

11565 ConEd Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 240 217 218 ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 2.5% 4.5% 3.0% 2.5% 3.0% Revenues 3.5% 'Cash Flow' 5.5% 6.0% Earnings 3.0% Dividends Book Value 4.0% 4.0%

9507

12424

9472

NA

9555

11822

NA

Annual Govt. & Other Use (GWH)

% Change Customers (yr-end) Peak Load, Summer (MW)

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) A enda Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 2022 4060 3415 4165 4031 15670 2944 2023 4403 3872 3444 14663 4275 2024 3220 4092 3669 15256 2025 4425 3400 4250 3925 16000 2026 4625 3550 4450 4125 16750 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar Year 2022 1.47 .64 1.63 .81 4.55 1.82 5.04 2023 .61 1.61 1.00 2.14 .59 2024 1.67 .98 5.38 2.05 .65 1.10 2025 1.85 5.65 2026 2.15 .70 1.95 1.15 5.95 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = Calendar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2021 .775 .775 .775 .775 3.10 2022 .79 .79 .79 .79 3.16 2023 .81 .81 .81 .81 3.24 2024 .83 .83 .83 .83 3.32 2025 .85

Westchester County. ConEd also owns Orange and Rockland utilities (O&R), which operates in southeastern NY and northern NJ. ConEd has 4.0 mill. electric and 1.2 mill. gas customers. Sold its

Consolidated Edison shares have had a very good run of late. This bellwether utility stock is up nearly 25% year to date 17% since our last report three months ago, outperforming the Value Line Utility Index by 19 and 12 percentage points, respectively. The defensive nature of this industry tends to serve the group well when recession concerns are front and center, as they've been lately. In recent months, fears of an economic downturn have increased on the presumption that tariffs and a trade war will act like a tax on consumption. Professional money managers, looking for a flight to safety, have moved cash into the utility sector, particularly in the largest, safest issues.

ConEd should see its earnings rise in 2025 and 2026. Under the terms of the 2023 general rate case (GRC) decision, the utility began billing for annualized revenue increases of \$518 million and \$173 million, respectively, for electricity and natural gas deliveries starting last August. That was the second rate increase under the 2023 GRC. The third and final hike goes into effect this coming August and will result in additional revenue of

rate for CECONY: 3.6%. Employs about 15,100. Chairman, Pres. and CEO: Timothy Cawley. Inc.: NY. Addr.: 4 Irving Place, NY, NY 10003. Tel.: 800-522-5635. Internet.: www.conedison.com.

\$382 million for electricity and \$122 million for gas.

In late January, ConEd filed a new rate case for both electric and natural gas. It's requesting higher rates for one year starting on January 1, 2026. The utility is open to a multi-year settlement, which would provide more cost certainty. Leadership estimates that its proposed investments for the replacement of aging infrastructure and increased electrification would require \$1.6 billion more in electric revenue and \$440 million more in gas revenue. The average electric bill increase under the proposal would be 11.4%, while the average gas bill hike would be 13.3%. Given the trying economic times, this will likely be a tough sell for consumers and probably will become a politicized issue.

This equity is not a timely choice. Moreover, annual total return potential is subpar relative to the peer-group median, as the earnings prospects we're projecting have been largely discounted by this year's runup. ConEd's dividend yield, at 3.1%, compares unfavorably to the 3.6% average for utilities under our coverage

Anthony J. Glennon May 9, 2025

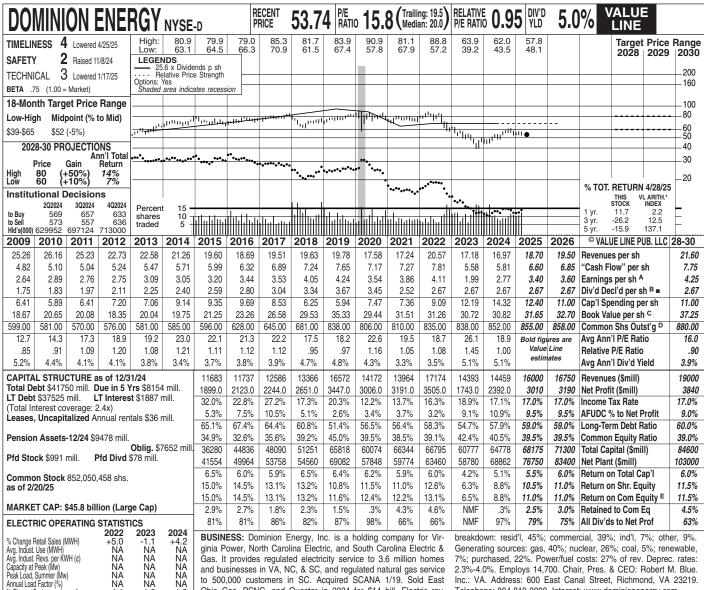
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains/(losses): '13, (32¢); '14, 9¢; '16, 18¢; '17, 84¢; '18, (13¢); '19, (29¢); '20, (89¢); '21, (53¢); '22, 11¢; '23, \$2.17; '24, (14¢). Next egs. report

due early Aug. Qtly. figures may not sum to full year due to rounding or changes in sh. count.

(B) Div'ds paid in mid-Mar., June, Sept., and Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available.

(C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$18.53/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: net orig. cost. Rate allowed on com. eq. for CECONY in '23: 9.25%; O&R in '22: 9.2%. Regulatory Climate: Below Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100



Gas. It provides regulated electricity service to 3.6 million homes and businesses in VA, NC, & SC, and regulated natural gas service to 500,000 customers in SC. Acquired SCANA 1/19. Sold East Ohio Gas, PSNC, and Questar in 2024 for \$14 bill. Electric rev.

7%; purchased, 22%. Power/fuel costs: 27% of rev. Deprec. rates: 2.3%-4.0%. Employs 14,700. Chair, Pres. & CEO: Robert M. Blue. Inc.: VA. Address: 600 East Canal Street. Richmond. VA 23219. Telephone: 804-819-2000. Internet: www.dominionenergy.com.

| Fixed Charge Cov. (%) | | 273 | 201 204 |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|---------------|
| ANNUAL RATES | Past | Past | Est'd '22-'24 |
| of change (per sh) | 10 Yrs. | 5 Yrs. | to '28-'30 |
| Revenues | -2.0% | -1.5% | 3.0% |
| "Cash Flow" | 1.5% | -2.5% | 3.5% |
| Earnings | | -5.5% | 6.0% |
| Dividends | 1.5% | -4.5% | |
| Book Value | 5.0% | .5% | 3.0% |
| | | | |

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA NA

NA

+1.2

| Doon . | 4.40 | 0.0 | , | 0,0 | 3.0 /0 | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------|--|
| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year | |
| 2022 | 4279 | 3596 | 4386 | 4913 | 17174 | |
| 2023 | 3883 | 3166 | 3810 | 3534 | 14393 | |
| 2024 | 3632 | 3486 | 3941 | 3400 | 14459 | |
| 2025 | 3825 | 3725 | 4550 | 3900 | 16000 | |
| 2026 | 4000 | 3900 | 4775 | 4075 | 16750 | |
| Cal- | EA | EARNINGS PER SHARE A | | | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Full Year | |
| 2022 | 1.18 | .77 | 1.11 | 1.06 | 4.11 | |
| 2023 | .59 | .35 | .75 | .29 | 1.99 | |
| 2024 | .55 | .65 | .98 | .5 8 | 2.77 | |
| 2025 | .75 | .77 | 1.18 | .70 | 3.40 | |
| 2026 | .78 | .80 | 1.30 | .72 | 3.60 | |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | |
| 2021 | .63 | .63 | .63 | .63 | 2.52 | |
| 2022 | .6675 | .6675 | .6675 | .6675 | 2.67 | |
| 2023 | .6675 | .6675 | .6675 | .6675 | 2.67 | |
| 2024 | .6675 | .6675 | .6675 | .6675 | 2.67 | |
| 2025 | .6675 | | | | | |

Dominion Energy appears on track to deliver solid profit gains over the intermediate term. Leadership has narrowed its 2025 operating earnings target to \$3.28-\$3.52 per share (formerly \$3.25-\$3.54), leaving the midpoint of \$3.40 a share unchanged. It has also reaffirmed a 5%-7% target range for annual profit growth over the 2025 to 2029 stretch, which we've used to derive our 2026 earnings estimate of \$3.60 per share. We have reasonable confidence in leadership's figures based on an expanding rate base projected to grow 8% per annum on average over the 2025 to 2029 period. (Subscribers may recall that the rate base is the dollar amount of approved cumulative depreciated assets that a regulated return on equity is applied to in order to set utility revenue levels.) About \$50 billion in capital investments are planned over the next five years, supporting grid modernization, transmission and distribution growth, and power generation capacity. Dominion's service area is characterized by decent migration trends, solid economic activity, and exceptional demand growth

electrification and data

buildouts in the Virginia to DC hub. Following major divestitures and a restructuring in 2023 and 2024, the company is primarily a pure-play electric utility. Dominion is now mainly a regulated utility with 3.6 million electric customers in Virginia and the Carolinas and 500,000 gas customers in South Carolina. Numerous nonstrategic assets on the natural gas side of the business have been sold to raise capital in support of investments in the core Virginia and Carolinas electric utility operations. The company has also somewhat de-risked its position in the huge Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project via the sale of a 50% equity position to Stonepeak Infrastructure, which is to share equally in future on-budget development costs. That project is about 50% finished and is on track for completion by yearend 2026.

This equity is untimely. The main draw here is the high dividend yield. It compares favorably to the 3.6% median level of electric utility peers. Still, annual total return potential isn't particularly appealing at the recent valuation.

Anthony J. Glennon May 9, 2025

(A) Dil. egs. Excl. nonrec. gain/(losses): '10, gain/(losses) from disc. ops.: '10, (26¢); '12, Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$2.13; '11, (31¢); '12, (\$2.18); '14, (81¢); '17, (4¢); '13, (16¢); '20, (\$2.39); '21, 79¢; '22, 1¢; \$15.92/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Net orig. \$1.19; '18, (31¢); '19, (\$2.62); '20, (\$1.72); '21, '23, (19¢); '24, 24¢. Nxt egs. rpt due early Aug. cost, adj. Rate all'd on com. eq. in VA in '22: (67¢); '22, (\$3.03); '23, 49¢; '24, (57¢); (B) Div'ds paid mid-Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ 9.35%; in SC in '21: 9.5%. Regult'y. Clim.: Avg.

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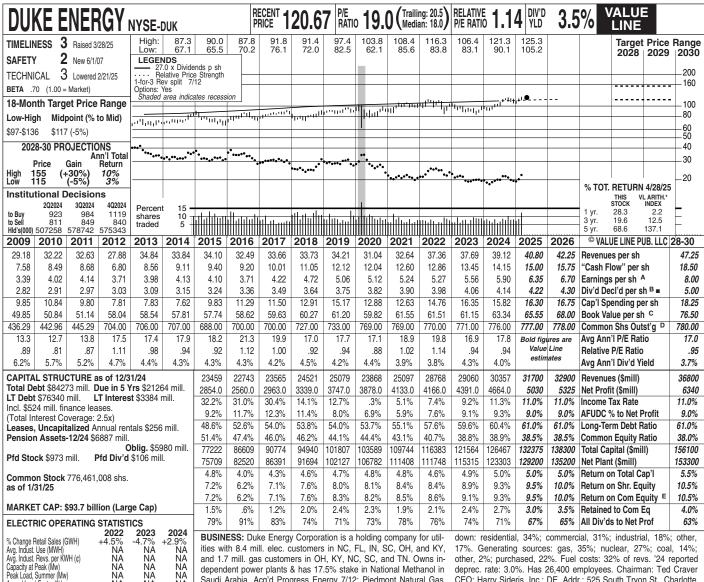
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Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

95

15



and 1.7 mill. gas customers in OH, KY, NC, SC, and TN. Owns independent power plants & has 17.5% stake in National Methanol in Saudi Arabia. Acq'd Progress Energy 7/12; Piedmont Natural Gas 10/16; discontinued most int'l ops. in '16. Electric revenue break-

other, 2%; purchased, 22%. Fuel costs: 32% of revs. '24 reported deprec. rate: 3.0%. Has 26,400 employees. Chairman: Ted Craver CEO: Harry Sideris. Inc.: DE. Addr.: 525 South Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28202-1803. Tel.: 800-488-3853. Int.: www.duke-energy.com.

223 226 229 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 2.5% 4.0% 3.5% 2.5% Revenues 1.5% 3.5% 'Cash Flow' 5.0% 3.5% 5.5% 6.0% Earnings 3.0% 3.5% 3.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (avg.)

NA

NA

+1.8%

NA

NA

+1.7+1.8%

NA

NA

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (| | Full Year |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2022 | 7132 | 6685 | 7968 | 6983 | 28768 |
| 2023 | 7276 | 6578 | 7994 | 7212 | 29060 |
| 2024 | 7671 | 7172 | 8154 | 7360 | 30357 |
| 2025 | 8075 | 7250 | 8475 | 7900 | 31700 |
| 2026 | 8375 | 7525 | 8800 | 8200 | 32900 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARI | Dec.31 | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | | Year |
| 2022 | 1.29 | 1.09 | 1.78 | 1.11 | 5.27 |
| 2023 | 1.20 | .91 | 1.94 | 1.51 | 5.56 |
| 2024 | 1.44 | 1.18 | 1.62 | 1.66 | 5.90 |
| 2025 | 1.55 | 1.25 | 1.85 | 1.70 | 6.35 |
| 2026 | 1.65 | 1.30 | 1.95 | 1.80 | 6.70 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS PA | AID B ■ | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .965 .985 1.005 1.025 1.045 | .965 .985 1.005 1.025 | .985 1.005 1.025 1.045 | .985 1.005 1.025 1.045 | 3.90 3.98 4.06 4.14 |

We're looking for solid intermediateterm results from Duke Energy to continue. We think this year and next may well mark the ninth- and tenthconsecutive years of higher annual core operating earnings gains. The utility is likely to continue to benefit from solid weatheradjusted electric volume growth and constructive regulatory outcomes. Good population growth in Duke's service areas, at two to four times the national average of 0.5%, is a key part of the story. This is largely being driven by healthy migration trends to the Carolinas and Florida, where a generally lower cost of living and the temperate coastal climate are draws. The company is also likely to keep benefiting from rate relief (higher regulated price adjustments) as discussed below. Leadership has introduced its 2025 adjusted earningsper-share target of \$6.17-\$6.42 and extended its long-term bottom-line growth rate of 5%-7% per annum through 2029 off of the \$6.30 midpoint of this year's range.

The company has been successful on the regulatory front of late. Florida officials approved a \$203 million revenue increase this year and \$59 million more in

2026. Up to \$141 million for 12 new solar plants was approved to be paid out as they are completed. The settlement dictates that Duke uses roughly \$50 million in federal tax credits to offset the need for a rate hike in 2027. Meanwhile, the final order in Duke's South Carolina regulatory decision became effective in August of last year and will increase electric delivery rates by 13% over a two-year span from then. The decision includes \$215 million of new investments in highly efficient natural gas, solar, nuclear, and hydroelectric units over a seven-year period. Prices in North Carolina recently increased by 2.9%, and Indiana rates were lifted by 8.0%. An Ohio regulatory decision is pending.

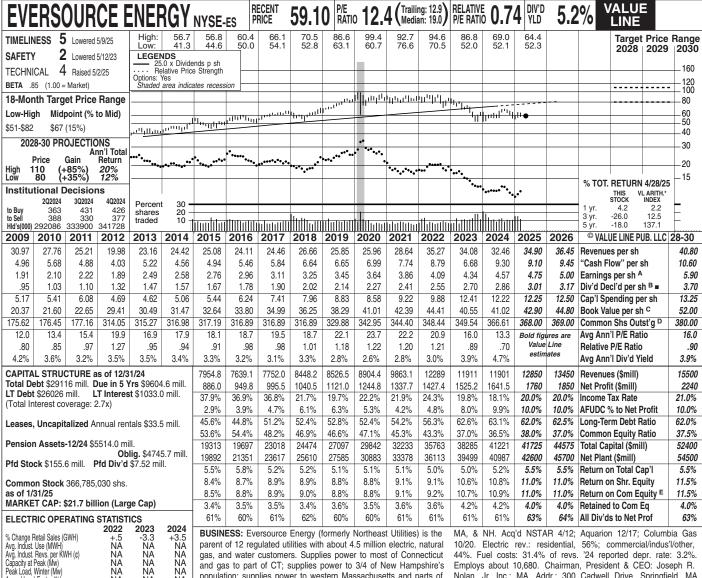
Duke stock has outperformed the peer group so far this year. Utilities tend to do well when the economy appears to be on shaky ground. A flight to quality large-cap, low-risk plays within the group has DUK's share price up 12% year to date and 22% over the past 12 months. As a result, much of the earnings growth we're projecting is already baked in, leading to below-average total return potential.

Anthony J. Glennon May 9, 2025

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. net nonrec. losses: '12, 64¢; '13, 22¢; '14, 59¢; '15, 5¢; '16, 60¢; '18, 96; '20, \$3.40; '21, 30¢; '22, \$2.10; '23, \$2.02; '24, 19¢; net nonrec. gain: '17, 14¢. Qtly. EPS may

not sum to annual due to rounding. Next egs. due early Aug. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Mar., June, 24 in NC: 9.94%; in 24 in FL: 9.3%-11.3%; in Sept., & Dec. Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. 20 in IN: 9.7%. in 24 in SC: 9.94%; Reg. intang. In '24: \$43.24/sh. (D) In mill., (E) Rate Clim.: FL, NC, SC Avg.; OH, IN Above Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100



gas, and water customers. Supplies power to most of Connecticut and gas to part of CT; supplies power to 3/4 of New Hampshire's population; supplies power to western Massachusetts and parts of eastern MA & gas to central & eastern MA; supplies water to CT,

44%. Fuel costs: 31.4% of revs. '24 reported depr. rate: 3.2% Employs about 10,680. Chairman, President & CEO: Joseph R. Nolan, Jr. Inc.: MA. Addr.: 300 Cadwell Drive, Springfield, MA 01104. Telephone: 800-286-5000. Internet: www.eversource.com.

310 263 227 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 6.0% 5.5% 6.0% Revenues 4.0% 3.0% 'Cash Flow' 6.0% 6.5% 4.5% 5.5% Earnings 6.0% 3.0% 5.5% 3.5% Dividends Book Value 3.5%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

NA

NA NA

+.8

| Cal- endar | QUART Mar.31 | | /ENUES (\$ Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|---------|--------------|
| 2022 | 3471 | 2573 | | 3030 | 12289 |
| 2023 | 3796 | 2629 | 2792 | 2694 | 11911 |
| 2024 | 3333 | 2534 | 3063 | 2971 | 11901 |
| 2025 | 3550 | 2775 | 3350 | 3175 | 12850 |
| 2026 | 3750 | 2875 | 3450 | 3375 | 13450 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHARI | А | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.30 | .86 | 1.01 | .92 | 4.09 |
| 2023 | 1.41 | 1.00 | .97 | .95 | 4.34 |
| 2024 | 1.49 | .95 | 1.13 | 1.01 | 4.57 |
| 2025 | 1.50 | 1.00 | 1.20 | 1.05 | 4.75 |
| 2026 | 1.60 | 1.05 | 1.25 | 1.10 | 5.00 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .6025 | .6025 | .6025 | .6025 | 2.41 |
| 2022 | .6375 | .6375 | .6375 | .6375 | 2.55 |
| 2023 | .675 | .675 | .675 | .675 | 2.70 |
| 2024 | .715 | .715 | .715 | .715 | 2.86 |
| 2025 | .7525 | | | | |

We think 2025 will be a decent year for Eversource Energy. The company appears positioned to put the large write downs taken in the prior two years, mainly related to the divestiture of offshore wind assets, behind it. (We've excluded the impairment charges from our earnings presentation.) Now fully focussed on the core New England electric and natural gas operations, Eversource has an in-house earnings target of \$4.67-\$4.82 per share for this year, which should be achievable assuming normal energy demand.

Next year should bring more of the same. From 2025 through 2029, the company expects to invest about \$24 billion in its regulated business, of which the majority would be in transmission and distribution (T&D) work. That's favorable because there is very little lag on the recoupment of T&D investments plus a regulated 9%-10% return on equity.

The company is strengthening its balance sheet. The deal for Eversource to sell its water utility subsidiary to the Aquarion Water Authority is expected to close late this year. The transaction is contingent on approvals from regulatory

authorities in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. The sale is valued at roughly \$2.4 billion. It will help Eversource to fund one year of capital expenditures without having to assume more debt. We like the Mystic acquisition. In late December, the company purchased a 26-acre portion of Constellation Energy's shuttered Mystic power plant in Everett, Massachusetts for \$70 million. It's zoned for multiple clean energy generation sources and is situated for easy access to Eversource's T&D network. Selling the water company and purchasing this property allows the company to focus its resources on its core electric utility while helping to shore-up leadership's 5%-7% profit growth target through late decade.

This equity is untimely. But utility investors with a longer-term focus may be interested in ES stock. The deep discount it trades at relative to peers, mainly due to the missteps made in the offshore wind business, should eventually diminish. The dividend is well covered and at a 5.2% yield, is much higher than the 3.6% industry median level.

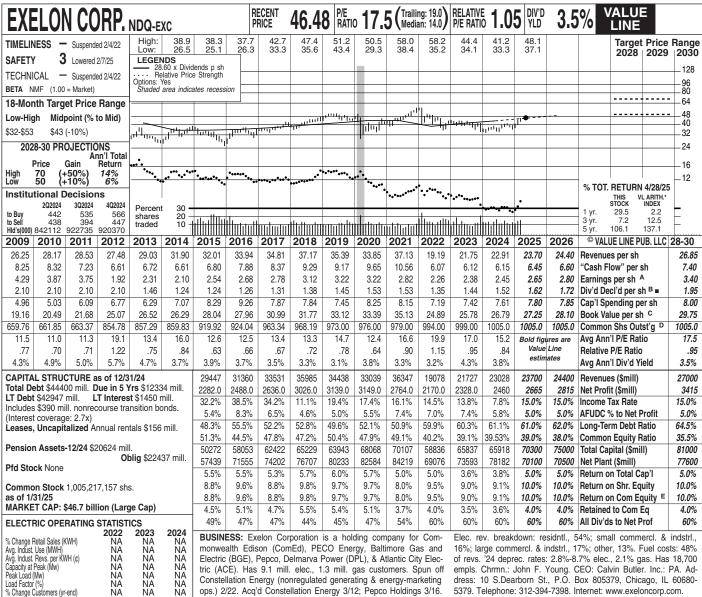
(A) Diluted EPS excl. nonrecur. gain/(losses): '10, 9¢; '19, (64¢); '20, (9¢); '21, (32¢); '22, (4¢); '23, (\$5.60); '24, (\$2.30). Next egs. report due early August. Quarterly figures may not

sum to full year due to rounding. **(B)** Div'ds paid late Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. **(C)** Incl. intangibles. In '24: 9.3%; in NH: '21, 9.3%; Regulatory Climate: \$23.05/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate allowed on CT, Below Avg.; NH, Avg.; MA, Above Avg.

Anthony J. Glennon

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability** 100

May 9, 2025



tric (ACE). Has 9.1 mill. elec., 1.3 mill. gas customers. Spun off Constellation Energy (nonregulated generating & energy-marketing ops.) 2/22. Acq'd Constellation Energy 3/12; Pepco Holdings 3/16.

dress: 10 S.Dearborn St., P.O. Box 805379, Chicago, IL 60680-5379. Telephone: 312-394-7398. Internet: www.exeloncorp.com. higher as infrastructure modernization,

325 NA NA Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 NMF Revenues 2.5% 1.0% 'Cash Flow' 3.0% 5.5% Earnings NMF -3.0% 4.5% 4.0% NMF NMF Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

| Cal- | QUAR | Full | | | |
|-------|--------|-------------|----------|---------|-------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 5327 | 4239 | 4845 | 4667 | 19078 |
| 2023 | 5562 | 4818 | 5980 | 5367 | 21727 |
| 2024 | 6043 | 5361 | 6154 | 5470 | 23028 |
| 2025 | 6200 | <i>5750</i> | 6350 | 5400 | 23700 |
| 2026 | 6400 | 5900 | 6500 | 5600 | 24400 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHAR | ΕA | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .64 | .44 | .75 | .43 | 2.26 |
| 2023 | .70 | .41 | .67 | .60 | 2.38 |
| 2024 | .68 | .47 | .71 | .59 | 2.45 |
| 2025 | .70 | .55 | .80 | .60 | 2.65 |
| 2026 | .75 | .55 | .85 | .65 | 2.80 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .3825 | .3825 | .3825 | .3825 | 1.53 |
| 2022 | .3375 | .3375 | .3375 | .3375 | 1.35 |
| 2023 | .360 | .360 | .360 | .360 | 1.44 |
| 2024 | .380 | .380 | .380 | .380 | 1.52 |
| 2025 | .380 | | | | |

We look for Exelon's earnings to advance steadily in 2025 and 2026. (The company was slated to report first-quarter results shortly after this review went to press.) Exelon closed out 2024 on a strong note, with the top and bottom lines exceeding our and Wall Street's expectations. Management has committed to investing \$38 billion through 2028, with more than \$9 billion planned for 2025, including \$3.5 billion in incremental transmission invest-Our 2025ments. earnings estimate remains at \$2.65 per share, aligned with the low end of the company's updated guidance range and implying roughly 6% growth from 2024 levels.

