



Bennett Environmental Inc. Announces New Lawsuit Commenced Against it by former CEO John Bennett

Oakville ON, January 9, 2012, For Immediate Release – Bennett Environmental Inc. (TSX:BEV) (the "Company" or "BEI") today announced that its former CEO, John Bennett, has commenced another lawsuit against it alleging, among other things, conspiracy and oppression. The claims relate to the U.S. Department of Justice August, 2009 indictment of Mr. Bennett in connection with alleged bid-rigging and other illegal conduct occurring during the time period while he was CEO of BEI. Damages in an amount in excess of \$50 million are claimed against the Company by Mr. Bennett. A number of former directors and former officers of the Company are also named as defendants. The Company believes that the new lawsuit, as with past lawsuits involving Mr. Bennett as plaintiff, is without merit, and intends to defend it vigorously.

Forward Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this press release and in certain documents incorporated by reference into this press release constitute forward-looking statements. The use of any of the words "anticipate", "continue", "estimate", "expect", "may", "will", "project", "should", "believe", "confident", "plan" and "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements. BEI believes that the expectations reflected in those forward-looking statements are reasonable but no assurance can be given that these expectations will prove to be correct and such forward-looking statements included in, or incorporated by reference into, this press release should not be unduly relied upon. These statements speak only as of the date of this press release. BEI undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

About Bennett Environmental Inc.

Bennett Environmental Inc. is a North American leader in high temperature treatment services for the treatment of contaminated soil and has provided thermal solutions to contamination problems throughout Canada and the U.S. Bennett Environmental's technology provides for the safe, economical and permanent solution to contaminated soil. Independent testing has consistently proven that the technology operates well within the most stringent criteria in North America. For information, please visit the Bennett Environmental website at: www.bennettenv.com.

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