Clean Harbors Reports Financial Results for the Third Quarter of 2007

November 7, 2007 7:31 AM ET

Company Achieves Record Quarterly Revenue and EBITDA; Increases
Revenue Guidance for Full Year 2007

NORWELL, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov. 7, 2007--Clean Harbors, Inc. ("Clean Harbors") (NASDAQ: CLHB), the leading provider of environmental and hazardous waste management services throughout North America, today announced financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2007.

For the third quarter of 2007, Clean Harbors reported a 15 percent increase in revenue to a record \$245.5 million from \$213.9 million reported in the third quarter of 2006. Income from operations rose 19 percent to \$25.9 million from \$21.8 million in the third quarter of 2006. Net income attributable to common stockholders was \$12.9 million, or \$0.63 per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2007. This compares with \$21.0 million, or \$1.02 per diluted share, in the same period of 2006. The Company's provision for income taxes was \$10.0 million for the third quarter of 2007 and includes \$1.5 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share, related to the Company's adoption of Financial Accounting Interpretation No. 48 ("FIN 48") "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" in 2007. In the corresponding quarter of 2006, the Company recorded a \$7.4 million tax benefit associated with the reversal of the valuation allowance on certain net deferred tax assets. The effective tax rate in the third quarter of 2007 was 44 percent compared with 26 percent in the same period of 2006, excluding the \$7.4 million tax benefit.

EBITDA (see description below) increased 8 percent to \$38.4 million in the third quarter of 2007, from \$35.4 million for the third quarter of 2006. EBITDA for the third quarter of 2006 benefited from an \$8.4 million net change in estimated environmental liabilities.

Comments on the Third Quarter

"Our record financial results for the third quarter highlight the strength and diversity of our business model," said Alan S. McKim, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "Robust growth, particularly within our Technical Services business segment, enabled us to deliver year-over-year double-digit revenue and EBITDA growth, exclusive of the \$8.4 million benefit related to changes in estimated environmental liabilities recorded in the third quarter of 2006. Landfill volumes remained high in the quarter and utilization at our incinerators, particularly in the U.S., continued to be strong with a favorable product mix. Additionally, our third-quarter performance benefited from the August acquisition of certain assets formerly owned by Romic Environmental Technologies Corporation, which we integrated during the quarter. Romic contributed approximately \$3.0 million in revenue in the quarter."

"Driven by an increase in industrial cleaning and maintenance projects, we successfully grew our core Site Services business by approximately \$5 million in the quarter, which nearly offset the absence of any substantial emergency response events," McKim said. "Consistent with our growth strategy for Site Services, we further expanded our presence in key markets across North America. We opened three new branches in the quarter, including one former Romic field office."

"Our third-quarter results underscore the true leverage in our business," McKim continued. "Solid sales execution coupled with diligent cost management enabled our EBITDA margin to reach 15.6 percent in the quarter. Our record performance also was reflected in our cash flow from operations. Our cash and marketable securities balance grew by nearly \$15 million in the quarter to \$103 million. This increase is even more notable in light of the acquisition-related costs we incurred and the semi-annual interest payment on our long-term debt that was made in July."

Non-GAAP Third-Quarter Results

Clean Harbors reports EBITDA results, which are non-GAAP financial measures, as a complement to results provided in

accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) and believes that such information provides additional useful information to investors since the Company's loan covenants are based upon levels of EBITDA achieved. The Company defines EBITDA in accordance with its existing credit agreement, as described in the following reconciliation showing the differences between reported net income and EBITDA for the third quarter and nine months of 2007 and 2006 (in thousands):

	months September	three ended: September 30, 2006	end September	ded: September
Net income	\$12,940	\$21,005	\$27,629	\$35,182
Accretion of environmental				
liabilities	2,715	2,580	7,743	7,633
Depreciation and amortization	9,814	11,063	27,801	26,296
Loss on early extinguishment				
of debt	_	-	-	8,290
Interest expense, net	3,022	3,254	9,901	9,303
Provision for (benefit from)				
income taxes	9,978	(2,585)	22,691	1,579
Other (income) expense	(61)	111	(62)	273
Equity interest in joint				
venture		(11)	-	(11)
EBITDA	\$38,408	\$35,417	\$95,703	\$88,545
	=======		=======	=======