Our 2026 earnings target remains intact at \$2.80 per share, reflecting continued execution across the utility's expanding investment footprint and transmission strategy. ComEd's pipeline of projects, driven largely by data center demand, has more than doubled year over year, and regulatory clarity has supported ongoing rate case activity. Exelon remains firmly committed to its 5%-7% annualized EPS growth target, and we believe it is well positioned to reach the midpoint or smart grid upgrades, and clean energy support continue to unfold.

These shares have risen significantly of late, though the broader market has struggled. Utilities have been a safe haven amid macroeconomic challenges, and Exelon has outperformed nearly all of its peers since the start of 2025. Indeed, the stock is up more than 20% in value so far this year, supported by a strong dividend, steady operations, and investor rotation into lower-volatility sectors.

This issue is best suited for conservative, income-oriented accounts. While Exelon offers a lofty yield, long-term capital appreciation potential is limited at current levels. We look for the stock to trade between \$50-\$70 out to 2028-2030, which is right near the current quotation. Prospective investors should keep expectations modest despite favorable regulatory trends and infrastructure tailwinds, as much of potential returns are already accounted for. Note that the Timeliness rank remains unranked due to the company's spinoff of Constellation Energy. Żachary J. Hodgkinson May 9, 2025

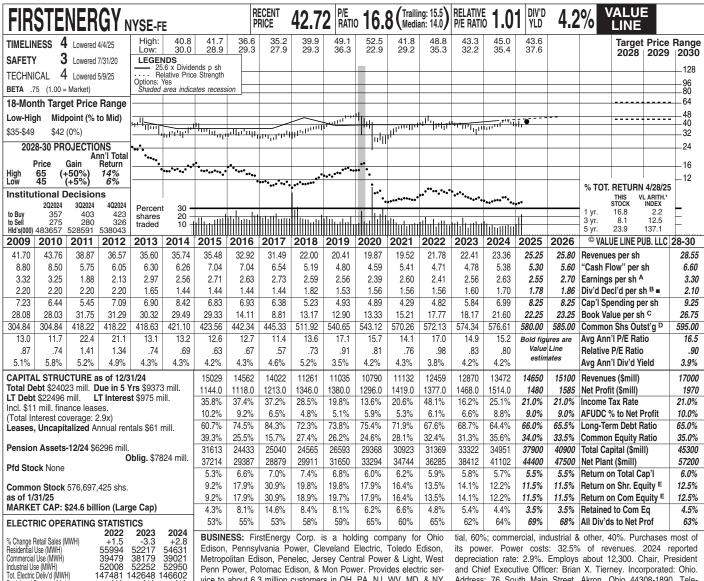
(A) Dil. egs. Excl. nonrec. (losses): '09, (20¢); '12, (50¢); '13, (31¢); '14, (22¢); '16, (\$1.46); '17, \$1.19; '18, (\$1.05); '19, (21¢); '20, (\$1.21);

'21, (\$1.08); Next egs. report due Aug. (B) allowed on common equity in IL in '15: 9.25%;

Div'ds paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. in MD in '16: 9.75% elec., 9.65% gas; Reg-Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred ulatory Climate: PA, NJ: Average; IL, MD: Be-charges. In '24: \$15.35/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate low Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

NMF NMF 80



Metropolitan Edison, Penelec, Jersey Central Power & Light, West Penn Power, Potomac Edison, & Mon Power. Provides electric service to about 6.3 million customers in OH, PA, NJ, WV, MD, & NY. Acq'd Allegheny Energy 2/11. Electric revenue breakdown: residendepreciation rate: 2.9%. Employs about 12,300. Chair, President and Chief Executive Officer: Brian X. Tierney. Incorporated: Ohio. Address: 76 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44308-1890. Telephone: 800-736-3402. Internet: www.firstenergycorp.com

225 261 290 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 -2.0% -2.0% -.5% Revenues -4.5% 4.0% 'Cash Flow' -2.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value 10.5%

k Load Summer (Mw)

% Change Customers (vr-end)

142648

NA

+.5

NA +.4

146602

NA

+.5

| | ,. | | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------|--|--|
| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year | | |
| 2022 | 2989 | 2818 | 3475 | 3177 | 12459 | | |
| 2023 | 3231 | 3006 | 3487 | 3146 | 12870 | | |
| 2024 | 3287 | 3280 | 3729 | 3176 | 13472 | | |
| 2025 | 3765 | 3500 | 4000 | 3385 | 14650 | | |
| 2026 | 3900 | 3600 | 4125 | 3475 | 15100 | | |
| Cal- | EA | EARNINGS PER SHARE A | | | | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | | |
| 2022 | .60 | .53 | .79 | .50 | 2.41 | | |
| 2023 | .60 | .47 | .88 | .62 | 2.56 | | |
| 2024 | .55 | .56 | .85 | .67 | 2.63 | | |
| 2025 | .67 | .53 | .83 | .52 | 2.55 | | |
| 2026 | .64 | .58 | .90 | .58 | 2.70 | | |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS PA | AID B = | Full | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | | |
| 2021 | .39 | .39 | .39 | .39 | 1.56 | | |
| 2022 | .39 | .39 | .39 | .39 | 1.56 | | |
| 2023 | .39 | .39 | .39 | .41 | 1.58 | | |
| 2024 | .41 | .425 | .425 | .425 | 1.69 | | |
| 2025 | .425 | .445 | | | | | |

FirstEnergy changed how it reports adjusted (non-GAAP) earnings per **share.** According to leadership, the company has made substantial strides in improving its core regulated earnings over the past few years, but the growth has not come through clearly because of the impact of non-core components of historical operating profits. To rectify the situation, FirstEnergy will report adjusted earnings for its distribution, integrated, standalone transmission, and corporate segments, excluding the impact on profits from the pension and the company's interest in the non-core Signal Peak coal mine. We're not restating prior-year figures, but under the new format, last year's adjusted earnings would have been reported as \$2.37 per share, a 7.7% gain from the comparable \$2.20 pro forma level in 2023. Leadership's target for adjusted earnings this year is \$2.40-\$2.60 per share, but given the strong first-quarter results our call stands at \$2.55. Next year, we're projecting core operating earnings of \$2.70 per share, as the company continues to benefit from constructive rate settlements across much of its Mid-Atlantic service area.

The company's Ohio rate case has dragged on and has been met with a fair amount of political opposition. A year ago, FirstEnergy filed for higher rates in the state for the first time since the 2020 bribery scandal there came to light. While new leadership has done a good job of turning the page on that chapter of the company's history, the public is loath to forget it, and requests for higher prices make for good headlines in the local press. FirstEnergy requested a \$190 million hike in annual revenue, which was met with a recommendation for an \$8.5 million increase from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio staff. The Ohio Consumer's Counsel, the state's consumer watchdog agency, has been actively involved in the case, suggesting significant price cuts. The company has since amended its request to \$183 million. A final decision is expected by year's end. Ohio represents about 17% of FirstEnergy's rate base.

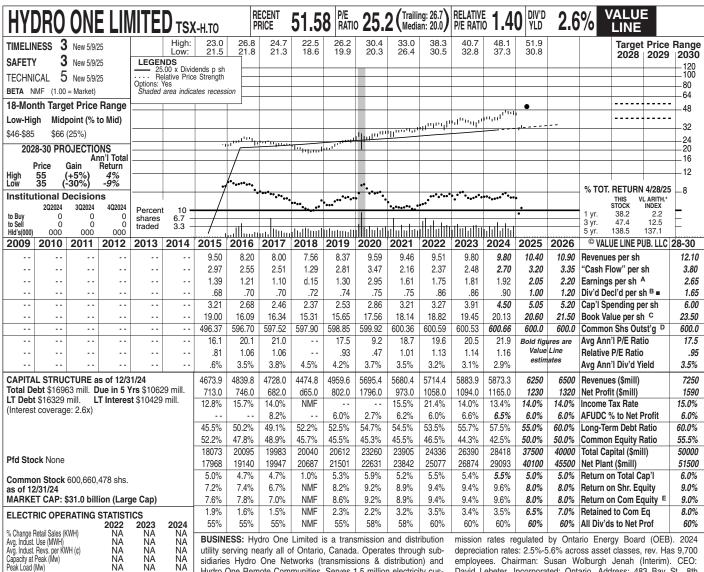
This issue is untimely. The 4.2% dividend yield compares favorably to the 3.6% industry median. But 3- to 5-year total return potential does not stand out.

Anthony J. Glennon May 9, 2025

(A) Diluted egs. excl. nonrc. losses: '13, \$2.07; '14, \$2.05; '15, \$1.34; '16, \$17.12; '17, \$6.61; '18, \$1.26; '19, 89¢; '20, 54¢; '21, 33¢; '22, \$1.70; '23, 60¢; '24, 93¢; gain/(loss) from disc.

ops.: '18, 66¢; '20, 14¢; '21, 8¢; '23, (4¢). Qtly. \$10.81/sh. **(D)** In mill. **(E)** High ROE from large EPS don't sum due to rnd'g. Next egs. rpt. due late July. **(B)** Div. pd. Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. all'd on com. eq.: 9.5-11.3%; Reg.: OH Above Div'd reinv. avail. (C) Incl. intang. in '24: Avg.; PA/NJ Avg.; MD/WV Below Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 80 Price Growth Persistence 30 **Earnings Predictability** 100



sidiaries Hydro One Networks (transmissions & distribution) and Hydro One Remote Communities. Serves 1.5 million electricity customers/ Spun off from Ontario government via IPO in 2015. Acquired Orillia Power in 2020; Avista deal terminated 2019. Trans-

employees. Chairman: Susan Wolburgh Jenah (Interim). CEO: David Lebeter. Incorporated: Ontario. Address: 483 Bay St., 8th Floor, Toronto, ON M5G 2P5. Telephone: 416-345-5000. Internet: www.hydroone.com.

NA Fixed Charge Cov. (%) NA NA ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '22-'24 Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 of change (per sh) 5.0% 10.0% 19.5% NMF Revenues 'Cash Flow" NMF Earnings 5.0% 4.5% Dividends Book Value NMF

Peak Load (Mw)

Load Factor (%) % Change Customers (yr-end)

NA NA

NA

NA

ΝA

NA

NA

| Cal- endar | QUAF Mar.31 | TERLY RE Jun.30 | | | Full Year |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|---------|--------------|
| 2022 | 1454.2 | 1421.6 | 1462.5 | 1376.1 | 5714.4 |
| 2023 | 1527.2 | 1392.0 | 1415.8 | 1483.1 | 5883.9 |
| 2024 | 1593.2 | 1475.7 | 1611.3 | 1452.3 | 5873.3 |
| 2025 | 1600 | 1500 | 1650 | 1500 | 6250 |
| 2026 | 1650 | 1550 | 1700 | 1600 | 6500 |
| Cal- | E/ | ARNINGS F | PER SHAR | ΕA | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .52 | .43 | .51 | .30 | 1.76 |
| 2023 | .47 | .44 | .60 | .30 | 1.81 |
| 2024 | .49 | .49 | .62 | .33 | 1.93 |
| 2025 | .50 | .50 | .65 | .40 | 2.05 |
| 2026 | .60 | .50 | .65 | .45 | 2.20 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | /IDENDS F | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .1753 | .1888 | .1922 | .1983 | .75 |
| 2022 | .2064 | .2130 | .2228 | .2080 | .86 |
| 2023 | .2044 | .2211 | .2187 | .2179 | .86 |
| 2024 | .2196 | .2295 | .2311 | .2222 | .90 |
| 2025 | .2182 | | | | |

(A) Next egs. report due Aug. (B) Div'ds paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec.

We are initiating our coverage of Hydro One, a leading electric transmission and distribution utility based in Ontario, Canada. The company operates over 30,000 circuit kilometers of transmission lines and serves approximately 1.5 million customers across the province. The company delivered a solid finish to 2024. Fourth-quarter net income rose 10.5%, driven by higher revenues from OEBapproved rates and a notable reduction in OM&A expenses. Capital deployment remained aggressive, with over \$3 billion invested and \$2.5 billion in new assets placed into service. The company also marked a milestone with the early and under-budget completion of Chatham by Lakeshore Transmission project, its first 50/50 equity partnership with First Nations.

We look for a solid 2025, supported by regulatory clarity, ongoing capital investments, and rate base expansion. Hydro One was set to release its firstquarter financials shortly after this issue went to press. We look for solid earnings growth, and our estimate stands at \$2.05 per share, reflecting an acceleration in

productivity and continued execution on Hydro One's core transmission and distribution infrastructure plan. In the March period, we look for profits of \$0.50 a share, which would be up slightly from the prior vear tally.

Hydro One is well positioned for 2026. We are projecting earnings of \$2.20 per share, backed by the company's expanding investment profile and recent acquisitions, including a 48% stake in the East West Tie transmission line. Hydro One reaffirmed its 6%-8% annual EPS growth target through 2027, supported by strong cost discipline and a capital program that includes the Wawasigan and Porcupine transmission projects, as well as rural broadband buildouts.

These shares are best suited for income oriented accounts. The stock holds a solid yield of 2.6%, and has a proven track record of hikes. Long-term capital appreciation potential appears limited at this juncture. We look for the stock to trade between \$35-\$55 by 2028-2030, and the current quotation is already well within this range.

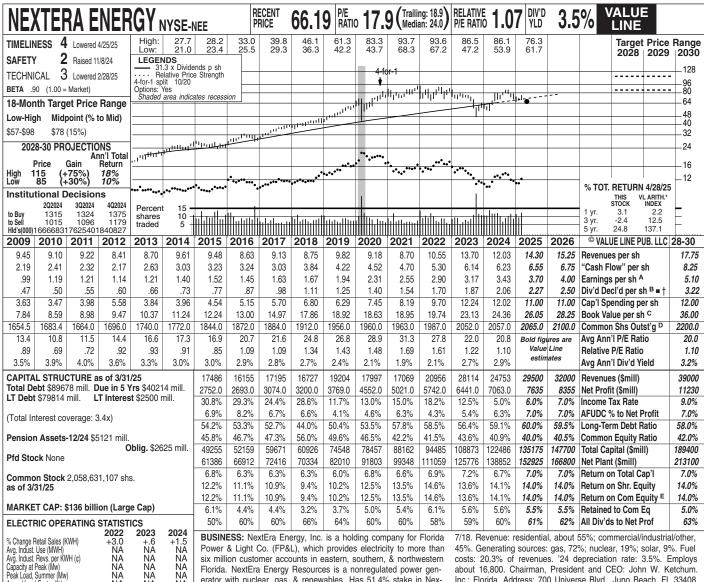
Zachary J. Hodgkinson

May 9, 2025

R++ NMF

25

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**



Power & Light Co. (FP&L), which provides electricity to more than six million customer accounts in eastern, southern, & northwestern Florida. NextEra Energy Resources is a nonregulated power generator with nuclear, gas, & renewables. Has 51.4% stake in NextEra Energy Partners. Acquired Gulf Power 1/19; Florida City Gas

45%. Generating sources: gas, 72%; nuclear, 19%; solar, 9%. Fuel costs: 20.3% of revenues. '24 depreciation rate: 3.5%. Employs about 16,800. Chairman, President and CEO: John W. Ketchum. Inc.: Florida. Address: 700 Universe Blvd., Juno Beach, FL 33408. Telephone.: 561-694-4000. Internet: www.nexteraenergy.com.

370 341 325 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 5.5% 10.0% 12.5% Revenues 3.0% 6.5% 'Cash Flow" 6.0% 8.5% Earnings 9.5%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

NA NA

NA

+1.5

NΑ

NA NA

NA

+1.2

NΑ

NA NA +1.9

| Book value | | 8.0 | % 5. | 5% | 8.0% |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year |
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | 2890 6716 5731 6247 7225 | 5183 7349 6069 7303 7775 | 8675 | 6164 6877 5386 7800 8325 | 20956 28114 24753 29500 32000 |
| Cal- endar | EA Mar.31 | RNINGS P Jun.30 | ER SHARE Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Full Year |
| 2022 | .74 | .81 | .85 | .51 | 2.90 |
| 2023 | .84 | .88 | .94 | .52 | 3.17 |
| 2024 | .91 | .96 | 1.03 | .53 | 3.43 |
| 2025 | .99 | .98 | 1.08 | .65 | 3.70 |
| 2026 | 1.04 | 1.06 | 1.20 | .70 | 4.00 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | IDB∎† | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .385 .425 .4675 .515 .5665 | .385 .425 .4675 .515 | .385 .425 .4675 .515 | .385 .425 .4675 .515 | 1.54 1.70 1.87 2.06 |

NextEra Energy should see its earnings rise this year and next. The utility subsidiary, Florida Power & Light (FPL), is experiencing healthy growth driven by investment in the business. Regulatory capital employed grew 10% last year, and we expect a rate of 8%-9% to persist through 2029. (As a regulated utility, the company receives an economic return of 9.7%-11.7% on its electric-grid investments as part of the rates it charges customers on their monthly bills.) FPL continues to benefit from long-term rising demand for electricity, known as load growth, due to migration trends in Florida and a friendly business environment in the state. The customer base grew by 1.9% last year, and will likely continue to outpace the 0.5% average rate of population growth nationwide. FPL will also benefit further from the need to invest in system resiliency in storm-challenged Florida and additional solar power generation.

The shares have underperformed the peer group of late. NEE is not a pureplay regulated utility. The NextEra Energy Resources segment is a clean energy business, with a focus on developing, constructing, and operating power generation facilities, mainly for North American wholesale energy markets. The unit is a leading generator of wind and solar, and also operates natural gas and nuclear facilities. Market sentiment for this side of NEE's business swings substantially depending on government support for renewable energy, and shifts in trade policies related to imported solar panels from Asia. The Trump Administration's preference for traditional energy and potential threat to the previous administration's favorable green-energy policies have pressured NEE stock. The tariff announcements have done so as well, although the company has recently stated it's been able to adjust its contracts with suppliers in order to shift the tariff burden away from itself.

This equity is untimely. Still, NEE is one of the faster growing utility holding companies, with annual earnings and dividends likely to advance by 8%-9% and 9%-10%, respectively, over the pull to 2028-2030. Total return prospects look favorable on a 3- to 5-year holding period Anthony J. Glennon May 9, 2025

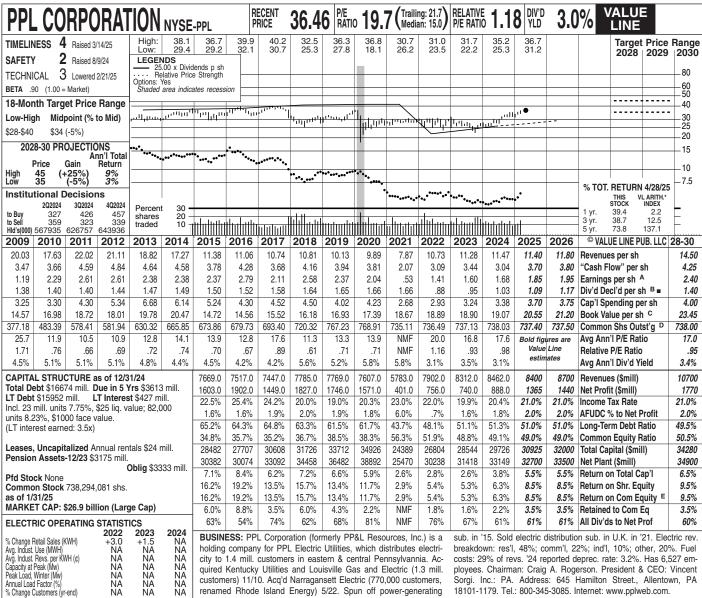
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gains/ (losses): '11, (6¢); '13, (20¢); '16, 12¢; '17, \$1.22¢; '18, \$1.80; '20, (83¢); '21, (74¢); '22, (80¢); '23, 43¢; '24, (6¢); disc. ops.: '13, 11¢.

EPS may not some to full yr. due to rounding.

Next egs. report due late July. (B) Div'ds paid in mid-Mar., mid-June, mid-Sept., & mid-Dec. Div'd reinvestment plan avail. † Shareholder in- (FPL): 9.7%-11.7%; Regult'y Climate: Avg. vestment plan avail. (C) Includes intagibles. In '24: \$4.71/sh. (D) In mill., adj. for stock split. Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

A+ 75

75



quired Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric (1.3 mill. customers) 11/10. Acq'd Narragansett Electric (770,000 customers, renamed Rhode Island Energy) 5/22. Spun off power-generating PPL Corp. looks set to deliver solid results in 2025. The company posted

better-than-expected first-quarter ings of \$0.60 a share on revenues of \$2.5 billion. Management reaffirmed its longployees. Chairman: Craig A. Rogerson. President & CEO: Vincent Sorgi, Inc.: PA, Address: 645 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101-1179. Tel.: 800-345-3085. Internet: www.pplweb.com.

| Fixed Charge Cov. (%) | | 154 | 348 NA |
|--|---|---|--------------------|
| ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh) Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value | Past 10 Yrs. -7.5% -6.0% -9.0% -1.0% | Past 5 Yrs. -3.0% -8.5% -17.0% -4.5% 4.0% | 3.0% 7.5% 5% |

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (vr-end)

| DOOK V | aiue | | 4. | 0 /0 | 3.0 /0 | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------|--|--|
| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year | | |
| 2022 | 1782 | 1696 | 2134 | 2290 | 7902 | | |
| 2023 | 2415 | 1823 | 2043 | 2031 | 8312 | | |
| 2024 | 2304 | 1881 | 2066 | 2211 | 8462 | | |
| 2025 | 2504 | 1800 | 2000 | 2096 | 8400 | | |
| 2026 | 2350 | 1850 | 2200 | 2300 | 8700 | | |
| Cal- | EA | EARNINGS PER SHARE A | | | | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Full Year | | |
| 2022 | .41 | .30 | .41 | .28 | 1.41 | | |
| 2023 | .48 | .29 | .43 | .40 | 1.60 | | |
| 2024 | .54 | .38 | .42 | .34 | 1.68 | | |
| 2025 | .60 | .40 | .50 | .35 | 1.85 | | |
| 2026 | .50 | .45 | .50 | .50 | 1.95 | | |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | | |
| 2021 | .415 | .415 | .415 | .415 | 1.66 | | |
| 2022 | .415 | .20 | .225 | .225 | 1.07 | | |
| 2023 | .225 | .24 | .24 | .24 | .95 | | |
| 2024 | .24 | .258 | .258 | .258 | 1.01 | | |
| 2025 | .258 | .273 | | | | | |

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '10, (8¢); '11, 8¢; '13, (62¢); '20, (13¢); '21, (50¢); gains (losses) on disc. ops.: '09, (10¢); '10, (4¢); '12, (1¢); '14, 23¢; '15, (\$1.36); '21,

(\$1.94). Next egs. rept. due early Aug.
(B) Div'ds paid in early Jan., April, July, & Oct.
■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$3.12/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Fair val.

term annual earnings and dividend growth target of 6%-8% through 2028. Our estimate remains at \$1.85 per share, representing 7% growth. This is on the high end of management's \$1.75-\$1.87 per share range. The utility is increasingly well positioned to benefit from elevated demand for data centers and electricity, and it continues to sign new power supply agreements to support long-term growth. Our 2026 top- and bottom-line estimates anticipate continued mentum. We look for earnings of \$1.95 per share on revenues of \$8.7 billion. This growth is supported by ongoing rate base expansion and execution of the company's multiyear investment strategy. The utility is targeting rate base growth of 9.8% annually from 2024 to 2028, up from 6.3% in the previous plan. PPL is looking for EPS growth in the top half of its 6%-8% range, and we believe that's achievable given the

company's consistency and improving reg-

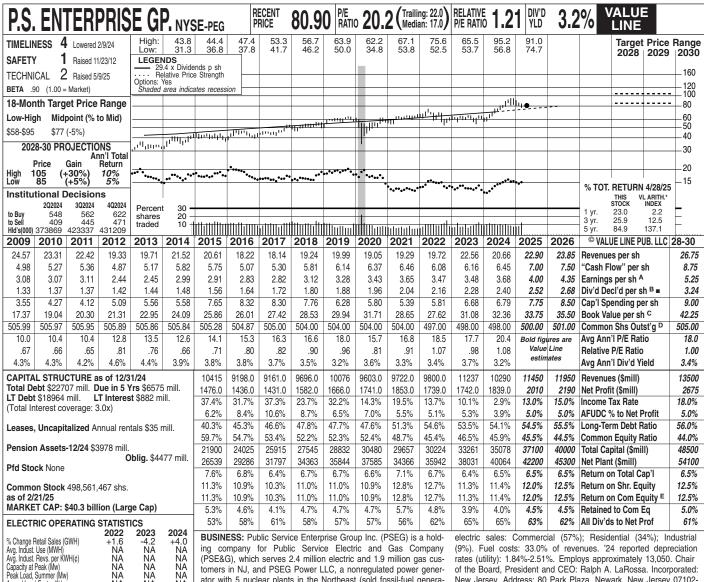
ulatory visibility.

These shares have outpaced broader market averages and many of their peers since the start of 2025. The utilities industry continues to serve as a safe heaven from market weakness as investors look for safety and quality. Indeed, the stock is up more than 10% since early February. PPL also raised the dividend recently. The payout was hiked 5.8% to \$0.2725 quarterly. What's more, the company unveiled a revised infrastructure investment plan totaling \$20 billion through 2028, up from \$14.3 billion in the previous plan. These investments will fund transmission and distribution upgrades across its Kentucky and Pennsylvania utilities. The company is targeting \$4.3 billion in 2025 alone, which should drive 9.8% average annual rate base growth.

