

BUSINESS: WGL Holdings, Inc. is the parent of Washington Gas Light, a natural gas distributor in Washington, D.C. and adjacent areas of VA. and MD. to resident'l and comm'l users (1,032,198 meters). Hampshire Gas, a federally regulated sub., operates an underground gas-storage facility in WV. Non-regulated subs.: Wash. Gas Energy Svcs. sells and delivers natural gas and pro-

WGL Holdings posted solid results in

quarter (ended June 30th). It reported a

share net loss of \$0.01, which excluded the

results from the recently sold American

Combustion Industries subsidiary, sig-

nificantly ahead of last year's figure. The

results were driven by lower operation and

maintenance expense, utility customer

growth, and improved performance at the

retail energy-marketing business. In fact,

income from this segment nearly doubled

from the year-ago period, to \$6.1 million,

thanks to higher gross margins from the

sale of natural gas and electricity. This should help push nonutility earnings to

about \$0.21 a share this year, with addi-

WGL expects to file a pair of rate in-

tional improvements likely in 2007.

seasonally weak fiscal third

vides energy related products in the D.C. metro area; Wash. Gas Energy Sys. designs/installs comm'l heating, ventilating, and air cond. systems. American Century Inv. own 9.3% of common stock; Off./dir. less than 1% (1/06 proxy). Chrmn. & CEO: J.H. DeGraffenreidt. Inc.: D.C. and VA. Addr.: 1100 H St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20080. Tel.: 202-624-6410. Internet: www.wglholdings.com.

449% 460% 450% Fix. Chg. Cov. ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '03-'05 10 Yrs. to '09-'11 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. 14.5% 6.5% 6.0% 6.0% 2.0% 1.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" 7.5% 5.0% Earnings 4.5% 1.5% 2.0% Dividends **Book Value** 4.0% 3.0% 3.5% Fiscal QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) A

179.0

156.3

412 9

204.9 91.0

411.4

172.4

145.0 147.8

465.2

the

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Other

Full Fisca Year Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 2003 560.0 851.1 373.2 279.9 2064.2 2004 585.3 862.2 356.9 2089.6 285.2 2005 623.4 929.8 349.0 284.1 2186.3 2006 909.3 1070.4 346.9 293.4 2620 2007 960 1010 380 350 2700 Fiscal Year Ends Full Fisca Year EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 2003 1.10 1 61 d 05 d.36 2.30 2004 .81 1.62 d.08 d.37 1.98 2005 .88 1.63 d.17 d.23 2.11 2006 .91 1.16 d.01 d.21 1.85 d.25 2007 .95 1.40 d.15 1.95 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C = Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 2002 1.27 .315 .318 .318 .318 2002 .318 .32 .32 2003 .32 .325 .325 .325 1.30 .325 .333 .333 2004 1.32 .333 .338 .338 2005

creases. One will soon be with the Virginia State Corporation Commission, and another with the Maryland Public Service Commission next spring. The primary need for the Maryland rate increase is to recover costs associated with the Prince George's County rehabilitation program. The project is scheduled to be completed in

2008 at a \$144 million price tag. If this

project is fully recovered through a rate increase, which is probable, WGL should realize a \$0.16-a-share boost to earnings.

The company is slated to spend about

The company is slated to spend about \$855 million on capital improvement projects out to 2010. WGL expects to begin construction on its LNG storage facility in late 2008 pending regulatory approval, two years later than previously anticipated due to zoning and other legal challenges, and scheduled to be completed by the 2011-2012 winter. However, until approval is granted WGL will explore other opportunities to meet its peak day requirements to serve its customers.

These shares are best suited for conservative investors. The dividend yield stands at 4.5%, above the industry average, while the stock's Safety rank is 1 (Highest). Long term, we look for Washington Gas to add about 25,000–30,000 new utility customers annually, thanks to the new home construction expected in its service areas over the next 20 years. The stock, which is not well ranked for performance is dependable for income. But its price range only inches up over time.

Evan I. Blatter

September 15, 2006

(A) Fiscal years end Sept. 30th. (B) Based on diluted shares. Excludes non-recurring losses: '01, (13¢); '02, (34¢); discon-

Next earnings report due early Nov. (C) Dividends historically paid early February, May, August, and November. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan available.

(D) Includes deferred charges and intangibles. '05: \$150.0 million, \$3.08/sh.

(E) In millions, adjusted for stock split.

Company's Financial Strength A
Stock's Price Stability 100
Price Growth Persistence 70
Earnings Predictability 60