Business Outlook and Financial Guidance

"Our outlook remains decidedly positive as we head into the final quarter of 2007 and beyond," said McKim. "Our pipeline of business is solid. Also, we are undertaking two key strategic initiatives. First, we are increasing our incineration capacity at several of our commercial hazardous waste facilities over the next 12 to 18 months to help us better capture the growth that we are seeing as a result of captive incinerators closing. We expect to increase incineration capacity by 10 percent or 50,000 tons at a capital investment of \$15 to \$20 million. Secondly, we also plan to construct a new solvent recovery plant at our recently acquired facility in El Dorado, Arkansas that will expand our recycling capabilities. This project will be completed in late 2008 with a capital investment of approximately \$5 million. We believe that both of these capital projects should deliver a rapid return on invested capital. Finally, we remain confident in the prospects for our continued growth in Site Services."

"For the remainder of 2007, we expect continued momentum across all areas of our business," McKim said. "As a result, we are raising our revenue guidance for the full year 2007. We now expect revenue growth in the 12 to 13 percent range year-over-year, compared with previous guidance of 8 to 9 percent, and annual EBITDA growth in line with our initial projections of 12 to 13 percent."

Based on its results for the first nine months of 2007 and current market conditions, the Company expects fourth quarter 2007 revenue in the range of \$243 million to \$245 million and EBITDA in the range of \$38 million to \$39 million.

Conference Call Information

Clean Harbors will conduct a conference call for investors to discuss the information contained in this news release today at 9:00 a.m. (ET). On the call, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Alan S. McKim and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer James M. Rutledge will discuss Clean Harbors' financial results, business outlook and growth strategy.

Investors who wish to listen to the third-quarter webcast should visit the Investor Relations section of the Company's website at www.cleanharbors.com. The live conference call also can be accessed by dialing (877) 723-9521 or (719) 325-4779 prior to the start of the call. If you are unable to listen to the live call, the webcast will be archived on the

Company's website.

About Clean Harbors, Inc.

Clean Harbors, Inc. is North America's leading provider of environmental and hazardous waste management services. With an unmatched infrastructure of 49 waste management facilities, including nine landfills, six incineration locations and six wastewater treatment centers, the Company provides essential services to over 45,000 customers, including more than 325 Fortune 500 companies, thousands of smaller private entities and numerous federal, state and local governmental agencies. Headquartered in Norwell, Massachusetts, Clean Harbors has more than 100 locations strategically positioned throughout North America in 37 U.S. states, six Canadian provinces, Mexico and Puerto Rico. For more information, visit www.cleanharbors.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

Any statements contained herein that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and involve risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are generally identifiable by use of the words "believes," "expects," "intends," "anticipates," "plans to," "estimates," "projects," or similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in these forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's opinions only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to revise or publicly release the results of any revision to these forward-looking statements other than through its various filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Furthermore, all financial information in this press release is based on preliminary data and is subject to the final closing of the Company's books and records.

A variety of factors beyond the control of the Company may affect the Company's performance, including, but not limited to:

- -- The Company's ability to manage the significant environmental liabilities that it assumed in connection with the CSD and Teris acquisitions;
- -- The availability and costs of liability insurance and financial assurance required by governmental entities relating to our facilities;
- -- The effects of general economic conditions in the United States, Canada and other territories and countries where the Company does business;
- -- The effect of economic forces and competition in specific marketplaces where the Company competes;
- -- The possible impact of new regulations or laws pertaining to all activities of the Company's operations;
- -- The outcome of litigation or threatened litigation or regulatory actions;
- -- The effect of commodity pricing on overall revenues and profitability;
- Possible fluctuations in quarterly or annual results or adverse impacts on the Company's results caused by the adoption of new accounting standards or interpretations or regulatory rules and regulations;
- -- The effect of weather conditions or other aspects of the forces of nature on field or facility operations;

- -- The effects of industry trends in the environmental services and waste handling marketplace; and
- -- The effects of conditions in the financial services industry on the availability of capital and financing.

