CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP Form DEF 14A April 15, 2015

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of

		the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )				
File	d by the	e Registrant ý				
File	d by a I	Party other than the Registrant o				
Che	Check the appropriate box:					
o	Preliminary Proxy Statement					
o	Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))					
ý	Defin	nitive Proxy Statement				
o	Defin	nitive Additional Materials				
o	Solic	iting Material under §240.14a-12				
		California Water Service Group				
		(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)				
		(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)				
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0	computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.  Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:					
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	(1)	Amount Previously Paid:			
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# **California Water Service Group**

California Water Service Company, Hawaii Water Service Company, New Mexico Water Service Company, Washington Water Service Company, CWS Utility Services, and HWS Utility Services

1720 North First Street San Jose, CA 95112-4598 (408) 367-8200

April 15, 2015

#### **Dear Fellow Stockholder:**

You are cordially invited to attend our Annual Meeting of Stockholders at 9:30 a.m. on May 27, 2015, at the executive offices of California Water Service Group, located at 1720 North First Street in San Jose, California.

Enclosed are a notice of matters to be voted on at the meeting, our Proxy Statement, a proxy card, and our 2014 Annual Report.

Whether or not you plan to attend, your vote is important. Please vote your shares, as soon as possible, in one of three ways: Internet, telephone, or mail. Instructions regarding Internet and telephone voting are included on the proxy card or voting instruction card. If you choose to vote by mail, please follow the instructions on the proxy card or voting instruction card.

In a continuing effort to conserve natural resources and reduce costs, we produced a summary annual report again this year, opting not to duplicate the financial information that continues to be provided in our Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Your perspectives on the annual report are valuable to us. Please send your feedback to annual report@calwater.com.

Thank you for your investment in the California Water Service Group.

Sincerely,

/s/ PETER C. NELSON

**Peter C. Nelson** Chairman of the Board

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# California Water Service Group

# **Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders**

The 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (Annual Meeting) of California Water Service Group (Group) will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., at the executive offices of California Water Service Group, located at 1720 North First Street in San Jose, California. At the meeting, stockholders will consider and vote on the following matters:

- 1. Election of the ten directors named in the proxy statement;
- 2. An advisory vote to approve executive compensation;
- 3. Ratification of the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Group's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015; and
- 4. Such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on March 31, 2015, as the record date for the determination of holders of common stock entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Please submit a proxy as soon as possible so that your shares can be voted at the meeting in accordance with your instructions. You may submit your proxy: (a) by Internet, (b) by telephone, or (c) by U.S. Postal Service mail. You may revoke your proxy at any time prior to the vote at the Annual Meeting. Of course, in lieu of submitting a proxy, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting; provided, however, that if you hold your shares in street name, you must request a legal proxy from your stockbroker in order to do so. For specific instructions, please refer to "Questions and Answers About the Proxy Materials and the Annual Meeting" in this Proxy Statement and the instructions on the proxy card.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Stockholders Meeting to be Held on May 27, 2015 Electronic copies of the Group's Form 10-K, including exhibits, and this Proxy Statement will be available on the Group's website at <a href="http://www.calwatergroup.com">http://www.calwatergroup.com</a>.

### By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ MICHELLE R. MORTENSEN

#### MICHELLE R. MORTENSEN

Corporate Secretary

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# PROXY STATEMENT

This Proxy Statement, dated April 15, 2015, relates to the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of California Water Service Group (Group) for use at our 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is scheduled to be held on May 27, 2015. We expect to begin mailing this Proxy Statement to stockholders on or about April 15, 2015.

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE PROXY MATERIALS AND THE ANNUAL MEETING

#### What am I voting on?

Election of the ten directors named in the proxy statement to serve until the 2016 Annual Meeting;

An advisory vote to approve executive compensation; and

Ratification of the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Group's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015.

#### Who may attend the Annual Meeting?

Any stockholders of the Group may attend.