These shares are best suited for conservative, income-oriented accounts. The stock offers a solid dividend yield of 3.0%, and earns an Above Average rank for Safety. However, it remains rated Below Average (4) for Timeliness and is not a recommended selection for the year ahead. Zachary J. Hodgkinson May 9, 2025

Rate all'd on com. eq. in PA in '16: none spec.; in KY in '19: 9.725%; earned on avg. com. eq., '21: 2.8%. Reg. Clim.: Avg. Price Growth Persistence

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 15 **Earnings Predictability** 45



(PSE&G), which serves 2.4 million electric and 1.9 million gas customers in NJ, and PSEG Power LLC, a nonregulated power generator with 5 nuclear plants in the Northeast (sold fossil-fuel generation, 2/22). Divested offshore wind assets (5/23). Percentange of

rates (utility): 1.84%-2.51%. Employs approximately 13,050. Chair of the Board, President and CEO: Ralph A. LaRossa. Incorporated: New Jersey. Address: 80 Park Plaza, Newark, New Jersey 07102-4194. Telephone.: 973-430-7000. Internet: www.pseg.com.

297 285 288 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 2.0% 1.5% 3.0% 5.0% 1.0% Revenues .5% 4.0% 'Cash Flow' 1.5% 3.0% 6.0% 7.0% Earnings 4.5% 3.0% 6.0% 5.5% Dividends Book Value

NA +.9

NA +.9

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (avg.)

NA NA

+.9

| Cal- | QUAR | Full | | | |
|-------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 2313 | 2076 | 2272 | 3139 | 9800 |
| 2023 | 3755 | 2421 | 2456 | 2605 | 11237 |
| 2024 | 2760 | 2423 | 2642 | 2465 | 10290 |
| 2025 | 3222 | 2588 | 2930 | 2710 | 11450 |
| 2026 | 3350 | 2700 | 3075 | 2825 | 11950 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHAR | А | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.33 | .64 | .86 | .64 | 3.47 |
| 2023 | 1.39 | .70 | .85 | .54 | 3.48 |
| 2024 | 1.31 | .63 | .90 | .84 | 3.68 |
| 2025 | 1.43 | .73 | 1.04 | .80 | 4.00 |
| 2026 | 1.53 | .82 | 1.15 | .85 | 4.35 |
| Cal- | QUART | TERLY DIV | IDENDS PA | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .51 | .51 | .51 | .51 | 2.04 |
| 2022 | .54 | .54 | .54 | .54 | 2.16 |
| 2023 | .57 | .57 | .57 | .57 | 2.28 |
| 2024 | .60 | .60 | .60 | .60 | 2.40 |
| 2025 | .63 | | | | |

Public Service Enterprise Group's (PSEG) equity performance has cooled off of late. The stock was the top performing utility in 2024, as nuclear and independent power plays were in vogue. PSEG's only significant business held outside of the regulatory pricing umbrella is its nuclear fleet. The company operates three plants in New Jersey and has a 50% stake in two Pennsylvania reactors. Nuclear power is increasingly being viewed as a key noncarbon-emitting contributor to future domestic energy needs. There is the potential for PSEG to sign long-term purchased power agreements with Big Tech firms seeking reliable electric generation for data centers at rates that would be favorable for the utility. Still, the market reaction to those possibilities likely went too far, hence the consolidation that's taken place in PSEG's stock price lately.

The company looks set for solid growth in earnings per share over the next few years. In 2024's fourth quarter, the utility came to a base rates settlement with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Higher delivery rates for electric and

natural gas will lift the company's annual revenue by \$505 million. As a result of the agreement, the typical combined residential electric and gas customer bill will increase 7%, or \$15 per month. The company's regulated return on equity has been set at 9.6%. PSEG's in-house core operating earnings target for 2025 is \$3.94-\$4.06 per share. Leadership's 2025-2029 earnings growth expectation is 5%-7%.

PSEG recently hiked the dividend by 5%. This marks the 14th-consecutive year that PSEG has raised the annual disbursement. The conservatively managed company has reliably paid out a dividend for 118 years with no cuts along the way.

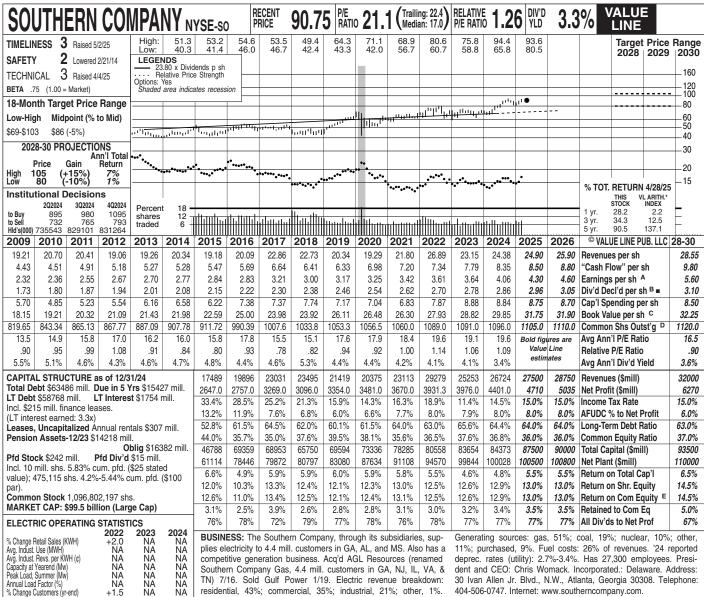
These shares are ranked to underperform the broader market averages in the coming six to 12 months. Moreover, last year's runup, despite a more mundane performance in recent months, has left PSEG's valuation stretched with an abovemarket level price-to-earnings ratio. Further, the dividend yield is about 50 basis points below the utility peer group median level. Investors interested in PSEG are advised to wait for a better entry point. Anthony J. Glennon May 9, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains/(losses): '11, (34¢); '12, 7¢; '15, 39¢; '16, (\$1.08); '17, 28¢ (net); '18, (29¢); '19, 5¢; '20, 33¢; '21, (\$4.94); '22, (\$1.41); '23, \$1.65; '24, (14¢);

disc. ops.: '10, 1¢; '11, 19¢. Next earnings report due in early August. (B) Div'ds historically paid in late Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. | Regulatory Climate: Avg.

(C) Incl. intangibles. In '24: \$12.62/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Net original cost. Rate allowed on common equity in '24: 9.6%;

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**



Southern Company Gas, 4.4 mill. customers in GA, NJ, IL, VA, & TN) 7/16. Sold Gulf Power 1/19. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 43%; commercial, 35%; industrial, 21%; other, 1%

dent and CEO: Chris Womack. Incorporated.: Delaware. Address: 30 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd., N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30308. Telephone: 404-506-0747. Internet: www.southerncompany.com.

275 NA NA Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '21-'23 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 Revenues .5% 6.0% 4.5% 3.0% 3.5% 2.5% 'Cash Flow' 5.0% 6.5% Earnings 3.0% 3.5% 3.5% Dividends Book Value

+1.5

% Change Customers (vr-end)

| Doon . | 4.40 | 0.0 | , o | 0,0 | ,,,, | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------|--|
| Cal- endar | QUAI Mar.31 | | EVENUES Sep.30 | | Full Year | |
| 2022 | 6648 | 7206 | 8378 | 7047 | 29279 | |
| 2023 | 6480 | 5748 | 6980 | 6045 | 25253 | |
| 2024 | 6646 | 6463 | 7274 | 6341 | 26724 | |
| 2025 | 7100 | 6500 | 7400 | 6500 | 27500 | |
| 2026 | 7350 | 6800 | 7700 | 6900 | 28750 | |
| Cal- | EA | EARNINGS PER SHARE A | | | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Full Year | |
| 2022 | .97 | 1.07 | 1.31 | .26 | 3.61 | |
| 2023 | .79 | .79 | 1.42 | .64 | 3.64 | |
| 2024 | 1.03 | 1.10 | 1.43 | .50 | 4.06 | |
| 2025 | 1.20 | 1.10 | 1.45 | .55 | 4.30 | |
| 2026 | 1.15 | 1.20 | 1.55 | .70 | 4.60 | |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | |
| 2021 | .64 | .66 | .66 | .66 | 2.62 | |
| 2022 | .66 | .68 | .68 | .68 | 2.70 | |
| 2023 | .68 | .70 | .70 | .70 | 2.78 | |
| 2024 | .70 | .72 | .72 | .72 | 2.86 | |
| 2025 | .72 | .74 | | | | |

look for Southern Company's earnings to advance nicely in 2025 and 2026. The company was slated to report first-quarter earnings results shortly after this report went to press. Southern closed out 2024 on a strong note and should continue to benefit from rate relief and volume growth. Growing demand from data centers and population surges have driven electricity consumption to record highs. Accordingly, Southern raised its capital spending plan by 30%, to \$63 billion through 2030, to meet the elevated jump in electricity demand. Our 2025 estimate, which remains unchanged, is at the high point of management's updated target of \$4.20-\$4.30 per share, reflecting 6% growth from last year's midpoint target. Long-term profit growth guidance remains at 5%-7%, but management has indicated the potential to reach the high end of that range. We have introduced our 2026 top- and bottom-line estimates of \$28.75 billion and \$4.60 per share, respectively.

Southern Company shares have performed strongly alongside recent broader market pressure. The stock price is up nearly 10% since the start of 2025 and has risen about 5% over the past three months. Utilities have recently served as a safe haven, outperforming the broader market, and Southern is performing better than almost all of its peers. This is a testament to its regional electricity volume growth, financial strength, safety, and consistent dividend payout.

The Board of Directors remains committed to boosting shareholder value. Indeed, the utility recently announced its 24th consecutive annual dividend increase. Southern declared a 3% quarterly dividend increase to \$0.74 per share. The stock now carries a dividend yield of 3.3%.

Investors may want to take a closer look at these shares, especially given challenging the current macroeconomic environment. Southern offers strong defensive qualities, including fixed returns, a top-notch Price Stability score, an above-average (2) Safety rank, and a well-supported dividend payout. On the other hand, the recent quotation is already well within the 3- to 5-year Target Price Range.

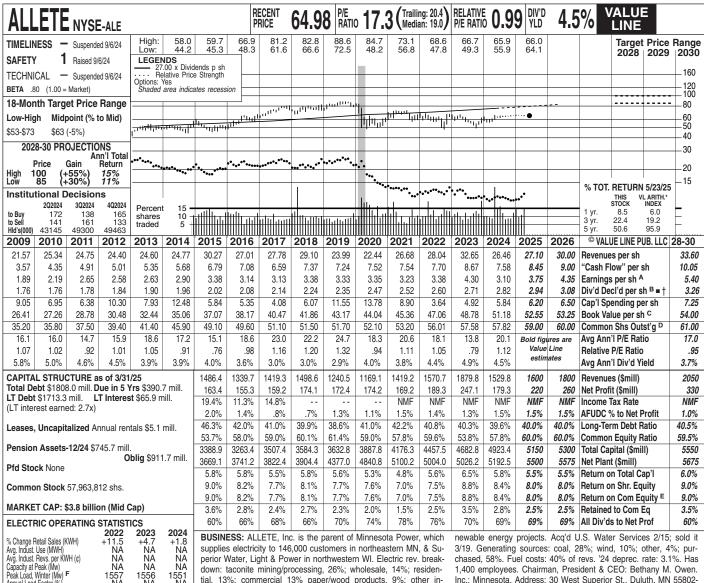
Zachary Hodgkinson May 9, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '09, (25¢); '13, (83¢); '14, (59¢); '15, (25¢); '16, (28¢); '17, (\$2.37); '18, (78¢); '19, \$1.30; '20, (17¢); '21, (54¢). Next earnings report due in

mill. (E) Rate base: AL, MS, fair value; FL, GA, Average; MS, FL Average.

Aug. (B) Div'ds paid in early Mar., June, Sept., and Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. def'd charges. In '23: \$17.35/sh. (D) In '21: 12.8%. Regulatory Climate: GA, AL Above

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 90



perior Water, Light & Power in northwestern WI. Electric rev. breakdown: taconite mining/processing, 26%; wholesale, 14%; residential, 13%; commercial 13% paper/wood products, 9%; other industrial, 8%; other, 17%. ALLETE Clean Energy (ACE) owns re-

chased, 58%. Fuel costs: 40% of revs. '24 deprec. rate: 3.1%. Has 1,400 employees. Chairman, President & CEO: Bethany M. Owen. Inc.: Minnesota. Address: 30 West Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802-2093. Tel.: 218-279-5000. Internet: www.allete.com.

222 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 219 220 ANNUAL RATES Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 Revenues -3.0% 3.0% 'Cash Flow' 4.5% 6.0% 4 5% 2.0% 3.0% Earnings Dividends 3.0% 3.5% Book Value 4.5%

% Change Customers (avg.)

1557 NA

1556 NA

1551 NA

ΝA

| Cal- | | | VENUES (| | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2022 | 383.5 | 373.1 | 388.3 | 425.8 | 1570.7 |
| 2023 | 564.9 | 533.4 | 378.8 | 402.7 | 1879.8 |
| 2024 | 403.3 | 354.5 | 407.2 | 364.8 | 1529.8 |
| 2025 | 400.2 | 380 | 430 | 389.8 | 1600 |
| 2026 | 450 | 440 | 470 | 440 | 1800 |
| Cal- | | | ER SHAR | | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.24 | .67 | .59 | .90 | 3.38 |
| 2023 | 1.02 | .90 | 1.49 | .89 | 4.30 |
| 2024 | .88 | .57 | .78 | .87 | 3.10 |
| 2025 | .97 | .85 | .85 | 1.08 | 3.75 |
| 2026 | 1.30 | .90 | 1.00 | 1.15 | 4.35 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | IDB∎† | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .63 | .63 | .63 | .63 | 2.52 |
| 2022 | .65 | .65 | .65 | .65 | 2.60 |
| 2023 | .6775 | .6775 | .6775 | .6775 | 2.71 |
| 2024 | .7050 | .7050 | .7050 | .7050 | 2.82 |
| 2025 | .7300 | .7300 | | | |

ALLETE is making progress in its plan to go private in a \$6.2 billion **deal.** Since our last review, the utility has secured key regulatory approvals from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. Shareholders also voted overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed deal with the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board and Global Infrastructure Partners. The final hurdle remains approval from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, which is expected shortly. The stock continues to trade just below the \$67-pershare offer price, reflecting confidence in the deal's completion. With most major approvals in place, the transaction appears on track for a close by mid-2025.

The company's first-quarter results were solid despite some temporary headwinds. ALLETE reported earnings of \$0.97 a share, versus our \$1.00 estimate and compared nicely to the \$0.88 tally a year ago. This included \$0.04 per share in after-tax transaction costs related to the pending merger. Regulated operations results were impacted by lower industrial margins at Minnesota Power, offset in part

higher residential and commercial demand. Meanwhile, Superior Light, and Power posted stronger results on the back of rate adjustments and increased usage. The utility's non-regulated business delivered strong growth, aided by higher production, project sales, and tax incentives. As a result, our updated earnings forecast is \$3.75 per share for 2025 (up \$0.05 from our previous estimate) and \$4.35 per share for 2026.

We remain encouraged by ALLETE's long-term strategic positioning. Minnesota Power's updated Integrated Resource Plan targets 90% renewable energy by 2035, supported by wind, solar, and natural gas. These efforts reflect a balanced approach to growth and grid reliability. With increased access to capital through its planned ownership transition, ALLETE is well positioned to accelerate these initiatives in the coming years.

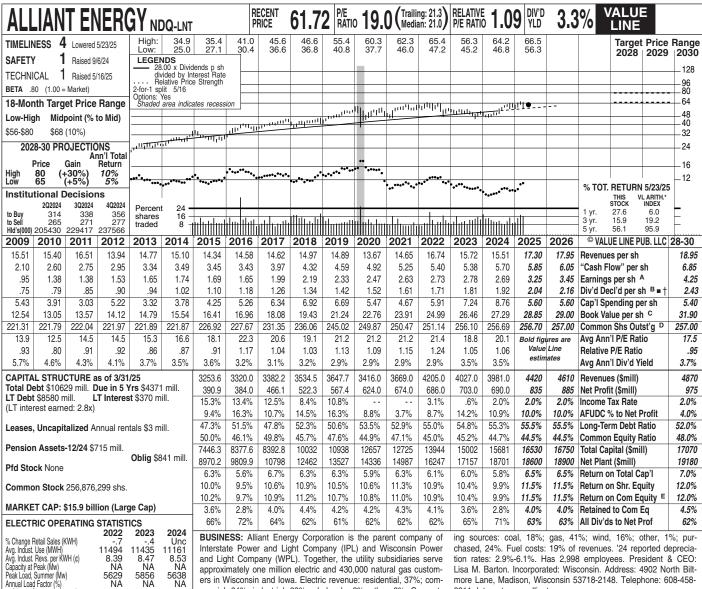
The stock's Timeliness rank remains suspended due to the pending deal. The recent quotation is right under the buyout price, as the transaction nears closer to completion. Zachary J. Hodgkinson June 6, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '15, (46¢); '17, 25¢; '19, 26¢; Next earnings report due mid Aug. (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, Sept. and Dec. ■ Div'd reinvest.

plan avail. † Shareholder invest. plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred charges. In '24: \$9.60/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Orig. cost depr. Rate allowed in MN on com. eq. in '18: 9.25%; earned

on avg. com. eq., '24: 7.3%. Regul. Climate: Avg. (F) Summer peak in '21.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 25 **Earnings Predictability** 80



NA NA NA Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 1.0% 1.5% 2.5% 5.0% 4.5% 2.0% 6.0% 5.5% 5.5% 6.0% 6.0% 6.0% 4.0% 6.0%

+.7

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Revenues

Earnings

'Cash Flow'

Dividends Book Value

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 2022 1068 943 1135 1059 4205 4027 2023 1077 912 1077 961 2024 1030 894 1081 976 3981 2025 1128 975 1145 1172 4420 2026 1110 1050 1215 1235 4610 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar Year 2022 .90 .77 .63 .43 2.73 2.78 .64 1.02 47 2023 .65 .62 .34 2024 1.15 .58 2.69 .83 .60 .72 3 25 2025 1.10 .78 3.45 2026 .73 1.21 .73 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = † Calendar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2021 4025 .4025 .4025 .4025 1.61 2022 4275 .4275 .4275 .4275 1.71 2023 .4525 .4525 .4525.45251.81 2024 .48 .48 .48 .48 1.92 2025 .48 .48

ers in Wisconsin and Iowa, Electric revenue: residential, 37%; commercial, 24%; industrial, 28%; wholesale, 8%; other, 3%. Generat-

Alliant Energy could enjoy strong power demand across its two-state service area over the next several years. That's, in part, thanks to the success that the electric utility and its municipal partners are having in attracting new business to Wisconsin and Iowa. To wit, in the March quarter, Alliant inked an additional energy supply agreement (ESA) with a data center client operating out of the Big Cedar Industrial Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It also recently cinched an ESA with a data center customer in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

Up next is securing regulatory approval for the individual customer rates that Alliant plans to charge these data center customers. As we understand it, the Iowa Utility Commission was recently reviewing the first of Alliant's data-center submissions.

The utility's 2025-2029 capital plan totaled approximately \$11.5 billion, as of mid-May. A majority of the debt- and equity-funded spending been has earmarked for renewable-energy and energy-storage projects. Alliant also expects to add natural gas-fueled capacity.

more Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53718-2148. Telephone: 608-458-3311. Internet: www.alliantenergy.com.

That said, we do worry some that it may have to rely temporarily on purchased power to meet its growing needs.

Alliant is vulnerable to potential changes in government policy at it relates to tax credits for renewable power generation. The utility regularly sells the tax credits that it earns from producing clean power. However, that income stream seems increasingly at risk under the new Trump Administration and possible changes to or rollbacks of the Biden-era Inflation Reduction Act. Still, Alliant is apparently able to request rate relief under certain circumstances, including the termination of these tax credits.

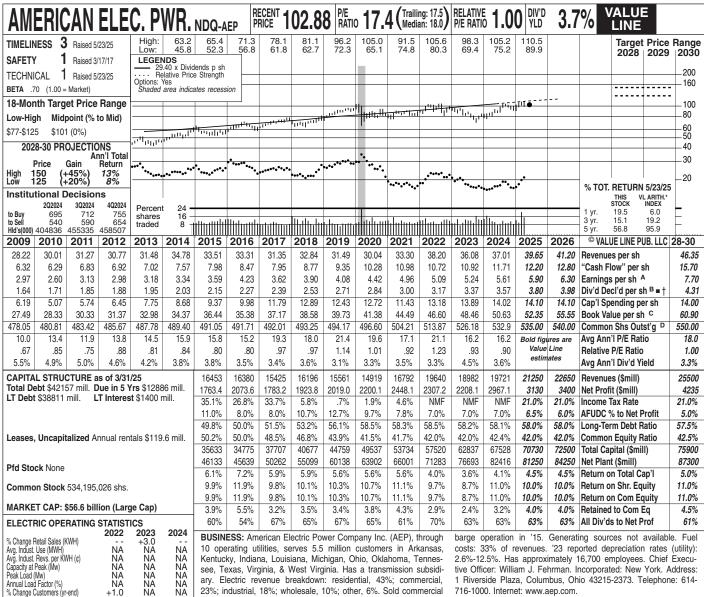
Alliant Energy shares are an untimely selection for relative year-ahead price **performance.** And with the stock up 23% in price over the past 12 months, longterm appreciation potential no longer stands out. Still, the utility company boasts an attractive, well-covered dividend that could hold some appeal for incomeoriented accounts (current yield: 3.3% versus 2.3% for the Value Line universe as a whole).

Nils C. Van Liew June 6, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring losses: '11, 1¢; '12, 8¢. '20 & '21 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due late July. (B) Dividends historically paid in mid-Feb.,

May, Aug., and Nov. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan avail. † Shareholder investment plan avail. † Shareholder investment plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred charges. In '21: \$1,980 mill., \$7.91/sh. (D) In millions, adj. for split. (E) Rate | Wisconsin, Above Average; lowa, Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100



Kentucky, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, & West Virginia. Has a transmission subsidiary. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 43%; commercial, 23%; industrial, 18%; wholesale, 10%; other, 6%. Sold commercial

2.6%-12.5%. Has approximately 16,700 employees. Chief Executive Officer: William J. Fehrman. Incorporated: New York. Address: 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215-2373. Telephone: 614-716-1000. Internet: www.aep.com.

243 272 285 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 Revenues .5% -.5% 3.0% 5.5% 4.0% 'Cash Flow" 5.0% 5.0% 5.5% 6.5% Earnings 5.0% 3.5% 5.5% 6.0% Dividends Book Value

+1.0

Annual Load Factor (%)

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA NA NA

| Cal- endar | QUART Mar.31 | ERLY RE\ Jun.30 | ENUES (\$ Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 2022 | 4593 | 4640 | 5526 | 4881 | 19640 |
| 2023 | 4690 | 4373 | 5342 | 4577 | 18982 |
| 2024 | 5026 | 4579 | 5420 | 4696 | 19721 |
| 2025 | 5463 | 5100 | 5750 | 4937 | 21250 |
| 2026 | 5800 | <i>5550</i> | 6000 | 5300 | 22650 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARE | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.22 | 1.20 | 1.62 | 1.05 | 5.09 |
| 2023 | 1.11 | 1.13 | 1.77 | 1.23 | 5.24 |
| 2024 | 1.27 | 1.25 | 1.85 | 1.24 | 5.61 |
| 2025 | 1.54 | 1.25 | 1.90 | 1.21 | 5.90 |
| 2026 | 1.50 | 1.45 | 1.95 | 1.40 | 6.30 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | IDB ≡ † | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .74 | .74 | .74 | .78 | 3.00 |
| 2022 | .78 | .78 | .78 | .83 | 3.17 |
| 2023 | .83 | .83 | .83 | .88 | 3.37 |
| 2024 | .88 | .88 | .88 | .93 | 3.57 |
| 2025 | .93 | .93 | | | |
| | | | | | |

American Electric Power looks set to post another year of solid results. First-quarter numbers came in well above our expectations, with earnings per share of \$1.54 versus our estimate of \$1.40. Revenue grew 9.2% year-over-year to \$5.46 billion, led by a 12.3% increase in commercial load, largely driven by continued growth in the data center sector. The company reaffirmed its 2025 profit target range of \$5.75-\$5.95 a share and long-term growth target of 6%-8%. Our 2025 profit estimate now stands at \$5.90, up a nickel from our prior view. Recent regulatory approvals in Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia reinforce AEP'S strong positioning.

We continue to expect strong earnings next year. Our 2026 target remains unchanged at \$6.30 per share, which is at the top end of management's long-term growth range. With demand tailwinds, regulatory support, and a clear capex roadmap, we see strong visibility for sustained earnings and dividend growth moving forward. The utility's \$54 billion capital investment plan through 2029 remains a major growth engine, targeting upgrades across

transmission, generation, and distribution. Management expects to add 20 GW of new power load through the end of the decade. These trends are primarily being driven by data center buildouts and industrial expansions across key service territories in Ohio and Texas.

The financial foundation remains strong. The company completed a \$2.3 billion forward equity offering to meet funding needs through 2029. The utility holds a strong Financial Strength (A) rating, and a top-notch Price Stability (100) score. The dividend yield, which remains a hallmark of AEP's investor appeal, stands at 3.7%. The company continues to target a 60%-70% payout ratio, which supports consistent dividend growth even as capital investments ramp up.

These shares are best suited for conservative and income-oriented investors. The stock is ranked 1 (Highest) for Safety, and the dividend likely remains AEP's most notable feature. The utility's Timeliness rank has been upgraded one notch to 3 (Average) since our last review in early March.

