XCEL ENERGY NYSE-XEL

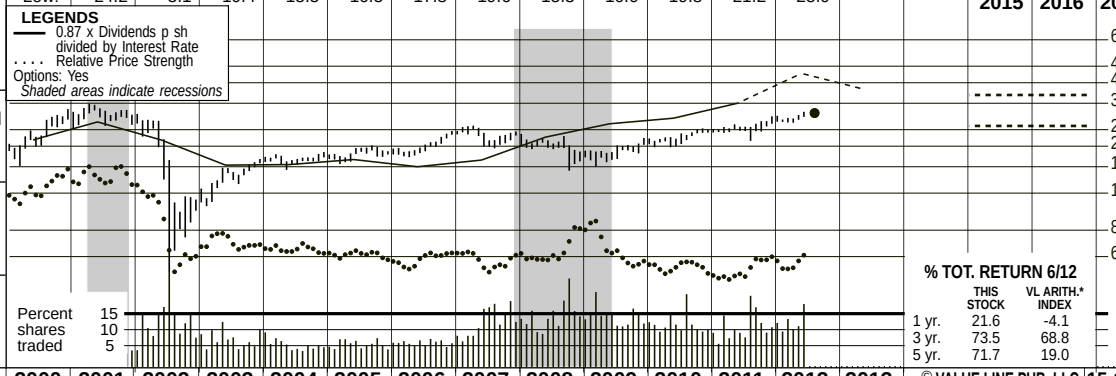
RECENT PRICE **28.72** | P/E RATIO **16.4** (Trailing: 17.0 / Median: 14.0) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO **1.15** | DIV'D YLD **3.8%** | VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 2/17/12
SAFETY 2 Raised 5/14/04
TECHNICAL 4 Raised 7/27/12
BETA .65 (1.00 = Market)

High:	31.8	28.5	17.4	18.8	20.2	23.6	25.0	22.9	21.9	24.4	27.8	29.3
Low:	24.2	5.1	10.4	15.5	16.5	17.8	19.6	15.3	16.0	19.8	21.2	25.9

Target Price Range
2015 | 2016 | 2017

LEGENDS
— 0.87 x Dividends p sh divided by Interest Rate
.... Relative Price Strength
Options: Yes
Shaded areas indicate recessions



2015-17 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	35	(+20%)	9%
Low	25	(-15%)	1%

Insider Decisions

	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
to Buy	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Options	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
to Sell	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0

Institutional Decisions

	3Q2011	4Q2011	1Q2012
to Buy	206	218	208
to Sell	164	171	208
Hld's(000)	296827	298171	300995

% TOT. RETURN 6/12

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	21.6	-4.1
3 yr.	73.5	68.8
5 yr.	71.7	19.0