#### Who is entitled to vote?

Stockholders of record on the record date. The Board has fixed March 31, 2015 as the record date (Record Date) for stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting.

#### How many votes do I get?

Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote.

#### What constitutes a quorum?

A majority of the outstanding shares present at the Annual Meeting or represented by persons holding valid proxies constitutes a quorum. If you submit a valid proxy card, your shares will be considered in determining whether a quorum is present.

Without a quorum, no business may be transacted at the Annual Meeting. However, whether or not a quorum exists, a majority of the voting power of those present at the Annual Meeting may adjourn the Annual Meeting to another date, time, and place.

At the Record Date, there were 2,180 stockholders of record. There were 47,890,495 shares of our common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

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#### How are the directors elected?

Our bylaws provide for a majority voting standard for the election of directors in uncontested elections. Under this majority voting standard, each director must be elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to the director. A majority of the votes cast means that the number of votes cast "FOR" a candidate for director exceeds the number of votes cast "AGAINST" that candidate for director. As a result, abstentions will not be counted in determining which nominees receive a majority of votes cast since abstentions do not represent votes cast for or against a candidate. If you hold your shares through a stockbroker (or other nominee), the stockbroker does not have authority to vote your shares in the election of directors without instructions from you. Shares that your stockbroker does not vote ("broker non-votes") are not considered votes cast for or against a candidate, and they will not be counted in determining which nominees receive a majority of votes cast. In accordance with our director resignation policy, the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee has established procedures that require an incumbent candidate for director who does not receive the required votes for re-election to tender his or her resignation. The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject the offer, or whether other action should be taken. The Board will act on the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee's recommendation within 90 days after certification of the election results. We will promptly publicly disclose the Board's decision regarding the resignation offer, including the rationale for rejecting the resignation offer, if applicable.

#### Who are the Board's nominees?

The nominees are Terry P. Bayer, Edwin A. Guiles, Bonnie G. Hill, Martin A. Kropelnicki, Thomas M. Krummel, M.D., Richard P. Magnuson, Linda R. Meier, Peter C. Nelson, Lester A. Snow, and George A. Vera. All of the nominees are current Board members. See "Proposal No. 1 Election of Directors" for biographical information and qualifications.

#### What are the Board's voting recommendations?

"FOR" each of the nominees to the Board (Proposal No. 1);

"FOR" the proposal regarding an advisory vote to approve executive compensation (Proposal No. 2); and

"FOR" the ratification of the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Group's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015 (Proposal No. 3).

#### How do I vote?

If you are a stockholder of record (that is, you hold your shares in your own name), you may vote on the Internet, by telephone, by mail, or in person at the meeting. Different rules apply if your stockbroker or another nominee holds your shares for you (see below).

#### You may vote on the Internet.

You do this by following the "Vote by Internet" instructions on the proxy card. If you vote on the Internet, you do not have to mail in your proxy card.

#### You may vote by telephone.

You do this by following the "Vote by Phone" instructions on the proxy card. If you vote by telephone, you do not have to mail in your proxy card. You must have a touch-tone phone to vote by telephone.

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#### You may vote by mail.

You do this by signing the proxy card and mailing it in the enclosed, prepaid, and addressed envelope. If you mark your voting instructions on the proxy card, your shares will be voted as you instruct.

If you return a signed card but do not provide voting instructions, your shares will be voted:

For the ten named director nominees:

For the advisory vote to approve executive compensation; and

For the ratification of the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Group's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015.

#### You may vote in person at the meeting.

We will hand out written ballots to anyone who wants to vote at the meeting. If you hold your shares in street name, you must request a legal proxy from your stockbroker in order to vote at the meeting.

#### What if I change my mind after I return my proxy?

You may revoke your proxy and/or change your vote at any time before the polls close at the Annual Meeting. You may do this by:

Signing another proxy with a later date;

Voting on the Internet or by telephone (your latest Internet or telephone proxy is counted);

Voting again at the meeting; or

Notifying the Corporate Secretary, in writing, that you wish to revoke your previous proxy. We must receive your notice prior to the vote at the Annual Meeting.