Zachary J. Hodgkinson

June 6, 2025

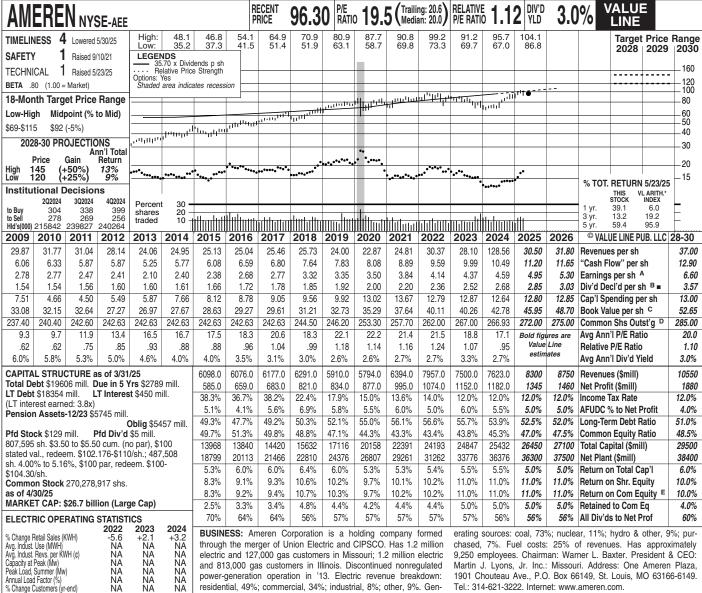
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '10, (7¢); '11, 89¢; '12, (38¢); '13, (14¢); '16, (\$2.99); '17, 26¢; '19, (20¢); gain (loss) from disc. ops.: '15, 58¢; '16, (1¢); '22, (58¢); '23, invest. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '23: \$52.5

(34¢). Next earnings report due early Aug. (B) Div'ds paid early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. Div'd reinvestment plan avail. † Shareholder

million (D) In mill. (E) Rev. may not sum due to rounding

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence 45 **Earnings Predictability** 90

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electric and 127,000 gas customers in Missouri; 1.2 million electric and 813,000 gas customers in Illinois. Discontinued nonregulated power-generation operation in '13. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 49%; commercial, 34%; industrial, 8%; other, 9%. Gen-

9,250 employees. Chairman: Warner L. Baxter. President & CEO: Martin J. Lyons, Jr. Inc.: Missouri. Address: One Ameren Plaza, 1901 Chouteau Ave., P.O. Box 66149, St. Louis, MO 63166-6149, Tel.: 314-621-3222. Internet: www.ameren.com

334 291 325 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 Revenues -1.5% .5% 4.0% 6.5% 8.0% 5.0% 5.5% 'Cash Flow' 5.5% 6.5% Earnings 4 0% 3.5% 2.0% 6.5% 6.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA NA NA

| Cal- | | | VENUES (| | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|---------|------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1879 | 1726 | 2306 | 2046 | 7957 |
| 2023 | 2062 | 1760 | 2060 | 1618 | 7500 |
| 2024 | 1816 | 1693 | 2173 | 1941 | 7623 |
| 2025 | 2097 | 1850 | 2400 | 1953 | 8300 |
| 2026 | 2150 | 1950 | 2450 | 2200 | 8750 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARI | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .97 | .80 | 1.74 | .63 | 4.14 |
| 2023 | 1.00 | .90 | 1.87 | .60 | 4.37 |
| 2024 | .98 | .97 | 1.87 | .77 | 4.59 |
| 2025 | 1.07 | 1.15 | 1.90 | .83 | 4.95 |
| 2026 | 1.00 | 1.30 | 2.00 | 1.00 | 5.30 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .55 | .55 | .55 | .55 | 2.20 |
| 2022 | .59 | .59 | .59 | .59 | 2.36 |
| 2023 | .63 | .63 | .63 | .63 | 2.52 |
| 2024 | .67 | .67 | .67 | .67 | 2.68 |
| 2025 | .71 | | | | |

Ameren's earnings are on track to rise steadily in 2025. The company posted first-quarter profits of \$1.07 per share, which came in ahead of our \$1.00 a share estimate, and the \$0.98 tally in the yearago period. Growth was driven by infrastructure investments and colder weather, which boosted retail sales at Ameren Missouri. First-period results were partially offset by higher interest and storm-related expenses, but remain consistent with Ameren's full year target of \$4.85-\$5.05 per share. Our 2025 profit estimate is staying put at \$4.95, the midpoint of that range. Execution across all business segments continues to reflect the strength of Ameren's business and long-term planning.

We remain encouraged by the utility's prospects moving forward. The updated Integrated Resource Plan includes over 1,200 megawatts of new generation, and the company is accelerating investments in solar, natural gas, and storage. Ameren signed construction agreements tied to 2.3 GW of future data center demand, up from 1.8 GW just months ago. A constructive electric rate settlement in

Missouri will support near-term returns while keeping rates below regional averages. The company expects a large-load rate structure filing soon. Our 2026 profit forecast is unchanged at \$5.30 per share, representing a 7% year-over-year increase. From 2025 through 2029, Ameren sees \$63 billion in investment opportunities, backed by 9.2% annual rate base growth.

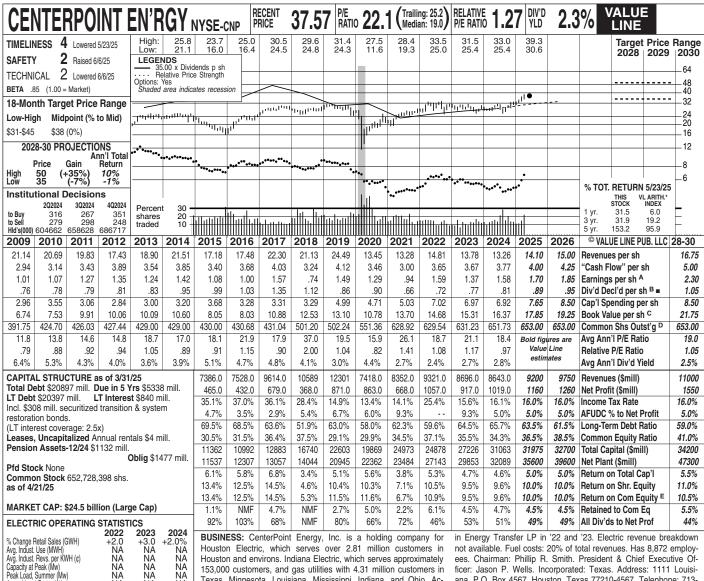
Dividend growth remains reliable and well supported. Ameren raised its quarterly dividend by 6% in February, now paying \$0.71 per share. This marks the second-consecutive year of 6% increases, in line with management's target of 6%-8% annual dividend growth. The current payout ratio sits comfortably within the 55%-70% range. With continued visibility into rate base expansion, dividend growth should remain sustainable well into the next decade.

Although untimely, these shares will likelv appeal to conservative accounts. This stock is ranked Highest for Safety. And while the stock yields 3.0%. slightly below the utility group average, it has a strong track record of payouts. Zachary J. Hodgkinson June 6, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. (losses): '10, (\$2.19); '11, (32¢); '12, (\$6.42); '17, (63¢); gain (loss) from discontinued ops.: '13, (92¢); '15, 21¢. Next earnings report due early Aug. (B)

Div'ds paid late Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$6.60/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Orig. cost depr. Rate allowed on com. eq. in MO in '24: elec. & gas, none specified; in IL: electric, varies; in '24: gas, 9.68%; earned on avg. com. eq., '24: 10.5%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100



NA NA +2.0% +2.0% 252 3.0%

NA

252 251 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) to '28-'30 Revenues -3.0% -9.0% 'Cash Flow' 4.5% 6.5% -.5% 3.5% -7.0% 5.0% Earnings 1.0% -1.0% 4.0% 6.0% 5.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (avg.)

NA +2.0

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2022 | 2763 | 1944 | 1903 | 2711 | 9321 |
| 2023 | 2779 | 1875 | 1860 | 2182 | 8696 |
| 2024 | 2620 | 1905 | 1856 | 2262 | 8643 |
| 2025 | 2920 | 2200 | 2000 | 2080 | 9200 |
| 2026 | 2950 | 2400 | 2100 | 2300 | 9750 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARE | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2022 | .82 | .28 | .30 | .19 | 1.59 |
| 2023 | .49 | .17 | .40 | .31 | 1.37 |
| 2024 | .55 | .36 | .30 | .37 | 1.58 |
| 2025 | .45 | .40 | .45 | .40 | 1.70 |
| 2026 | .45 | .50 | .50 | .40 | 1.85 |
| Cal- | QUAR' | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .16 | .16 | .16 | .17 | .65 |
| 2022 | .17 | .17 | .18 | .18 | .70 |
| 2023 | .18 | .19 | .19 | .20 | .76 |
| 2024 | .20 | .20 | .20 | .21 | .81 |
| 2025 | .22 | .22 | | | |

153,000 customers, and gas utilities with 4.31 million customers in Texas, Minnesota, Louisiana, Mississippi, Indiana, and Ohio. Acquired Vectren 2/19. Sold nonutility operations in '20. Sold its stake

CenterPoint Energy registered mixed first-quarter results. The top line rose 11% year over year to \$2.9 billion, driven by more substantial utility revenues, particularly in natural gas. However, the bottom line plunged 18% from the year-ago period to \$0.45 per share, pressured by a loss related to selling the Louisiana and Mississippi natural gas assets to Bernhard Capital Partners.

The utility is making notable progress with its Greater Houston Resiliency **Initiative.** The company has completed all its phase two actions ahead of schedule to prepare for the hurricane season. Since the beginning of this plan, it has implemented major infrastructure upgrades, installing over 26,000 storm-resilient poles, undergrounding 400 miles of power lines, and adding more than 5,150 automation devices. These measures are expected to reduce the duration of outages annually.

CenterPoint Energy has pending gas regulatory matters. A decision on the Minnesota gas rate case is expected in July, 2025, following a settlement recommending rate increases of \$60.8 million in 2024 and \$42.7 million in 2025. Mean-

ficer: Jason P. Wells. Incorporated: Texas. Address: 1111 Louisiana, P.O. Box 4567, Houston, Texas 77210-4567. Telephone: 713-207-1111. Internet: www.centerpointenergy.com.

while, the utility filed an Ohio gas rate case in late 2024, seeking a \$100 million revenue increase based on a 10.4% ROE and a 45.87% equity ratio. The case remains under review, with a final order expected before the first quarter of 2026.

The near-term bottom line will likely grow at a single-digit pace. Despite costs related to the ongoing resiliency plan, we estimate 2025 and 2026 share earnings will advance to \$1.70 and \$1.85, respectively, supported by rate relief.

The utility company has a long-term initiative, the System Resiliency Plan (SRP). The SRP outlines a proposed \$5.75 billion investment from 2026 to 2028 in grid infrastructure, information technolcybersecurity, and emergency includes response capabilities. It resiliency measures and a microgrid pilot program. The proposal is currently under review by the Public Utility Commission of Texas, with a decision expected in the third quarter.

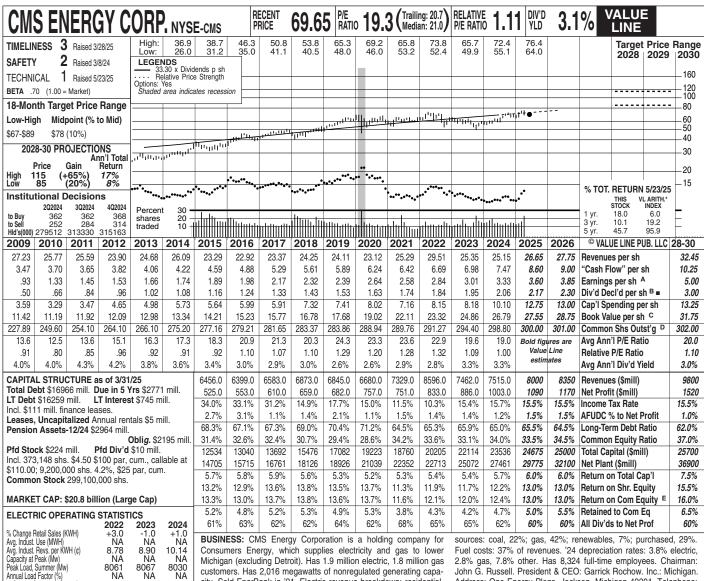
Shares of CenterPoint are untimely. Also, the equity has an uninspiring dividend yield for a utility stock. Emma Jalees

June 6, 2025

(A) GAAP Dil. EPS 2022 & onwards. Excl. non-recur. gains (losses): '11, \$1.89; '12, (38¢); '13, (52¢); '15, (\$2.69); '17, \$2.56; '20, (\$2.74); gain (loss) on disc. ops.: '20, (34¢); '21, \$1.34. Next | (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$6.05/sh. (D) In mill. | Regulatory Climate: TX, Avg.; IN, Above Avg.

egs. report due late July. **(B)** Div'ds histor. paid in early Mar., June, Sept. & Dec. 5 declarations in '17 & '20, 3 in '19. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. 11.25%; earned on avg. com. eq., '22: 8.27%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A 95 Price Growth Persistence 45 **Earnings Predictability** 60



250 226 244 ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '22-'24 Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 2.0% 4.5% 3.0% 5.0% 5.5% 5.5% 6.5% 6.0% 6.5% 8.5% 6.5% 7.0%

+1.0

+1.0

3.5%

+1.0

% Change Customers (yr-end)

Fixed Charge Cov. (%)

of change (per sh)

'Cash Flow Earnings

Dividends Book Value

Revenues

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2022 2374 1920 2024 2278 8596 2023 2284 1555 1673 1950 7462 2024 2176 1607 1743 1989 7515 2025 2447 1690 1850 2013 8000 2026 2250 1800 1900 2400 8350 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 enda Year 1.20 2.84 2022 58 2023 .69 .67 .60 1.05 3.01 2024 .96 .65 .84 .87 3.33 2025 1 01 .80 90 .89 3.60 2026 1.05 .90 .90 1.00 3.85 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec. 31 2021 .435 .435 .435 .435 2022 .46 .46 .46 1.84 .46 1.95 2023 .4875 .4875 .4875 .4875 2024 .515 .515 .515 .515 2.06 .5425

city. Sold EnerBank in '21. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 46%; commercial, 33%; industrial, 13%; other, 8%. Generating

CMS Energy reported healthy firstquarter results. The top line rose more than 12% year over year, to nearly \$2.4 billion. Meanwhile, the bottom line increased 5%, to \$1.01 per share, compared to the year-ago period. This improvement was due to lower operating expenses and benefits from rate relief. For 2025, management has guided for annual adjusted share earnings in the \$3.54-\$3.60 range. Consumers Energy, the company's

utility subsidiary, has a pending gas rate case. In December 2024, Consumers filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) seeking a \$248 million annual rate increase based on a 10.25% authorized return on equity for the projected 12-month period ending October 31, 2026. A final order from the MPSC is expected by October.

The company has a solid long-term investment plan in place. Over the next five years, Consumers expects to invest significantly in infrastructure upgrades, replacements, and clean energy generation. Of the \$20.0 billion in planned capital expenditures through 2029, Consumers intends to allocate \$14.8 billion toward Address: One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201. Telephone: 517-788-0550. Internet: www.cmsenergy.com

maintaining and upgrading electric distribution systems and gas infrastructure. This includes \$8.5 billion for electric distribution and other projects and \$6.3 billion for gas infrastructure. Additionally, \$5.2 billion has been earmarked for wind, solar, and hydroelectric generation projects.

The utility continues to advance its net-zero emissions goals. CMS targets very little greenhouse gas emissions across its entire business by 2050, with an interim goal of reducing its carbon footprint 25% by 2035. The company remains cautious about evolving regulatory and policy changes around emissions.

profit Near-term prospects CMS Energy will promising. likely benefit from approved rate increases and ongoing cost discipline. All told, we estimate 2025 and 2026 share earnings to increase about 8% and 7% year over year, to \$3.60 and \$3.85, respectively.

Shares of CMS Energy offer an unspectacular dividend yield for a utility. Still, the company earns a Safety rank of 2 (Above Average), suggesting strong financial stability. Emma Jalees

June 6, 2025

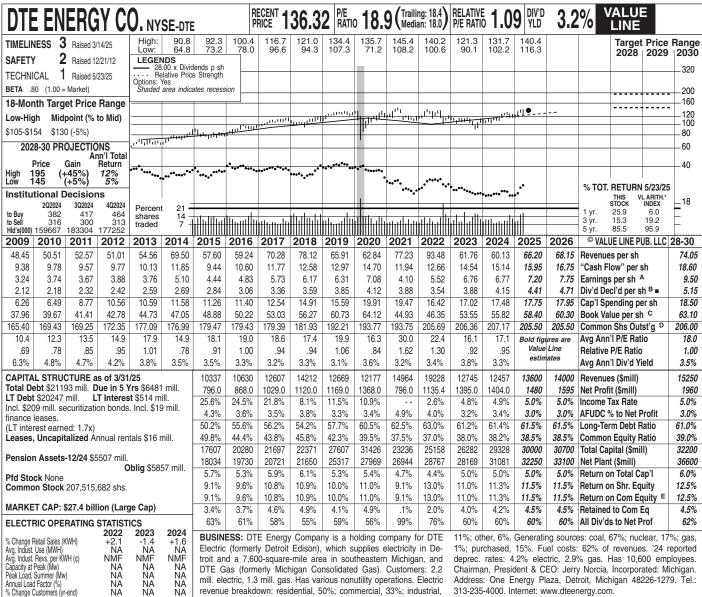
(A) Dil. GAAP EPS may not sum due to rdg. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '09, (7¢); '10, 3¢; '11, 12¢; '12, (14¢); '17, (53¢); gains (losses) on disc. ops.: '09, 8¢; '10, (8¢); '11, 1¢; '12, 3¢;

'21, \$2.08; '22, 1¢. Next earnings report due late July. (B) Div'ds paid late Feb., May, Aug., & Nov. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$8.52/sh. (D) İn mill.

(E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate all'd on com. eq. in '22: 9.9% elec.; in '19: 9.9% gas; earned on avg. com. eq., '21: 13.2%. Regulatory Climate: Above Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 85

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troit and a 7,600-square-mile area in southeastern Michigan, and DTE Gas (formerly Michigan Consolidated Gas). Customers: 2.2 mill. electric, 1.3 mill. gas. Has various nonutility operations. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 50%; commercial, 33%; industrial,

deprec. rates: 4.2% electric, 2.9% gas. Has 10,600 employees. Chairman, President & CEO: Jerry Norcia. Incorporated: Michigan. Address: One Energy Plaza, Detroit, Michigan 48226-1279. Tel.: 313-235-4000. Internet: www.dteenergy.com

233 264 267 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 2.5% 4.5% 2.5% Revenues 3.0% 5.0% 'Cash Flow' 3.0% 4.0% 4.5% 4.5% Earnings 5.5% 3.0% 5.5% 1.5% 3.0% 1.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

NA

NA NA

| Cal- | | | VENUES (| | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 4577 | 4924 | 5251 | 4476 | 19228 |
| 2023 | 3779 | 2684 | 2888 | 3394 | 12745 |
| 2024 | 3240 | 2875 | 2906 | 3436 | 12457 |
| 2025 | 4440 | 2900 | 3300 | 2960 | 13600 |
| 2026 | 4450 | 3000 | 3300 | 3250 | 14000 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHAR | ΕA | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 2.03 | .19 | 1.99 | 1.31 | 5.52 |
| 2023 | 2.16 | .97 | 1.61 | 2.02 | 6.76 |
| 2024 | 1.51 | 1.55 | 2.30 | 1.41 | 6.77 |
| 2025 | 2.14 | 1.55 | 2.10 | 1.41 | 7.20 |
| 2026 | 1.95 | 1.50 | 2.50 | 1.80 | 7.75 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .9225 | .9225 | .9225 | .825 | 3.59 |
| 2022 | .885 | .885 | .885 | .885 | 3.54 |
| 2023 | .9525 | .9525 | .9525 | 1.02 | 3.88 |
| 2024 | 1.02 | 1.02 | 1.02 | 1.09 | 4.15 |
| 2025 | 1.09 | 1.09 | | | |

DTE Energy appears on pace for strong earnings growth in 2025. The utility reported better-than-expected firstquarter earnings of \$2.14 per share, up from \$1.51 a share in the year-ago period. DTE remains on track to invest \$4.4 billion this year to improve reliability, expand clean energy, and strengthen its natural gas infrastructure. In the first period, it had nearly \$850 million in capital investment. A \$217.4-million rate hike approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission took effect in February and should support results throughout the year. We continue to project full-year 2025 earnings of \$7.20 per share, in line with DTE's reaffirmed guidance range of \$7.09-\$7.23.

The utility looks to be well positioned moving forward. DTE Energy is targeting a fully-automated grid within five to six years, backed by plans to build three new substations and reduce outage frequency by 30%. Recent upgrades have already driven a 60% reduction in customer outage time in the first quarter. DTE's \$30-billion five-year capital plan now includes \$10 billion for clean energy. Our

2026 profit estimate is unchanged at \$7.75 per share, reflecting 7% growth and sitting comfortably within management's 6%-8% long-term target. We anticipate continued bottom-line acceleration as DTE's clean energy projects ramp and demand from both commercial and residential customers grows.

The reliable dividend remains the core feature. DTE Energy continues to offer a dependable dividend, currently yielding 3.2%. Management's ability to offset rising costs with consistent regulatory success and tax credit optimization supports long-term financial and dividend health. The company expects to receive \$50 million-\$60 million annually in tax credits through 2027, bolstering cash flow as infrastructure spending rises.

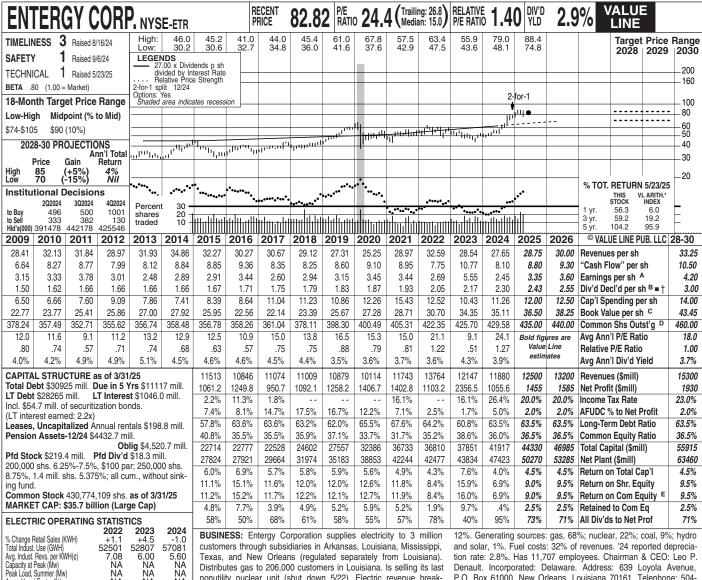
This issue is best suited for conservative and income-oriented investors. Indeed, the utility is ranked Above Average (2) for Safety and holds a high score (95) for Price Stability. The most notable feature continues to be the dividend, which stands right below the high-paying industry average.

Zachary J. Hodgkinson June 6, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '11, 51¢; '15, (39¢); '17, 59¢; gain (losses) on discontinued operations: '12, (33¢); '21, 57¢. Next earnings report due late July. (B) Div'ds paid

mid-Jan., Apr., July & Oct. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$29.20/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Net orig. Above Average. cost. Rate allowed on common equity in '20:

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 95 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability** 70



Texas, and New Orleans (regulated separately from Louisiana). Distributes gas to 206,000 customers in Louisiana. Is selling its last nonutility nuclear unit (shut down 5/22). Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 37%; commercial, 24%; industrial, 27%; other,

tion rate: 2.8%. Has 11,707 employees. Chairman & CEO: Leo P. Denault. Incorporated: Delaware. Address: 639 Loyola Avenue, P.O. Box 61000. New Orleans. Louisiana 70161. Telephone: 504-576-4000. Internet: www.entergy.com.

ings per share will be \$3.35 in 2025.

Long-term expansion is likely

benefit from several trends. The com-

| Fixed Charge Cov. (%) | | 209 | 250 220 |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh) Revenues | Past 10 Yrs. -1.0% | Past 5 Yrs. | Est'd '22-'24 to '28-'30 2.0% |
| "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value | .5% 2.5% 2.5% 2.0% | 1.0% 4.0% 4.0% 7.0% | 3.0% 3.0% 5.5% |

+1.0

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (yr-end)

NA

NA

NA

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (| | Full Year |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|----------|--------|--------------|
| 2022 | 2878 | 3395 | 4219 | 3273 | 13764 |
| 2023 | 2981 | 2846 | 3596 | 2725 | 12147 |
| 2024 | 2795 | 2954 | 3389 | 2742 | 11880 |
| 2025 | 2849 | 3300 | 3200 | 3151 | 12500 |
| 2026 | 3100 | 3400 | 3400 | 3300 | 13200 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARI | А | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .68 | .39 | 1.37 | .26 | 2.69 |
| 2023 | .74 | .92 | 1.57 | 2.33 | 5.55 |
| 2024 | .18 | .12 | 1.50 | .65 | 2.45 |
| 2025 | .82 | .20 | 1.63 | .70 | 3.35 |
| 2026 | .70 | .45 | 1.70 | .75 | 3.60 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | IDB∎† | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .475 | .475 | .475 | .505 | 1.93 |
| 2022 | .505 | .505 | .505 | .535 | 2.05 |
| 2023 | .535 | .535 | .535 | .565 | 2.17 |
| 2024 | .565 | .565 | .565 | .60 | 2.30 |
| 2025 | .60 | .60 | | | |

Entergy reported a decent improvement in its first-quarter results. Revenues expanded 2% year over year to \$2.849 billion, as the company delivered 13% more residential usage in its coverage area during the quarter. This benefited from cooler weather across the area. Costs related to energy generation declined considerably as Entergy purchased less fuel, while Entergy recorded higher costs due to growth in its capital structure. Interest costs rose due to a greater debt load. Even so, these factors netted a gain of \$0.82 per share during the quarter.

