two cities share a strong level of commitment to continuously improve the level of service to our citizens, businesses and universities and believe that international cooperation, innovation, and commercial development of new technologies are critical in solving water environmental problems and creating economic development for both cities. We mutually have a desire to explore cooperation in the sharing of best practice knowledge, assistance to private companies and academic institutions looking to establish and expand a presence in each other's regional and/or national markets.

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In closing, I would like to invite you and your colleagues with the Milwaukee Common Council to visit the Global Water Center in the near future so that you can continue to increase your knowledge of one of Milwaukee's vibrant economic engines.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dean Amhaus', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Dean Amhaus  
President & CEO

cc: Milwaukee Common Council Community and Economic Development Committee