Any of the above factors and numerous others not listed nor foreseen may adversely impact the Company's financial performance. Additional information on the potential factors that could affect the Company's actual results of operations is included in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which may be viewed on the Investor portal of the Company's Web Page at www.cleanharbors.com.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
Unaudited
(in thousands except per share amounts)

(III chousands Ca	For the three For the nine months ended: months ended:			
	September	September	September	September
		30, 2006	2007	
Revenues Cost of revenues Selling, general and	\$245,507	\$213,903 151,606	\$689,239	\$597,960
administrative expenses Accretion of environmental	38,092	26,880	107,643	90,487
liabilities Depreciation and amortization		2,580 11,063		
Income from operations Other income (expense)	25,879		60,159	54,616
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	_	_	_	(8,290)
Interest income Interest expense	1,166 (4,188)	953 (4,207)	2,713 (12,614)	2,727 (12,030)
Income before provision for (benefit from) income taxes and equity interest in joint				
venture Provision for (benefit from)	22,918	18,409	50,320	36,750
income taxes (a) Equity interest in joint	9,978	(2,585)	22,691	1,579
venture		(11)	_	(11)
Net income Dividends on Series B	12,940	21,005	27,629	35,182
Preferred Stock	69 	69 	206	207
Net income attributable to common stockholders		\$20,936 ======		
Earnings per share: Basic income attributable to common stockholders	\$0.65	\$1.07	\$1.39	\$1.79
Diluted income	•			
attributable to common stockholders	•	\$1.02 ======	•	•
Weighted average common shares outstanding	19,840	19,587	19,788	19,488

Weighted average common shares outstanding plus potentially dilutive common shares

20,686 20,607 20,715 20,641

(a) Provision for income taxes includes \$1,518 and \$4,173 for the quarter and year-to-date ending 2007 and \$318 and \$865 for the quarter and year-to-date ending 2006, respectively, for expenses associated with uncertain tax positions.

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS ASSETS (in thousands)

	September 30, 2007	31,
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 91,856	\$ 73,550
Marketable securities	•	10,240
Accounts receivable, net		169,581
Unbilled accounts receivable	25,229	16,078
Deferred costs		7,140
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	7,034	9,451
Supplies inventories		20,101
Deferred tax assets	9,343	9,238
Properties held for sale	908	7,440
Total current assets	•	322,819
Property, plant and equipment, net	257,685	244,126
Other assets:		
Deferred financing costs		7,206
Goodwill	· ·	19,032
Permits and other intangibles, net	•	65,743
Investment in joint venture	-	2,200
Deferred tax assets		6,388
Other	4,652	3,286
	117,165	103,863
Total assets	\$732,728	\$670,808
	========	======

CLEAN HARBORS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (in thousands)

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
Current liabilities:		
Uncashed checks	\$ 4,724	\$ 11,083
Current portion of capital lease		
obligations	1,014	1,391
Accounts payable	83,434	81,432
Deferred revenue	30,092	29,409
Other accrued expenses	55,333	56,999
Current portion of closure, post-		
closure and remedial liabilities	15,803	13,707

Income taxes payable	12,046	4,333
Total current liabilities	202,446	198,354
Other liabilities:		
Closure and post-closure liabilities, less current portion Remedial liabilities, less current	24,085	23,520
portion	140,189	136,173
Long-term obligations, less current maturities	120,678	120,522
Capital lease obligations, less		
current portion	2,045	2,648
Other long-term liabilities	65,102	16,405
Total other liabilities		299,268
Total stockholders' equity, net	178,183	173,186
Total liabilities and		
stockholders' equity	\$732,728	\$670,808
	=========	=========

CONTACT: Clean Harbors, Inc.

James M. Rutledge, 781-792-5100

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

InvestorRelations@cleanharbors.com

or

Bill Geary, 781-792-5130

Executive Vice President and General Counsel

or

Sharon Merrill Associates, Inc.

Jim Buckley, 617-542-5300 Executive Vice President clhb@investorrelations.com

SOURCE: Clean Harbors, Inc.