The company remains on track to deliver a solid performance for the remainder of the year. A few major projects are expected to come online, while we anticipate continued demand from the residential sector as more consumers move into the coverage area. However, Entergy received approval to sell its local distribution companies in the Louisiana coverage area, which may be a headwind. Cost growth will likely occur at a steady pace, while we expect interest costs to rise due to a large-scale capital buildout financed by debt. All told, we estimate that earnpany has continued to win new industrial customers, including a recently announced low-carbon blue ammonia facility from CF Industries, as well as a manufacturing plant in the company's Louisiana territory, announced by Hyundai Motor Group. Other industrial activities are likely to occur, helping to boost demand, especially as these plants hire new workers, which in turn will stimulate residential usage. We expect growth in data centers to occur, thereby furthering demand, but interest

ture buildouts in the years ahead will lead increased administrative and maintenance expenses. All told, we think that earnings per share will advance to \$3.60 in 2026 and \$4.20 by 2028-2030. of Entergy are neutrally Shares

expenses should rise. Greater infrastruc-

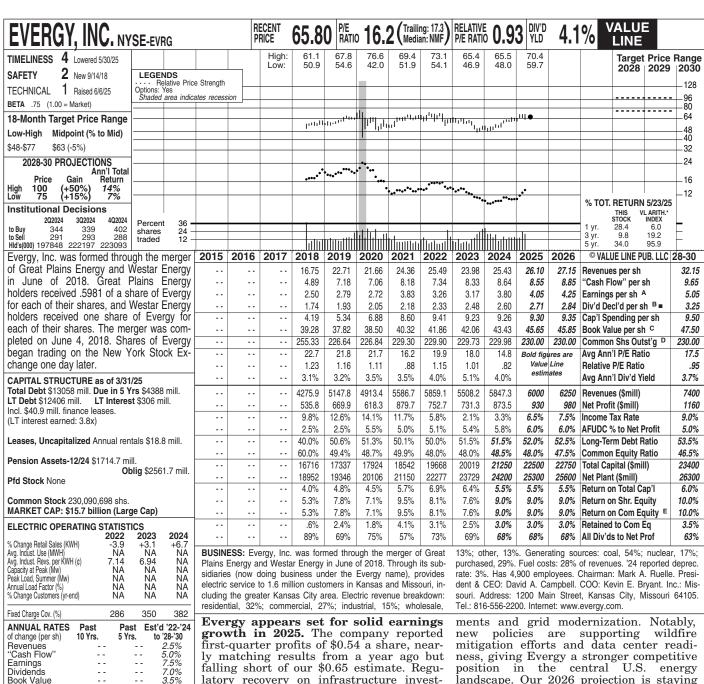
ranked for Timeliness. The stock holds unimpressive 3- to 5-year appreciation potential. However, the dividend yield is above average. Thus, we believe this equity is best suited for income seekers. John E. Seibert III June 6, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. GAAP starting in 2022. Excl. nonrec. losses: '12, \$1.26; '13, \$1.14; '14, 56¢; '15, \$6.99; '16, \$10.14; '17, \$2.91; '18, \$1.25; '21, \$1.33. Next earnings report due early Au-

avail. † Shareholder investment plan avail (C) Incl. deferred charges. In '24: \$14.92/sh. age.

gust. (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. • Div'd reinvestment plan lowed ROE (blended): 9.79%; earned on avg. com. eq., '24: 6.9%. Regulatory Climate: Aver

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 55 **Earnings Predictability** 60



QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) Calendar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2022 1223.9 1446.5 5859.1 1909.1 1279.6 1187.9 2023 1296.8 1354.2 1669.3 5508.2 1331.0 1447 5 2024 1811.4 1257 4 5847 3 6000 2025 1374.5 1460 1840 1325.5 2026 1400 1500 1950 1400 6250 **EARNINGS PER SHARE A** Calendar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2022 .53 .03 3.26 1.86

2023 .62 .78 .24 1.53 3.17 .53 .90 2.02 .35 2024 3.80 .54 .95 2.00 .56 2025 4.05 2026 .70 1.00 2.05 .50 4.25 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2021 535 535 535 5725 2.18 2022 .5725 .5725 5725 .6125 2.33 2 48 2023 .6125.6125 .6125 .6425 2024 .6425 .6425 .6425 .6675 2.60 2025 .6675

latory recovery on infrastructure investment supported results, though industrial activity was negatively impacted by unplanned maintenance and severe winter storms. Management reaffirmed its fullyear earnings-per-share target of \$3.92-\$4.12, and we remain confident in our 2025 forecast, which is staying put. The Kansas rate case, which seeks a \$196 million increase, is progressing and could take effect by September.

We continue to see multiple catalysts for mid- and long-term growth. Evergy is investing in two new 705 MW combinedcycle gas plants in Kansas, scheduled for completion in 2029 and 2030. The utility also expects strong customer growth, particularly from advanced manufacturing and data centers. Load growth is fore-casted at 2%-3%, with potential upside depending on finalized contracts. Legislative progress in both Kansas and Missouri is providing a tailwind for capital invest-

landscape. Our 2026 projection is staying put at \$4.25 per share, implying a 5% year-over-year gain, within Evergy's longterm 4%-6% bottom-line growth target.

The dividend yield looks to be the stock's most compelling feature. The company recently declared a quarterly payout of \$0.6675 per share, continuing its trend of consistent returns to shareholders. The current yield of 4.1% stands above the utility sector average.

Conservative, income-oriented accounts will likely want to take a closer look here. The stock is ranked 2 (Above Average) for Safety, and holds_high scores for Price Stability (95) and Earnings Predictability (85). The utility has a proven track record of dividend increases and we look for more of the same in the future. Meanwhile, Evergy has been downgraded one notch in Timeliness to Below Average (4). June 6, 2025

Zachary J. Hodgkinson

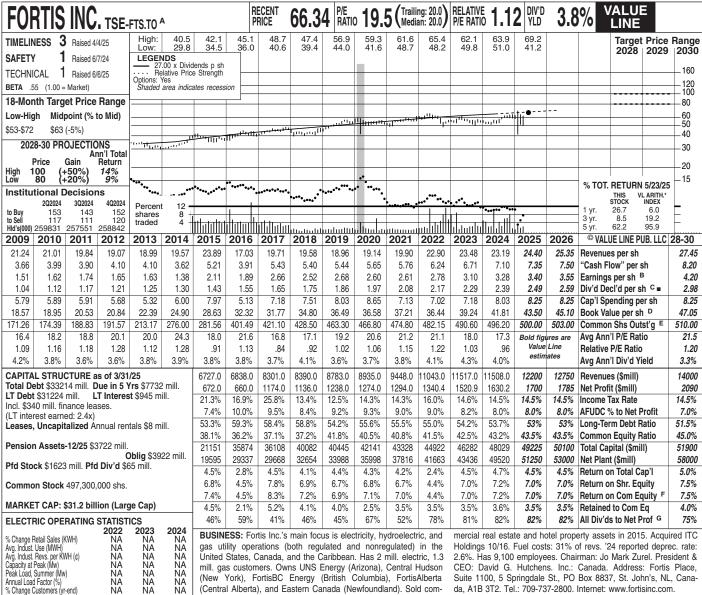
(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due tangibles. (D) In millions. (E) Rate base: Origi- mon equity, '22: 9.8%. early Aug. (B) Dividends paid in mid-March, June, September, and December.

Dividend reinvestment plan available. (C) Incl. in-

nal cost depreciated. Rate allowed on common equity in Missouri in '18: none specified; in Kansas in '18: 9.3%; earned on average com-

Regulatory Climate:

Company's Financial Strength B++ 95 20 Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**



(New York), FortisBC Energy (British Columbia), FortisAlberta (Central Alberta), and Eastern Canada (Newfoundland). Sold comSuite 1100, 5 Springdale St., PO Box 8837, St. John's, NL, Canada, A1B 3T2. Tel.: 709-737-2800. Internet: www.fortisinc.com.

207 211 215 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 Revenues -.5% 3.5% 3.5% 3.5% 5.5% 3.5% 'Cash Flow' 3.5% 4.5% 5.0% 5.0% Earnings 6.0% 4.0% Dividends Book Value 6.5%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

| Cal- | | | VENUES (| | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 2835 | 2487 | 2553 | 3168 | 11043 |
| 2023 | 3319 | 2594 | 2719 | 2885 | 11517 |
| 2024 | 3118 | 2670 | 2771 | 2949 | 11508 |
| 2025 | 3338 | 2750 | 2850 | 3262 | 12200 |
| 2026 | 3450 | 2900 | 2950 | 3450 | 12750 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARI | В | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .74 | .59 | .68 | .77 | 2.78 |
| 2023 | .90 | .61 | .81 | .78 | 3.10 |
| 2024 | .93 | .67 | .85 | .83 | 3.28 |
| 2025 | 1.00 | .70 | .85 | .85 | 3.40 |
| 2026 | .95 | .80 | .90 | .90 | 3.55 |
| Cal- | QUART | TERLY DIV | IDENDS PA | AID c ■ | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .505 | .505 | .505 | .535 | 2.05 |
| 2022 | .535 | .535 | .535 | .565 | 2.17 |
| 2023 | .565 | .565 | .565 | .590 | 2.29 |
| 2024 | .590 | .590 | .590 | .615 | 2.39 |
| 2025 | .615 | .615 | | | |

Fortis is off to a strong start in 2025. The utility reported first-quarter earnings of \$1.00 per share, topping our \$0.95-ashare estimate and up from \$0.93 last year. Results were driven by broad ratebase growth, favorable currency exchange, and the resolution of Central Hudson's 2024 rate case. Capital expenditures totaled \$1.4 billion for the quarter, with the company tracking toward its \$5.2 billion annual goal. The new three-year rate framework for FortisBC was approved in March, adding stability and predictability. Our 2025 profit forecast remains at \$3.40 per share, which implies 4% growth from 2024.

We expect modest but steady earnings **growth** ahead. Fortis continues to benefit from regulatory clarity and long-term infrastructure investment. The utility is committed to its five-year capital plan, aimed at modernizing the grid and expanding its rate base. A large portion of this spending is directed at its U.S.-based subsidiaries, especially ITC and Tucson Electric Power, where incremental investment opportunities continue to emerge. Specifically, Fortis reaffirmed its five-year

\$26 billion capital plan, focused on regulated investments to support infrastructure improvements and customer growth. The rate base is projected to grow by \$14 billion, to \$53 billion, by 2029, representing an annual growth rate of 6.5%. Our 2026 earnings estimate is unchanged at \$3.55 a share, consistent with Fortis' longterm 4%-6% profit growth target.

Dividend growth remains a core strength of this utility. In 2024, Fortis raised its annual dividend to \$2.39 per share, marking more than 50 consecutive years of increases in the payout. Management is targeting 4%-6% annual dividend growth through 2029, in line with earnings, supported by strong cash flows and a conservative payout ratio.

Conservative, income-oriented accounts will_likely want to take a closer look. The stock, though not timely, is ranked 1 (Highest) for Safety and holds top-notch scores for Price Stability and Earnings Predictability. And, the most notable feature is the yield of 3.8%, which continues to stand above the industry average.

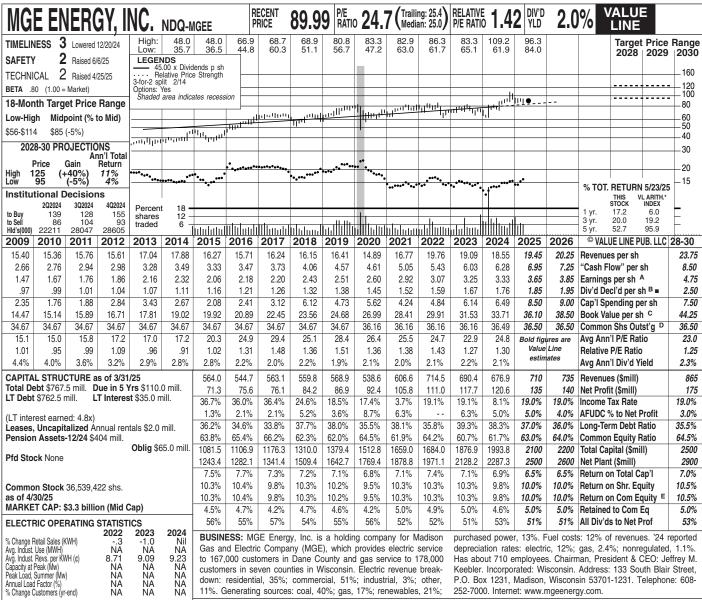
Zachary J. Hodgkinson June 6, 2025

(A) Also trades on NYSE (FTS). All data in Canadian \$. **(B)** Dil. egs. Excl. nonrecur. gains (loss): '14, 2¢; '15, 48¢; '17, (35¢); '18, 7¢. '19, \$1.12. Next egs. report due late July. (C) mill. (F) hates all'd on com. eq.: 8.3%-10.32%;

Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, Sept., and Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (2% FERC, Above Avg.; AZ, Below Avg.; NY, Below disc.). (D) Incl. intang. In '24: \$34.05/sh. (E) In Avg. (G) Excl. div'ds pd. via reinv. plan.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100

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customers in seven counties in Wisconsin. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 35%; commercial, 51%; industrial, 3%; other, 11%. Generating sources: coal, 40%; gas, 17%; renewables, 21%;

Keebler. Incorporated: Wisconsin. Address: 133 South Blair Street, P.O. Box 1231, Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1231. Telephone: 608-252-7000. Internet: www.mgeenergy.com.

517 525 530 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 3.5% 7.5% 6.0% 5.0% 6.0% Revenues 1.5% 4.5% 'Cash Flow' 6.0% 4.5% 7.0% 7.0% Earnings 6.5% 5.5% Dividends Book Value 6.0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

NA NA

NA

NA NA

| Cal- | | | VENUES (| | Full |
|-------|--------|----------|-----------|---------|-------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 209.0 | 152.3 | 163.4 | 189.8 | 714.5 |
| 2023 | 217.3 | 148.0 | 160.5 | 164.6 | 690.4 |
| 2024 | 191.3 | 145.7 | 168.5 | 171.4 | 676.9 |
| 2025 | 219.0 | 145 | 170 | 176 | 710 |
| 2026 | 215 | 160 | 180 | 180 | 735 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARE | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .96 | .60 | .93 | .58 | 3.07 |
| 2023 | .86 | .79 | 1.05 | .55 | 3.25 |
| 2024 | .93 | .66 | 1.13 | .61 | 3.33 |
| 2025 | 1.14 | .75 | 1.15 | .61 | 3.65 |
| 2026 | 1.15 | .80 | 1.20 | .70 | 3.85 |
| Cal- | QUAR1 | ERLY DIV | IDENDS PA | AID B ■ | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2021 | .37 | .37 | .388 | .388 | 1.52 |
| 2022 | .388 | .388 | .408 | .408 | 1.59 |
| 2023 | .408 | .408 | .4275 | .4275 | 1.67 |
| 2024 | .4275 | .4275 | .450 | .450 | 1.76 |
| 2025 | .450 | | | | |

MGE Energy reported solid financial results for the first quarter. Revenues rose 14% year over year, to \$219 million, driven by a double-digit increase in gas retail sales and modest growth in electric retail sales. Meanwhile, GAAP share earnings advanced more than 22% from the year-ago period, to \$1.14.

The company has pending regulatory matters. In April, MGE filed a 2026/2027 rate case with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, seeking a 4.89% electric rate increase and a 2.33% gas rate rise for 2026. For 2027, the proposed adjustments include a 4.33% hike in electric rates and a 2.16% increase in gas rates. Furthermore, a final decision is expected before the end of this year.

MGE Energy continues to expand its renewable energy footprint. The Darien Solar Project in southern Wisconsin became operational in March, adding 25 MW of solar capacity to the company's asset base. This addition helped lift electric earnings in the recent quarter. Furthermore, it is expected to support MGE's longer-term decarbonization strategy. Besides Darien, the company has several

wind, solar, and battery projects on track to be in service by 2027. Moreover, the utility remains focused on sustainability, with a stated goal of reducing carbon emissions 80% by 2030.

Strategic investments and cost controls are expected to support earnings growth in the near term. Ongoing spending in clean energy and infrastructure should help MGE with future rate case negotiations with the regulator. Moreover, favorable rate cases will likely attract new customers. All in all, we estimate share earnings will grow roughly 9% in 2025 and 5% in 2026, to \$3.65 and \$3.85, respectively.

Good-quality shares of MGE Energy are ranked to perform in line with the broader market averages in the year **ahead.** Moreover, at the recent quotation, the equity's 18-month and long-term capital appreciation potential are below average. Additionally, the dividend yield is also notably below the industry average (3.6%). Therefore, income-focused investors may find more compelling options elsewhere in the utility space.

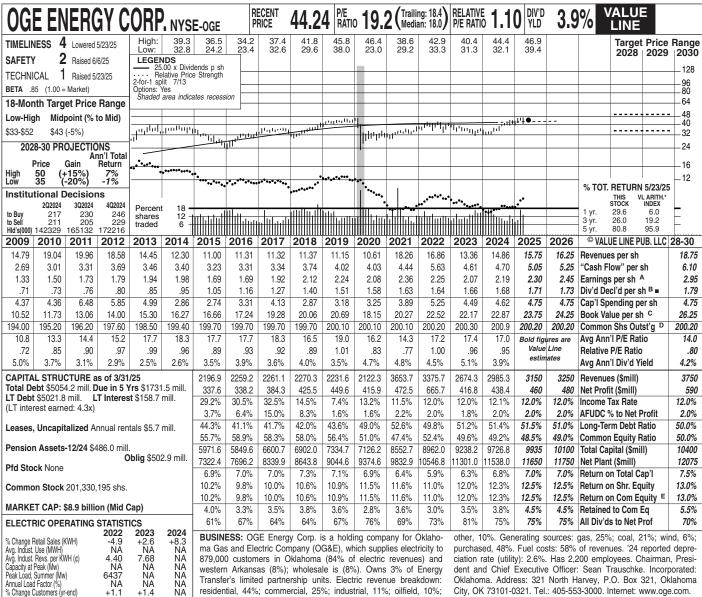
Emma Jalees June 6, 2025

(A) GAAP Diluted earnings. Excludes non-recurring gain: '17, 62¢. Quarterly earnings may not sum to full year due to rounding or share count change. Next earnings report due

early Aug. (B) Div'ds historically paid in mid-March, June, September, and December ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Includes regulatory assets. In '24: \$132.3 mill., \$3.62/sh.

(D) In millions, adj for split. **(E)** Rate allowed on common equity in '24: 9.7%; Regulatory Climate: Above Average

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 60 **Earnings Predictability** 100



western Arkansas (8%); wholesale is (8%). Owns 3% of Energy Transfer's limited partnership units. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 44%; commercial, 25%; industrial, 11%; oilfield, 10%;

dent and Chief Executive Officer: Sean Trauschke. Incorporated: Oklahoma. Address: 321 North Harvey, P.O. Box 321, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-0321. Tel.: 405-553-3000. Internet: www.oge.com.

336 335 326 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 -3.0% 2.5% 3.0% 7.5% 5.0% 5.0% 4.5% Revenues 5.5% 7.0% 6.5% 'Cash Flow' Earnings 3.0% 5.5% Dividends Book Value 1.5% 4 0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

ÑΑ

+1.1

NA

NA

+1.4

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|--------------|
| 2022 | 589.3 | 803.7 | 1270.8 | 711.9 | 3375.7 |
| 2023 | 557.2 | 605.0 | 945.4 | 566.7 | 2674.3 |
| 2024 | 596.8 | 662.6 | 965.4 | 760.5 | 2985.3 |
| 2025 | 747.7 | 750 | 1000 | 652.3 | 3150 |
| 2026 | 675 | 855 | 1010 | 710 | 3250 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | PER SHAR | ΕA | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .33 | .36 | 1.31 | .25 | 2.25 |
| 2023 | .19 | .44 | 1.20 | .24 | 2.07 |
| 2024 | .09 | .51 | 1.09 | .50 | 2.19 |
| 2025 | .31 | .55 | 1.20 | .24 | 2.30 |
| 2026 | .30 | .55 | 1.30 | .30 | 2.45 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .4025 | .4025 | .4025 | .41 | 1.62 |
| 2022 | .41 | .41 | .41 | .4141 | 1.64 |
| 2023 | .4141 | .4141 | .4141 | .4182 | 1.66 |
| 2024 | .4182 | .4182 | .4182 | .4213 | 1.68 |
| 2025 | .4213 | .4213 | | | |

OGE Energy is positioned for another year of solid earnings growth. The utility posted first-quarter earnings of \$0.31 per share, ahead of our \$0.25 estimate and up sharply from \$0.09 a year ago. OG&E, the utility subsidiary, contributed nicely, driven by strong demand and lower operating expenses, partially offset by holding company losses. Overall, residential and commercial loads rose 3% and 28% respectively, leading to 8% weather-normalized load growth. A 1% increase in customer count, paired with ongoing grid modernization, also supported results. The company reaffirmed its full year earnings target range of \$2.21-\$2.33, and our 2025 estimate remains unchanged at \$2.30 per share.

We are monitoring potential regulatory hurdles in Oklahoma. While the Oklahoma Corporation Commission approved a \$127 million rate increase last year, a new legal challenge could affect the implementation. State lawmakers have petitioned the Oklahoma Supreme Court to disqualify Commissioner Todd Hiett, who cast the deciding vote. The case, if successful, could delay or unwind the rate decision. Meanwhile, OGE is pursuing additional regulatory filings in both Oklahoma and Arkansas tied to resource planning and customer growth.

The long-term outlook for the utility remains bright. Management reaffirmed its long-term earnings growth goal of 5%-7%, and we are maintaining our 2026 forecast of \$2.45 per share, which reflects 7% year-over-year growth. Load expansion tied to data center clients, including Google, could provide further upside as agreements finalize and generation needs are submitted to regulators. Proactive supply chain planning, including advance transformer orders through 2027, helps mitigate inflationary and logistics risks. OGE's competitive rates in Oklahoma and Arkansas position it favorably in a rising demand environment.

Income-oriented investors may want to take a closer look. Indeed, the dividend yield of 3.9% continues to stand above the high industry-wide Meanwhile. the utility recently was downgraded one notch to Below Average (4) for Timeliness.

Zachary J. Hodgkinson

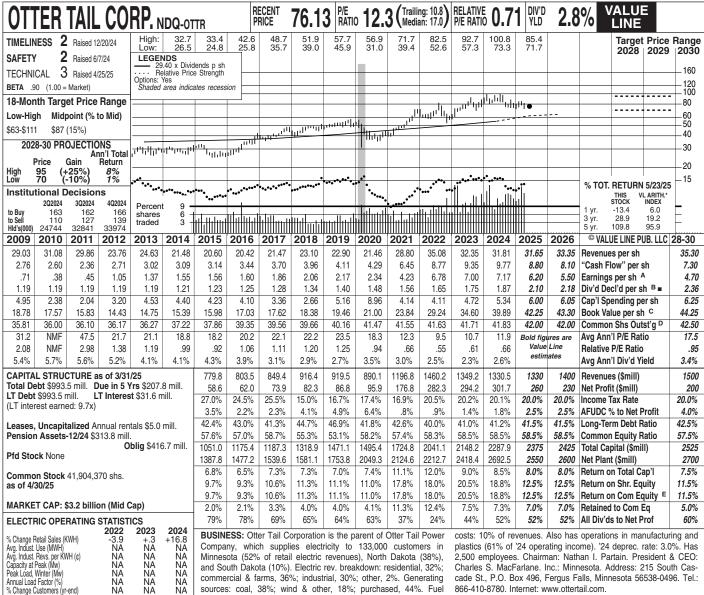
June 6, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gains (losses): '15, (33¢); '17, \$1.18; '19, (8¢); '20, (\$2.95); '21, \$1.32; '22, \$1.06; gain on discont. ops.: '19 & '21 EPS don't sum due to rounding.

charges. In '22: \$6.15/sh. (D) In mill., adj. for | 12.7%. Regulatory Climate: Average

Next earnings report due early Aug. **(B)** Div'ds historically paid in late Jan., Apr., July, & Oct. | Split. **(E)** Nate base: Net original cost. Rate allowed on com. eq. in OK in '19: 9.5%; in AR in Div'd reinvestment plan avail. **(C)** Incl. deferred '18: 9.5%; earned on avg. com. eq., '21:

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 95 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability** 95



Minnesota (52% of retail electric revenues), North Dakota (38%), and South Dakota (10%). Electric rev. breakdown: residential, 32%; commercial & farms, 36%; industrial, 30%; other, 2%. Generating sources: coal, 38%; wind & other, 18%; purchased, 44%. Fuel

2,500 employees. Chairman: Nathan I. Partain. President & CEO: Charles S. MacFarlane. Inc.: Minnesota. Address: 215 South Cascade St., P.O. Box 496, Fergus Falls, Minnesota 56538-0496. Tel.: 866-410-8780. Internet: www.ottertail.com

405 651 653 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 4.0% 9.5% 14.5% Revenues -1.0% 5.0% 'Cash Flow' 7.5% 18.0% 5.5% 4.5% Earnings 2.5% 3.5% 4.0% 6.0% 7.0% 8.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA NA NA

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 374.9 | 400.0 | 383.9 | 301.4 | 1460.2 |
| 2023 | 339.1 | 337.7 | 358.1 | 314.3 | 1349.2 |
| 2024 | 347.1 | 342.3 | 338.0 | 303.1 | 1330.5 |
| 2025 | 337.4 | 340 | 330 | 322.6 | 1330 |
| 2026 | 360 | 360 | 345 | 335 | 1400 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHAR | ΕA | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.72 | 2.05 | 2.01 | 1.00 | 6.78 |
| 2023 | 1.49 | 1.95 | 2.19 | 1.37 | 7.00 |
| 2024 | 1.77 | 2.07 | 2.03 | 1.30 | 7.17 |
| 2025 | 1.62 | 1.70 | 1.70 | 1.18 | 6.20 |
| 2026 | 1.40 | 1.50 | 1.40 | 1.20 | 5.50 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .39 | .39 | .39 | .39 | 1.56 |
| 2022 | .4125 | .4125 | .4125 | .4125 | 1.65 |
| 2023 | .4375 | .4375 | .4375 | .4375 | 1.75 |
| 2024 | .4675 | .4675 | .4675 | .4675 | 1.87 |
| 2025 | .525 | | | | |

Otter Tail Corporation began 2025 on a solid footing despite some expected headwinds. The company posted first quarter earnings of \$1.62 per share, modestly ahead of our \$1.60 estimate but down 8% from a year ago. Performance was mixed across segments. Electric earnings rose 10%, while Plastics and Manufacturing saw declines tied to pricing pressure and soft volumes. Notably, PVC pipe prices fell 11%, though sales volume increased 13%. Management reaffirmed its full year profit target of \$5.68-\$6.08, and we are holding our estimate steady at \$6.20, which is above the upper end of the range, as the company has a history of understating financial projections. We are also maintaining our 2026 earnings call at \$5.50 a share, reflecting strong utility earnings, offset by a likely easing in non regulated business. Management expects a 9% compound annual rate base growth through 2029 and a long-term earnings CAGR of 6%-8%.