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	15-17
19.22	18.32	18.46	18.42	34.11	43.56	23.89	19.90	20.84	23.86	24.16	23.40	24.69	21.08	21.38	21.90	*21.35*	*22.20*	Revenues per sh	*25.25*
4.33	3.92	4.30	4.13	4.12	5.09	3.14	3.35	3.27	3.28	3.61	3.45	3.50	3.48	3.51	3.79	*3.95*	*4.10*	"Cash Flow" per sh	*4.75*
1.91	1.61	1.84	1.43	1.60	2.27	.42	1.23	1.27	1.20	1.35	1.35	1.46	1.49	1.56	1.72	*1.75*	*1.85*	Earnings per sh A	*2.25*
1.37	1.40	1.43	1.45	1.48	1.50	1.13	.75	.81	.85	.88	.91	.94	.97	1.00	1.03	*1.07*	*1.11*	Div'd Decl'd per sh B ■	*1.35*
2.99	2.90	2.99	13.87	3.63	7.40	6.04	2.49	3.19	3.25	4.00	4.89	4.66	3.91	4.60	4.53	*5.40*	*6.50*	Cap'l Spending per sh	*4.75*
15.46	15.89	16.25	16.42	16.37	17.95	11.70	12.95	12.99	13.37	14.28	14.70	15.35	15.92	16.76	17.44	*18.15*	*19.25*	Book Value per sh C	*21.75*
138.13	149.24	152.70	155.73	339.79	345.02	398.71	398.96	400.46	403.39	407.30	428.78	453.79	457.51	482.33	486.49	*490.00*	*507.00*	Common Shs Outst'g D	*515.00*
12.5	15.5	15.2	16.6	14.3	12.4	40.8	11.6	13.6	15.4	14.8	16.7	13.7	12.7	14.1	14.2	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	*13.0*
.78	.89	.79	.95	.93	.64	2.23	.66	.72	.82	.80	.89	.82	.85	.90	.90	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	*.85*
5.7%	5.6%	5.1%	6.1%	6.4%	5.3%	6.6%	5.2%	4.7%	4.6%	4.4%	4.0%	4.7%	5.1%	4.5%	4.2%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	*4.7%*
						9524.4	7937.5	8345.3	9625.5	9840.3	10034	11203	9644.3	10311	10655	*10450*	*11250*	Revenues ($mill)	*13000*
						177.6	510.0	526.9	499.0	568.7	575.9	645.7	685.5	727.0	841.4	*860*	*930*	Net Profit ($mill)	*1110*
						32.7%	23.7%	23.2%	25.8%	24.2%	33.8%	34.4%	35.1%	37.5%	35.8%	*35.0%*	*35.0%*	Income Tax Rate	*35.0%*
						46.7%	8.9%	10.9%	8.5%	9.8%	12.5%	15.9%	16.8%	11.7%	9.4%	*12.0%*	*12.0%*	AFUDC % to Net Profit	*8.0%*
						59.6%	55.3%	55.0%	51.7%	52.1%	49.7%	52.2%	51.6%	53.1%	51.1%	*53.5%*	*52.5%*	Long-Term Debt Ratio	*50.0%*
						39.5%	43.8%	44.1%	47.3%	47.0%	49.4%	47.1%	47.7%	46.3%	48.9%	*46.5%*	*47.5%*	Common Equity Ratio	*50.0%*
						11815	11790	11801	11398	12371	12748	14800	15277	17452	17331	*19250*	*20550*	Total Capital ($mill)	*22400*
						18816	13667	14096	14696	15549	16676	17689	18508	20663	22353	*23925*	*26100*	Net Plant ($mill)	*29700*
						5.4%	6.1%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.3%	6.0%	6.2%	5.7%	6.5%	*6.0%*	*6.0%*	Return on Total Cap'l	*6.5%*
						3.7%	9.7%	9.9%	9.1%	9.6%	9.0%	9.1%	9.3%	8.9%	9.9%	*9.5%*	*9.5%*	Return on Shr. Equity	*10.0%*
						3.7%	9.8%	10.0%	9.2%	9.7%	9.1%	9.2%	9.4%	8.9%	9.9%	*9.5%*	*9.5%*	Return on Com Equity E	*10.0%*
						NMF	3.9%	3.9%	2.9%	3.6%	3.1%	3.8%	3.7%	3.6%	4.3%	*4.0%*	*4.0%*	Retained to Com Eq	*3.5%*
						NMF	60%	62%	69%	63%	66%	59%	61%	59%	56%	*61%*	*60%*	All Div'ds to Net Prof	*62%*

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 3/31/12
Total Debt $10247 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $2082.4 mill.
LT Debt $8598.4 mill. **LT Interest** $584.7 mill.
Incl. $191.4 mill. capitalized leases.
(LT interest earned: 3.0x)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $185.6 mill.
Pension Assets-12/11 $2.67 bill. **Oblig.** $3.23 bill.

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 486,943,183 shs.
as of 4/19/12
MARKET CAP: $14 billion (Large Cap)

ELECTRIC OPERATING STATISTICS

	2009	2010	2011
% Change Retail Sales (KWH)	-3.0	+3.0	+.4
Large C & I Use (MWH)	24225	24431	24286
Large C & I Revs. per KWH (¢)	5.34	5.65	5.90
Capacity at Peak (Mw)	NA	NA	NA
Peak Load, Summer (Mw)	21108	20517	21898
Annual Load Factor (%)	NA	NA	NA
% Change Customers (yr-end)	+.5	- -	+.4
Fixed Charge Cov. (%)	258	277	298

