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Aquarion Water Company Premieres Webcams of Mystic Aquarium’s Beluga Whale Exhibit

**Aquarion continues its commitment to environmental stewardship
with latest sponsorship project**

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. – March 14, 2014 – Aquarion Water Company today premiered its latest environmental and educational initiative as webcams sponsored by the company began transmitting live images of the popular beluga whale exhibit at Mystic Aquarium.

Viewers around the world will now be able to visit Aquarion’s website to access live-streaming video and information about the aquarium’s three resident beluga whales. The webcams went live at a special ceremony held at the Barnum School in Bridgeport, and can be accessed online at www.aquarionwater.com.

“In keeping with our role as stewards of the environment, we saw this project as an opportunity to call attention to the needs of aquatic life and ecology,” said Charles V. Firlotte, President and CEO of Aquarion Water Company. “The beluga webcams allow viewers anywhere to watch and learn about the whales firsthand, and is a testament to Mystic Aquarium’s wide range of environmental educational resources.”

The three webcams showcase three resident whales at Mystic Aquarium, named Kela, Juno and Naluark, that live in an outdoor arctic environment made up of a series of interconnected pools. The habitat covers one acre and holds over 750,000 gallons of water. Aquarion Water Company began working with Mystic Aquarium last summer to create a way for people to learn about these marine mammals even if unable to view the exhibit in person.

On hand at today’s ceremony was U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal.

“Aquarion and Mystic Aquarium’s beluga whale webcams will educate youth in Connecticut and across the nation, encouraging our school children to view the world from an exciting environmental perspective,” said Senator Blumenthal. “I’m inspired and excited by this latest example of Connecticut technological innovation and investment in our future.”

Academic materials, highlighting the importance of whales in the arctic and sub-arctic ecosystems, are available to all educators and students on the Aquarion website at www.aquarionwater.com.

“Mystic Aquarium is one of the few that house beluga whales in North America, making this exhibit one of our most popular,” said Dr. Stephen Coan, President and CEO of Sea Research Foundation. “As an institution that emphasizes hands-on learning and live-animal demonstrations, the webcams will further our mission to educate visitors in person and online about these special animals.”

Dr. Tracy Romano, Executive Vice President of Research & Zoological Operations and expert on beluga whales narrated the images as they were projected on the screen at the premiere.

“Beluga whales for the most part are thriving in the Arctic except in a few areas in which they are endangered,” said Tracy Romano. “Pollution, loss of sea ice and other environmental pressures all pose significant threats to these animals in their natural habitat. We hope these webcams will be a driving force to educate more people about the sensitivity of the aquatic environments in which these whales live.”

The beluga webcam initiative is the latest example of Aquarion Water Company’s commitment to preserving the environment. The company also recently launched its fourth annual Aquarion Environmental Champion Awards, which recognize outstanding volunteer efforts to protect Connecticut’s natural resources.

About Aquarion Water Company:

Aquarion Water Company is the public water supply company for more than 625,000 people in 47 cities and towns throughout Connecticut, as well as serving customers in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. It is the largest investor-owned water utility in New England and among the seven largest in the U.S. Based in Bridgeport, Conn., it has been in the public water supply business since 1857. Across its operations, Aquarion strives to act as a responsible steward of the environment and to assist the communities it serves in promoting sustainable practices.

For more information on Aquarion Water Company and its subsidiaries, please visit www.aquarionwater.com or www.facebook.com/aquarionwater.

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