#### Will my shares be voted if I do not return my proxy?

If you are a stockholder of record, and you do not return your proxy, your shares will not be voted unless you attend the meeting and vote in person.

#### What happens if my shares are held by my stockbroker (or other nominee)?

If your shares are held by a stockbroker (or other nominee), you will receive a voting instruction card so that you can instruct your stockbroker on how to vote your shares. If you do not return your voting instruction card, then your stockbroker, under certain circumstances, may vote your shares.

Specifically, stockbrokers have authority under exchange regulations to vote your uninstructed shares on certain "routine" matters. For "non-routine" matters, no votes will be cast on your behalf if you do not instruct your stockbroker on how to vote. If you wish to change the voting instructions that you gave to your stockbroker, you must ask your stockbroker how to do so.

If you do not give your stockbroker voting instructions, your stockbroker may either:

Proceed to vote your shares on routine matters and refrain from voting on non-routine matters; or

Leave your shares entirely unvoted.

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Shares that your stockbroker does not vote (broker non-votes) will count towards the quorum only. We encourage you to provide your voting instructions to your stockbroker. This ensures that your shares will be voted at the meeting.

#### As to my stockbroker voting, which proposals are considered "routine" or "non-routine"?

The ratification of the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Group's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015 (Proposal No. 3) is routine. A stockbroker may generally vote on routine matters if the stockbroker has not received voting instructions from you with respect to such matters.

The election of directors (Proposal No. 1) and the advisory vote to approve executive compensation (Proposal No. 2) are matters considered "non-routine" under applicable rules. A stockbroker cannot vote without your instructions on non-routine matters.

#### What is the voting requirement to approve each of the proposals?

Proposal		Vote Required		
Proposal 1	Election of ten directors	Majority of Votes Cast		
Proposal 2	Advisory vote to approve executive compensation	Majority of Shares Present in Person or Represented by Proxy and Entitled to Vote		
Proposal 3	Ratify the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Group's independent registered public accounting firm for 2015	Majority of Shares Present in Person or Represented by Proxy and Entitled to Vote		

How are broker non-votes and abstentions treated?

Broker non-votes and abstentions are counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. Only "FOR" and "AGAINST" votes are counted for purposes of determining the votes received in connection with the proposal relating to the election of directors (Proposal No. 1), and therefore broker non-votes and abstentions have no effect on that proposal. Stockbrokers may not vote your shares on Proposal No. 1 without instructions from you. The affirmative vote of the majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is required to approve Proposal No. 2 and Proposal No. 3. Abstentions have the effect of a vote "AGAINST" both of these proposals. Stockbrokers may vote your shares on Proposal No. 3 (but not on Proposal No. 2) without instructions from you. Shares resulting in broker non-votes, if any, are not entitled to vote and will have no effect on the outcome of these proposals.

#### Who will count the vote?

Representatives of Broadridge Financial Services, Proxy Services, will serve as the inspector of elections and count the votes.

#### What does it mean if I get more than one proxy card?

It means that you have multiple accounts at the transfer agent and/or with stockbrokers. Please sign and return all proxy cards to ensure that all your shares are voted.

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#### What percentage of stock do the directors and executive officers own?

Together, directors and officers own approximately 1.1% of our common stock. See "Stock Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners" for more details elsewhere in this Proxy Statement.

#### Who are the largest common stockholders?

As of December 31, 2014, the largest stockholders were:

The Vanguard Group, Inc. beneficially owned 3,284,560 shares of common stock, representing 6.87% of our aggregate outstanding stock as of such date;

BlackRock, Inc. beneficially owned 3,012,767 shares of common stock, representing 6.30% of our aggregate outstanding stock as of such date; and

Lazard Asset Management LLC beneficially owned 2,621,781 shares of common stock, representing 5.48% of our aggregate outstanding stock as of such date.