We continue to monitor ongoing DOJ scrutiny of the Plastics business. In November, Otter Tail disclosed a grand jury subpoena tied to an antitrust invest-

igation into PVC pricing practices. While no formal charges have been filed, a potential adverse outcome could materially impact financial results. Investors should remain cautious as this legal matter evolves. That said, management has guided for a more gradual normalization in the Plastics segment, now expecting annualized earnings of \$45 million-\$50 million by 2028, a delay from the original 2026 timeline.

Dividend growth continues, though the yield remains modest versus the industry averages. The board raised the quarterly dividend by 12% in the first quarter. This increase extended the company's decade-long streak of dividend hikes, which have averaged 4.4% annually. Still, the yield sits below the utility sector average.

These shares may appeal to conservative investors with a near-term hori**zon.** The utility is ranked Above Average (2) for Timeliness and Safety. But prospective investors should closely monitor the current DOJ investigation, which may cause the stock to be more volatile. Zachary J. Hodgkinson June 6, 2025

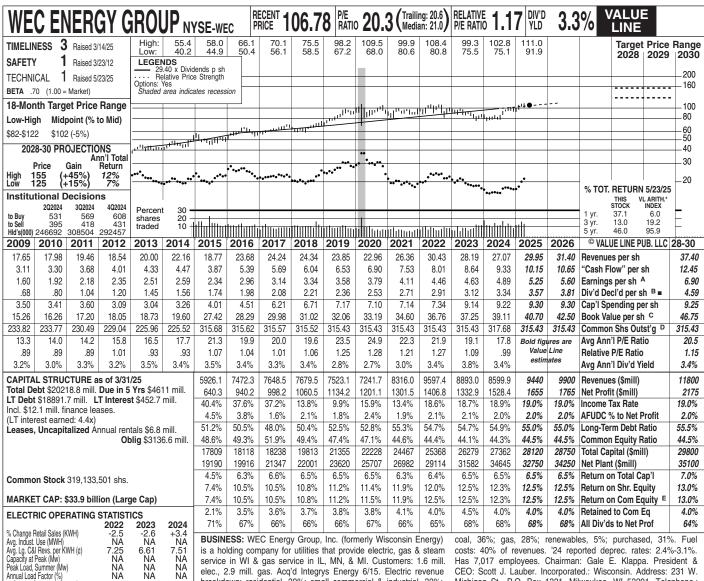
(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '10, (44¢); '11, 26¢; '13, 2¢; gains (losses) from disc. ops.: '11, (\$1.11); '12, (\$1.22); '13, 2¢; '14, 2¢; '15, 2¢; '16, 1¢; '17, 1¢. '19 EPS may not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due late July. (B) Div'ds histor. pd. in early Mar., Jun., Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$4.76/sh. (D) In

mill. **(E)** Rate allowed on com. eq. in MN in '22: 9.48%; in ND in '18: 9.77%; in SD in '19: 8.75%; earned on avg. com. eq., '21: 19.2%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

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85



service in WI & gas service in IL, MN, & MI. Customers: 1.6 mill. elec., 2.9 mill. gas. Acq'd Integrys Energy 6/15. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 39%; small commercial & industrial, 32%; large commercial & industrial, 21%; other, 8%. Generating sources:

Has 7,017 employees. Chairman: Gale E. Klappa. President & CEO: Scott J. Lauber. Incorporated.: Wisconsin. Address: 231 W. Michigan St., P.O. Box 1331, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Telephone.: 414-221-2345. Internet: www.wecenergygroup.com.

357 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 300 338 ANNUAL RATES Est'd '22-'24 Past Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 of change (per sh) 3.0% 7.0% 6.5% 2.0% 7.5% 7.0% 5.0% 6.5% Revenues 'Cash Flow' Earnings Dividends Book Value 6.0% 7.0% 4.0% 10.0% 6.5% 3.5%

% Change Customers (yr-end)

ΝA

+.6

ΝA

+.7

NA

+.2

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 2908 | 2127 | 2003 | 2558 | 9597.4 |
| 2023 | 2888 | 1830 | 1957 | 2218 | 8893.0 |
| 2024 | 2680 | 1772 | 1864 | 2284 | 8599.9 |
| 2025 | 3150 | 1900 | 2000 | 2390 | 9440 |
| 2026 | 3200 | 2050 | 2300 | 2350 | 9900 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHAR | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.79 | .91 | .96 | .80 | 4.46 |
| 2023 | 1.61 | .92 | 1.00 | 1.10 | 4.63 |
| 2024 | 1.97 | .67 | .82 | 1.43 | 4.89 |
| 2025 | 2.27 | .70 | .85 | 1.43 | 5.25 |
| 2026 | 2.10 | 1.10 | 1.20 | 1.20 | 5.60 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .6775 | .6775 | .6775 | .6775 | 2.71 |
| 2022 | .7275 | .7275 | .7275 | .7275 | 2.91 |
| 2023 | .7800 | .7800 | .7800 | .7800 | 3.12 |
| 2024 | .8350 | .8350 | .8350 | .8350 | 3.34 |
| 2025 | .8925 | | | | |

WEC Energy Group is off to a strong start in 2025. The company reported firstquarter earnings of \$2.27 per share, beating our \$2.00 call and increasing nicely from the \$1.97 tally a year ago. Revenue totaled \$3.15 billion, an 18% increase from the prior-year period. Growth was driven by solid electric and gas volumes across Wisconsin and Michigan, with residential electricity use up 5.5% and gas deliveries climbing 15.5% year-over-year. On a weather-normalized basis, electric demand rose 0.7%. Management reaffirmed its 2025 earnings target of \$5.17-\$5.27 a share. Our forecast remains unchanged at \$5.25, near the high end of the range.

We expect continued strength in 2026 and beyond. We are maintaining our 2026 earnings estimate of \$5.60 per share, reflecting 7% growth consistent with management's long-term earnings target of 6.5%-7%. A full year of rate relief, robust control demand, and disciplined cost should all contribute to this growth. WEC is executing its record \$28 billion five-year capital plan, which includes \$9.1 billion for renewable energy and 4,300 MW of generation capacity. These investments are

closely aligned with regional data center and AI-driven demand increases. We also expect positive contributions from new rate cases in key jurisdictions.

The company continues to return capital through a rising dividend. WEC raised its quarterly dividend by 6.9% earlier this year. This marks the 22nd consecutive year of dividend hikes, with the dividend yield now sitting just below the utility industry average. Management continues to target a payout ratio of 65%-70%, with dividend growth aligned with profit gains.

Conservative. income-oriented counts may be attracted to this issue. The stock is ranked 1 (Highest) for Safety and holds a top notch (100) score for Earnings Predictability and Price Stability. Adding to prospects, it holds a high Financial Strength grade rating. The dividend of this top-quality stock sits just below the high-paying industry average, and remains one of its most notable features. Also, these shares have recently been upgraded one notch to Average (3) for Timeliness.

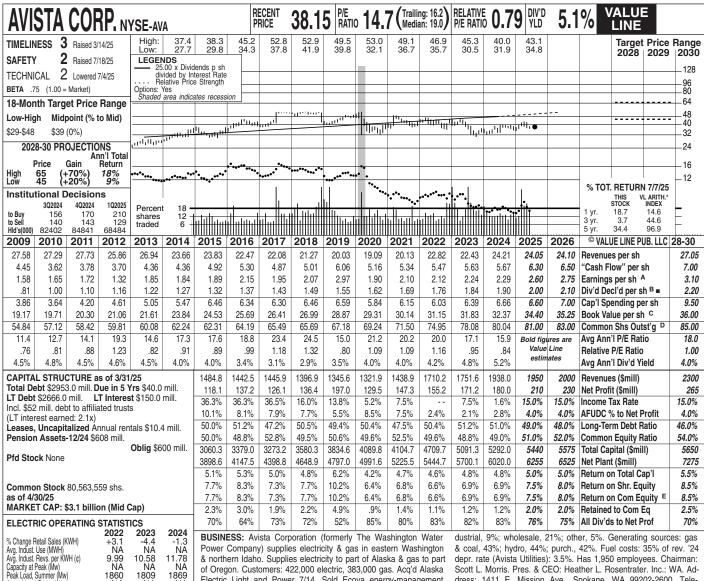
Zachary J. Hodgkinson

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. gain on discontinued ops.: '11, 6¢; nonrecurring gain: '17, 65¢. Next earnings report due late July. (B) Div'ds paid in early Mar., June, Sept. & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv-

estment plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '24: \$20.05/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rates all'd on com. eq. in WI in '15: 10.0%-10.2%; in IL in '21: 9.67%; in MN in '19: age.

9.7%; in MI in '23: 9.85%; earned on avg. com. eg., '21: 12.2%. Regulatory Climate: WI, Above Average; IL, Below Average; MN & MI, AverCompany's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100

June 6, 2025



& northern Idaho. Supplies electricity to part of Alaska & gas to part of Oregon. Customers: 422,000 electric, 383,000 gas. Acq'd Alaska Electric Light and Power 7/14. Sold Ecova energy-management sub. 6/14. Electric revenue: residential, 36%; commercial, 29%; indepr. rate (Avista Utilities): 3.5%. Has 1,950 employees. Chairman: Scott L. Morris. Pres. & CEO: Heather L. Rosentrater. Inc.: WA. Address: 1411 E. Mission Ave., Spokane, WA 99202-2600. Telephone: 509-489-0500. Internet: www.avistacorp.com.

175 200 210 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 2.0% 1.0% -1.0% Revenues -1.0% 2.0% 'Cash Flow' 3.5% 5.5% 3.0% Earnings 4.0% 3.0% 4.0% 2.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

1860

NA -1.0

1809

ŇĀ

+1.4

1869

NA

+1.2

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 462.7 | 378.6 | 359.4 | 509.5 | 1710.2 |
| 2023 | 474.6 | 379.9 | 379.6 | 517.5 | 1751.6 |
| 2024 | 609.4 | 402.1 | 393.7 | 532.8 | 1938.0 |
| 2025 | 617.0 | 410 | 400 | 523 | 1950 |
| 2026 | 620 | 420 | 410 | 550 | 2000 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHAR | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .99 | .16 | d.08 | 1.05 | 2.12 |
| 2023 | .73 | .23 | .19 | 1.08 | 2.24 |
| 2024 | .91 | .29 | .23 | .84 | 2.29 |
| 2025 | .98 | .30 | .35 | .97 | 2.60 |
| 2026 | 1.00 | .35 | .40 | 1.00 | 2.75 |
| Cal- | QUART | TERLY DIV | IDENDS PA | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .4225 | .4225 | .4225 | .4225 | 1.69 |
| 2022 | .44 | .44 | .44 | .44 | 1.76 |
| 2023 | .46 | .46 | .46 | .46 | 1.84 |
| 2024 | .475 | .475 | .475 | .475 | 1.90 |
| 2025 | .490 | .490 | | | |

Avista Corporation continues to make progress on regulatory matters. Its utility subsidiary, Avista Utilities, recently reached a comprehensive settlement in Idaho, resolving its general rate cases for both electric and natural gas services. The agreement, submitted to the state's Public Utilities Commission, proposes phased rate increases through 2026. If approved, electric base revenues would rise by \$19.5 million (6.3%) in September 2025 and another \$14.7 million (4.5%) the following year. On the gas side, rates would increase by \$4.6 million (9.2%) in 2025, followed by a slight reduction in 2026. The approved capital structure calls for a 9.6% return on equity, a 50% common equity ratio, and a 7.28% overall rate of return.

Capital deployment remains a central focus. Avista is planning \$525 million in capital expenditures in 2025, with nearly \$3 billion in total investment slated over the five years ending 2029. These funds are directed toward grid modernization, system reliability, and clean energy initiatives. Key priorities include electric and gas distribution infrastructure upgrades, technology integration, and wildfire risk

mitigation. Transmission system enhancements are also underway, alongside continued efforts to expand renewable natural gas infrastructure and support broader electrification trends. These investments will likely serve as supporting evidence in future rate filings, as the company aligns capital needs with regulatory support.

Near-term share earnings prospects remain favorable. We project earnings per share to grow in the low teens for 2025, supported by rate relief, operational cost management, and incremental customer growth. That said, the pace of bottom-line expansion will likely moderate in 2026 to a mid-single-digit range as cost pressures persist and rate case benefits normalize. Still, a constructive regulatory environment should help smooth variability and support earnings stability. Good-quality shares of Avista Corporation have above-average long-term capital appreciation potential, **present.** The equity offers a dividend yield of 5.1%, well above the utility average, making it appealing to income-focused

Emma Jalees

investors.

July 18, 2025

90

15

70

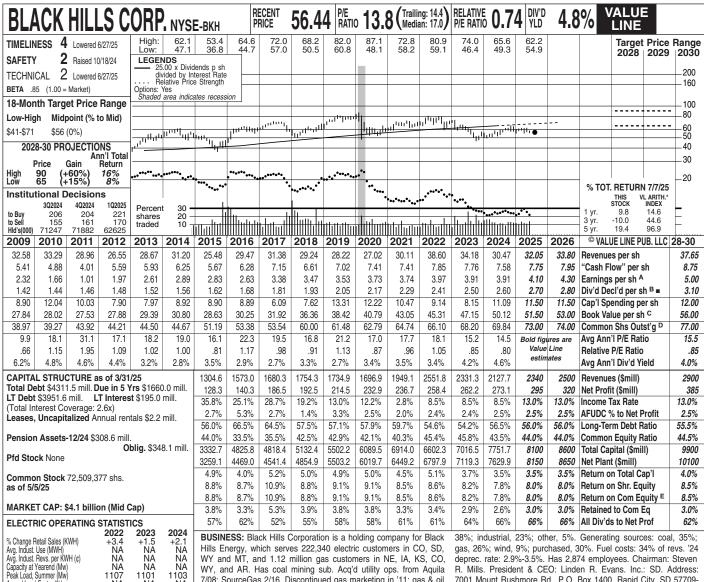
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (loss): '14, 9¢; '17, (16¢); gains on discont. ops.: '14, \$1.17; '15, 8¢. EPS may not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due August 6th.

(E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate allowed on Avg.; ID, Above Avg.

(B) Div'ds paid in mid-Mar., June, Sept. & Dec.
■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred chgs. In '24: \$961.0 mill., \$11.95/sh. (D) In mill.

'22: 7.1%. Regulatory Climate: WA, Below

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**



WY and MT, and 1.12 million gas customers in NE, IA, KS, CO, WY, and AR. Has coal mining sub. Acq'd utility ops. from Aquila 7/08; SourceGas 2/16. Discontinued gas marketing in '11; gas & oil E&P in '17. '24 Elec. rev. breakdown: residential, 34%; commercial,

deprec. rate: 2.9%-3.5%. Has 2,874 employees. Chairman: Steven R. Mills. President & CEO: Linden R. Evans. Inc.: SD. Address: 7001 Mount Rushmore Rd., P.O. Box 1400, Rapid City, SD 57709-1400. Tele: 605-721-1700. Internet: www.blackhillscorp.com.

281 254 261 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 4.0% 2.5% 2.5% Revenues 2.5% 1.5% 'Cash Flow' 3.0% 4.5% 2.0% 3.5% Earnings 5.0% 5.5% 3.5% 3.0% Dividends Book Value

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (yr-end)

1107

+1.0

1101

NA +.9

1103 NA

+1.0

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 | 823.6 921.2 726.4 805.2 | 474.2 411.3 402.6 410 | 462.6 407.1 401.6 410 | 791.4 591.7 597.1 714.8 | 2551.8 2331.3 2127.7 2340 |
| 2026 | 825 | 450 | 450 | 775 | 2500 |
| Cal- endar | EA Mar.31 | RNINGS F Jun.30 | ER SHARI Sep.30 | _ | Full Year |
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | 1.82 1.73 1.87 1.87 1.92 | .52 .35 .33 .40 | .54 .67 .35 .43 | 1.11 1.17 1.37 1.40 1.50 | 3.97 3.91 3.91 4.10 4.30 |
| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | TERLY DIV Jun.30 | IDENDS P. Sep.30 | AID B ■ Dec.31 | Full Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .565 .595 .625 .65 | .565 .595 .625 .65 .676 | .565 .595 .625 .65 | .595 .625 .625 .65 | 2.29 2.41 2.50 2.60 |

Black Hills is on track to deliver modest earnings gains in 2025. The company reported solid results in the March interim, as diluted earnings per share of \$1.87 met expectations. The recent quarter benefited from new rates in Colorado, improved rider recovery, and more favorable weather. These largely offset higher operating, financing, and depreciation expenses. Leadership reaffirmed its share-net projection of between \$4.00 and \$4.20, emphasizing strong confidence in its 4-6% growth outlook.

Black Hills is making excellent progress with its Ready Wyoming transmis**sion project.** The endeavor, at approximately 260 miles in length, represents the largest electric transmission project in company history. Ready Wyoming will interconnect the company's Wyoming electric system with its South Dakota electric system, providing long-term cost stability, greater resiliency, and energy accessibility to its customers, which include data cen-ters. Wyoming Electric has successfully procured all required regulatory approvals and land rights-of-way from landowners, and continues to construct the project in multiple segments. We expect the \$350 million project to be completed and in service by year-end. Separately, the company is also advancing its plans to deliver new electric generation resources in South Dakota and Colorado.

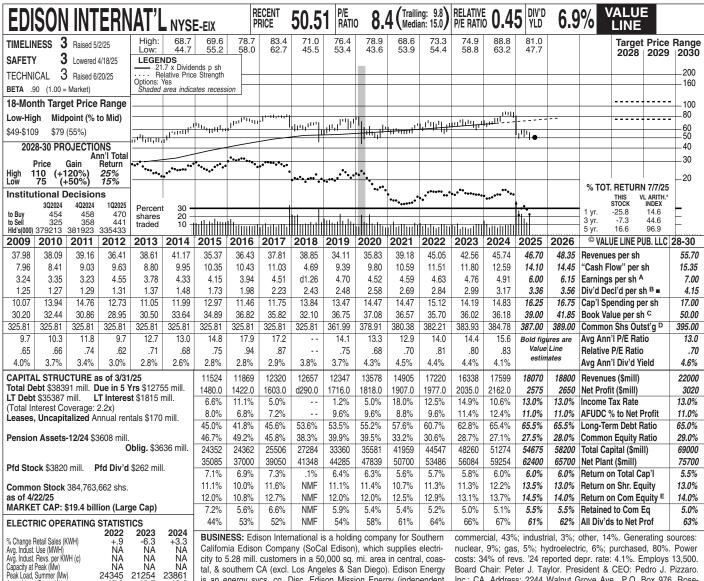
Leadership targets contribution from data centers to more than double to 10% or more of earnings by late decade. During the recent quarter, Wyoming Electric served a record peak load of 344 megawatts on February 12th, an increase of nearly 10% over the previous alltime peak of 314 megawatts in January 2024, driven by data center demand growth. The company possesses a pipeline exceeding one gigawatt of data center demand from existing customers.

Black Hills shares are ranked 4 (Below Average) for Timeliness. The equity does offer a generous dividend yield that makes it suitable for conservative, income-oriented accounts. Note, as well, that BKH stock carries exemplary marks for Financial Strength, Price Stability and Earnings Predictability, as well as an Above Average (2) ranking for Safety. Steven Brachman July 18, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains/(losses): '15, (\$3.54); '16, (\$1.26); '17, 14¢; '18, \$1.31; '19, (25¢); '20, (8¢); discont. ops.: '09, 7¢; '11, 23¢; '12, (16¢); '17, (31¢); '18, (12¢). Qtly. EPS

may not sum to full year due to rounding. Next egs. report due early Aug. (B) Div'ds paid in early March, June, Sept., and Dec. Div'd rein SD in '15: none specified; in CO in '17: inv. plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred chgs. and in- 9.37%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 30 **Earnings Predictability** 100



city to 5.28 mill. customers in a 50,000 sq. mi. area in central, coastal, & southern CA (excl. Los Angeles & San Diego). Edison Energy is an energy svcs. co. Disc. Edison Mission Energy (independent power producer) in '12. Elec. rev. breakdown: residential, 40%;

costs: 34% of revs. '24 reported depr. rate: 4.1%. Employs 13,500. Board Chair: Peter J. Taylor. President & CEO: Pedro J. Pizzaro. Inc.: CA. Address: 2244 Walnut Grove Ave., P.O. Box 976, Rosemead, CA 91770. Tel.: 626-302-2222. Internet: www.edison.com

135 166 153 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 4.0% 7.5% 12.5% Revenues 1.5% 4.0% 4.0% 6.5% 5.5% 6.0% 'Cash Flow' 2.5% Earnings 4.5% .5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

24345

45.8

+.8

21254

49.7

+.7

23861

43.6

+.8

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|-------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 3968 | 4008 | 5228 | 4016 | 17220 |
| 2023 | 3966 | 3964 | 4702 | 3706 | 16338 |
| 2024 | 4078 | 4336 | 5201 | 3984 | 17599 |
| 2025 | 3811 | 4529 | 5450 | 4280 | 18070 |
| 2026 | 4050 | 4710 | 5700 | 4340 | 18800 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHAR | ΕA | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.07 | .94 | 1.48 | 1.15 | 4.63 |
| 2023 | 1.09 | 1.01 | 1.38 | 1.28 | 4.76 |
| 2024 | 1.13 | 1.23 | 1.50 | 1.05 | 4.91 |
| 2025 | 1.37 | 1.40 | 1.80 | 1.43 | 6.00 |
| 2026 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.85 | 1.50 | 6.15 |
| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY DIV | IDENDS P | AID B = | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .6625 | .6625 | .6625 | .6625 | 2.65 |
| 2022 | .70 | .70 | .70 | .70 | 2.80 |
| 2023 | .7375 | .7375 | .7375 | .7375 | 2.95 |
| 2024 | .78 | .78 | .78 | .78 | 3.12 |
| 2025 | .8275 | .8275 | | | |

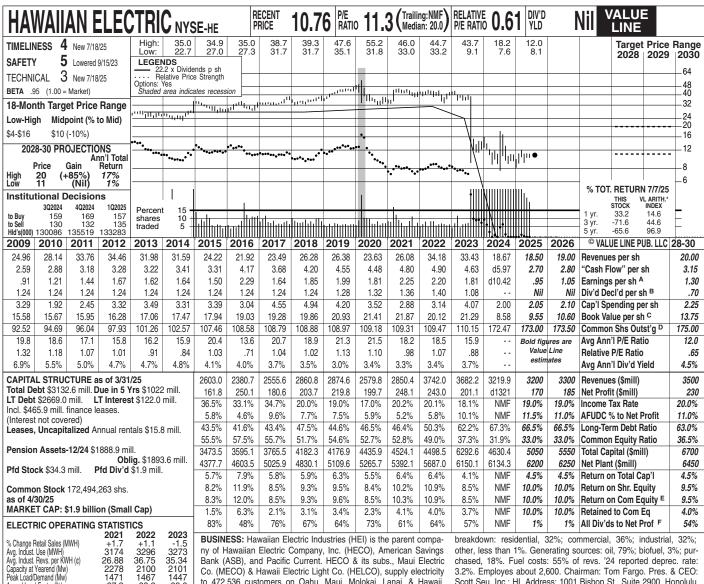
Edison International is being sued for allegedly igniting the Eaton Fire, one of the two more destructive blazes that rampaged through Los Angeles County in January. Lawsuits have been filed against the company bv firms representing residents, shareholders, insurers, the county, and the cities of Pasadena and Sierra Madre. While investigations are ongoing, the utility's equipment is being thoroughly considered as a potential ignition source of the wildfire. The company has acknowledged a possible link, but has not determined a definitive cause yet. The origin of the similarly destructive Palisades Fire began outside of Edison's service area, but it has still been named in lawsuits related to that blaze. The Eaton Fire destroyed over 9,400 structures and resulted in 18 fatalities, while the Palisades Fire wrecked more than 6,800 structures and led to 12 deaths. Combined, tens of thousands of acres were burned and significant public infrastructure was ruined. Property damages alone are estimated to be as high as \$55 billion. It may take several more months before authorities' investigations conclude.