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '09-'11 to '15-'17
Revenues	-4.0%	-1.5%	*3.0%*
"Cash Flow"	-2.0%	1.0%	*5.0%*
Earnings	-1.0%	4.5%	*6.0%*
Dividends	-4.0%	3.5%	*5.0%*
Book Value	- -	4.5%	*4.5%*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY REVENUES ($ mill.) Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2009	2695	2016	2315	2618	9644.3
2010	2807	2308	2629	2567	10311
2011	2817	2438	2832	2568	10655
2012	2578	*2422*	*2850*	*2600*	*10450*
2013	*2900*	*2650*	*3000*	*2700*	*11250*

Cal-endar	EARNINGS PER SHARE A Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2009	.38	.25	.48	.37	1.49
2010	.36	.29	.62	.29	1.56
2011	.42	.33	.69	.28	1.72
2012	.38	*.36*	*.69*	*.32*	*1.75*
2013	*.42*	*.36*	*.71*	*.36*	*1.85*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B ■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2008	.23	.23	.2375	.2375	.94
2009	.2375	.2375	.245	.245	.97
2010	.245	.245	.2525	.2525	1.00
2011	.2525	.2525	.26	.26	1.03
2012	.26	.26	.27		

BUSINESS: Xcel Energy Inc. is the parent of Northern States Power, which supplies electricity to Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, & Michigan & gas to Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, & Michigan; Public Service of Colorado, which supplies electricity & gas to Colorado; & Southwestern Public Service, which supplies electricity to Texas & New Mexico. Customers: 3.4 mill. electric, 1.9 mill. gas. Elec. rev. breakdown: residential, 31%; sm. commercial & industrial, 35%; lg. commercial & industrial, 18%; other, 16%. Generating sources not avail. Fuel costs: 48% of revs. '11 reported depr. rate: 2.9%. Has 11,300 empls. Chairman, Pres. & CEO: Ben Fowke. Inc.: MN. Address: 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401. Tel.: 612-330-5500. Web: www.xcelenergy.com.

One of Xcel Energy's utility subsidiaries is taking steps to deal with disappointing regulatory rulings in two states. The Minnesota commission denied Northern States Power's request for an accounting order that would have allowed it to defer (for future recovery) $24 million of incremental property taxes in 2012. The decision will make it tougher for the company to attain even the low end of its targeted profit range of $1.75-$1.85 a share this year. (Even so, we're keeping our estimate at $1.75 a share for now.) The company was planning to file an electric application in Minnesota in November, but is considering accelerating its rate case. The South Dakota regulators granted NSP a final electric rate hike of about $8 million (less than the interim tariff increase of $12.7 million), based on a 9.25% return on a 53.04% common-equity ratio. Considering the order, and the low ROE that NSP has been earning in the state, the utility filed another rate case shortly thereafter. It requested a $19.4 million tariff hike, based on a return of 10.65% on a common-equity ratio of 52.89%. New rates should take effect in late 2012 or early 2013.

A rate case is pending in Wisconsin, and a few more filings are expected by yearend. Regulatory activity is standard operating procedure for Xcel's utilities so that they can place their capital investments into the rate base and recover rising expenses. In Wisconsin, NSP asked for electric and gas increases of $39.1 million (6.7%) and $5.3 million, respectively, based on a return of 10.4% on a common-equity ratio of 52.5%. New tariffs are likely to take effect in early 2013. The company also plans to file electric rate cases in Texas, New Mexico, and North Dakota. Rate relief should boost earnings in 2013, and a return to normal winter weather conditions would be a plus, as well.

The board of directors boosted the common dividend by one cent a share (3.8%) quarterly. The increase was near the upper end of Xcel's dividend growth target of 2%-4% annually. We think dividend hikes will accelerate by mid-decade.

Xcel stock does not stand out among utility equities. The dividend yield and 3- to 5-year total return potential are below average for the industry.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA *August 3, 2012*

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (loss): '02, ($6.27); '10, 5¢; gains (losses) on disc. ops.: '03, 27¢; '04, (30¢); '05, 3¢; '06, 1¢; '09, (1¢); '10, 1¢. '09 EPS don't add due to rounding. Next egs. report due late Oct. (B) Div'ds histor. paid mid-Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '11: $4.91/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Varies. Rate all'd on com. eq.: MN '09 10.88%; WI '08 10.75%; CO '10 (elec.) 10.5%; CO '07 (gas) 10.25%; TX '86 15.05%; earned on avg. com. eq., '11: 10.1%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength	B++
Stock's Price Stability	100
Price Growth Persistence	50
Earnings Predictability	100

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