To the best of our knowledge, no other stockholders held more than 5% of our common shares as of such date.

#### What is the deadline for submitting stockholder proposals for the Group's proxy materials for next year's Annual Meeting?

Any proposals that stockholders intend to submit for inclusion in next year's Group proxy materials must be received by the Corporate Secretary of the Group by December 9, 2015. A proposal, together with any supporting statement, may not exceed 500 words and must comply with other requirements of Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Please submit the proposal to the Corporate Secretary, California Water Service Group, 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598.

# How can a stockholder propose a nominee for the Board or other business for consideration at a stockholders' meeting?

Stockholders who are entitled to vote at a stockholders' meeting may propose a nominee for the Board or other business for consideration at a meeting without seeking to have the matter included in the proxy materials for the meeting pursuant to Rule 14a-8. The bylaws contain the requirements for doing so. The bylaws are posted on the Group's website at http://www.calwatergroup.com. Physical copies of these documents are also available upon request to the Corporate Secretary, California Water Service Group, 1720 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95112-4598. Briefly, a stockholder must give timely prior notice of the matter to the Group. The notice must be received by the Corporate Secretary at the Group's principal place of business by the 150th day before the first anniversary of the prior year's Annual Meeting. For the 2016 Annual Meeting, to be timely, notice must be received by the Corporate Secretary not later than the close of business on December 19, 2015. If we move the date of the meeting by more than thirty days before or more than sixty days after the date of the previous meeting, notice is due not later than the close of business on the later of the 150th day before the Annual Meeting or the 10th day after we publicly announce the holding of the meeting. If the Group's Corporate Secretary receives notice of a matter after the applicable deadline, the notice will be considered untimely. In that case, or where notice is timely but the stockholder fails to satisfy the requirements of Rule 14a-4 under the Securities Exchange of 1934, the persons named as proxies may exercise their discretion in voting with respect to the matter when and if it is raised at the meeting.

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The bylaws specify what the notice must contain. Stockholders must comply with applicable law with respect to matters submitted in accordance with the bylaws. The bylaws do not affect any stockholder's right to request inclusion of proposals in the Group's Proxy Statement under Rule 14a-8.

How can a stockholder or other interested parties contact the independent directors, the director who chairs the Board's executive sessions or the full Board?

Stockholders or other interested parties may address inquiries to any of the Group's directors, to the lead director (who chairs the Board's executive sessions), or to the full Board, by email to stockholdercommunication@calwater.com or by writing to them in care of the Corporate Secretary, California Water Service Group, 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598. All such communications are sent directly to the intended recipient.

#### Can I make comments and/or ask questions during the Annual Meeting?

Yes. Stockholders wishing to address the meeting are welcome to do so by adhering to the following guidelines:

- 1. Stockholders may address the meeting when recognized by the Chairman or President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO);
- 2. Each stockholder, when recognized, should stand and identify himself or herself; and
- 3. Stockholder remarks must be limited to matters before the meeting and may not exceed two minutes in duration per speaker.

No cameras, video, or recording equipment will be permitted at the meeting. Many cellular phones have built-in digital cameras, and while these phones may be brought into the meeting, the camera function may not be used at any time.

# Where and when will I be able to find the results of the voting?

Preliminary results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. We will publish the final results in a current report on Form 8-K to be filed with the SEC within four business days of the Annual Meeting.

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#### **BOARD STRUCTURE**

This section briefly describes the structure of the Board and the functions of the principal committees of the Board. The Board has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines that, along with the charters of the Board committees, provide a framework for the governance of the Group. The Corporate Governance Guidelines and the current charters for the Audit, Organization and Compensation, Finance and Risk Management, and Nominating/Corporate Governance committees are posted on the Group's website at http://www.calwatergroup.com. Physical copies of these documents are also available upon request to the Corporate Secretary, California Water Service Group, 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598.