The California Wildfire Fund of 2019 (CWF) will probably limit Edison's potential liability. The CWF serves as self insurance for the state's three major utilities. It was funded by the companies and their customers and contains \$21 billion. Under most circumstances the CWF would prevent utilities from suffering major material losses beyond the first \$1 billion of damages per incident, which is like a deductible and is not covered. Hence, even if EIX's equipment is found to be at fault for the Eaton Fire and possibly the smaller Hurst blaze, \$2 billion would not be too problematic for the company's balance sheet. It pales in comparison to the \$11 billion in market capitalization lost since early January. The problem is this exercise may not be as straightforward as that. There are uncertainties. The CWF does not fully cover negligence. Also, the CWF is likely to be largely depleted and will need to be replenished. There is no predefined mechanism for that.

This stock is not timely. Sentiment may remain poor for quite a while, with ongoing headline risk a factor to consider. Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

(A) Adj. (non-GAAP) EPS from 2019 on. Excl. gains/(losses): nonrecur's ; '10, 54¢; '11, (\$3.33); '13, (\$1.12); '15, (\$1.18); '17, (\$1.37); '22, (\$3.02); '23, (\$1.34); '24, (\$1.60); disc. paid late Jan., Apr., July, & Oct. ■ Div'd reinv. ops.: '13, 11¢; '14, 57¢; '15, 11¢; '18, 10¢. plan avl. (**C**) Incl. def'd chgs. In '24: \$4.40/sh. Qtly. EPS may not sum to full yr. due to round- (**D**) In mill. (**E**) Rate base: net orig. cost. Rate '18, (14¢); '19, (92¢); '20, (\$2.54); '21, (\$2.59); | ing. Next egs. report due late July. (B) Div'ds | all'd on com. eq. in '25: 10.33%; Reg Clmt Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 25 Price Growth Persistence 20 **Earnings Predictability** 15



Bank (ASB), and Pacific Current. HECO & its subs., Maui Electric Co. (MECO) & Hawaii Electric Light Co. (HELCO), supply electricity to 472,536 customers on Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, & Hawaii. Operating companies' systems are not interconnected. Elec. rev.

chased, 18%. Fuel costs: 55% of revs. '24 reported deprec. rate: 3.2%. Employes about 2,600. Chairman: Tom Fargo. Pres. & CEO: Scott Seu. Inc.: HI. Address: 1001 Bishop St., Suite 2900, Honolulu, HI 96808-0730. Telephone: 808-543-5662. Internet: www.hei.com.

393 356 273 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 NMF Revenues -1.5% 2.5% 'Cash Flow' NMF NMF -22.0% -9.5% Earnings -8.0% -3.5% NMF NMF Dividends Book Value -4.0%

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (yr-end)

1471

+.5

1467

68.0

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| | Full |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | | Year |
| 2022 | 785.1 | 895.6 | 1042.2 | 1019.1 | 3742.0 |
| 2023 | 928.2 | 895.7 | 896.9 | 961.4 | 3682.2 |
| 2024 | 792.0 | 795.4 | 833.3 | 799.2 | 3219.9 |
| 2025 | 744.1 | 800 | 845 | 810.9 | 3200 |
| 2026 | 805 | 815 | 860 | 820 | 3300 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHAR | | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | | Year |
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | .63 .50 .38 .23 | .48 .50 d11.74 <i>.24</i> | .57 .37 d.91 <i>.25</i> | .52 .44 .17 .23 | 2.20 1.81 d10.42 .95 1.05 |
| Cal- | QUAF | RTERLY DI | VIDENDS | | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | | Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .34 .35 .36 | .34 .35 .36 | .34 .35 .36 | .34 .35 | 1.36 1.40 1.08 |

Hawaiian Electric Industries (HEI) is making some progress on its climb back from 2023's Maui wildfires. To recap, on August 8, 2023, winds from Hurricane Dora resulted in downed power lines, which contributed to the blaze that destroyed the town of Lahaina and caused over 100 deaths. HEI was named as a defendant in more than 400 tort claims for local damages, a shareholders' class action suit, and subrogation claims on the part of insurers who had already paid customers. In a deal brokered by state authorities, the utility agreed to contribute nearly half of a \$4 billion payment to settle local lawsuits. Recently, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that once the settlement is legally finalized, insurers seeking to recover amounts they've paid to settling plaintiffs cannot separately sue defendants such as HEI. With that ruling in the company's favor, remaining administrative steps required to finalize the settlement are expected to be completed early in 2026, after which HEI is due to make its first of four \$479 million annual payments. In 2024, HEI took a \$1.875 billion pretax writeoff related to wildfire tort claims. We included it

in our earnings presentation to correlate with the massive drop in the share price. The grind back to respectability won't be easy. HEI initially contributed \$75 million to the state's wildfires victim fund and owes an additional \$1.916 billion, expected to be paid off from early 2026 through early 2029. It had \$240 million of insurance for the incident. To help raise the rest of the funds, the company sold a 90% stake in its savings bank subsidiary for \$405 million and a power plant for an undisclosed sum. It also took on huge equity dilution in a secondary offering of 62 million shares priced at \$9.25 each. The offering brought in \$575 million before fees, but the share count is up 57%. The rest of the settlement funds are expected to mainly come from cash flow and debt. We think the company will regain up

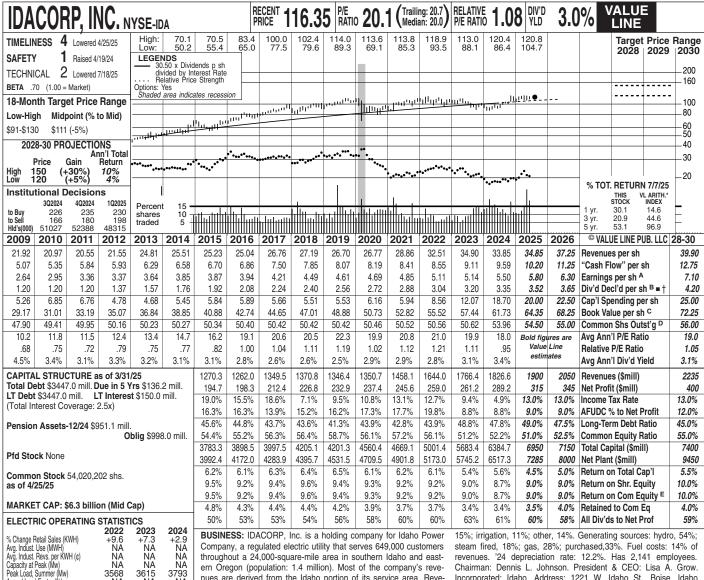
to 60% of its former per-share earnings power by late decade. After HEI has fully paid out the settlement it should be able to restore a portion of the former dividend in the 2029-2030 time frame. But the risk-reward proposition here does not merit a purchase at the recent quotation. Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

(A) Core diluted EPS from 2025. Excl. nonrec. losses: '12, d25¢; '17, d12¢; disc. ops. '24; d81¢. Qtrly. EPS may not sum to full year due to rounding. Next egs. report due mid-August.

(B) Quarterly div'ds have been suspended. (C) Incl. deferred charges and intag. In '24: \$1.70/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Orig. cost. Rate allowed on com. eq. in '18: HECO, 9.5%;

in '18: HELCO, 9.5%; in '18: MECO, 9.5%; Regulatory Climate: Below Average. (F) Incl.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability C+ 20 Price Growth Persistence 25 **Earnings Predictability** 15



throughout a 24,000-square-mile area in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon (population: 1.4 million). Most of the company's revenues are derived from the Idaho portion of its service area. Revenue breakdown: residential, 38%; commercial, 22%; industrial,

revenues. '24 depreciation rate: 12.2%. Has 2,141 employees. Chairman: Dennis L. Johnson. President & CEO: Lisa A. Grow. Incorporated: Idaho. Address: 1221 W. Idaho St., Boise, Idaho 83702. Telephone: 208-388-2200. Internet: www.idacorpinc.com

315 328 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 395 ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 4.5% 3.0% 3.5% Revenues 3.5% 3.5% 'Cash Flow" 4.0% 6.0% 6.0% Earnings 4.0% 7.5% 6.0% 4.5% 5.5% 4.5% Book Value 4.5% OHARTERI V REVENHES/\$ mill \

% Change Customers (vr-end)

3568

+2.4

3615

NA

+2.4

3793

NA

+2.2

| Cal- | | | VENUES(| | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|------------|----------------|--------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 344.3 | 358.7 | 518.0 | 422.9 | 1644.0 |
| 2023 | 429.7 | 413.8 | 510.9 | 412.0 | 1766.4 |
| 2024 | 448.9 | 451.1 | 528.5 | 398.1 | 1826.6 |
| 2025 | 432.5 | 480 | 550 | 437.5 | 1900 |
| 2026 | 500 | 520 | <i>550</i> | 480 | 2050 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARI | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .91 | 1.27 | 2.10 | .83 | 5.11 |
| 2023 | 1.11 | 1.35 | 2.07 | .61 | 5.14 |
| 2024 | .95 | 1.71 | 2.12 | .70 | 5.50 |
| 2025 | 1.10 | 1.80 | 2.20 | .70 | 5.80 |
| 2026 | 1.10 | 1.85 | 2.50 | .85 | 6.30 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | IDB ≡ † | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .71 | .71 | .71 | .75 | 2.88 |
| 2022 | .75 | .75 | .75 | .79 | 3.04 |
| 2023 | .79 | .79 | .79 | .83 | 3.20 |
| 2024 | .83 | .83 | .83 | .86 | 3.35 |
| 2025 | .86 | .86 | | | |

IDACORP continues to enjoy healthy share earnings despite elevated infrastructure costs. First-quarter results benefited from strong customer growth, recent rate cases, and the expected application of federal tax credits through Idaho's regulatory framework. These tailwinds helped offset rising depreciation and financing costs tied to its expanding infrastructure base.

We anticipate earnings momentum to carry through the rest of the year. Management reaffirmed its full-year guidance of \$5.65-\$5.85 per share based on assumptions of typical weather and stable power supply costs. The utility also expects to use \$60 million to \$77 million in additional tax credits through 2025, helping ease the cost of service for customers. Rate increases implemented at the start of the year should also lend support. In all, we estimate 2025 earnings to land near the high end of guidance, around \$5.80, with a further increase to \$6.30 in 2026, reflecting annual growth of more than 5% and 8%, respectively.

IDACORP has mapped out a substantial capital investment strategy. The

utility plans to invest \$1.0 billion to \$1.1 billion in 2025, between \$1.25 billion and \$1.35 billion in 2026, and \$3.1 billion to \$3.6 billion from 2027 to 2029. These funds will support a broad range of projects, including three major transmission lines, resource procurement for new generation, and continued enhancements to system reliability. The company's 2025 Integrated Resource Plan, recently filed with regulators, highlights the urgent need for additional energy resources, battery storage, and efficiency programs as it prepares for one of its most rapid demand expansions. Over the next 20 years, peak demand is expected to rise nearly 45%, or roughly 1,700 megawatts, with more than half of that increase arriving in the next five years

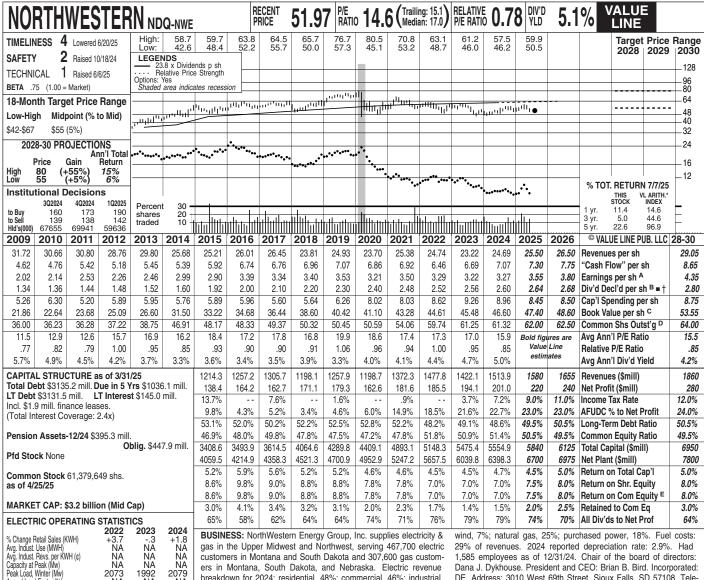
That said, IDACORP's investment appeal may remain limited in the near term. At the current quotation, the equity is ranked to underperform the broader market averages. At 3.0%, the dividend yield is below average for the utility sector, and capital appreciation potential appears subpar.

Emma Jalees July 18, 2025

(A) Diluted EPS. Earnings may not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due July 31st. (B) Dividends historically paid in late February, May, August, and November. ■ Dividend rein-

vestment plan available. † Shareholder investment plan available. (C) Incl. intangibles. In '24: \$1418.0 mill., \$26.28/sh. (D) In millions. (E) Rate base: Net original cost. Rate allowed

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 100



customers in Montana and South Dakota and 307,600 gas customers in Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Electric revenue breakdown for 2024: residential, 48%; commercial, 46%; industrial, 4%; and other, 2%. Generating sources: coal, 24%; hydro, 26%;

1,585 employees as of 12/31/24. Chair of the board of directors: Dana J. Dykhouse. President and CEO: Brian B. Bird. Incorporated: DE. Address: 3010 West 69th Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Telephone: 605-978-2900. Internet: www.northwesternenergy.com

219 216 205 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 Revenues -1.5% -.5% 3.0% 'Cash Flow' 2.5% 2.5% -.5% -1.0% 4.5% 4.5% Earnings 3.0% 3.5% 1.5% 2.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

2073

NA

+1.5

ΝA

ΝA

+1.6

1992

2079

NA

+1.5

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 394.5 | 323.0 | 335.1 | 425.2 | 1477.8 |
| 2023 | 454.5 | 290.5 | 321.1 | 356.0 | 1422.1 |
| 2024 | 475.3 | 319.9 | 345.2 | 373.5 | 1513.9 |
| 2025 | 466.6 | 330 | 369 | 414.4 | 1580 |
| 2026 | 490 | 350 | 385 | 430 | 1655 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHAR | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.08 | .58 | .47 | 1.16 | 3.29 |
| 2023 | 1.10 | .32 | .48 | 1.32 | 3.22 |
| 2024 | 1.08 | .52 | .64 | 1.03 | 3.27 |
| 2025 | 1.25 | .42 | .75 | 1.13 | 3.55 |
| 2026 | 1.30 | .50 | .80 | 1.20 | 3.80 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | IDB∎† | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .62 | .62 | .62 | .62 | 2.48 |
| 2022 | .63 | .63 | .63 | .63 | 2.52 |
| 2023 | .64 | .64 | .64 | .64 | 2.56 |
| 2024 | .65 | .65 | .65 | .65 | 2.60 |
| 2025 | .66 | .66 | | | |

NorthWestern Energy looks on pace for a decent year. First-quarter 2025 results benefited from more heating degree days than is typical. By the company's own estimate, the additional weather-related demand provided a \$0.03-per-share boost to earnings. In 2024, the utility suffered from fewer than typical heating and cooling days, crimping full-year earnings by \$0.13 per share. Weathernormalized results would put last year's profit at roughly \$3.40 a share. Leadership is using that figure as a base level of measurement, with a stated goal of 4%-6% annual growth from there. That would place this year's share-earnings target at \$3.54 to \$3.60 and next year's at \$3.68 to 3.82. The company is a bit overdue for rate relief, and is, thus far, being allowed to bill for a partial increase of 4.2%. We suspect the benefits of higher delivery rates will likely fall more into 2026's results than this year's tally, resulting in profits being skewed to the low end of the weathernormalized range for 2025 and towards the higher end for next year.

Management believes the Montana general rate case is on track for a con**structive outcome.** As of late April, the company had a full natural gas settlement reached with major intervenors and a partial electric settlement reached as well. The state regulatory commission began evidentiary hearings on June 9th, with those concluding towards the end of that month. A final decision is expected shortly, with new rates likely to take effect some

time during the third quarter.

The company is the beneficiary of some positive tort reform regarding wildfires. Montana's governor signed a major wildfire liability bill into law on May 13th. The new law limits the amount of damages that can be assessed on electric co-ops and public utilities to real economic figures from fires that may have started from electrical equipment. Punitive damages are to be excluded if a utility is following an approved mitigation plan.

This issue is untimely. NWE has average growth prospects relative to its peer group, but offers slightly better total return potential out to 2026-2028 than most. The high dividend yield is a plus, comparing favorable to the 3.6% industry median. Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

(A) Diluted egs. Excl. nonrec. gains/(losses):

degs. report due late July. (B) Div'ds paid late
i'12, 40¢; '15, 27¢; '18, 52¢; '19, 45¢; '20,
i(15¢); '21, 10¢; '22, (4¢); '24, 38¢. Qtly EPS
may not sum to full yr. due to rounding. Next

def'd charges and intag. '24: \$18.30/sh. (D) In

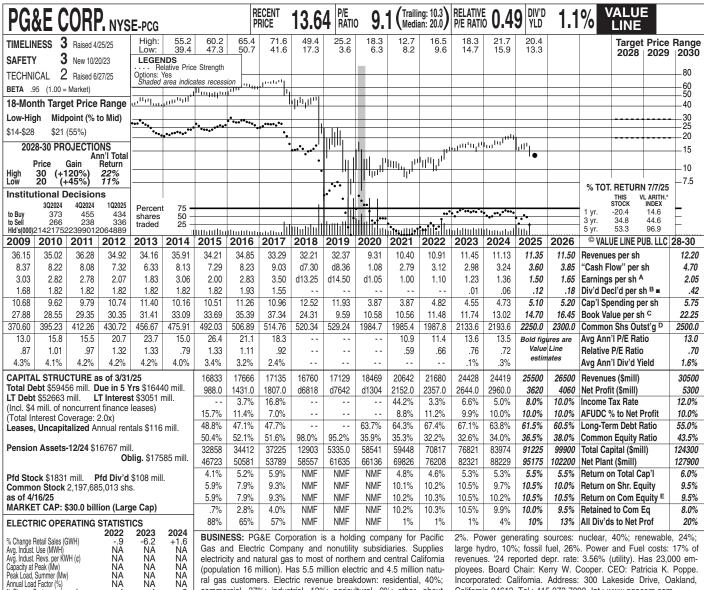
def'd charges and intag. '24: \$18.30/sh. (D) In

10.4%. Reg. Climate: Below Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

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15



(population 16 million). Has 5.5 million electric and 4.5 million natural gas customers. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 40%; commercial, 37%; industrial, 12%; agricultural, 9%; other, about ployees. Board Chair: Kerry W. Cooper. CEO: Patricia K. Poppe. Incorporated: California, Address: 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, California 94612. Tel.: 415-973-7000. Int.: www.pgecorp.com.

| Fixed Charge Cov. (%) | | 188 | 162 | 163 |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| ANNUAL RATES | Past | Past | Est'd ' | 22-'24 |
| of change (per sh) | 10 Yrs. | 5 Yrs. | to '2 | 8-'30 |
| Revenues | -11.0% | -19.5% | 5 1. | 5% |
| "Cash Flow" | -8.0% | | | 5% |
| Earnings | -6.0% | | | 0% |
| Dividends | -36.0% | | | IMF |
| Book Value | -9.0% | -12.5% | 11. | 0% |

Annual Load Factor (%)
% Change Customers (vr-end)

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | TERLY RE Jun.30 | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------|--|--|
| 2022 | 5798 | 5118 | 5394 | 5370 | 21680 | | |
| 2023 | 6209 | 5290 | 5888 | 7041 | 24428 | | |
| 2024 | 5861 | 5986 | 5941 | 6631 | 24419 | | |
| 2025 | 5983 | 6262 | 6300 | 6955 | 25500 | | |
| 2026 | 6225 | 6500 | 6550 | 7225 | 26500 | | |
| Cal- | E/ | RNINGS F | ER SHARI | ΕA | Full | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | | |
| 2022 | .30 | .25 | .29 | .26 | 1.10 | | |
| 2023 | .29 | .23 | .24 | .47 | 1.23 | | |
| 2024 | .37 | .31 | .37 | .31 | 1.36 | | |
| 2025 | .33 | .36 | .41 | .40 | 1.50 | | |
| 2026 | .39 | .39 | .44 | .43 | 1.65 | | |
| Cal- | QUAF | RTERLY DI | VIDENDS F | PAID B | Full | | |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year | | |
| 2021 | | | | | | | |
| 2022 | | | | | | | |
| 2023 | | | | | | | |
| 2024 | .01 | .01 | .01 | .01 | .04 | | |
| 2025 | .025 | .025 | .025 | | | | |

Poor sentiment is pressuring PG&E's **share price.** Despite January's Los Angeles County wildfires igniting outside of PG&E's service area, with no involve-ment of its equipment, the utility stock sold off in sympathy with that of its peer, Edison International, whose equipment is being investigated as a potential cause of the Eaton Fire. The California Wildfire Fund of 2019 (CWF) vastly diminishes the odds of bankruptcy, as it acts as a \$21 billion self-funded insurance policy for the state's three major investor-owned utilities (Edison International, PG&E, Sempra). This year's fires may eventually deplete much of the CWF fund, resulting in its need to be replenished, likely through state-issued bonds, ultimately backed up by additional surcharges on the three major California utilities' ratepayers bills. This leads to the prospect of a more difficult overall state regulatory climate. Further, the size and economic cost of recent wildfires associated with electrical equipment, despite extensive utility mitigation efforts, shows that in certain areas, under extreme conditions, there is always going to be some risk of a major adverse event.

It's an uncertainty that many investors are increasingly uncomfortable with.

Wildfire mitigation will continue to be a key focus at PG&E. The utility is using multiple solutions to reduce the odds of a repeat of the major wildfires that put it in bankruptcy court years ago. Automated shutoff switching systems, drones, vegetation management, and, where possible, underground power lines are being deployed. These investments help to generate revenue for the company, as they are recouped with an economic return through the regulatory rate-setting process.

The utility is on track for solid earnings gains. PG&E received a favorable general rate case, with the regulated return on equity moving up 70 basis points to 10.7% starting from early 2024. That level is among the highest in the country. That should enable it to grow per-share profits at around a 9% rate to late decade. PG&E stock offers above average to-

tal return prospects, but there are caveats to consider. The issue's Safety rank of 3 is below average for a utility, and wildfire risks are an ongoing factor. Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

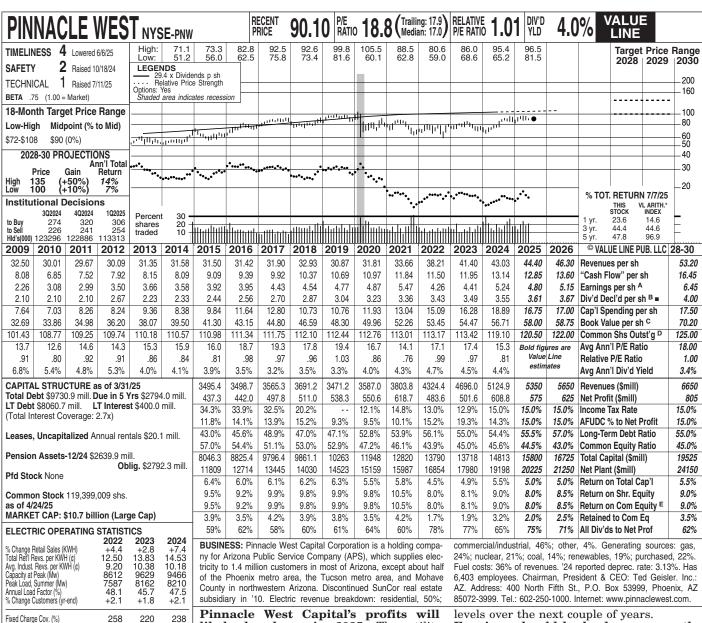
(A) Diluted EPS. Adjusted (non-GAAP) egs. from 2021 on. Excl. nonrecur. gains/(losses): '09, 17¢; '11, (68¢); '12, (15¢); '15, (21¢); '16, (5¢); '17, (29¢); '21, (\$1.05); '22, (26¢); '23

(18¢); '24 (21¢). Quarterly earnings per share may not sum to full year due to rounding and/or changes in share count. Next earnings report cost. Rate allowed on common equity in '24:

due late July. (B) Div'ds suspended 12/17, 10.7%; Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 70 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

20



Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '28-'30 Revenues 3.0% 5.0% 4.5% 'Cash Flow" 3.5% 5.0% 5.0% Earnings 4.0% 3.5% 4.0% Book Value 4 0% OHARTERI V REVENHES (\$ mill)

| Cal- endar | | Jun.30 | | | Full Year |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2022 | 783.5 | 1061.7 | | 1009.3 | 4324.4 |
| 2023 | 945.0 | 1121.7 | | 991.5 | 4696.0 |
| 2024 | 951.7 | 1309.0 | | 1095.4 | 5124.9 |
| 2025 | 1032.3 | 1357.7 | | 1150 | 5350 |
| 2026 | 1090 | 1435 | | 1225 | 5650 |
| Cal- | E/ | ARNINGS F | ER SHAR | | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | | Year |
| 2022 | .15 | 1.45 | 2.88 | d.21 | 4.26 |
| 2023 | d.03 | .94 | 3.50 | Nil | 4.41 |
| 2024 | .15 | 1.76 | 3.37 | d.06 | 5.24 |
| 2025 | d.04 | 1.65 | 3.20 | <i>d.01</i> | 4.80 |
| 2026 | .11 | 1.70 | 3.35 | <i>d.01</i> | 5.15 |
| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | TERLY DIV Jun.30 | | | Full Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .83 .85 .865 .88 .895 | .83 .85 .865 .88 .895 | .83 .85 .865 .88 | .85 .865 .88 .895 | 3.34 3.42 3.48 3.54 |

likely be down in 2025. The utility benefited from a record heat wave last year in Arizona that lifted cooling demand, helping to send retail sales volume up Leadership affirmed weather-normalized earnings projection of \$4.40 to \$4.60 per share. This range takes into account the first quarter loss, which was largely due to higher planned operations and maintenance expense related to power plant overhauls. The extra work was needed to ensure reliability during peak seasonal demand. Still, we think the company will prove to be a bit too conservative in its forecast. Sweltering heat in 2022 and 2023, followed by an even more oppressive stretch last year, doesn't seem like a trend that will readily pivot back to normalized temperatures. In addition, Pinnacle West's service area benefits from strong migration, as Arizona's 2.5% flat income tax rate helps draw in out-of-state retirees. A business friendly government also keeps the regional economy headed in the right direction. Customer growth rose 2.1% in 2024 and 2.3% during the March quarter. It will probably be up similar

Earnings should be back on a growth trajectory in 2026. In addition to the higher than typical electricity volumes in 2024, which make for difficult quarterly bottom-line comparisons this year, the company is also experiencing regulatory lag. The utility filed a rate case application in June, seeking a net base-rate increase of \$580 million. It should garner a decision next year, and a potential revenue increase in the back half of 2026. In the utility's most recent rate-case decision, handed down in February 2024, it received fair treatment from a revamped Arizona Public Service Commission.

This issue is untimely. Longer term, we continue to like this electric utility, as it is the beneficiary of a premium service area with rising energy demand from population growth and a healthy economy. Still, utility investors need to be disciplined buyers and wait for a better entry point. We think a 5% drawdown, sending the stock into the mid-\$80 area, would provide a worthwhile risk-adjusted annual total return expectation. Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

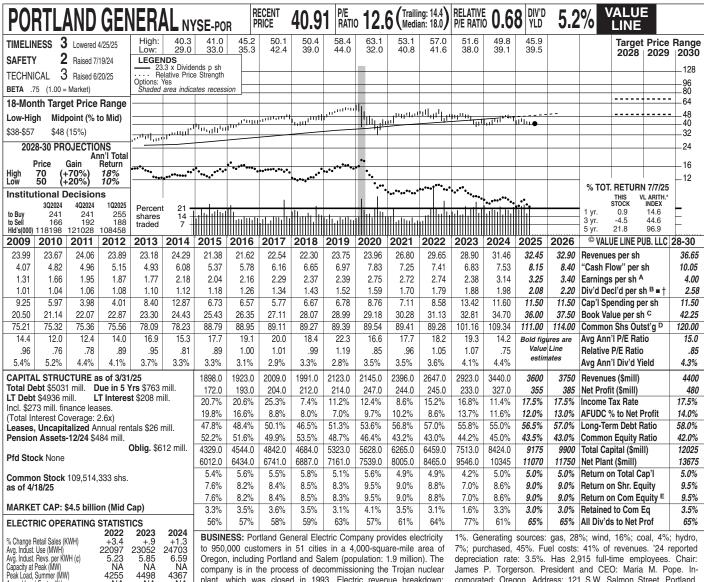
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain/(loss): '09, (\$1.45); '17, 8¢; gains/(losses) from discont. (\$1.45); '17, 8¢; gains/(losses) from discont. ops.: '09, (13¢); '10, 18¢; '11, 10¢; '12, (5¢). Qtly. EPS may not sum to full year due to

Sept., & Dec. There were 5 declarations in '12. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail.

rounding. Next egs. report due early August. (C) Incl. deferred charges/other intangibles. In (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, '24: \$33.55/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Fair value. Rate allowed on common equity in '24: 9.55%-9.85%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 95 Price Growth Persistence 30 **Earnings Predictability** 80

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to 950,000 customers in 51 cities in a 4,000-square-mile area of Oregon, including Portland and Salem (population: 1.9 million). The company is in the process of decommissioning the Trojan nuclear plant, which was closed in 1993. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 51%; commercial, 33%; industrial, 16%; other, less than

7%; purchased, 45%. Fuel costs: 41% of revenues. '24 reported depreciation rate: 3.5%. Has 2,915 full-time employees. Chair: James P. Torgerson. President and CEO: Maria M. Pope. Incorporated: Oregon. Address: 121 S.W. Salmon Street, Portland, OR 97204. Tel.: 503-464-8000. Internet: www.portlandgeneral.com.

254 217 235 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 5.5% 2.0% 3.0% 5.5% 3.0% Revenues 2.5% 3.5% 'Cash Flow' 3.0% 3.5% 5.5% 6.5% Earnings 5.5% 4.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

4255

ŇĂ

+1.1

4498

ŇĀ

+.7

4367

NΑ

+1.6

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | 626 748 929 928 975 | 591 648 758 797 | 743 802 929 975 1020 | 687 725 824 900 | 2647 2923 3440 3600 3750 |
| Cal- endar | EA Mar.31 | | ER SHARI Sep.30 | _ | Full Year |
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | .67 .80 1.21 .91 1.00 | .44 .69 .70 | .46 | | 2.74 2.38 3.14 3.25 3.40 |
| Cal- endar | QUART Mar.31 | | DENDS PA Sep.30 | | Full Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .4075 .43 .4525 .475 .50 | .43 | .4525 | .43 .4525 .475 .50 | 1.68 1.77 1.86 1.95 |

Portland General Electric stock has been a weak performer lately. The results of the company's Oregon rate-case decision in December were disappointing, as the authorized return on equity (ROE) was reduced from 9.5% to 9.34%. Portland General was seeking an 8.6% across-theboard rate increase for the recoupment of investments made, but instead received a 5.5% residential hike and 7.7% commercial/industrial increase. Overall, Portland got a \$98 million revenue lift, representing 54% of the requested amount. The rise helps, but up against higher interest and depreciation expenses and rising operations and maintenance costs, the company is targeting earnings of \$3.13 to \$3.33 per share this year. Our \$3.25 estimate is slightly north of the midpoint of the range and still only represents 3.5% earnings-per-share growth. This is despite the com-pany seeing solid demand trends (more below). Another factor potentially hurting share performance is the impact of January's wildfires in California on sentiment for Pacific Northwest utilities. Portland General by all accounts does a very good job with wildfire mitigation, but material

adverse risks remain for operators whose territory spans densely forested areas.

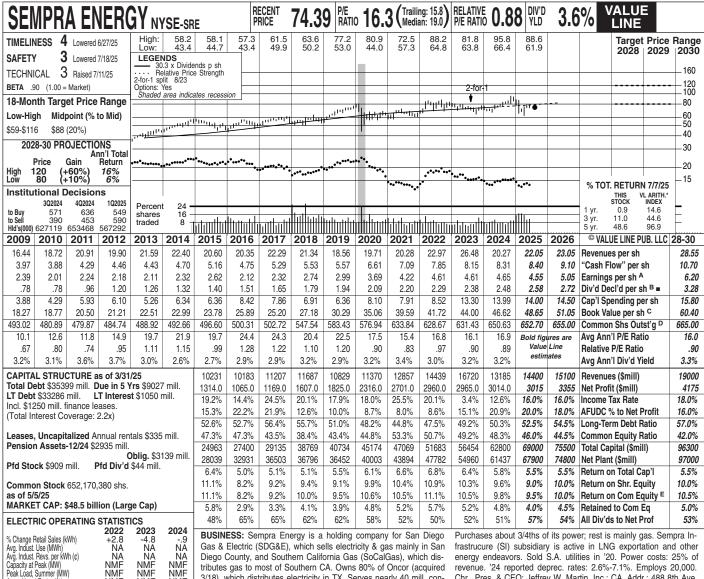
Long-term electricity demand growth in the utility's service area is a plus. There's a cluster of high-tech companies occupying an area referred to as the "Silicon Forest" within Portland General's territory. Key employers there include In-Adobe, Microsoft, NTTGlobal. NVIDIA, Synopsys, and Stack Infrastructure. Portland also counts Microchip Technology, Lam Research, and ON Semiconamong others as commerductor. cial/industrial Weathercustomers. adjusted demand has been rising at a solid pace from the semiconductor industry and data centers, which also provide a lift to the region's economy. The company is expecting load growth to average 2.5% to 3.5% for the foreseeable future.

This equity is ranked to track the year-ahead market. POR's dividend yield is more than a percentage point and a half above the 3.6% peer-group median. While total return prospects look appealing, investors do need to consider the wildfire risk in the Pacific Northwest Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

earnings. Excl. nonrecurring): '13, (42¢); '17, (19¢); '20, (14¢); '23, (5¢); '24, (13¢). (A) Diluted gains/(losses): (\$1.03); '22, Quarterly EPS many not sum to full year due to | Shareholder investment plan available. (C) Incl. | Regulatory Climate: Average.

rounding. Next earnings report due late July.
(B) Dividends paid mid-Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan available. † Rate allowed on common equity in '25: 9.34%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 95 Price Growth Persistence 30 **Earnings Predictability** 85



Diego County, and Southern California Gas (SoCalGas), which distributes gas to most of Southern CA. Owns 80% of Oncor (acquired 3/18), which distributes electricity in TX. Serves nearly 40 mill. consumers, mainly in CA, TX, and Mexico. Elctrc. rev. breakdown: N/A.

energy endeavors. Sold S.A. utilities in '20. Power costs: 25% of revenue. '24 reported deprec. rates: 2.6%-7.1%. Employs 20,000. Chr., Pres. & CEO: Jeffrey W. Martin. Inc.: CA. Addr.: 488 8th Ave., San Diego, CA 92101. Tel.: 619-696-2000. Int: www.sempra.com.

232 194 174 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 2.5% 8.0% 11.5% Revenues 1.0% 3.5% 'Cash Flow' 6.0% 7.5% 4.5% 5.0% Earnings 6.0% 10.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (yr-end)

NMF

+.5

NMF

NMF

+.9

NMF

+.8

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|---------------|----------------|----------|--------------------|--------|--------------|
| 2022 | 3820 | 3547 | 3617 | 3455 | 14439 |
| 2023 | 6560 | 3335 | 3334 | 3491 | 16720 |
| 2024 | 3640 | 3011 | 2776 | 3758 | 13185 |
| 2025 | 3802 | 3148 | 3200 | 4250 | 14400 |
| 2026 | 4250 | 3225 | 3275 | 4350 | 15100 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS F | ER SHARI | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | 1.46 | .99 | .99 | 1.18 | 4.61 |
| 2023 | 1.46 | .94 | 1.08 | 1.13 | 4.61 |
| 2024 | 1.34 | .89 | .89 | 1.50 | 4.65 |
| 2025 | 1.44 | .90 | .90 | 1.31 | 4.55 |
| 2026 | 1.45 | 1.05 | 1.10 | 1.45 | 5.05 |
| Cal- | QUAF | TERLY DI | VIDENDS F | PAID B | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .523 | .55 | .55 | .55 | 2.17 |
| 2022 | .55 | .573 | .573 | .573 | 2.27 |
| 2023 | .573 | .595 | .595 | .595 | 2.36 |
| 2024 | .595 | .62 | .62 | .62 | 2.46 |
| 2025 | 62 | 645 | 645 | | |

Sempra Energy stock has recovered some since our last review three months ago. The share price was under significant pressure after management cut its 2025 earnings-per-share outlook, from \$4.90-5.25, to \$4.30-\$4.70. The utility did not receive as much rate relief from California regulators as it had expected. Management also cited inflationary pressures and a higher cost of capital as headwinds. It now believes 7%-9% share-earnings growth through late decade is feasible given a revamped and more ambitious capital plan it's working on. To help fund investments, the company is likely to sell some of its assets in Mexico and a minority interest in the Sempra Infrastructure subsidiary. We think 8% profit growth is achievable from this year's reduced target as a base level. Sempra's Texas subsidiary, Oncor, benefits from strong demographic trends and a healthy local economy. Those two factors are driving high load growth. Utility investment, which receives a 9.7% regulated return on equity (ROE), is slated to expand at an 11% clip annually through late decade. The California service area has pretty good long-term prospects.

Sempra is not exempt from the impact of wildfires. Like its peers further north in California, Edison International (EIX) and PG&E, Sempra has a service area that is prone to the Santa Ana winds and dry spells ripe for fires. There's less forested areas so historically wildfires have been contained to fewer acres. Sempra has also done a good job with mitigation and early detection. The California Wildfire Fund (CWF) of 2019 typically contains \$21 billion to back up the three major California utilities from suffering more than a \$1 billion loss per incident. This year's tragic losses in Los Angeles County could severely deplete the fund. It has not been stress tested to the level it may encounter if EIX is found liable for the Eaton Fire. If the CWF needs replenishment, the task could fall on Sempra and PG&E as well, raising bills for ratepayers. That could negatively impact the regulatory environment.

Sempra stock is an untimely selection for year-ahead relative performance. Longer term, annual total return prospects are decent for a utility. The 3.6% dividend yield is right at the industry median. Anthony J. Glennon July 18, 2025

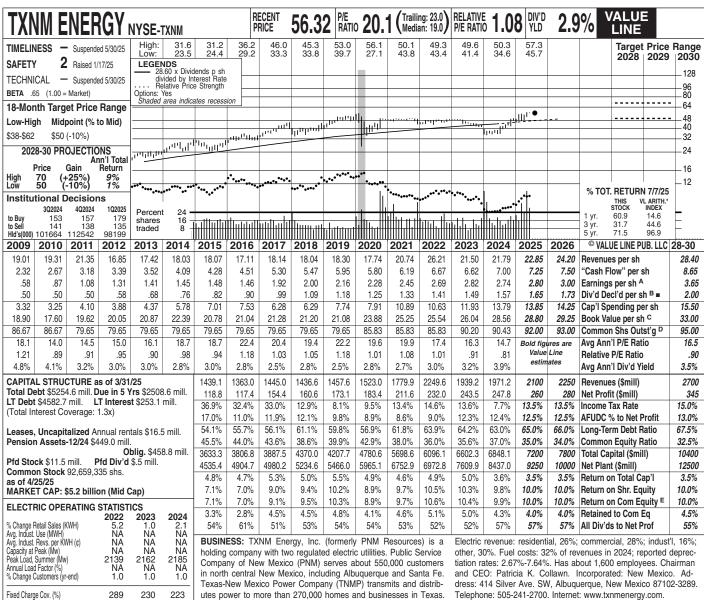
(A) Diluted egs. Excl. nonrec. gains/(losses): '09, (13¢); '10, (52¢); '11, 58¢; '12, (44¢); '13, (11¢); '15, 7¢; '16, 61¢; '17, (\$1.81); '18, (\$1.03); '19, 8¢; '20, (40¢); '21, (\$2.21); '22,

paid Jan., Apr., July, Oct. ■ Div. reinv. avail.

(\$1.30); '23, 18¢; '24, (23¢). Disc. ops.: '19, 58¢; '20, \$3.15. Qtly. EPS may not sum due to round'g. Next egs. rpt due early Aug. (B) Div'ds eq.: SDG&E '24: 10.23%; SoCalGas '24: 10.08%; Oncor '23: 9.7%. Reg. Climate: Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 45 Price Growth Persistence 50 **Earnings Predictability** 95

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utes power to more than 270,000 homes and businesses in Texas.

Telephone: 505-241-2700. Internet: www.txnmenergy.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '22-'24 10 Yrs. of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. to '28-'30 3.0% 6.0% 7.0% 5.5% 3.5% 6.5% 6.0% 3.0% 4.0% 4.5% 5.0% Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings 8.0% Dividends **Book Value** 2.0% 4.0% 3.5%

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|
| 2022 | 444.1 | 499.7 | 729.9 | 575.9 | 2249.6 |
| 2023 | 544.1 | 477.2 | 505.9 | 412.0 | 1939.2 |
| 2024 | 436.9 | 488.1 | 569.3 | 476.9 | 1971.2 |
| 2025 | 482.8 | 510 | 585 | 522.2 | 2100 |
| 2026 | 500 | 540 | 650 | 560 | 2250 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARE | Α | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2022 | .50 | .57 | 1.46 | .15 | 2.69 |
| 2023 | .55 | .55 | 1.54 | .18 | 2.82 |
| 2024 | .41 | .60 | 1.43 | .30 | 2.74 |
| 2025 | .19 | .63 | 1.70 | .28 | 2.80 |
| 2026 | .31 | .65 | 1.75 | .29 | 3.00 |
| Cal- | QUART | ERLY DIVI | DENDS PA | ID B∎ | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | .3275 | .3275 | .3275 | .3275 | 1.31 |
| 2022 | .3475 | .3475 | .3475 | .3475 | 1.39 |
| 2023 | .3675 | .3675 | .3675 | .3675 | 1.47 |
| 2024 | .3875 | .3875 | .3875 | .3875 | 1.55 |
| 2025 | .4075 | .4075 | , | | |
| | | | | | |

TXNM Energy has agreed to be acquired by Blackstone Infrastructure. Blackstone is an active investor across the energy, transportation, digital infrastructure, and water and waste infrastructure sectors, with over \$60 billion in assets under management. Under the terms of the deal announced on May 19th, TXNM Energy holders would receive \$61.25 in cash per share upon closing, reflecting a total enterprise value of \$11.5 billion. The agreed upon price represents an approximate 16% premium to the preannouncement closing quotation of TXNM stock. Blackstone Infrastructure is funding the purchase entirely with equity, and does not anticipate increasing TXNM Energy leverage levels to fund the purchase of the company. Blackstone also is investing \$400 million through the purchase of eight million newly issued shares of TXNM Energy common stock at \$50 per share in a private placement agreement designed to support TXNM Energy's ambitious growth plans. We expect the transaction, which was unanimously approved by TXNM Energy's Board of Directors, to close during the second half of 2026, subject to shareholder and regulatory approvals.

TXNM Energy and its two regulated are to remain locally managed and operated. The Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) and the Texas-New Mexico Power Company (TNMP) will each retain their respective headquarters in New Mexico and Texas, with customer rates continuing to be set by state regulators. The acquisiton by Blackstone provides long-term infrastructure investment designed to support economic development throughout the duration of New Mexico's transition to clean energy, while simultaneously driving ongoing capital investment and growth into Texas.

Given the pending transaction with Blackstone Infrastructure, we have suspended the Timeliness rank for TXNM Energy stock. At the recent quotation, TXNM stock trades at an approximate 8% discount to the deal price. We expect dividends to continue to be paid to TXNM shareholders through the closing of the transaction, although this is subject to approval by TXNM's Board of Directors. Steven Brachman July 18, 2025

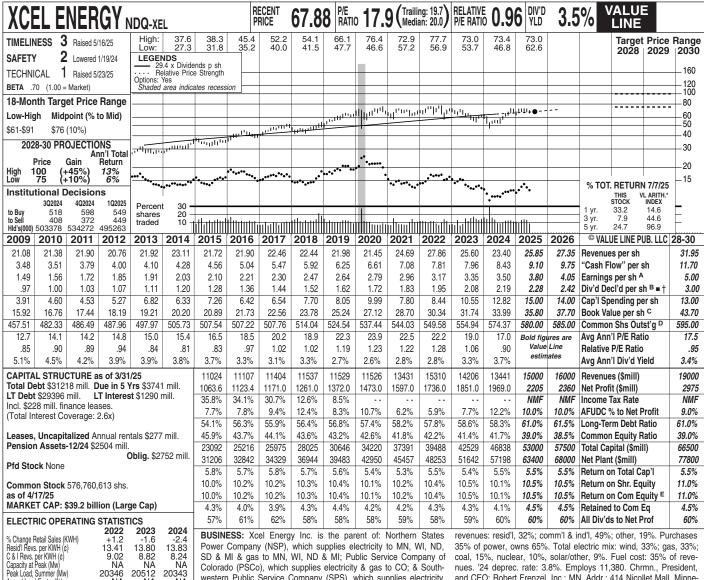
(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain/(loss): '10, (\$1.36); '11, 88¢; '13, (16¢); '15, (\$1.28); '17, (92¢); '18, (93¢); '19, (\$1.19); '20, (13¢); '21,

gains: '09, 78¢. Next egs. report due mid-Aug. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Feb., May, Aug., & Nov. Div'd reinv. plan avail. \$16.95/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: net orig. cost. Rate allowed on com. eq. in NM in '23: 9.26%; in TX in '18: 9.65%; Regulatory

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

(18¢); '22, (72¢); '23, (\$1.80). Excl. disc. op. (C) Incl. def. charges/other intang. In '24: Climate: NM, Below Average.; TX, Average. © 2025 Value Line, Inc. All rights reserved. Factual material is obtained from sources believed to be reliable and is provided without warranties of any kind. THE PUBLISHER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS HEREIN. This publication is strictly for subscriber's own, non-commercial, internal use. No part of it may be reproduced, resold, stored or transmitted in any printed, electronic or other form, or used for generating or marketing any printed or electronic publication, service or product 85

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SD & MI & gas to MN, WI, ND & MI; Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo), which supplies electricity & gas to CO; & Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS), which supplies electricity to TX and NM. Customers: 3.9 mill. electric, 2.2 mill. gas. Electric

Xcel Energy was off to a bit of a slow

coal, 15%, nuclear, 10%, solar/other, 9%. Fuel cost: 35% of revenues. '24 deprec. rate: 3.8%. Employs 11,380. Chrmn., President, and CEO: Robert Frenzel. Inc.: MN. Addr.: 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401. Tel.: 612-330-5500. Int.: www.xcelenergy.com.

Prospects to late decade look good.

Xcel's five-year capital expenditure plan is

expected to deliver annual rate-base

growth in excess of 9%, which should

translate to 6%-8% share-earnings gains.

Regulated prices set for electricity and

255 245 194 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '22-'24 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '28-'30 3.0% 6.5% 6.0% 6.5% 6.5% 1.5% 7.0% 5.5% Revenues 3.5% 'Cash Flow" 6.5% 7.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (yr-end)

20512

ΝĀ

+1.1

NA

+1.2

NA

+1.0

| Cal- endar | QUAR Mar.31 | TERLY RE Jun.30 | VENUES (Sep.30 | | Full Year |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | 3751 4080 3649 3906 4125 | 3424 3022 3028 3300 3600 | 4082 3662 | 4053 3442 | 15310 14206 13441 15000 16000 |
| Cal- endar | EARNINGS PER SHARE A Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 | | | | Full Year |
| 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 | .70 .76 .89 .84 .95 | .60 .52 .55 .66 | 1.18 1.23 1.25 1.38 1.44 | .69 .83 .81 .92 | 3.17 3.35 3.50 3.80 4.05 |
| Cal- endar | QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = † Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 | | | | Full Year |
| 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 | .43 .4575 .4875 .52 .5475 | .4575 .4875 .52 .5475 .57 | .4875 .52 | .4575 .4875 .52 .5475 | 1.80 1.92 2.05 2.16 |

start to the year, but will likely reach its bottom-line expectations. The last time Xcel's profits failed to surpass the previous year's level was 2005. The compahas consistently delivered results within the targeted range management provides at the start of a new year. Xcel has a huge service area, encompassing sections of eight large states through its four wholly owned utility subsidiaries. That provides plenty of diversification, scale, and flexibility. In 2024, Xcel needed to rein in costs to deliver on-target financial results. Last year's \$3.50 per share came in at the bottom of management's \$3.50-\$3.60 forecast, but that was largely due to fewer overall cooling and heating days than typical. (Retail electric volume was down 2.4% in 2024 despite a 1.2% rise in the customer base.) For this year, the aggregate comparison should be relatively easy, and we expect the company to make good on management's \$3.75 to \$3.85 earnings-per-share outlook. First-quarter profits were lower than the comparable year-ago figure, largely due to more scheduled maintenance work.

natural gas delivery in ratepayers' bills result in revenue streams that provide the recoupment of capital expenditures plus an economic return on investment. Xcel's main focus of late has been on increasing its utility-owned generating capacity. Due to major wildfires in portions of its Colorado and Texas service areas, mitigation technologies will likely become a more prominent source of investment. Xcel shares don't stand out at the recent valuation. A Colorado court case related to Xcel's alleged role in the Marshall fire of 2021 is due to commence this September. It may result in some headline risk later this year and a potential buying opportunity. It's difficult to say how that case will turn out, but we believe that it's doubtful Xcel will be liable for more than \$1.5 billion, net of insurance. That level would be quite manageable in our view. Anthony \hat{J} . Glennon

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain/(losses): '10, 5¢; '15, (16¢); '17, (5¢); '23, (14¢); '24, (6¢); gain/ (loss) on discontin'd ops.: '09, (1¢); 10, 1¢. Qtly. EPS may not sum to full yr. due to rounding. Next egs. report due late July.

(B) Div'ds typically paid mid-Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. • Div'd reinvestment plan available. † Shareholder investment plan available.

(C) Incl. intangibles. In '24: \$3909 mill., \$6.81/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Varies. Rate allowed on common equity (blended): 9.6%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability**

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