The Group's policy is that all directors must be able to devote the required time to carry out director responsibilities and should attend all meetings of the Board and of committees on which they sit.

#### **Leadership Structure**

Peter C. Nelson has served as Chairman of the Board since 2012. In connection with his retirement as CEO in 2013, the roles of Chairman of the Board and CEO were separated. Mr. Nelson continued in his role as Chairman of the Board, and Martin A. Kropelnicki was appointed President & CEO. The Board determined at that time, and continues to believe, that separating the roles of Chairman of the Board and CEO was the most appropriate leadership structure for the Group, based on numerous factors, including the Board's historical practice (which has predominantly been to separate the roles), its assessment of the Group's leadership, and the Group's current and anticipated needs. The Board attributes a portion of the historical success of its leadership model to the Chairman of the Board's significant experience as part of the Group's senior management. The Board believes that Mr. Nelson's 17-plus years of service as the former President & CEO of the Group and his significant experience in the water and public utility industries make him best positioned to lead the Board as it oversees and monitors implementation of the Group's business strategy, considers risks related to strategy and business decisions, and performs its oversight function with respect to the Group's operations.

The Board also has established the position of lead director because the Board supports having an independent director in a board leadership position at all times. The lead director is an independent director who is elected by the independent directors to serve for a period of at least one year. Mr. Richard P. Magnuson currently serves as lead director. As set forth in the Corporate Governance Guidelines, the lead director's responsibilities and authority include:

Presiding over executive ses sessions;	sions of the non-management and independent directors and having the authority to call executive
Presiding at meetings of the	Board in the absence of the Chairman of the Board;
Approving Board meeting ag	gendas and schedules;
Approving information sent	to the Board;
Serving as liaison between the	ne Chairman of the Board and the independent directors; and
Being available for consultat	ion and communication with major stockholders upon request.

#### Risk Oversight

Under the Corporate Governance Guidelines, the full Board oversees the Group's processes for assessing and managing risk. The Board does not view risk in isolation, but considers risk as part of its regular consideration of business decisions and business strategy. The Board exercises its risk oversight function through the Board as a whole and through its committees. Each of

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the Board committees considers the risks within its areas of responsibility and identified in its charter. The Finance and Risk Management Committee reviews the Group's major risk exposures and the steps management has taken and proposes to take to monitor and control such exposures. The Audit Committee reviews with management risks related to financial reporting and internal controls. At least annually, the Finance and Risk Management Committee discusses the Group's risk assessment and risk management with the Audit Committee. The Organization and Compensation Committee reviews enterprise risks to see that our compensation plans and programs do not encourage management to take unreasonable risks relating to our business. The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee oversees risks related to matters of corporate governance, including director independence and Board performance.

The Group has a Management Committee (MC) that reports directly to the Finance and Risk Management Committee and meets at least semi-monthly. The MC is chaired by the Group's President & CEO and membership is comprised of the vice presidents. Among other functions, the MC identifies and prioritizes key risks and recommends the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, as needed. The MC reports to the Audit Committee no less frequently than annually. Further review or reporting on risks is conducted as needed or as requested by the Board or committee.

#### **Committees**

There are four committees within our Board of Directors: (1) Audit; (2) Organization and Compensation; (3) Finance and Risk Management; and (4) Nominating/Corporate Governance. The membership and the function of each of these committees are described below.

Name	Audit	Organization and Compensation	Finance and Risk Management	Nominating/ Corporate Governance
Terry P. Bayer		ü		
Edwin A. Guiles	ü	ü	Chair	
Bonnie G. Hill		ü		ü
Martin A. Kropelnicki				
Thomas M. Krummel, M.D.		Chair		ü
Richard P. Magnuson	ü		ü	Chair
Linda R. Meier	ü	ü		ü
Peter C. Nelson				
Lester A. Snow		ü	ü	
George A. Vera	Chair		ü	ü
Number of meetings held during 2014	5	4	2	3

AUDIT: Reviews the Group's auditing, accounting, financial reporting, and internal audit functions. Also, the Audit Committee is directly responsible for the appointment, compensation, and oversight of the independent registered public accounting firm, although stockholders are asked to ratify the Audit Committee's selection of this firm. All members are independent as defined in the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange and meet the additional independence requirements for Audit Committee members imposed by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the rules of the SEC thereunder.

The Board has determined that George A. Vera, chair of the Audit Committee, and Edwin A. Guiles, are audit committee financial experts and are independent under the standards

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applicable to Audit Committee members. Designation as an audit committee financial expert means that the Board believes Mr. Vera and Mr. Guiles have:

- (i) An understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements;
- (ii) The ability to assess the general application of such principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals, and reserves;
- (iii)

  Experience preparing, auditing, analyzing, or evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Group's financial statements, or experience actively supervising one or more persons engaged in such activities;
- (iv)

  An understanding of internal controls over financial reporting; and
- (v) An understanding of audit committee functions.

Designation of a person as an audit committee financial expert does not result in the person being deemed an expert for any purpose, including under Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933. The designation does not impose on the person any duties, obligations, or liability greater than those imposed on any other Audit Committee member or any other director and does not affect the duties, obligations, or liability of any other member of the Audit Committee or Board of Directors.

ORGANIZATION AND COMPENSATION: Reviews the Group's executive compensation programs, including their establishment, modification, and administration. All members are independent as defined in the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange, and meet additional independence requirements for Compensation Committee members applicable under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. The Organization and Compensation Committee has taken steps to analyze the current risk profile of the Group's executive compensation programs. In its evaluation, the Organization and Compensation Committee review took into account that the Group operates in a highly regulated environment and thus maintains strong internal controls, which factors tend to mitigate against undue risk.

As a result of this evaluation, the Committee does not believe that the Group's compensation practices and programs create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Group, nor does it believe that the Group's executive compensation practices and programs are designed to promote risk taking.

Compensation Consultant: The Organization and Compensation Committee retained Meridian Compensation Partners, LLC (Meridian) to advise it on marketplace trends in executive compensation, management proposals for the 2014 compensation program, and officer compensation decisions. Meridian generally evaluated equity compensation programs. Meridian also consulted with the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee about its recommendations to the Board on director compensation. Veritas Executive Compensation Consultants (Veritas) has been retained for advice on 2015 officer compensation.

Meridian was directly accountable to the Organization and Compensation Committee, as is Veritas. To maintain the independence of their advice, neither Meridian nor Veritas provided any services for the Group other than those described above. In addition, the Organization and Compensation Committee conducted a conflict of interest assessment, considering the following six factors with respect to Meridian and Veritas: (i) the provision of other services to the Group by each of Meridian and Veritas; (ii) the amount of fees received from the Group by Meridian, as a percentage of the total revenue of Meridian, and the amount of fees received from the Group by Veritas, as a percentage of total revenue of Veritas; (iii) the policies and

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procedures each of Meridian and Veritas that are designed to prevent conflicts of interest; (iv) any business or personal relationship between the consultants at Meridian and Veritas with whom the Group work and any members of the Organization and Compensation Committee; (v) any of our stock owned by the Meridian consultants or the Veritas consultants; and (vi) any business or personal relationship of Meridian, the Meridian consultants, Veritas, or the Veritas consultants with any of the Group's executive officers, and no conflict of interest was identified.

For a description of the processes and procedures used by the Organization and Compensation Committee for the consideration and determination of executive compensation, see "Compensation Discussion & Analysis" elsewhere in this Proxy Statement.

FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT: Assists the Board in reviewing the Group's financial policies, risk management strategies, and capital structure. All members are independent as defined in the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange.