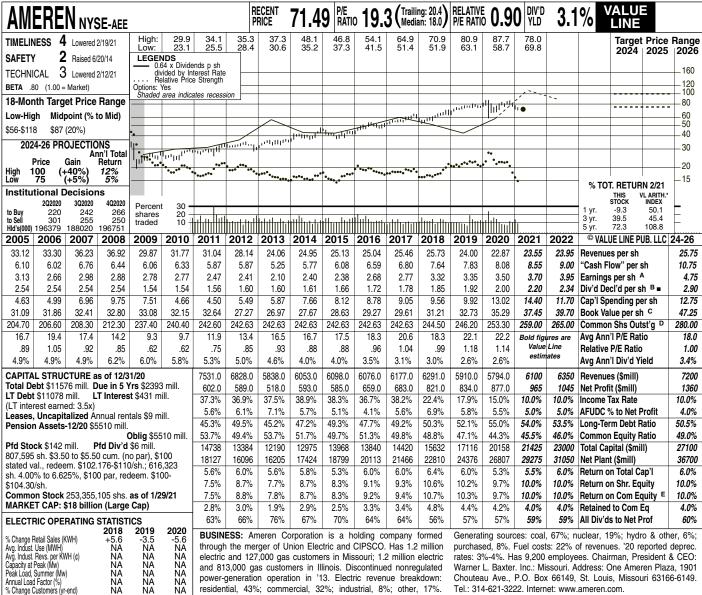
1	Q.	In terms of Mr. Coyne's US sample please provide the Value Line "one page
2		summary" of the full sample of 36 US Electric utilities and the reasons for excluding
3		each one when narrowing down his sample to 9.
4		
5	A.	See Attachment A for the requested Value Line Reports.
6		
7		See Attachment B for the U.S. Electric Proxy Group Screening Workbook.
8		
9		Attachment B is available in electronic format on Newfoundland Power's stranded
10		website at: <a href="https://ftp.nfpower.nf.ca/">https://ftp.nfpower.nf.ca/</a> .

**Value Line Reports** 



power-generation operation in '13. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 43%; commercial, 32%; industrial, 8%; other, 17%

Chouteau Ave., P.O. Box 66149, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-6149. Tel.: 314-621-3222. Internet: www.ameren.com

291 313 307 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '24-'26 -3.0% 2.5% 2.0% Revenues -.5% 1.0% 6.5% 8.0% 3.5% 3.5% 'Cash Flow" 5.5% 6.0% 7.0% 6.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2018	1585	1563	1724	1419	6291.0
2019	1556	1379	1659	1316	5910.0
2020	1440	1398	1628	1328	5794.0
2021	1600	1450	1700	1350	6100
2022	1650	1500	1750	1450	6350
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.62	.97	1.45	.28	3.32
2019	.78	.72	1.47	.38	3.35
2020	.59	.98	1.47	.46	3.50
2021	.65	.90	1.70	.45	3.70
2022	.70	.95	1.80	.50	3.95
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.44	.44	.44	.4575	1.78
2018	.4575	.4575	.4575	.475	1.85
2019	.475	.475	.475	.495	1.92
2020	.495	.495	.495	.515	2.00
2021	55				

Ameren's earnings will likely advance at a solid pace in 2021. The company will benefit from a gas rate increase in IIlinois and a full year's effect of an electric tariff hike that took effect in Missouri in April. Electric sales in Missouri should benefit from a recovering economy. The utility will earn a return on wind capacity that was placed into service in late 2020 and 2021. Our share-net estimate is within Ameren's targeted range of \$3.65-\$3.85. A rate case was concluded, and another is upcoming. Ameren Illinois was granted a gas increase of \$76 million, based on a 9.67% return on equity and a 52% common-equity ratio. New tariffs took effect in January. Ameren Missouri plans to file for electric and gas rate hikes by the end of this month. Rate relief in Missouri should help boost profits in 2022.

Ameren gave stockholders a pleasant surprise with a dividend increase in **the first quarter.** In recent years, the board of directors has boosted the dis-bursement in the fourth period. This occurred in 2020, with a hike of \$0.02 a share (4.0%) quarterly. The directors followed with a raise of \$0.035 a share (6.8%)

in this quarter. Ameren's goals are for increases to be in a range of 6%-8% annually (matching its target for earnings growth), with a payout ratio of 55%-70%.

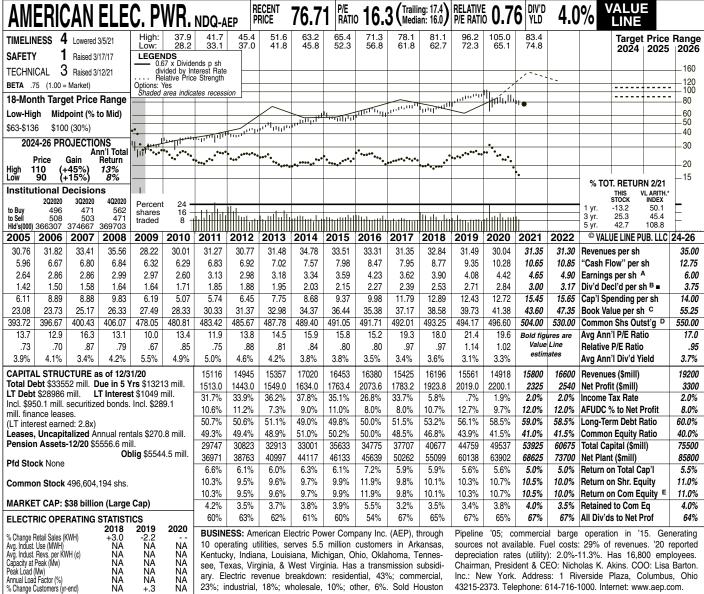
The company is issuing equity to help finance its capital budget. Ameren raised \$115 million in early 2021 to settle a forward sale. The dividend-reinvestment and other stock plans should provide \$100 million annually. Also, the company plans to issue \$150 million in 2021 and \$300 million each year from 2022 through 2025. The Callaway nuclear unit is out of service. Ameren will spend about \$65 million to replace parts of the generator. This matter is not expected to affect financial results significantly, but bears watching in case the plant's expected return to service is delayed beyond early July.

The dividend yield of this untimely equity is below the utility mean. This was among a minority of utility issues to advance in price in 2020. The quotation has retreated in 2021, but the valuation remains high. Total return potential is good for the 18-month span, but unspectacular for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '05, (11¢); '10, (\$2.19); '11, (32¢); '12, (\$6.42); '17, (63¢); gain (loss) from disc. ops.: '13, (92¢); '15, 21¢. Next earnings report due midMay. (B) Div'ds paid late Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '20: \$5.97/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Orig. cost depr. Rate allowed on com.

eq. in MO in '20: elec., none; in '11: gas, none; in IL in '14: elec., 8.7%, in '21: gas, 9.67%; earned on avg. com. eq., '20: 10.2%. Regulatory Climate: MO, Average; IL, Below Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence 80 **Earnings Predictability** 90



see, Texas, Virginia, & West Virginia. Has a transmission subsidiary. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 43%; commercial, 23%; industrial, 18%; wholesale, 10%; other, 6%. Sold Houston

Chairman, President & CEO: Nicholas K. Akins. COO: Lisa Barton. Inc.: New York. Address: 1 Riverside Plaza. Columbus. Ohio 43215-2373. Telephone: 614-716-1000. Internet: www.aep.com.

254 234 243 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 2.0% Revenues -1.0% 'Cash Flow" 4.5% 5.0% 6.5% Earnings 4 0% 5.5% 3.0% 5.5% 5.5% Dividends Book Value

+.3

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

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year		
2018	4048	4013	4333	3801	16195		
2019	4056	3573	4315	3616	15561		
2020	3747	3494	4066	3610	14918		
2021	4100	3650	4300	3750	15800		
2022	4300	3850	4500	3950	16600		
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	Α	Full		
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year		
2018	.92	1.07	1.17	.74	3.90		
2019	1.16	.93	1.48	.51	4.08		
2020	1.00	1.05	1.50	.87	4.42		
2021	1.15	1.10	1.60	.80	4.65		
2022	1.20	1.15	1.70	.85	4.90		
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B =	Full		
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year		
2017	.59	.59	.59	.62	2.39		
2018	.62	.62	.62	.67	2.53		
2019	.67	.67	.67	.70	2.71		
2020	.70	.70	.70	.74	2.84		
2021	.74						

We think American Electric Power will post solid earnings growth in 2021 and 2022. As usual, the company has multiple rate cases pending, so rate relief will help. AEP also earns a return on investment in its extensive transmission system. The company's transmission subsidiary earned a return on equity of 9.9% last year, better than the ROE of 9.1% for the utility operations as a whole. Our 2021 share-earnings estimate, which remains \$4.65, is at the midpoint of AEP's targeted range of \$4.55-\$4.75, which management boosted from \$4.51-\$4.71 upon reporting fourth-quarter results in late February. We look for further improvement, to \$4.90, in 2022. (Note that the share count will rise sharply next year due to the conversion of equity units and a large stock issuance that is planned.) The company's goal for annual earnings growth is 5%-7%.

Rate cases are pending in several states. In Ohio, AEP is trying to reach a settlement in a case that saw the company request \$41 million, based on a 10.15% return on equity and a 54.4% common-equity ratio. In Virginia, Appalachian Power appealed an order (granting no increase) to

the state Supreme Court and will get reconsideration from the state commission. SWEPCO filed in Louisiana and Texas seeking increases of \$93 million and \$73 million, respectively, based on a 10.35% ROE. In Kentucky, a \$52 million tariff hike took effect on January 14th, based on a 9.3% ROE and a 43.3% common-equity ratio.

Two of AEP's utilities experienced a surge in gas and purchased-power costs during a cold spell in February. The preliminary estimates for Public Service of Oklahoma and SWEPCO are a total of \$1.2 billion. We assume the utilities will be able to recover these expenses through the fuel-adjustment clause, but they will have to work with the regulators to formulate a plan for recovery, given the size of the costs. The utilities are considering issuing long-term debt in order to finance the power costs.

This untimely but high-quality stock has an average dividend yield for a utility. Total return potential is superior for the next 18 months, and a cut above average for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '05, (62¢); '06, (20¢); '07, (20¢); '08, 40¢; '10, (7¢); '11, 89¢; '12, (38¢); '13, (14¢); '16, (\$2.99); '17, 26¢; '19, (20¢); gains (loss) from | ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. | Regulatory Climate: Average.

disc. ops.: '05, 7¢; '06, 2¢; '08, 3¢; '15, 58¢; In '20: \$14.97/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: '16, (1¢). Next earnings report due early May. (B) Div'ds paid early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. 10.9%; earned on avg. com. eq., '20: 11.0%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 95

												CA-	NP-12	4, Att	achme	ent A,	Page	3 of 3
AVANGRID, INC.	NYSE	-AGR		R	ECENT RICE	47.3	6 P/E RATIO	21.	9 (Traili	ng: 23.0 <b>)</b> an: NMF <b>)</b>	RELATIVI P/E RATI	ā 1.0	7 DIV'D YLD	3.7	% Y	ALUI LINE	1	
TIMELINESS 2 Raised 1/29/21						High:	38.9	46.7	53.5	54.6	52.9	57.2	49.0			Target	Price	Range
SAFETY 2 Raised 2/17/17	LEGE	NDS		_		Low:	32.4	35.4	37.4	45.2	47.4	35.6	44.0				2025	2026
TECHNICAL 5 Lowered 2/5/21	0.0	60 x Divid	ends p sh nterest Rate									/						120 100
1	Options:	elative Pric	e Strength								ļ <i>,</i>	/		,				80
, ,			ates recessi	on								.1. 1						64
18-Month Target Price Range								111111111111111111111111111111111111111	1111111111	11111111111	11111/111111	<u> </u>	•					<del></del>
Low-High Midpoint (% to Mid)								11.1. 11	'	$\sim$		1.,						32
\$33-\$75 \$54 (15%)																		24
2024-26 PROJECTIONS Ann'i Total																		20 16
Price Gain Return								•••••			*****	•						12
High 55 (+15%) 8% Low 40 (-15%) Nil								•	••••			•••••						
Institutional Decisions												•	•		% TO1	RETUR	N 1/21 /L ARITH.*	-8
	Percen														1 yr.	-9.9	INDEX 26.6	-
	shares traded	6 - 3 -						11		dan t		1111111			3 yr.	5.7	29.4	
Hld's(000) 45979 42981 42736			0011	0010	0040	0044										40.6	99.1	
AVANGRID, Inc. was formed				2012	2013		2015	2016	2017	2018		2020	2021	2022		IE LINE PI	JB. LLC	
merger between Iberdrola US UIL Holdings Corporation in I							14.14 3.44	19.48 4.74	19.30 4.49	20.96	20.51 5.50	20.25 5.25	21.05 5.65	21.70 5.95	Revenue	s per sn ow" per s	eh	24.00 7.00
2015. Iberdrola S.A., a worldw	ide lea	ader in					1.05	1.98	1.67	1.92	2.26	1.90	2.15	2.25	Earnings			2.75
the energy industry, owns	81.5	5% of						1.73	1.73	1.74	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.76	Div'd Dec			1.80
AVANGRID. The predecessor of	compa	ny was					3.50	5.52	7.82	5.78	8.87	10.05	10.35	10.70	Cap'l Spe			11.75
founded in 1852 and is head							48.74	48.90	48.79	48.88	49.31	49.35	49.75	50.25	Book Val			52.50
New Gloucester, Maine. It was							308.86	308.99	309.01	309.01	309.01	309.00	309.00	309.00	Common		_	309.00
in 1997 in New York under the							33.5	20.5	27.3	26.1	22.1	25.1	Bold figu		Avg Ann'			17.0
Resources, Inc. AVANGRID b on the NYSE on December 17,		trading					1.69	1.08	1.37	1.41	1.18	1.30	Value estim		Relative			.95
,								4.3%	3.8%	3.5%	3.5%	3.7%			Avg Ann		eia	4.0%
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/2 Total Debt \$8896 mill. Due in 5 Yr		R mill				4594.0	4367.0	6018.0	5963.0	6478.0	6338.0	6250	6500	6700	Revenue			7400
LT Debt \$7081 mill. LT Interest						424.0 39.9%	267.0 11.3%	611.0 37.4%	516.0 32.4%	595.0 22.1%	700.0 17.5%	585 5.0%	665 7.0%	700 7.0%	Net Profi Income T			860 7.0%
Incl. \$63 mill. capitalized leases.						6.8%	12.7%	7.5%	12.4%	9.4%	14.4%	17.0%	7.0 <i>%</i> 18.0%	17.0%	AFUDC 9		Profit	12.0%
(LT interest earned: 3.3x) Leases, Uncapitalized Annual renta	ale \$14 r	mill				16.8%	23.1%	23.0%	25.6%	26.2%	30.6%	34.0%	36.5%	38.5%	Long-Ter			43.0%
Leases, orienpitalized Armadi Territo	ио фіті					83.2%	76.9%	77.0%	74.4%	73.8%	69.4%	66.0%	63.5%	61.5%	Common			57.0%
Pension Assets-12/19 \$2848 mill.						14956	19583	19619	20273	20472	21953	23050	24175	25275	Total Cap	ital (\$mi	II)	28500
Pfd Stock None	blig \$36	69 MIII.				17099	20711	21548	22669	23459	25218	27275	29400	31550	Net Plant			38300
						3.7%	2.1%	3.8%	3.1%	3.5%	3.8%	3.0%	3.5%	3.5%	Return or			4.0%
Common Stock 309,009,817 shs.						3.4%	1.8%	4.0% 4.0%	3.4% 3.4%	3.9% 3.9%	4.6% 4.6%	3.5% 3.5%	4.5% 4.5%	4.5% 4.5%	Return or Return or			5.5% 5.5%
as of 10/29/20 MARKET CAP: \$15 billion (Large C	Cap)					3.4%	1.8%	1.4%	NMF	.4%	1.0%	3.5% Nil	1.0%	1.0%	Retained			1.5%
ELECTRIC OPERATING STATISTIC			1			3.470	1.0/0	66%	104%	90%	78%	98%	82%	78%	All Div'ds			68%
2017	2018	2019	DITCINE	CC. A\	ANCDID	, Inc. (for	rmorly Ib											
% Change Retail Sales (KWH) NA Avg. Indust. Use (MWH) NA	NA NA	NA NA				tility comp									ources no epr. rate			
Avg. Indust. Revs. per KWH (¢) NA	NA	NA				ork, Conr					owns 8	1.5% of	stock. H	as 6,600	employe	es. Chai	irman: J	osé lg-
Capacity at Peak (Mw) NA Peak Load, Summer (Mw) NA	NA NA	NA NA				ork, Conr									nnis V. /			
Annual Load Factor (%) NA	NA	NA				erating su apacity. R									'. Address 1200. Wel			
% Change Customers (yr-end) +.6	+.5	+.8										·						
Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 333	343	278				s acq									's gui			
		'17-'19				ompan cash fo									e we in merge			
of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. Revenues	to '	24-'26 3.0%				New									sts, th			
"Cash Flow"	(	3.0% 6.0%				0,000 c									that			
1 =		6.0% 1.5%	action	n req	uires	the a	pprov	al of	the r	egu-	exclu	de Pl			ces ur			
Rook Value		1.0%	lator	v con	nmice	ions i	n the	aga tr	vo et	atas	comn	leted						

latory commissions in these two states, plus that of the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission. PNM Resources' stockholders were scheduled to vote on February 12th, the date of this report. The companies expect the transaction to be completed in the fourth quarter.

The addition of PNM Resources should be accretive to earnings in 2022. IBERDROLA has issued a funding commitment for up to the full amount of the deal, and would retain its 81.5% stake in AVANGRID after the deal is completed. Funding would be \$3.6 billion equity, \$700 million debt. The company is paying 22 times estimated 2021 earnings for PNM drawback Resources. Α AVANGRID, whose utilities operate in difficult regulatory climates, would add a subpar regulatory climate in New Mexico. Our earnings estimates require an ex-

**planation.** Our 2021 estimate is at the

completed.

Central Maine Power has begun construction of a transmission line to Canada. The \$950 million project is expected to begin commercial operation in 2023. The utility will book the Allowance for Funds Used During Construction, a noncash credit to earnings, which will help AVANGRID's earning power in 2020 and 2021.

AVANGRID is adding offshore wind. Through joint ventures, two projects are scheduled to begin operating in 2024 and 2025. Investors should note that offshore wind entails significant construction risk.

The dividend yield of this timely stock is only about average for a utility. There is a lack of near-term dividend growth potential (a hike is unlikely until 2023, at the earliest). Total return potential to 2024-2026 is low.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gain (loss): '16, 6¢; '17, (44¢). '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due late Feb. (B) Divids paid in early Jan., April, July, and original cost. Aate allowed on com. eq. in NY in Below Average.

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

EARNINGS PER SHARE A

Jun.30 Sep.30

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

1546

1487

1470

1550

1600

.40

.48

.28

.50

.50

.432

.432

.44

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30

1402

1400

1392

1400

1450

.34

.36

.28

.35

.35

.432

.432

.44

1.0%

Dec.31

1665

1609

1606

1650

1700

Dec.31

.38

.72

.56

.55

.60

.432

.44

.44

Full

Year

6478.0

6338.0

6250

6500

6700

Full

Year

1.92

2.26

1.90

2.15

Full

Year

1.73

1.76

1.76

**Book Value** 

1865

1842

1782

1900

1950

Mar.31

.79

.70

.78

.75

.80

.432

.432

.44

Cal-

endar

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

Cal-

endar

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

Cal-

endar

2017

2018

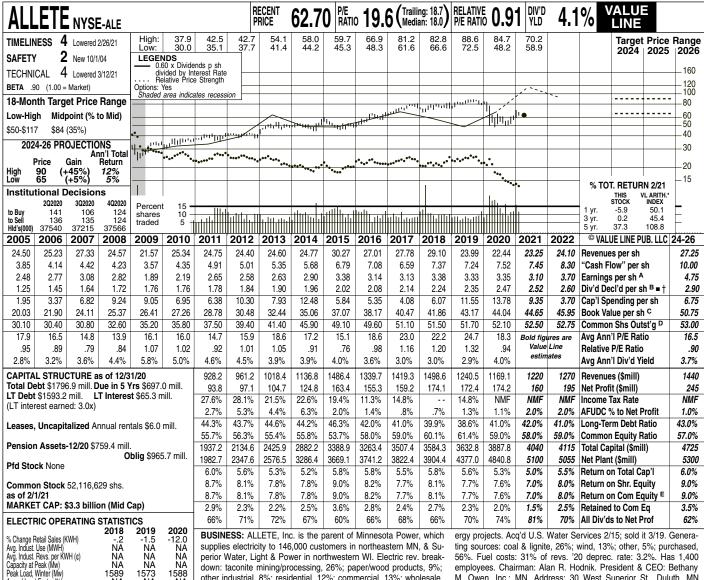
2019

2020

2021

Oct. Dividend reinvestment plan available. 16: 9.0%; in CT in 17: 9.1% elec.; in CT in 19: (C) Incl. intangibles. In '19: \$6.0 bill., \$19.42/sh. (D) In millions. (E) Rate base: net common eq., '19: 4.6%. Regulatory Climate:

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



down: taconite mining/processing, 26%; paper/wood products, 9%; other industrial, 8%; residential, 12%; commercial, 13%; wholesale, 16% other, 16%. ALLETE Clean Energy (ACE) owns renewable enemployees. Chairman: Alan R. Hodnik. President & CEO: Bethany M. Owen, Inc.: MN. Address: 30 West Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802-2093. Tel.: 218-279-5000. Internet: www.allete.com.

230 296 277 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 Revenues .5% -1.0% 1.5% "Cash Flow" Earnings 4.5% 6.0% 5.0% 6.0% 3.0% 5.0% 3.5% 4.5% 3.5% 3.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (avg.)

1589

1573 NA NA

1588

NA NA

Cal- endar		TERLY RE Jun. 30			Full Year
2018 2019 2020 2021 2022	358.2 357.2 311.6 <b>315</b> <b>325</b>	344.1 290.4 243.2 <b>275</b> <b>285</b>	348.0 288.3 293.9 <b>305</b> <b>315</b>	448.3 304.6 320.4 <b>325</b> <b>345</b>	1498.6 1240.5 1169.1 1220 1270
Cal- endar		RNINGS P Jun. 30			Full Year
2018 2019 2020 2021 2022	.99 1.18 1.28 <b>1.10</b> <b>1.20</b>	.61 .64 .39 <b>.50</b>	.59 .60 .78 <b>.70</b> <b>.80</b>	1.18 .92 .90 <i>.80</i> 1.10	3.38 3.33 3.35 <b>3.10</b> <b>3.70</b>
Cal- endar	QUART Mar.31	ERLY DIVII Jun.30	DENDS PA Sep.30	ID B ■† Dec.31	Full Year
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	.535 .56 .5875 .6175 .63	.535 .56 .5875 .6175	.535 .56 .5875 .6175	.535 .56 .5875 .6175	2.14 2.24 2.35 2.47

ALLETE's earnings are likely to de**cline this year.** The service area of the company's primary utility subsidiary, Minnesota Power, is unusual among electric companies because it has a much-smaller residential sector and a much-larger industrial sector. Large industrial customers are still feeling the effects of the recession, and one company's plant remains shut. Taconite mines are not expected to return to full production until 2022. Minnesota Power will have a loss of revenues because a wholesale power sales agreement expired in April of 2020. The utility is earning a return on equity well below its allowed ROE of 9.25%, but because a rate application is not coming until November of 2021, this situation will not change this year. ALLETE Clean Energy (ACE), the renewable-energy subsidiary, is seeing increased competition and expects to incur additional expenses for business development. All told, management expects share net to wind up in a range of \$3.00-\$3.30 a share. This is below the \$3.35 a share booked in 2020, which included a \$0.16 charge in the June quarter for the refund of previously collected revenues.

The company expects a strong recovery in 2022. Management issued preliminary earnings guidance of \$3.70-\$4.00 a share, which is unusually early for ALLETE. Minnesota Power should get an interim rate increase at the start of the year after the filing in November of 2021. ACE should benefit from the addition of a 300-megawatt wind project that is scheduled for completion in late 2021. This subsidiary has also agreed to sell a 120-mw wind facility to Xcel Energy for \$210 million when the project is completed in late 2022. The stock price is up slightly this year, in anticipation of a profit recovery next year.

The dividend hike in the first quarter was smaller than in recent years. The board of directors boosted the annual disbursement by \$0.05 a share (2.0%). This reflects ALLETE's elevated payout ratio, which is above its target of 60%-65%

The dividend yield of this untimely stock is about average for a utility. Total return potential is attractive for the 18month period and average for the pull to 2024-2026.

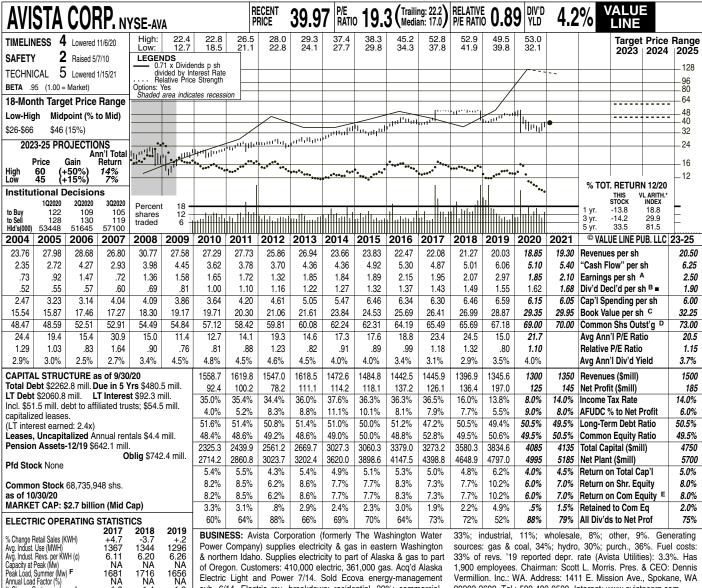
Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '05, (\$1.84); '15, (46¢); '17, 25¢; '19, 26¢; losses on disc. ops.: '05, 16¢; '06, 2¢. '18 & '19 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings

report due early May. (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 '20:

\$9.23/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., '20: 7.7%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 55 **Earnings Predictability** 85



Electric Light and Power 7/14. Sold Ecova energy-management sub. 6/14. Electric rev. breakdown: residential, 39%; commercial,

Vermillion. Inc.: WA. Address: 1411 E. Mission Ave., Spokane, WA 99202-2600. Tel.: 509-489-0500. Internet: www.avistacorp.com.

259 202 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 296 **ANNUAL RATES** Est'd '17-'19 5 Yrs. of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '23-'25 -3.5% Revenues -3.0% 5.0% 7.0% 4.0% 4.5% 2.5% 1.0% 4.0% 2.5% Cash Flow" 3.5% 6.5% Earnings Dividends 8 0% Book Value

% Change Customers (yr-end)

+1.4

+1.3

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
2017	436.5	314.5	297.1	397.8	1445.9
2018	409.4	319.3	296.0	372.2	1396.9
2019	396.5	300.8	283.8	364.5	1345.6
2020	390.2	278.6	272.6	358.6	1300
2021	400	300	280	370	1350
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.96	.34	.07	.58	1.95
2018	.83	.39	.15	.70	2.07
2019	1.76	.38	.08	.76	2.97
2020	.72	.26	.07	.80	1.85
2021	.80	.40	.10	.80	2.10
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.3575	.3575	.3575	.3575	1.43
2018	.3725	.3725	.3725	.3725	1.49
2019	.3875	.3875	.388	.3875	1.55
2020	.405	.405	.405	.405	1.62
2021	1				l

Avista filed a general rate case in Washington. The utility is seeking electric and gas rate increases of \$44.2 million (8.3%) and \$12.8 million (7.9%), respectively, based on a return on equity of 9.9% and a common-equity ratio of 50%. Avista is proposing to offset the effects of the base rate hike on customers by accelerating the pass-through of tax benefits, but any tariff increase would boost the company's earning power. An order is expected in time for new rates to take effect on October 1st. The utility plans to file for electric and gas hikes in Idaho in the current quarter, and an application in Alaska is under consideration. An order in Idaho is due seven months after the filing. Avista needs rate relief because its utilities, as a group, are underearning their allowed ROE considerably. Regulatory lag has been a problem in recent years.

The utility received a gas rate hike in **Oregon.** The commission approved a settlement calling for an increase of \$4.4 million (6.3%), based on an ROE of 9.4% and a common-equity ratio of 50%. New tariffs took effect on January 15th. Another application is possible this year.

We expect higher earnings in 2021. Our 2020 estimate is at the midpoint of management's targeted range of \$1.75-\$1.95 a share, which was affected by an unfavorable regulatory order in the March quarter, some coronavirus-related costs, and losses from the company's nonutility activities. A \$1.01-a-share merger-breakup fee that was paid to Avista in the first quarter of 2019 made the year-to-year comparison difficult. Avista should benefit from rate relief and a better economy. The company hasn't yet provided earnings guidance for 2021, but will do so when it reports earnings in February.

We think the board of directors will raise the dividend in February. This is the usual timing of a boost. We estimate an increase of \$0.06 a share (3.7%). This is slightly below the hike of a year ago because the payout ratio is high. Avista's goal is a payout ratio of 65%-75% by 2023.

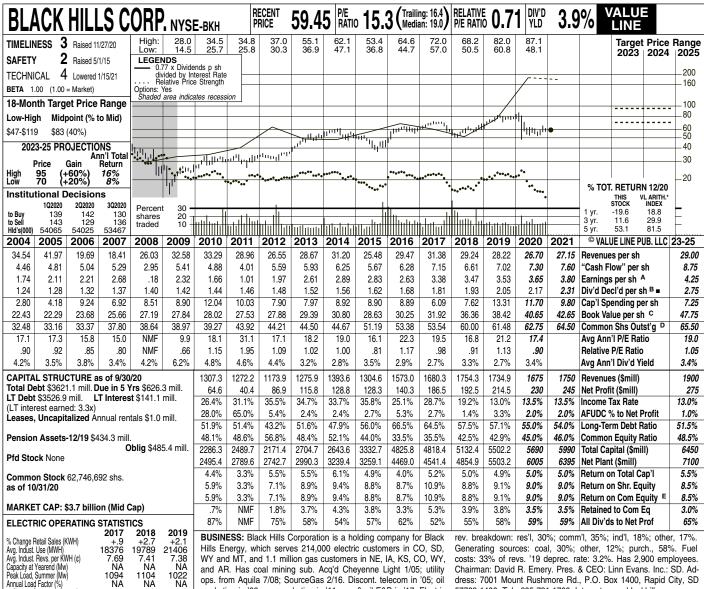
This equity is untimely, but has a dividend yield that is slightly above the utility average. Total return potential is above average for the next 18 months and the 2023-2025 period.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (loss): '14, 9¢; '17, (16¢); gains on disc. ops.: '14, \$1.17; '15, 8¢. '19 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due early Feb. (B) Div'ds

paid in mid-Mar., June, Sept. & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred chgs. In '19: \$10.77/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Regulatory Climate: WA, Below Average; ID, Net orig. cost. Rate all'd on com. eq. in WA in Above Average. (F) Winter peak in '17.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 70 Price Growth Persistence 60 **Earnings Predictability** 60



ops. from Aguila 7/08: SourceGas 2/16. Discont. telecom in '05: oil marketing in '06; gas marketing in '11; gas & oil E&P in '17. Electric

dress: 7001 Mount Rushmore Rd., P.O. Box 1400, Rapid City, SD 57709-1400. Tel.: 605-721-1700. Internet: www.blackhillscorp.com.

296 276 278 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '23-'25 Revenues 1.5% .5% -.5% 'Cash Flow" 4.5% 7.0% 3.0% 4.0% 3.5% Earnings Dividends 3.5% 3.0% 5.0% 4.0% 6.0% 5.0% Dividends Book Value

+.8

+.8

+1.1

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal-	QUAR	TERLY RE	VENUES (	\$ mill.)	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	547.5	341.9	335.6	455.3	1680.3
2018	575.4	355.7	322.0	501.2	1754.3
2019	597.8	333.9	325.5	477.7	1734.9
2020	537.1	326.9	346.6	<b>464.4</b>	<b>1675</b>
2021	<b>565</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>1750</b>
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARI	Dec.31	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30		Year
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	1.42 1.59 1.73 1.59 <b>1.75</b>	.41 .45 .24 .33	.52 .32 .44 .58 . <b>50</b>	1.03 1.11 1.13 1.15 1.15	3.38 3.47 3.53 <b>3.65</b> <b>3.80</b>
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B ■	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30		Dec.31	Year
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	.445 .475 .505 .535	.445 .475 .505 .535	.445 .475 .505 .535	.475 .505 .535 .565	1.81 1.93 2.05 2.17

Black Hills has reached a settlement of its gas rate case in Nebraska, and another gas application is pending in Colorado. In Nebraska, the utility filed for an increase of \$17.3 million, based on a 10% return on equity and a 50% commonequity ratio. A settlement was reached, subject to approval from the state commission, calling for a hike of \$11.1 million, based on a 9.5% ROE and the same equity ratio. New rates should take effect this quarter. In Colorado, Black Hills requested an increase of \$13.5 million, based on a 9.95% ROE and a 50% commonequity ratio, and a five-year regulatory mechanism to recover safety and systemintegrity costs through a rider (surcharge) on customers' bills. New tariffs should take effect in the second quarter.

Other gas rate cases might be upcoming. The company's service area in Arkansas is growing fast, so there is a lot of capital spending that is not yet reflected in the rate base. In Iowa and Kansas, Black Hills has not received a base rate hike since 2011 and 2015, respectively.

We have raised our 2020 and 2021 earnings estimates by \$0.10 a share

each vear. Favorable weather helped the third-quarter comparison. Black Hills' revised earnings guidance for 2020 is \$3.60-\$3.70 a share, so earnings probably rose last year despite the negative effects of the recession on earnings (an estimated \$0.05-\$0.10 a share). In 2021, this drag should be gone, and the company will benefit from rate relief, including some from riders on customers' bills.

A wind project was completed in December. This added 52.5 megawatts of capacity at a cost of \$79 million. Black Hills is recovering the cost of this project through a special tariff.

The board of directors raised the dividend in the fourth quarter. This extended the company's streak of annual hikes in the disbursement to 50 years. The increase was \$0.03 a share (5.6%) quarterly. Black Hills is targeting a payout ratio of 50%-60%

The stock has a dividend yield that is about average for a utility. Total return potential is attractive for the 18-month span and respectable for the 3- to 5-year period.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

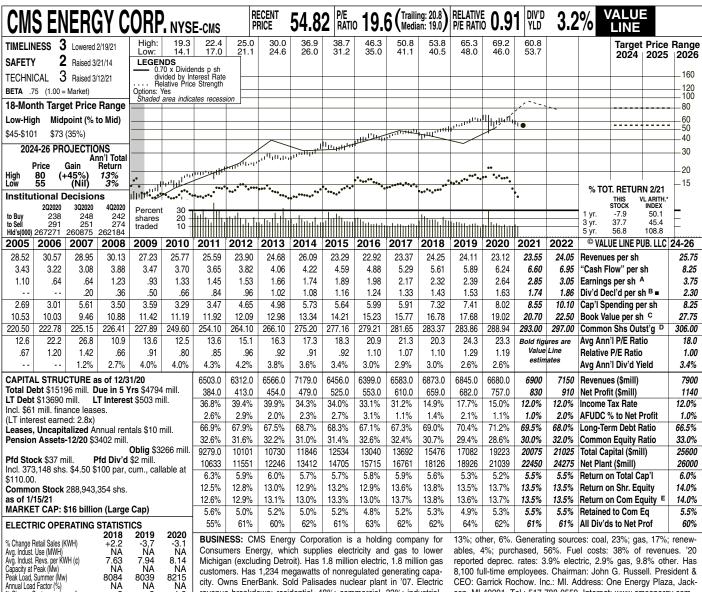
(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '08, (\$1.55); '09, (28¢); '10, 10¢; '15, (\$3.54); '16, (\$1.26); '17, 14¢; '18, \$1.31; '19, (25¢); '20, (8¢); discontinued ops.: '08, \$4.12; '09, 7¢; '11,

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23¢; '12, (16¢); '17, (31¢); '18, (12¢). '19 EPS chgs. In '19: \$25.06/sh. **(D)** In mill. **(E)** Rate don't sum due to rounding. Next egs. due early base: Net orig. cost. Rate all'd on com. eq. in Feb. **(B)** Div'ds pd. early Mar., Jun., Sept., & SD in '15: none; in CO in '17: 9.37%; earn. on Dec. Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. def'd avg. com. eq., '19: 9.4%. Regul. Climate: Avg. © 2021 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

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 80 Price Growth Persistence 60 **Earnings Predictability** 80

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city. Owns EnerBank. Sold Palisades nuclear plant in '07. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 48%; commercial, 33%; industrial,

CEO: Garrick Rochow. Inc.: Ml. Address: One Energy Plaza, Jackson, MI 49201. Tel.: 517-788-0550. Internet: www.cmsenergy.com.

250 235 240 Fixed Charge Cov. (% **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '18-'20 10 Yrs. of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. to '24-'26 Revenues -1.5% -.5% 1.0% 6.5% 7.0% 7.0% 5.5% 'Cash Flow" 5.0% 7.5% 5.5% 7.5% Earnings 7.0% 8.0% Dividends Book Value

+.3

+.9

+1.0

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
2018	1953	1492	1599	1829	6873.0
2019	2059	1445	1546	1795	6845.0
2020	1864	1443	1575	1798	6680.0
2021	1950	1550	1600	1800	6900
2022	2050	1600	1650	1850	7150
Cal-	E/	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.86	.49	.59	.38	2.32
2019	.75	.33	.73	.58	2.39
2020	.85	.48	.76	.55	2.64
2021	.90	.55	.80	.60	2.85
2022	.95	.60	.85	.65	3.05
Cal-	QUAR'	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec. 31	Year
2017	.3325	.3325	.3325	.3325	1.33
2018	.3575	.3575	.3575	.3575	1.43
2019	.3825	.3825	.3825	.3825	1.53
2020	.4075	.4075	.4075	.4075	1.63
2021	435				

CMS Energy's utility subsidiary received an electric rate increase. Consumers Energy had filed for a rate hike of \$230 million, based on a 10.5% return on equity. The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) granted the utility an increase of \$126 million, based on a 9.9% ROE and a 51.1% common-equity ratio. New tariffs took effect at the start of 2021. This, along with a full year's benefit of a gas rate increase that took effect in October, will be a key factor in CMS Energy's expected earnings increase this year. Our earnings estimate of \$2.85 a share is at the midpoint of the company's typically narrow guidance of \$2.83-\$2.87.

Another electric application is upcoming, but Consumer Energy has agreed not to file a gas case until December **1st.** The utility files petitions frequently because it has a large system with a lot of old equipment that needs replacing. Because of the delay in the next filing, the utility was granted permission to boost its income by accelerating the amortization of tax liabilities from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. This is estimated to amount to \$84.5 million (\$35 mil-

lion this year). We look for earnings to advance 7% in 2022. This is within ČMS Energy's goal of 6%-8% annual profit growth. The MPSC approved the issuance of securitized bonds. This will enable Consumers Energy to recover the cost of the Karn coal-fired station when the facility is retired in 2023. The utility estimates that the issuance will amount to \$688 million. Management is controlling costs effectively. In 2020, the company realized

more than \$100 million in cost savings. This helped offset the effects of the weak economy on electric volume last year.

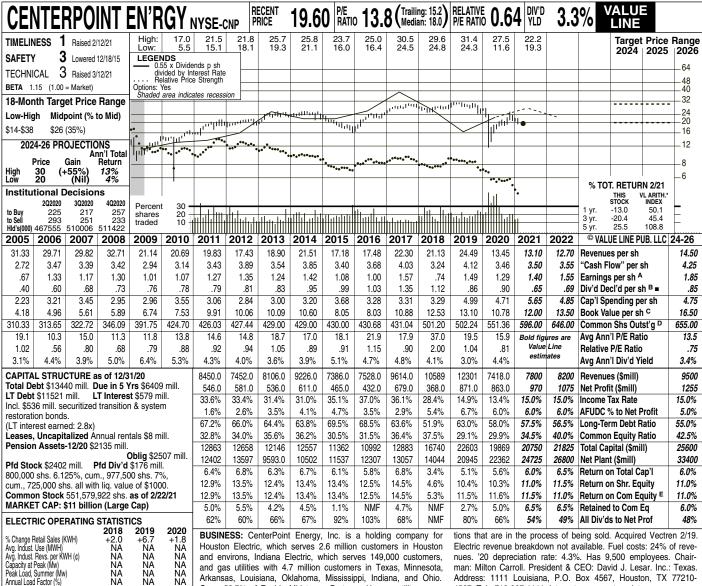
The board of directors raised the dividend in the current quarter. The increase was \$0.11 a share (6.7%) annually, as we had expected. CMS Energy's goal for dividend growth is the same as its target for earnings growth. Note that the payment in the fourth quarter of 2020 was a return of capital, not an ordinary dividend. This equity has a below-average dividend yield, by utility standards. Total return potential is appealing for the next 18 months, but only about average for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '05, (\$1.61); '06, (\$1.08); '07, (\$1.26); '09, (7¢); '10, 3¢; '11, 12¢; '12, (14¢); '17, (53¢); gains (losses) on discont. ops.: '05, 7¢; '06, 3¢; '07,

(40¢); '09, 8¢; '10, (8¢); '11, 1¢; '12, 3¢. Next earnings report due late April. (**B**) Div'ds historically paid late Feb., May, Aug., & Nov. ■ Div'd elec.; in '19: 9.9% gas; earned on avg. com.

reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '20: eq., '20: 14.4%. Regulat. Climate: Above Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 95 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 85



Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Indiana, and Ohio. Owns 53.7% of Enable Midstream Partners. Has nonutility opera-

Address: 1111 Louisiana, P.O. Box 4567, Houston, TX 77210-4567. Tel.: 713-207-1111. Internet: www.centerpointenergy.com.

167 152 135 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 -2.5% 1.5% .5% Revenues .5% -5.0% "Cash Flow" Earnings 3.0% 8.0% -1 0% 1.0% 5.0% -2.0% 5.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (avg.)

NA

+1.7

NA +7.9

+2.5

Cal- endar			VENUES ( Sep. 30		Full Year
2018	3155	2186	2212	3036	10589
2019	3531	2798	2742	3230	12301
2020	2167	1575	1622	2054	7418.0
2021	2250	1700	1700	2150	7800
2022	2350	1800	1800	2250	8200
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARE	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2018	.38	d.17	.35	.18	.74
2019	.28	.33	.47	.41	1.49
2020	.56	.17	.29	.27	1.29
2021	.50	.30	.35	.25	1.40
2022	.55	.30	.40	.30	1.55
Cal-	QUAR'	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.2675	.2675	.2675	.2675	1.07
2018	.2775	.2775	.2775	.2775	1.11
2019	.2875	.2875	.2875	.2875	1.15
2020	.29	.15	.15	.15	.74
2021	.16				

The past three months have been especially eventful for CenterPoint Energy. In December, the company raised its capital budget materially and announced its intention to sell its gas utilities in Oklahoma and Arkansas. In February, Enable Midstream Partners (53.7%-owned by CenterPoint) agreed to be acquired by Energy Transfer Partners. Also in February, much of CenterPoint's service territory was hit by a cold spell that caused gas and purchased-power costs to surge.

CenterPoint raised its five-year capital budget from \$13 billion to \$16 billion. Another potential \$1 billion of investments aren't included. This is expected to result in 10% annual growth in the rate base, and 6%-8% yearly growth in utility income.

Management expects to complete the sale of the two gas utilities in 2022. These have a rate base of about \$700 million and earning power of roughly \$75 million annually. CenterPoint plans to use the cash to reduce debt at the parent level. The pending Enable sale will facilitate CenterPoint's exit from the midstream gas business. The deal is expect-

ed to close this year. The poor performance of Enable units in 2020 was a key reason why CenterPoint's stock price fell 21%. The company plans to sell its stake in Energy Transfer "in an accelerated but highly managed and sophisticated way.

CenterPoint is seeking to recover all of its costs associated with a cold spell **in February.** The company's incremental gas costs were about \$2.5 billion. We are assuming no negative effects of this in our 2021 earnings estimate.

We expect earnings to advance in 2021 and 2022. Growth at the utilities (including annual rate relief) should help. Also, we estimate higher equity income from the stake in Enable. Note that our estimates and projections are based on CenterPoint's current configuration.

The board of directors raised the dividend, effective with the March pay**ment.** The increase was a cent a share (6.7%) quarterly. CenterPoint expects dividend growth in line with earnings growth. This timely stock offers attractive to-

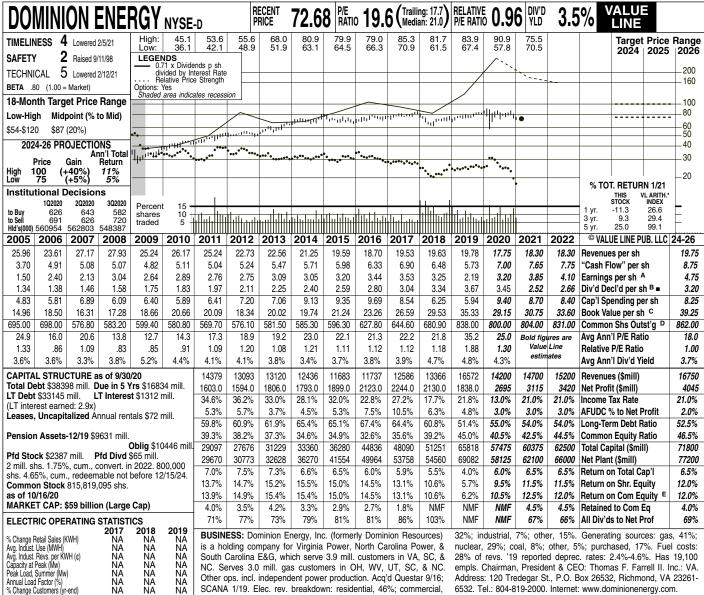
tal return potential for the 18-month span and the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecur. gains (losses): '05, 9¢; '11, \$1.89; '12, (38¢); '13, (52¢); '15, (\$2.69); '17, \$2.56; '20, (\$2.74); losses on disc.

ops.: '05, 1¢; '20, 34¢. Next earnings report | (C) Incl. intang. In '20: \$12.32/sh. (D) In mill. | Regulatory Climate: TX, Avg.; IN, Above Avg.

due early May. (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, Sept. & Dec. 5 declarations in '17 & '20, 3 in '19. Div'd reinvest. plan avail. 11.25%; earned on avg. com. eq., '20: 9.7%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 70 Price Growth Persistence 30 **Earnings Predictability** 45



NC. Serves 3.0 mill. gas customers in OH, WV, UT, SC, & NC. Other ops. incl. independent power production. Acq'd Questar 9/16; SCANA 1/19. Elec. rev. breakdown: residential, 46%; commercial,

empls. Chairman, President & CEO: Thomas F. Farrell II. Inc.: VA. Address: 120 Tredegar St., P.O. Box 26532, Richmond, VA 23261-6532. Tel.: 804-819-2000. Internet: www.dominionenergy.com.

166 287 219 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '24-'26 -3.0% 2.5% 1.5% Revenues -2.5% Nil "Cash Flow" Earnings 3.0% 4.5% 7.0% 8.0% 9.5% -.5% 3.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2018	3466	3088	3451	3361	13366
2019	3858	3970	4269	4475	16572
2020		7044F	3607	3549	14200
2021	3750	3650	3650	3650	14700
2022	3950	3750	3750	3750	15200
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	A	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.77	.82	1.22	.44	3.25
2019	d.37	.13	1.23	1.22	2.19
2020		1.10F	1.29	.81	3.20
2021	1.00	.85	1.05	.95	3.85
2022	1.10	.90	1.10	1.00	4.10
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.755	.755	.755	.77	3.04
2018	.835	.835	.835	.835	3.34
2019	.9175	.9175	.9175	.9175	3.67
2020	.94	.94	.94	.63	3.45
2021					

Dominion Energy began 2021 as a much-different company than it was a year earlier. The most significant change was the company's exit from most of its midstream gas operations (except for a 50% interest in the Cove Point liquefied natural gas export facility), which is treated as discontinued. Dominion Energy received \$4 billion in cash, and the buyer assumed \$5.7 billion of debt. The board of directors cut the dividend 33%, effective with the December payment. The company was planning to provide its expectations for 2021 around the time this report came out in print. We think share earnings will advance significantly this year, with another healthy gain in 2022

The company used most of the cash to repurchase stock. This amounted to \$3.1 billion, most of which occurred in late 2020. Dominion Energy expects to issue \$300 million in 2021 through the dividend reinvestment plan, but average shares outstanding will likely decline because most of the buyback in 2020 occurred late in the year. In 2022, equity units will be converted to common stock.

Rate cases are pending in South Caro-

lina and West Virginia. In South Carolina, the utility filed for an electric increase of \$178 million, based on a 10.25% return on equity (its currently allowed ROE). New rates are expected to take effect soon. The utility's ROE is well below its allowed ROE. In West Virginia, the company is seeking a gas hike of \$28 million, based on a 10.25% ROE (versus the currently allowed 9.45%). New tariffs are expected to take effect in July. Rate relief is one source of Dominion Energy's likely profit growth in 2021 and 2022.

Dominion Energy is planning to add offshore wind. The project would provide 2,640 megawatts of capacity at a cost of \$8 billion. Construction is expected to begin in 2024, with completion in 2026. Investors should note that offshore wind entails significant construction risk.

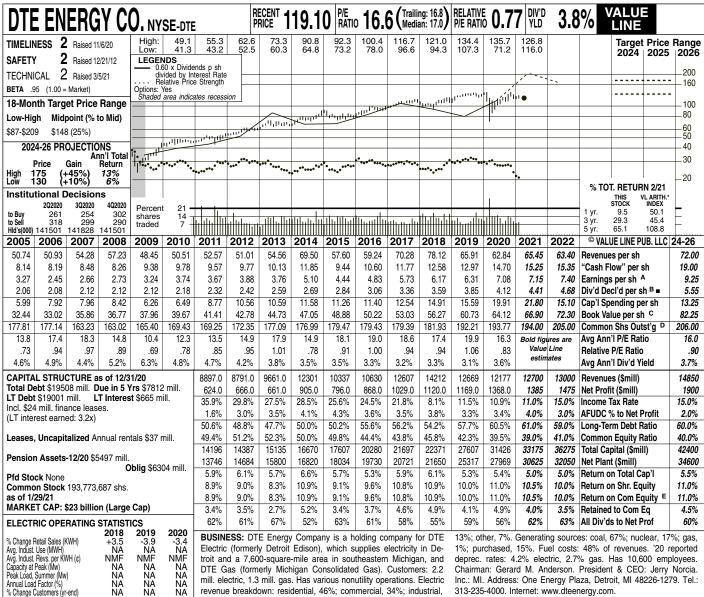
The untimely stock has a modest yield for a utility. We project respectable dividend growth through mid-decade, but not enough to restore the payout to its level before the cut last year. Total return potential is good for the 18-month span, but unspectacular for the 2024-2026 period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Dil. egs. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '07, \$1.67; '08, 12¢; '09, (47¢); '10, \$2.18; '11, (7¢); '12, (\$1.70); '14, (76¢); '17, \$1.19; '18, 43¢; '19, (58¢); '20, (67¢); losses from disc. ops.:

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'06, 26¢; '10, 26¢; '12, 4¢; '13, 16¢; '20, \$2.21. Next earnings report due late Apr. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '19: Clim.: Avg. (F) 6-mo. figs. pending restatement. © 2021 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

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 50 **Earnings Predictability** 45



mill. electric, 1.3 mill. gas. Has various nonutility operations. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 46%; commercial, 34%; industrial,

Inc.: MI. Address: One Energy Plaza, Detroit, MI 48226-1279. Tel.: 313-235-4000. Internet: www.dteenergy.com.

268 278 260 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 2.5% 5.0% 8.0% 7.5% 5.0% Revenues 3.0% -.5% "Cash Flow" Earnings 4.0% 7.5% 6.0% 6.0% Dividends Book Value 6.5% 5.5%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES (		Full Year
2018	3753	3159	3550	3750	14212
2019	3514	2888	3119	3148	12669
2020	3022	2583	3284	3288	12177
2021	<b>3300</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>3350</b>	<b>3350</b>	12700
2022	<b>3400</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>3450</b>	<b>3450</b>	13000
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARI	Dec.31	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30		Year
2018	2.00	1.29	1.84	1.05	6.17
2019	2.19	.99	1.73	1.40	6.31
2020	1.76	1.44	2.46	1.42	7.08
2021	<b>2.00</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>2.20</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>7.15</b>
2022	<b>2.10</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>7.40</b>
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B ■	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30		Dec.31	Year
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	.825 .8825 .945 1.0125 1.085	.825 .8825 .945 1.0125	.825 .8825 .945 1.0125	.825 .8825 .945 1.0125	3.30 3.53 3.78 4.05

The planned spinoff of DTE Energy's midstream gas business into a separate company is on track for mid-2021. Some details, such as the ratio of how many shares of the new company will be distributed to stockholders for each DTE Energy share, are yet to be determined. The spinoff is also subject to final approval of the board of directors. This would be tax-free for stockholders. Once this is completed, the company's utility operations would generate some 90% of corporate profits, versus 70% currently. DTE Energy expects dividend growth would accelerate to 8%-10% next year, versus 6% otherwise. Our estimates and projections are based on DTE Energy's current configuration.

We expect a slight earnings increase in 2021. This is partly due to a tough comparison. Although lockdowns and the recession hurt commercial and industrial kilowatt-hour sales, cost reductions and stronger-than-expected residential electric volume made up for this. Some of the expense cuts were of a one-time nature, and thus will not recur in 2021. The company will benefit from a full year's effect of electric and gas rate hikes that were granted

The nonutility vear. businesses benefited from some unusual income. Our 2021 share-net estimate is within DTE Energy's guidance of \$6.88-\$7.26.

DTE Gas filed a general rate case. The utility requested a \$195 million increase, based on a return on equity of 10.25% (versus the currently allowed 9.9%) and a 52% common-equity ratio. New tariffs are expected to take effect at the start of 2022. DTE Electric is considering filing a case in May, but is looking for ways to delay this.

Further earnings growth is likely in 2022, despite two challenging factors. The utility should benefit from rate relief. We expect further growth from the nonutility subsidiaries, as well. However, DTE Energy's reduced emissions fuel operation will cease at the end of 2021 because this business is based on tax credits that are expiring. Also, the share count will rise significantly due to the mandatory conversion of \$1.3 billion of equity units.

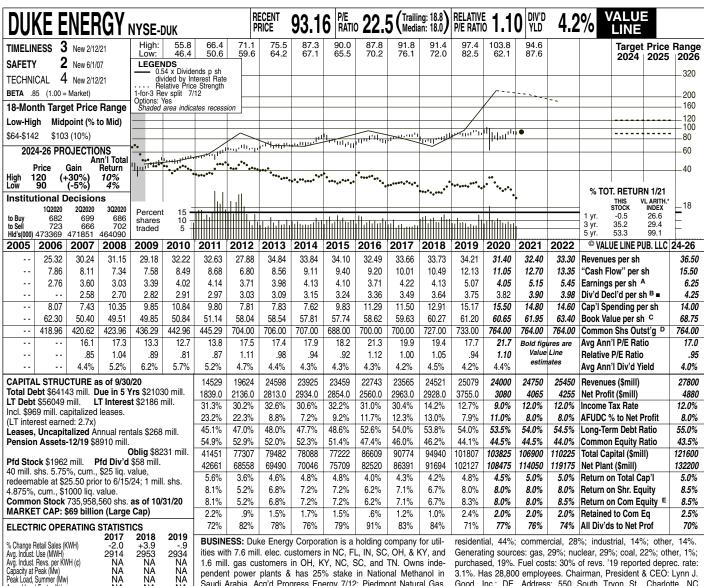
This timely stock's dividend yield is about average for a utility. After the spinoff, the sum of the parts might well prove to be greater than the whole. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '05, (2¢); '07, \$1.96; '08, 50¢; '11, 51¢; '15, (39¢); '17, 59¢; gains (losses) on disc. ops.: '04, (6¢); '05, (20¢); '06, (2¢); '07, \$1.20; '08,

13¢; '12, (33¢). '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due late April. (B) Div'ds pd. mid-Jan., Apr., July & Oct. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In

'20: \$46.10/sh. (**D**) In mill. (**E**) Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate all'd on com. eq. in '20: 9.9% elec.; in '20: 9.9% gas; earned on avg. com. eq., '20: 11.4%. Regulat. Climate: Above Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 95 Price Growth Persistence 75 **Earnings Predictability** 90



pendent power plants & has 25% 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. Elec. rev. breakdown:

3.1%. Has 28,800 employees. Chairman, President & CEO: Lynn J. Good. Inc.: DE. Address: 550 South Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28202-1803. Tel.: 704-382-3853. Internet: www.duke-energy.com.

272 218 233 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) to '24-'26 Revenues 1.0% 1.0% 1.0% 'Cash Flow" 3.5% 3.0% 6.0% 2.5% 3.0% 1.0% 5.0% 5.0% 2.5% 2.0% Earnings Dividends Dividends Book Value

+1.3

% Change Customers (avg.)

NA

+1.4

NA

+1.5

Cal-			VENUES (		Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	6135	5643	6628	6115	24521
2019	6163	5873	6940	6103	25079
2020	5949	5421	6721	5909	24000
2021	6200	5650	6850	6050	24750
2022	6350	5800	7100	6200	25450
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	1.17	.71	1.63	.61	4.13
2019	1.24	1.12	1.82	.89	5.07
2020	1.24	1.08	1.74	d.01	4.05
2021	1.25	1.10	1.80	1.00	5.15
2022	1.35	1.15	1.90	1.05	5.45
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.855	.855	.89	.89	3.49
2018	.89	.89	.9275	.9275	3.64
2019	.9275	.9275	.945	.945	3.75
2020	.945	.945	.965	.965	3.82
2021	.965				

We have reinstated the Timeliness rank of Duke Energy stock. In November, we suspended the rank due to takeover speculation stemming from a report in *The Wall Street Journal* that NextEra Energy had approached Duke about a deal. This led to a 7% rise in the stock price that day, but since no transaction has emerged, we reinstated the rank.

Duke has announced an asset sale. The company agreed to sell a 19.9% stake in its Indiana utility for \$2.05 billion in cash in two phases, in the second quarter of 2021 and by January of 2023. This requires approval of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The proceeds would replace the \$1 billion of equity Duke planned to add in 2021 and 2022 and be used for capital spending. Duke expects its long-term average annual earnings growth rate to rise from 4%-6% to 5%-7%.

The company reached a settlement regarding the regulatory treatment of coal ash remediation costs. If this is approved by the North Carolina commission, Duke will write off \$1 billion of these costs, and will earn a return on equity that is 1.5 percentage points below its allowed

ROE for the remainder. The company expects to take a \$1 billion pretax charge against fourth-quarter results, which is included in our earnings presentation.

Profits should return to a more-typical level in 2021 and 2022. Without this item, we figure Duke would have earned \$5.10 a share last year. In 2021, the company should benefit from rate relief and the absence of the coal ash charge. However, dilution from a \$2.5 billion forward equity sale, which was settled in late 2020, will be a negative factor. Additional rate relief should produce bottom-line growth in 2022. Our figures do not reflect the pending deal with Duke Indiana.

Duke reached a settlement in Florida. If approved by the regulators, rates will be raised by \$67 million, \$49 million, and \$79 million in 2022, 2023, and 2024, respectively, based on a 9.85% ROE and a 53% common-equity ratio. A ruling is expected in the second quarter.

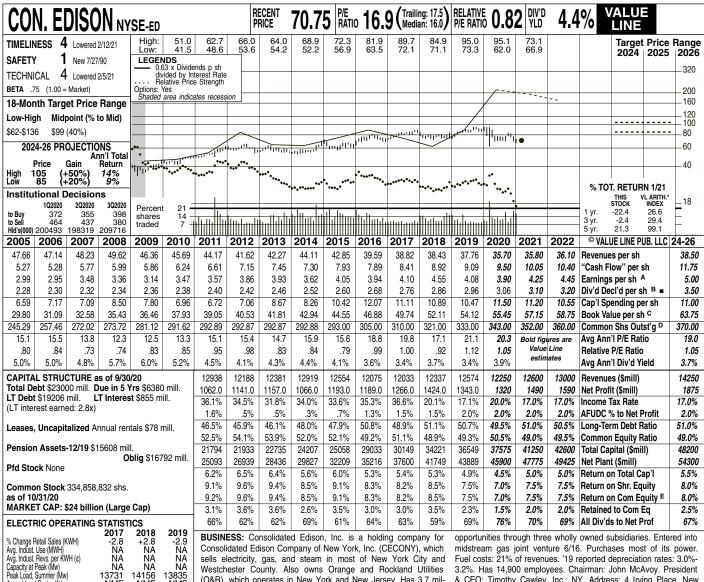
The stock has an above-average dividend yield for a utility. However, dividend growth potential through 2024-2026 is half the industry norm.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. losses: '12, 70¢; '13, 24¢; '14, 67¢; '17, 15¢; '18, 41¢; '20, \$2,21; losses on disc. ops.: '14, 80¢; '16, 60¢; '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next egs.

report due early May. **(B)** Div'ds paid mid-Mar., Rate all'd on com. eq. in '18 in NC: 9.9%; in '19 June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. in SC: 9.5%; in '20 in FL: 9.5%-11.5%; in '20 in **(C)** Incl. intang. In '19: \$44.37/sh. **(D)** In mill., IN: 9.7%; earn. on avg. com. eq., '19: 8.3%. adj. for rev. split. (E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. | Reg. Clim.: NC, SC Avg.; OH, IN Above Avg.

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



Westchester County. Also owns Orange and Rockland Utilities (O&R), which operates in New York and New Jersey. Has 3.7 million electric, 1.2 million gas customers. Pursues competitive energy 3.2%. Has 14,900 employees. Chairman: John McAvoy. President & CEO: Timothy Cawley. Inc.: NY. Address: 4 Irving Place, New York, NY 10003. Tel.: 212-460-4600. Internet: www.conedison.com.

306 267 354 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 -2.0% 4.0% 2.5% -2.0% 4.0% 2.0% Revenues Nil 4.0% 2.5% 'Cash Flow" Earnings 3.0% 3.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NMF NA

13835 NMF NA

14156

NA

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year	
2018	3364	2696	3328	2949	12337	
2019	3514	2744	3365	2951	12574	
2020	3234	2719	3333	2964	12250	
2021	3450	2750	3400	3000	12600	
2022	3550	2850	3500	3100	13000	
Cal-	E/	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	ΕA	Full	
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2018	1.37	.60	1.52	1.06	4.55	
2019	1.31	.46	1.42	.88	4.08	
2020	1.13	.57	1.47	.73	3.90	
2021	1.35	.55	1.55	.80	4.25	
2022	1.40	.60	1.60	.85	4.45	
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full	
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2017	.69	.69	.69	.69	2.76	
2018	.715	.715	.715	.715	2.86	
2019	.74	.74	.74	.74	2.96	
2020	.765	.765	.765	.765	3.06	
2021	.775					

We that Consolidated estimate Edison's earnings will advance in 2021 and 2022. The company's primary utility subsidiary, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, will benefit from the second and third phases of electric and gas rate increases this year and next. The comparison in 2021 will be made easier by mark-to-market accounting losses and charges associated with a renewable-energy acquisition, which lowered share profits by \$0.26 in the first three quarters last year. ConEd's renewable-energy subsidiary should boost its income as projects now under development are completed. Note that bad-debt expense associated with the weak economy and coronavirusrelated costs have hurt earnings modestly, but the slump in kilowatt-hour sales is not a factor because the utilities operate under a regulatory mechanism that decouples revenues and volume. However .

There is a source of uncertainty. The New York State Public Service Commission has issued a show-cause order to the company requesting that it show why its utilities should not be fined for its performance for outages in 2019 and 2020.

ConEd's utilities might be fined as much as \$146 million. We have not assumed any fine in our 2021 estimate. When this matter will be resolved is undetermined.

There is the potential for sharp increases in capital spending. The company estimates that steps needed to address climate change would amount to \$1.8 billion-\$5.2 billion of capital spending. Presumably, any such spending would be placed in the rate base through general rate applications.

The board of directors raised the dividend in the current quarter. The increase was one cent a share (1.3%) quarterly. The hike was well\_below those in recent years because ConEd expects to incur coronavirus-related costs (most notably bad-debt expense) in 2021. The company's goal is a payout ratio in a range of 60%-70%.

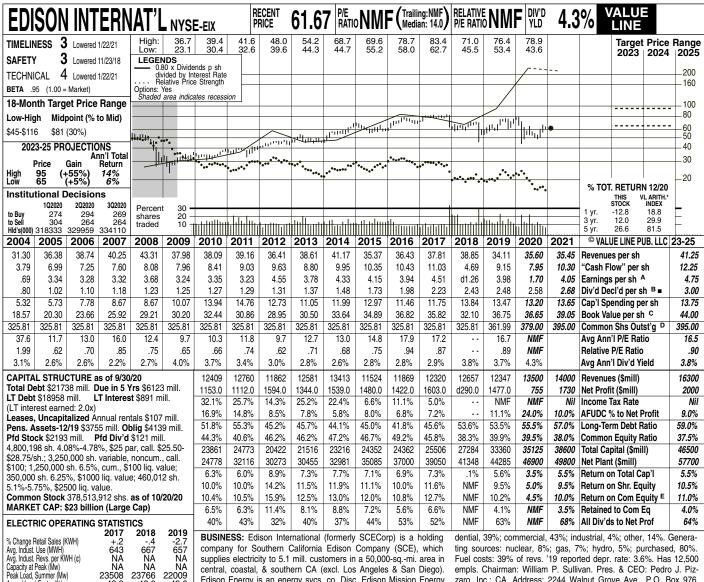
The dividend yield is above the utility average. The stock is untimely, but stands out for its 18-month prospects, and has appeal for its 3- to 5-year total return potential. The deceleration in the dividend growth rate is a drawback, however. Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '13, (32¢); '14, 9¢; '16, 15¢; '17, 84¢; '18, (13¢); gain on discontinued operations: '08, \$1.01. '19 EPS don't sum due to rounding.

intangibles. In '19: \$21.01/sh. (D) In mill. Regulatory Climate: Below Average

Next earnings report due mid-Feb. **(B)** Div'ds historically paid in mid-Mar., June, Sept., and Dec. Div'd reinvestment plan avail. **(C)** Incl. 19: 9.0%; earned on avg. com. eq., 19: 8.2%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 85 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability** 100



supplies electricity to 5.1 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: resiFuel costs: 39% of revs. '19 reported depr. rate: 3.6%. Has 12,500 empls. Chairman: William P. Sullivan. Pres. & CEO: Pedro J. Pizzaro. Inc.: CA. Address: 2244 Walnut Grove Ave., P.O. Box 976, Rosemead, CA 91770. Tel.: 626-302-2222. Web: www.edison.com.

NMF 241 172 Fixed Charge Cov. (% **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '23-'25 -1.0% -2.5% -10.5% Revenues -1.0% 2.0% 'Cash Flow" 6.5% 12.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value 4.0% 4.0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

23508

ΝA

23766

48.0

+.6

22009

49.6

+.5

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2017	2463	2965	3672	3220	12320
2018	2564	2815	4269	3009	12657
2019	2824	2812	3741	2970	12347
2020	2790	2987	4644	3079	13500
2021	2900	3100	4800	3200	14000
Cal-	E/	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	1.11	.85	1.43	1.12	4.51
2018	.82	.84	1.57	d4.49	d1.26
2019	.64	1.57	1.35	.45	3.98
2020	.50	.85	d.76	1.11	1.70
2021	.65	1.10	1.40	.90	4.05
Cal-	QUAR'	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.5425	.5425	.5425	.5425	2.17
2018	.605	.605	.605	.605	2.42
2019	.6125	.6125	.6125	.6125	2.45
2020	.6375	.6375	.6375	.6375	2.55
2021	6625				

Our 2020 earnings estimate for Edison International requires an explanation. The bottom line fell into the red in the third quarter due to a \$2.33-a-share charge for expected liabilities stemming from wildfires and mudslides in Southern California Edison's service area in 2017 and 2018. We also include the effects of amortization of SCE's contributions to the state's wildfire insurance fund, which reduces quarterly earnings by \$0.16 a share. Edison International is excluding these items from its 2020 "core" earnings guidance of \$4.47-\$4.62 a share. Note that the weak economy and lockdowns in California don't have a large effect on the company's income because SCE operates under a regulatory mechanism that decouples revenues and volume.

The utility is awaiting an order in its general rate case. SCE is seeking rate increases of \$1.3 billion in 2021 (and asking that the order be retroactive to the start of the year), \$452 million in 2022, and \$524 million in 2023. Rate relief and the absence of the wildfire-liability reserve point to material earnings improvement this year. The California commission will

consider the recovery of incremental wildfire mitigation costs in two separate tracks. SCE and other parties reached a settlement that, if approved by the commission, would raise rates \$391 million to recover incremental wildfire mitigation costs from 2018 and 2019. A decision is expected in the current quarter. In March, the utility will apply for recovery of its incremental costs from 2020. Separately, the regulators have allowed the company to recover incremental wildfire insurance premium costs that were incurred through mid-2020.

An equity issuance is upcoming. Edison International expects to issue \$1 billion of common stock in order to fund expected wildfire liability payments.

The board of directors raised the dividend, effective with the January payment. The increase was \$0.10 a share (3.9%) annually.

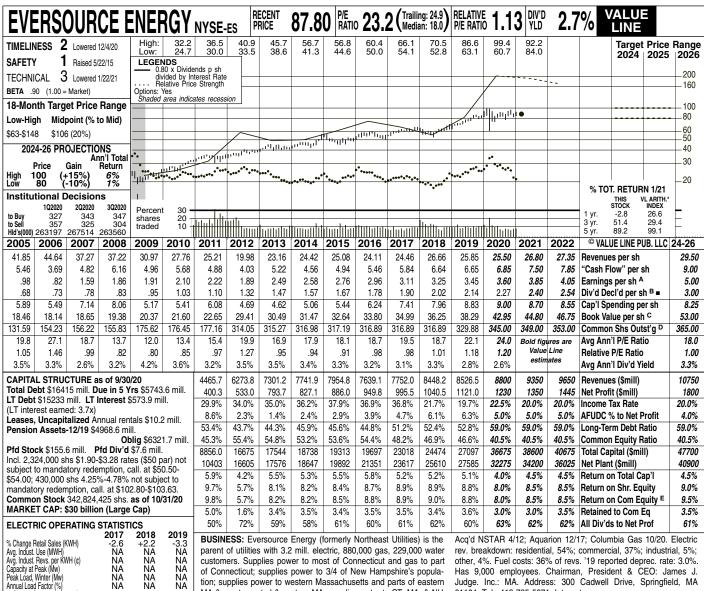
This stock's dividend yield is above the utility average. Total return potential is attractive for the next 18 months and a bit above average for the 2023-2025 period.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '04, \$2.12; '09, (64¢); '10, 54¢; '11, (\$3.33); '13, (\$1.12); '15, (\$1.18); '17, (\$1.37); '18, (15¢); 19, (21¢); gains (loss) from disc. ops.: '12,

(\$5.11); '13, 11¢; '14, 57¢; '15, 11¢; '18, 10¢. avail. (**C**) Incl. def'd charges. In '19: \$16.82/sh. '19 EPS don't sum due to chng. in shs. Next earnings report due late Feb. (**B**) Div'ds paid all'd on com. eq. in '20: 10.3%; earned on avg. late Jan., Apr., July, & Oct. ■ Div'd reinv. plan | com. eq., '19: 11.5%. Regulatory Climate: Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 75 Price Growth Persistence 50 **Earnings Predictability** 



of Connecticut; 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, MA, & NH.

Has 9,000 employees. Chairman, President & CEO: James J. Judge. Inc.: MA. Address: 300 Cadwell Drive, Springfield, MA 01104. Tel.: 413-785-5871. Internet: www.eversource.com

427 319 319 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '24-'26 2.5% 6.5% 7.0% 7.0% 3.5% -3.0% 2.0% 6.0% Revenues 2.0% "Cash Flow" Earnings 5.0% 6.5% 6.0% 5.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NΑ

+.6

+.5

+.7

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2018	2288	1853	2271	2034	8448.1
2019	2415	1884	2175	2050	8526.5
2020	2373	1953	2343	2129	8800
2021	2650	2100	2350	2150	9350
2022	2800	2200	2500	2250	9650
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARI	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.85	.76	.91	.73	3.25
2019	.97	.74	.98	.76	3.45
2020	1.01	.75	1.01	.83	3.60
2021	1.08	.85	1.02	.90	3.85
2022	1.15	.87	1.10	.93	4.05
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIV	DENDS PA	(ID B ■	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.475	.475	.475	.475	1.90
2018	.505	.505	.505	.505	2.02
2019	.535	.535	.535	.535	2.14
2020	.5675	.5675	.5675	.5675	2.27
2021					

Eversource will likely post solid earnings growth in 2021 and 2022. The company should benefit from the acquisition of Columbia Gas in Massachusetts last October. Rate relief is another factor. Eversource will have a full year's effect of a gas rate hike in Massachusetts last November, and Columbia Gas' rates will be raised in November. Public Service of New Hampshire's tariffs were boosted \$45 million at the start of 2021, and the electric company will have three "step" increases this year and next. Eversource is controlling expenses effectively, too, and has little exposure to any economic weakness because revenues and volume are decoupled. Our 2021 and 2022 earnings estimates would produce growth within the company's targeted range of 5%-7% yearly.

Connecticut Light & Power has a grid modernization proposal pending be-fore the state commission. The utility proposes spending \$500 million from 2021 through 2025, which would be recovered through a rider (surcharge) on customers' bills. The proposal includes a rollout of electric vehicle infrastructure.

We expect the board of trustees to

raise the dividend this month. think the increase will be \$0.13 (5.7%), the same as in 2020. Eversource's goal for yearly dividend growth is 5%-7%.

The Connecticut regulators are reviewing CL&P's performance following a tropical storm last August. Draft and final decisions are tentatively scheduled for March and April, respectively. Separately, legislation requires the commission to evaluate performance-based regulation and increases the amount of potential penalties for utilities.

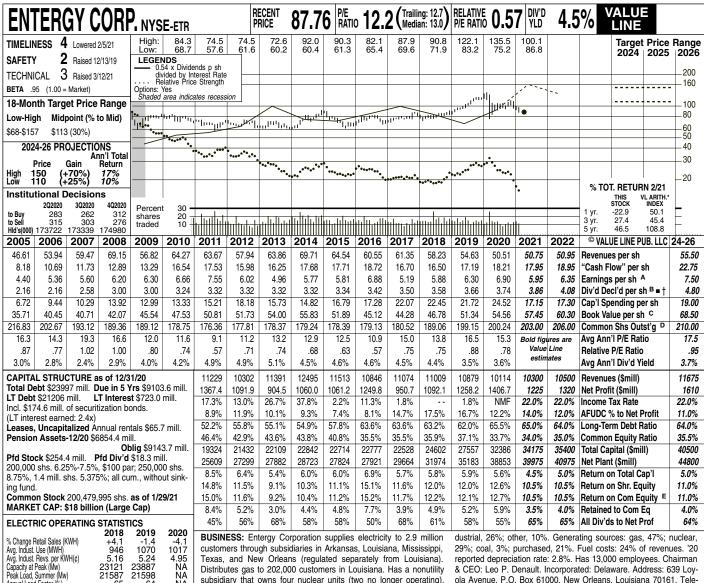
Eversource is adding offshore wind through a joint venture. This would add 1,714 megawatts of capacity. The first project (130 mw) would begin operating by year-end 2023. The next two are unlikely to achieve their original in-service dates of year-end 2023 and year-end 2024. This illustrates offshore wind's construction risk.

This timely stock has a dividend yield that is about a percentage point below the utility average. The stock outperformed most utility issues in 2020, so its valuation is high. Total return potential to 2024-2026 is low. Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gains (losses): '05, (\$1.36); '08, (19¢); '10, 9¢; '19, (64¢); '20, (25¢). Next earnings report due late Feb. (B) Div'ds historically paid late Mar., June,

Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (elec.) '18, 9.25%; (gas) '18, 9.3%; in NH: '21, (C) Incl. deferred charges. In '19: \$28.16/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate allowed on com. eq. in MA: (elec.) '18, 9.2%; earned on avg. com. eq., '19: 9.2%. Regulatory Climate: CT, Below Average; NH, (elec.) '18, 10.0%; (gas) '20, 9.7%-9.9%; in CT: Average; MA, Above Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 85 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 100



Distributes gas to 202,000 customers in Louisiana. Has a nonutility subsidiary that owns four nuclear units (two no longer operating). Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 39%; commercial, 25%; in-

& 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

202
8-'20 '26
5% 5%
0% 5%
)%

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

NA NA +1.0

21598

+.8

+.6

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
2018	2724	2669	3104	2512	11009
2019	2610	2666	3141	2462	10878
2020	2427	2413	2904	2370	10114
2021	2600	2500	2900	2300	10300
2022	2700	2600	2900	2300	10500
Cal-	E/	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.73	1.34	3.42	.39	5.88
2019	1.32	1.22	1.82	1.94	6.30
2020	.59	1.79	2.59	1.93	6.90
2021	1.15	1.50	2.60	.70	5.95
2022	1.25	1.60	2.75	.75	6.35
Cal-	QUART	<b>ERLY DIVI</b>	DENDS PA	IDB∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.87	.87	.87	.89	3.50
2018	.89	.89	.89	.91	3.58
2019	.91	.91	.91	.93	3.66
2020	.93	.93	.93	.95	3.74
2021	.95				

Investors should not be alarmed by the earnings decline we estimate for Entergy in 2021. In the fourth quarter of 2020, the company benefited from a \$396 million tax credit as a result of an IRS settlement. Entergy has booked similar credits in recent years, which is why its tax rate is usually low or negative. We are not assuming any such income in our 2021 estimate, which is within the company's guidance of \$5.80-\$6.10 a share. The utility should benefit from rate relief and growth in kilowatt-hour sales resulting from an improving economy. These factors point to higher profits in 2022, within Entergy's preliminary expectation of \$6.15-\$6.45 a share.

Storms and a cold spell have affected the company since August of last year. Restoration costs stemming from three hurricanes in 2020 amounted to an estimated \$2.4 billion. Entergy is asking the state commissions for permission to issue securitized bonds to recover these costs. Last month, a winter storm caused \$125 million-\$140 million in restoration costs. In addition, the cold spell caused more than \$400 million in elevated gas costs.

We assume the company's utilities will be able to recover these expenses through the fuel-adjustment clause. They will work with the regulators on a recovery plan, given the magnitude of these costs.

Entergy received a disappointing rate order in Arkansas. The utility sought an increase of \$73 million under the state's Formula Rate Plan (FRP), but was granted just \$1 million. The commission agreed to a rehearing. Entergy also wants a five-year extension of the FRP. The regulators' decision is expected later this month.

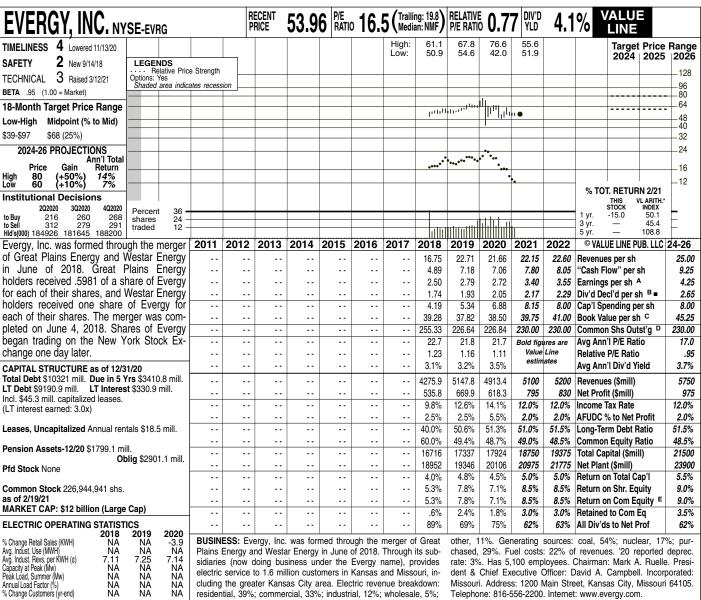
Other regulatory matters are pending. Entergy Louisiana is asking the state commission for an extension of its FRP. Entergy Texas has filed to update its generation cost recovery rider to include new gas-fired generating assets.

Untimely Entergy stock has been one of the worst-performing electric utility issues in 2021. The price has declined 12%, and there doesn't appear to be a specific reason for the underperformance. The dividend yield is above the utility average, and the equity has appeal for the 18-month and 3- to 5-year periods. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. losses: '05, 21¢; '12, \$1.26; '13, \$1.14; '14, 56¢; '15, \$6.99; '16, \$10.14; '17, \$2.91; '18, \$1.25. Next earnings report due early May. (B) Div'ds historically 20: \$33.43/sh. (D) In millions. (E) Rate base:

paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. † Shareholder investment plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred charges. In Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 35 **Earnings Predictability** 65



Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 305 286 ANNUAL RATES Est'd '18-'20 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 3.5% of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings 6.5% 8.0% Dividends Book Value 5.5% 2.5%

Cal-	QUAR'	QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2018	600.2	893.4	1582	1199	4275.9	
2019	1216	1221	1577	1131	5147.8	
2020	1116	1184	1517	1094	4913.4	
2021	1250	1200	1550	1100	5100	
2022	1250	1250	1600	1100	5200	
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full	
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2018	.42	.56	1.32	.07	2.50	
2019	.39	.57	1.56	.28	2.79	
2020	.31	.59	1.60	.22	2.72	
2021	.60	.70	1.75	.35	3.40	
2022	.50	.75	1.85	.40	3.55	
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full	
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2017						
2018	.40	.40	.46	.475	1.74	
2019	.475	.475	.475	.505	1.93	
2020	.505	.505	.505	.535	2.05	
2021	.535					

We have raised our 2021 earnings estimate for Evergy by \$0.25 a share, to **\$3.40.** Our previous estimate of \$3.15 a share was near the low end of the company's guidance (on a GAAP basis) of \$3.14-\$3.24. Evergy has a nonregulated energymarketing subsidiary that typically contributes \$0.03-\$0.07 a share to annual income. During the cold spell in Texas, this unit had a long position that benefited from the surge in gas and power prices. Potentially, Evergy might have earned about three times the upper end of its yearly range. We will include this benefit in our earnings presentation even though this is not included in management's guidance. Gas and purchased-power costs for Evergy's utilities rose sharply, but we assume that all of these will be recoverable through the fuel-adjustment clause. Other positive factors include an assumed return to normal weather patterns, volume growth as the economy improves, earnings from additional investment in the utility's transmission system, and effective expense control. Most of these factors should produce higher profits in 2022, despite a

tough comparison in the first quarter.

Evergy reached an agreement with two investor groups, Bluescape Energy Partners and Elliott Investment Management. The investors had been pushing the company to look for a buyer. Indeed, in November, Reuters reported that the company turned down an offer from NextEra Energy. Instead, Bluescape will invest about \$115 million in Evergy (through the purchase of newly issued stock) and will get warrants. Evergy appointed the head of Bluescape to its board, along with another board member. Bluescape and Elliott signed standstill agreements with Evergy, effective through the date of the 2022 annual meeting.

The company is proceeding with its Sustainability Transformation Plan. Evergy's capital budget for 2021 through 2025 is \$9.2 billion. This includes \$675 million for renewable-energy projects in 2023 and 2024.

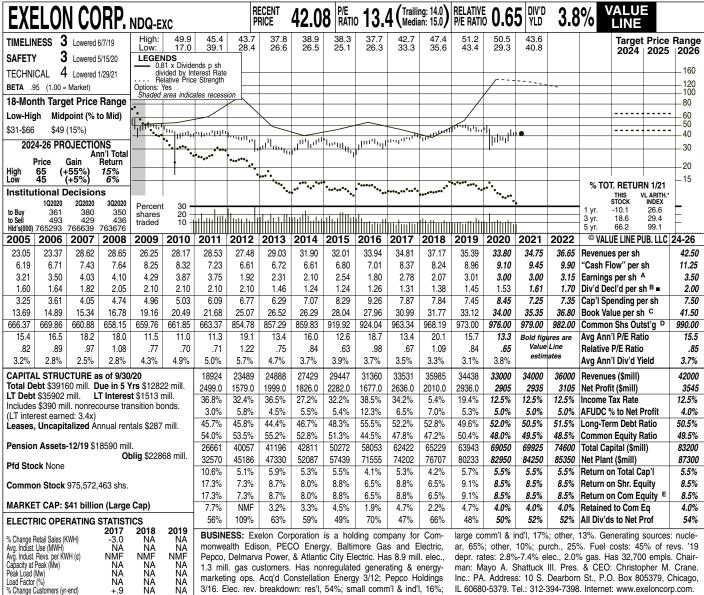
This stock is untimely, but may interest income-oriented accounts. The dividend yield is about average for a utility. Total return potential is above average for the 18-month and 3- to 5-year periods. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. '18 EPS don't sum to full-year total due to change in shares, '19 due to rounding. Next earnings report due early May. (B) Dividends paid in mid-March, June, Sep-

tember, and December. Dividend reinvest- allowed on common equity in Missouri in '18: ment plan available. **(C)** Incl. intangibles. In none specified; in Kansas in 18: 9.3%. Earned 20: \$4204.8 mill., \$18.54/sh. **(D)** In millions. **(E)** Rate base: Original cost depreciated. Rate latory Climate: Average.

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

B++ 65 NMF NMF



Pepco, Delmarva Power, & Atlantic City Electric. Has 8.9 mill. elec., 1.3 mill. gas customers. Has nonregulated generating & energymarketing ops. Acq'd Constellation Energy 3/12; Pepco Holdings 3/16. Elec. rev. breakdown: res'l, 54%; small comm'l & ind'l, 16%;

depr. rates: 2.8%-7.4% elec., 2.0% gas. Has 32,700 empls. Chairman: Mayo A. Shattuck III. Pres. & CEO: Christopher M. Crane. Inc.: PA. Address: 10 S. Dearborn St., P.O. Box 805379, Chicago, IL 60680-5379. Tel.: 312-394-7398. Internet: www.exeloncorp.com.

Fixed Charge Cov. (%)		282	236	257
ANNUAL RATES	Past	Past	Est'd	'17-'19
of change (per sh)	10 Yrs.	5 Yrs.	to '2	24-'26
Revenues	2.5%	4.0%	5 2	2.5%
"Cash Flow"	1.0%	5.0%	, 4	.0%
Earnings	-4.5%	4.5%		1.0%
Dividends	-3.5%	-3.0%		.5%
Book Value	6.5%	4.0%	5 4	1.0%

% Change Customers (yr-end)

NA NA NA

0-1	QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)					
Cal- endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year	
2018				8813	35985	
	9693	8076	9403			
2019	9477	7689	8929	8343	34438	
2020	8747	7322	8853	8078	33000	
2021	9450	7500	8850	8200	34000	
2022	9700	7750	9100	8450	36000	
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	Α	Full	
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2018	.60	.56	.76	.16	2.07	
2019	.93	.50	.79	.79	3.01	
2020	.60	.73	.89	.78	3.00	
2021	.85	.60	.90	.65	3.00	
2022	.90	.60	.95	.70	3.15	
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full	
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year	
2017	.328	.328	.328	.328	1.31	
2018	.345	.345	.345	.345	1.38	
2019	.3625	.3625	.3625	.3625	1.45	
2020	.3825	.3825		.3825	1.53	
2021						
2021	l				1	

Exelon is considering a corporate separation. The company's nonregulated operations have faced difficult market conditions for more than a decade. Margins on merchant (uncontracted) power sales have shrunk. This is a key factor that prompted Exelon to increase the proportion of income from the regulated business by acquiring utilities in 2012 and 2016. The company has already shut nuclear units in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and plans to close two more (in Illinois) this year. Accordingly, Exelon might spin off its nonregulated operations into a separate entity, thereby becoming a transmission and distribution electric and gas utility.

We look for flat earnings in 2021 and moderate profit growth in 2022. The regulated utility business should benefit from rate relief (see below) and additional revenues from regulatory mechanisms. This should outweigh any weakness from the nonregulated activities. Note that our estimates can be skewed by items such as mark-to-market accounting gains or losses or unrealized gains or losses on the nuclear decommissioning trusts. We include these in our presentation because they are

an ongoing part of Exelon's results. As usual, the utilities are active in the regulatory arena. Pepco is seeking three-year rate increases in Washington, DC and Maryland. In Washington, the utility filed for increases totaling \$135.9 million, based on a 9.7% return on equity. An order is expected in the second quarter. In Maryland, Pepco requested hikes totaling \$110.1 million, based on a 10.2% ROE. A ruling is due by May 24th. In Delaware, Delmarva Power filed for an electric increase of \$24.0 million, based on a 10.3% ROE. A decision is expected in the second quarter. In Pennsylvania, the company asked for a gas increase of \$68.7 million, based on a 10.95% ROE. An order is expected in June. In New Jersey, Atlantic City Electric is seeking a hike of \$67.3 million, based on a 10.3% ROE. A ruling is expected by September 8th.

The dividend yield of this stock is

about equal to the utility average. Total return potential is attractive for the 18month span and the 3- to 5-year period. There is also some speculative appeal due to the possibility of a corporate separation.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 202 February 12, 2021

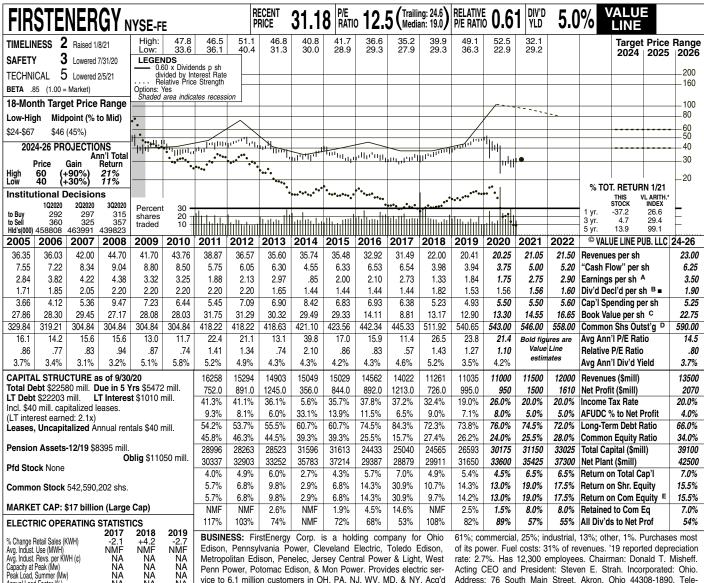
(A) Diluted egs. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '05, (\$1.85); '06, (\$1.15); '09, (20¢); '12, (50¢); '13, (31¢); '14, 23¢; '16, (58¢); '17, \$1.19; '20, (58¢). '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next

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earnings report due late Feb. (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. | '16: 9.75% elec., 9.65% gas; in NJ in '16: Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. deferred charges. In '19: \$15.43/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate Reg. Climate: PA, NJ Avg.; IL, MD, Below Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 35 **Earnings Predictability** 65



Metropolitan Edison, Penelec, Jersey Central Power & Light, West Penn Power, Potomac Edison, & Mon Power. Provides electric service to 6.1 million customers in OH, PA, NJ, WV, MD, & NY. Acq'd Allegheny Energy 2/11. Electric revenue breakdown: residential,

rate: 2.7%. Has 12,300 employees. Chairman: Donald T. Misheff. Acting CEO and President: Steven E. Strah. Incorporated: Ohio. Address: 76 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44308-1890. Telephone: 800-736-3402. Internet: www.firstenergycorp.com

	249	199 249
Past	Past	Est'd '17-'19
10 Yrs.	5 Yrs.	to '24-'26
-5.5%	-7.5%	-1.0%
-6.0%	-3.0%	4.0%
-7.0%	-	- 8.5%
-8.5%	-17.5%	10.0%
	10 Yrs. -5.5% -6.0%	Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs5.5% -7.5% -3.0% -2.0%

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

NA NA +.4

NA NA +.3

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES (Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2018	2862	2625	3064	2710	11261
2019	2883	2516	2963	2673	11035
2020	2709	2522	3022	2747	11000
2021	2900	2700	3100	2800	11500
2022	3050	2800	3250	2900	12000
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.01	.27	.66	.34	1.33
2019	.66	.63	.75	d.20	1.84
2020	.05	.57	.84	.29	1.75
2021	.70	.70	.80	.55	2.75
2022	.75	.75	.85	.55	2.90
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.36	.36	.36	.36	1.44
2018	.36	.36	.36	.36	1.44
2019	.38	.38	.38	.38	1.52
2020	.39	.39	.39	.39	1.56
2021	.39				

FirstEnergy's stock was the worstperforming issue in the electric utility **industry in 2020.** The price declined 37%. This stemmed from a federal investigation of the company's lobbying activities with the Ohio legislature, in which several people were charged with bribery. This led to the dismissal of FirstEnergy's chief executive officer and two other executives. FirstEnergy has not been charged, but some lobbyists have pled guilty. The company is facing shareholder, customer, and governmental lawsuits. It is conducting an internal investigation.

We expect much higher earnings in 2021. This is due partly to an easy comparison. A year ago, the March-quarter tally was depressed by a \$423 million aftertax charge for a mark-to-market accounting item related to its pension plan. This was in addition to the usual mark-tomarket item that FirstEnergy books in the fourth period. As of November, the company expected this to amount to a loss of \$330 million to a gain of \$40 million for the December quarter of 2020. First-Energy should benefit from rate relief at Jersey Central Power & Light and ongoing investments in its electric transmission system (see below). Increased bad-debt expense stemming from the weak economy is being deferred for future recovery.

Capital investments in transmission are material for the company. The latter factor should help boost the bottom line in 2022, as well. FirstEnergy plans to spend \$1.20 billion-\$1.45 billion annually on transmission through 2023. Most of this spending is recovered through forwardlooking regulatory mechanisms with an allowed return on equity of 10.3% or greater. Dividend growth has been interrupted. FirstEnergy has stated that it expects no change in the disbursement in 2021. We think a modest increase in the payout is possible next year.

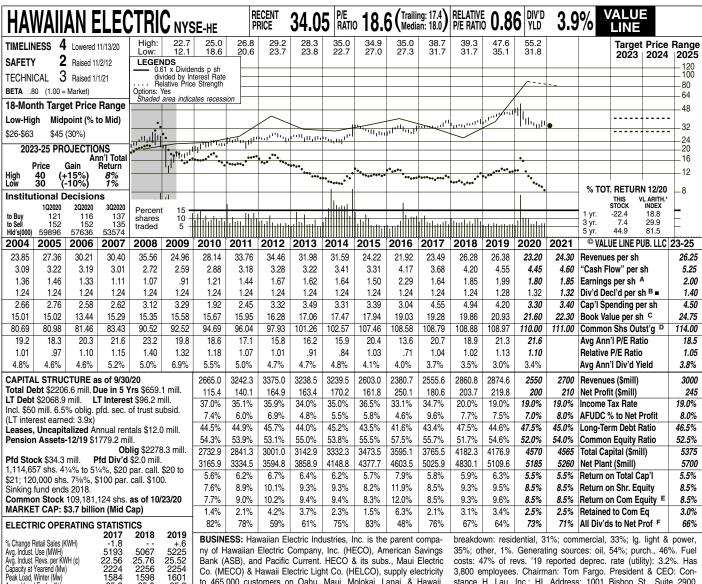
This timely stock has one of the high-

est dividend yields among electric utility issues. This is more than a percentage point above the mean for this industry. Total return potential is attractive for the 18-month and 3- to 5-year periods. However, given the legal risks FirstEnergy faces, the equity is best suited for aggressive income-oriented accounts.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. losses: '13, due to change in shs. Next earnings report due \$2.07; '14, 17¢; '15, 63¢; '16, \$16.59; '17, \$6.61; gains (loss) from disc. ops.: '14, 20¢; '18, 66¢; '19, (17¢); '20, 9¢. '18 EPS don't sum avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '19: \$10.57/sh. (D) In PA, NJ Avg.; MD, WV Below Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 75 Price Growth Persistence 25 **Earnings Predictability** 45



Co. (MECO) & Hawaii Electric Light Co. (HELCO), supply electricity to 465,000 customers on Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, & Hawaii. Operating companies' systems are not interconnected. Elec. rev.

3,800 employees. Chairman: Tom Fargo. President & CEO: Constance H. Lau. Inc.: HI. Address: 1001 Bishop St., Suite 2900, Honolulu, HI 96808-0730. Tel.: 808-543-5662. Web: www.hei.com.

409 361 368 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '23-'25 -5.0% 4.5% 2.0% Revenues -2.0% 4.0% .5% "Cash Flow" Earnings 4.0% 1.5% 6.0% Dividends Book Value 2.0% 3.5% 3.5%

+.2

+.5

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES (		Full Year
2017	591.5	632.3	673.2	658.6	2555.6
2018	645.9	685.3	768.0	761.6	2860.8
2019	661.6	715.5	771.5	726.0	2874.6
2020	677.2	608.9	641.4	622.5	2550
2021	650	675	700	675	2700
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.31	.36	.55	.42	1.64
2018	.37	.42	.60	.45	1.85
2019	.42	.39	.58	.61	1.99
2020	.31	.45	.59	.45	1.80
2021	.39	.40	.61	.45	1.85
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.31	.31	.31	.31	1.24
2018	.31	.31	.31	.31	1.24
2019	.32	.32	.32	.32	1.28
2020	.33	.33	.33	.33	1.32
2021					

The Public Utilities Commission of Hawaii (PUC) issued an order in late 2020 that will affect the three utility subsidiaries of Hawaiian Electric Industries. Some provisions have already begun, but others won't take effect until June. The PUC is continuing certain regulatory mechanisms that were already in place, such as one that decouples revenues and volume. Some performance-based ratemaking provisions were adjusted so that the utilities may benefit from supeperformance, instead of just being penalized for not meeting certain standards. The troubling aspect of the decision is the PUC's order for HEI's utilities to pass through to customers \$110.8 million of cost reductions over the five-year term of the plan, which is well above the utilities' commitment of \$35.4 million in savings. The company has asked the PUC for clarification and/or reconsideration of the order. When the PUC will respond is undetermined; there is no statutory time frame. Also undetermined is how any pass-through to customers will be accounted for, and how this order will ultimately affect HEI's earning power.

Earnings probably declined in 2020, and we expect only a partial recovery in 2021. The recession did not have a large effect on HEI's utilities thanks to the decoupling mechanism. Also, the utilities' coronavirus-related expenses are being deferred for future recovery through a separate regulatory proceeding. However, the weak economy and a narrow interest-rate margin are hurting the company's American Savings Bank subsidiary. In the first three quarters of 2020, ASB booked provisions for credit losses totaling \$35.2 million, versus a typical range of \$17 million-\$22 million for a full year. The bank is taking steps to cut costs, such as closing six branches.

We think the dividend will be held at the current level this year. There is even more uncertainty than usual regarding HEI's earning power. There might not be an increase in 2022, as well.

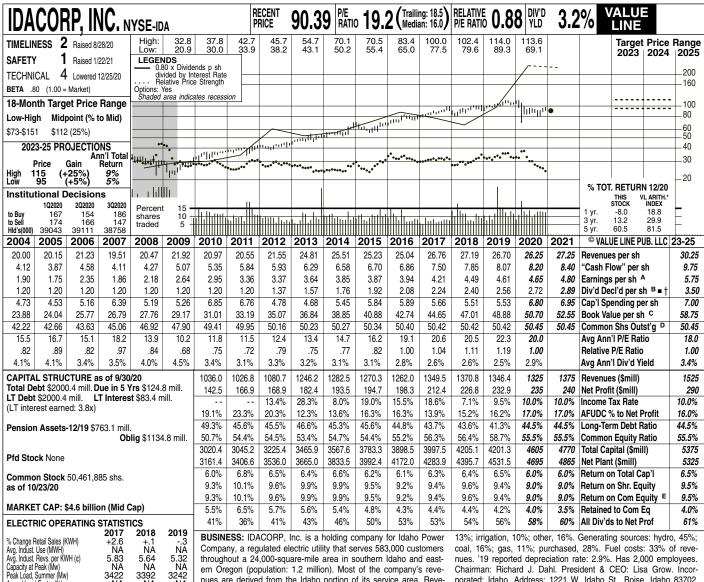
This stock is untimely, and its dividend yield does not stand out among utilities. The equity has some appeal for the 18-month span, but 3- to 5-year total return potential is low.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. gain (loss) from disc. ops.: '04, 2¢; '05, (1¢); nonrec. gain (losses): '05, 11¢; '07, (9¢); '12, (25¢); '17, (12¢). '18 & '19 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next egs. report due mid-Feb. **(B)** Div'ds pd. early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. avail. **(C)** Incl. intang. In '19: \$7.03/sh. **(D)** In mill.,

lowed on com. eq. in '18: HECO, 9.5%; in '18: HELCO, 9.5%; in '18: MECO, 9.5%; earned on avg. com. eq., '19: 9.8%. Reg. Climate: Below adj. for split. (E) Rate base: Orig. cost. Rate al- Avg. (F) Excl. div'ds paid through reinv. plan.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 85 Price Growth Persistence 45 **Earnings Predictability** 65



ern Oregon (population: 1.2 million). Most of the company's revenues are derived from the Idaho portion of its service area. Revenue breakdown: residential, 39%; commercial, 22%; industrial,

Chairman: Richard J. Dahl. President & CEO: Lisa Grow. Incorporated: Idaho. Address: 1221 W. Idaho St., Boise, Idaho 83702. Telephone: 208-388-2200. Internet: www.idacorpinc.com.

307 329 309 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '23-'25 2.5% 4.5% 4.0% 9.0% 5.0% Revenues 2.5% 2.0% "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends 5.5% 7.0% 4.0% 4.5% 6.5% 4.0% Dividends Book Value

+2.0

% Change Customers (vr-end)

ŇĀ

+2.3

NA +2.5

Cal-	QUAF	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	302.6	333.0	408.3	305.6	1349.5
2018	310.1	340.0	408.8	311.9	1370.8
2019	350.3	316.9	386.3	292.9	1346.4
2020	291.0	318.8	425.3	289.9	1325
2021	305	330	440	300	1375
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARI	A	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.66	.99	1.80	.76	4.21
2018	.72	1.23	2.02	.52	4.49
2019	.84	1.05	1.78	.93	4.61
2020	.74	1.19	2.02	.70	4.65
2021	.85	1.15	2.00	.80	4.80
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIVI	DENDS PA	IDB∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.55	.55	.55	.59	2.24
2018	.59	.59	.59	.63	2.40
2019	.63	.63	.63	.67	2.56
2020	.67	.67	.67	.71	2.72
2021					

We estimate that IDACORP's earnings rose slightly in 2020. We figure this happened despite a difficult comparison in the fourth quarter. The company's utility subsidiary, Idaho Power, benefited from favorable weather conditions in its service area. Also, while the national recession hurt the economy in Idaho, this was less severe in the state because of the concentration of food-processing customers, which continued to operate even as some other businesses were ordered to close. Other businesses are expanding; for instance, Amazon opened a distribution center. Some companies have relocated from California to Idaho. Customer growth is rapid, and amounted to 2.6% for the 12-month period that ended on September 30th. Cost control has been effective, and operating and maintenance expenses likely declined. Upon reporting third-quarter results in late October, IDACORP narrowed its share-earnings guidance from \$4.45-\$4.65 to \$4.55-\$4.65. Our estimate remains at the upper end of this range.

We look for a modest profit increase this year. The service area's economy should continue to recover. On the other

hand, a return to normal weather patterns would be a negative factor for the year-toyear comparison. Our estimate of \$4.80 a share would produce a 3% increase over our expectation for 2020. Management will issue earnings guidance for 2021 when it reports fourth-quarter results next month.

**Finances are solid.** The fixed-charge coverage and common-equity ratio are comfortably above the averages for the electric utility industry. The earned return on equity is consistently healthy. IDACORP has not issued any common equity for several years, and expects no need for new equity in the next few years. The company's Financial Strength rating is A. We have raised the equity's Safety rank one notch, to 1 (Highest).

The dividend yield of this timely stock is a cut below the utility mean. The issue offers superior total return potential for the next 18 months. For the 3- to 5year period, however, total return prospects are unexceptional, despite the likelihood of strong dividend growth. The recent quotation is near the lower end of our 2023-2025 Target Price Range.

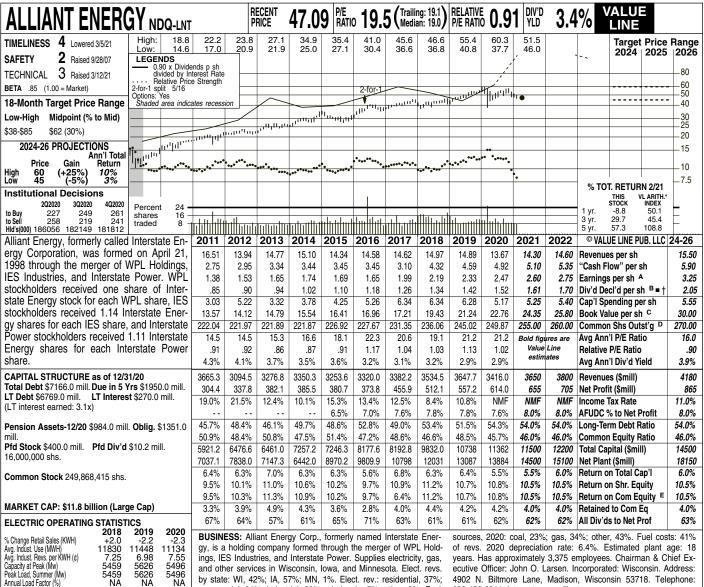
Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

mid-Feb. (B) Dividends historically paid in late

\$26.31/sh. (D) In millions. (E) Rate base: Net | Average.

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gain (loss): Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. Dividend reinvest original cost. Rate allowed on common equity ment plan available. Shareholder investment in 12: 10% (imputed); earned on avg. com. sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due plan available. (C) Incl. intangibles. In 19: eq., 19: 9.6%. Regulatory Climate: Above

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



by state: WI, 42%; IA, 57%; MN, 1%. Elect. rev.: residential, 37%; commercial, 24%; industrial, 29%; wholesale, 7%; other, 3%. Fuel +.6

4902 N. Biltmore Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53718. Telephone: 608-458-3311. Internet: www.alliantenergy.com.

Fixed Charge Cov. (% 322 324 342 ANNUAL RATES Est'd '18-'20 Past 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 5 Yrs. of change (per sh) Revenues "Cash Flow" -.5% 5.5% .5% 4.5% 1.0% 4.0% 6.0% 7.0% 5.5% Earnings 6.0% 5.5% 6.0% Dividends Book Value 6.0%

+.4

% Change Customers (yr-end)

ΝĂ

+.6

Cal-	QUAR	TERLY RE	VENUES (	\$ mill.)	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	916.3	816.1	928.6	873.5	3534.5
2019	987.2	790.2	990.2	880.1	3647.7
2020	915.7	763.1	920.0	817.2	3416.0
2021	950	800	975	925	3650
2022	980	835	1015	970	3800
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARI	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.52	.43	.87	.37	2.19
2019	.53	.40	.94	.46	2.33
2020	.72	.54	.94	.26	2.47
2021	.62	.53		.45	2.60
2022	.66	.56	1.05	.48	2.75
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIVI	DENDS PA	ID B ∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.315	.315	.315	.315	1.26
2018	.335	.335	.335	.335	1.34
2019	.355	.355	.355	.355	1.42
2020	.38	.38	.38	.38	1.52
2021	.403				

estimate that Alliant Energy's earnings will advance 5%-6% this year and next. As a reminder, the company does not have any pending rate cases at its two largest utility subsidiaries, Interstate Power and Light and Wisconsin Power and Light. That is because it reached a settlement in Wisconsin to hold rates flat in 2021 by using excess deferred taxes and fuel savings to offset a higher revenue requirement. The settlement will enable Alliant to earn a respectable return on investment without increasing base rates in Wisconsin for the second-consecutive year. With regard to Interstate Power and Light, the company expects to avoid filing rate cases for a while. This was made possible through collaboration with regulators and stakeholders in Iowa on key items such as deferring costs associated with the August derecho and the addition of a renewable energy rider. The renewable energy rider will allow IPL to recover expenses from the construction of various wind projects, including the Kossuth Wind Farm. Altogether, these production credits have leadership forecasting an effective

continues make toward its clean energy goals. Natural gas and coal comprised just 49% of electric energy generation at IPL last year, down from 58% in 2019. Wind, nuclear, and solar (including purchased power) made up the remaining portion. At WPL, wind generation rose 65%, to 2,353 mw, while coal's share fell from 31% to 28%. Going forward, leadership plans to double down on renewables. It intends to add 400 mw of solar generation in Iowa by 2023. When combined with the 1,300 mw of owned wind and existing solar farms, that puts it on track to have more than 50% of Iowa power come from renewables by 2030. In Wisconsin, the utility plans to add at least 1000 mw of new wind and solar generation by 2023. It will also retire two existing facilities—Columbia Energy Center in 2022 and the Edgewater Generating Station by the end of 2024.

These untimely shares do not stand out at present. The dividend yield (3.4%) is below average for an electric utility, and total return potential is uninspiring at the recent quotation. Daniel Henigson, CFA March 12, 2021

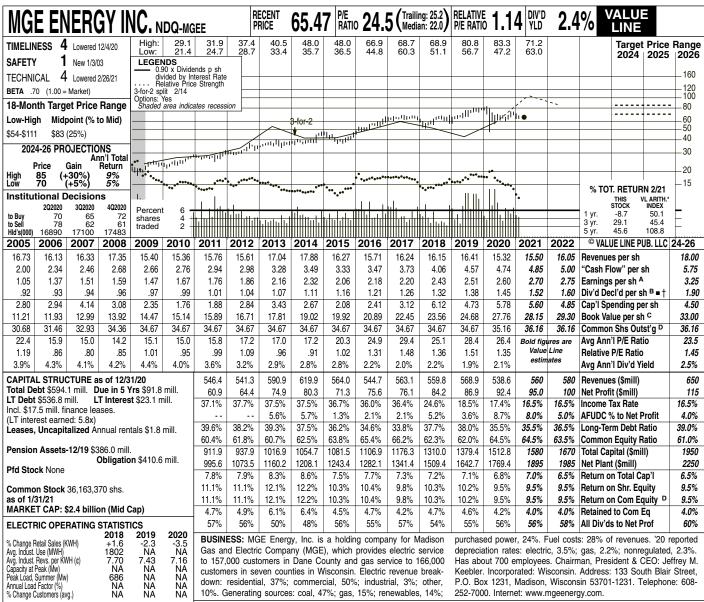
(A) Diluted EPS. May not sum due to changes in share count. Excl. nonrecur. gains (losses): '11, (1¢); '12, (8¢). Next earnings rpt. due early May. (B) Dividends historically paid in mid-

Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. † Shareholder invest. plan avail. (C) in IA in '20: 10.0%; in WI in '20 Regul. Clim.: Incl. deferred chgs. In '20: \$73.0 mill., WI, Above Avg.; IA, Avg. \$0.29/sh. (D) In millions, adjusted for split. (E)

tax rate of negative 20% in 2021.

Rate base: Orig. cost. Rates all'd on com. eq.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence 95 75 **Earnings Predictability** 



down: residential, 37%; commercial, 50%; industrial, 3%; other, 10%. Generating sources: coal, 47%; gas, 15%; renewables, 14%;

P.O. Box 1231, Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1231. Telephone: 608-252-7000. Internet: www.mgeenergy.com.

429 645 465 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 2.0% Revenues -1.5% "Cash Flow" Earnings 6.0% 3.0% 4.5% 4.5% 4.5% 5.0% 3.5% 5.5% 5.5% 4.5% Dividends Book Value 6.0%

% Change Customers (avg.)

Cal-	QUAR	TERLY RE	VENUES (		Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	157.6	124.3	137.8	140.1	559.8
2019	167.6	122.2	138.2	140.9	568.9
2020	149.9	117.0	135.2	136.5	538.6
2021	160	120	140	140	560
2022	165	125	145	145	580
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.58	.53	.85	.47	2.43
2019	.69	.45	.88	.48	2.51
2020	.75	.53	.88	.44	2.60
2021	.80	.50	.93	.47	2.70
2022	.80	.52	.95	.48	2.75
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIVI	DENDS PA	IDB∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.3075	.3075	.3225	.3225	1.26
2018	.3225	.3225	.3375	.3375	1.32
2019	.3375	.3375	.3525	.3525	1.38
2020	.3525	.3525	.37	.37	1.45
2021	.37				

The Wisconsin commission approved a regulatory settlement for MGE Energy's utility subsidiary. Electric rates for Madison Gas and Electric were unchanged, and gas rates were raised \$6.7 million (4%). The allowed return on equity is 9.8% and the common-equity ratio is 55.84%. New tariffs took effect at the start of 2021.

Another rate case is upcoming. This spring, MGE will file an electric and gas rate case. The utility will seek to place some capital projects in the rate base and recover certain costs, including those related to the coronavirus and lockdowns (mainly bad-debt expense). MGE has not yet determined whether its application will be only for 2022 or for 2022 and 2023. A ruling is expected in time for new rates to take effect at the start of next year.

We expect moderate earnings growth in 2021 and 2022. The utility should see a modest benefit from exceptionally cold weather in its service area in February. Rate relief will help, as well. And as the  $_{
m this}$ economy reopens, should boost kilowatt-hour sales. Note that we consider our 2022 estimate conservative.

The company is adding solar capacity. MGE has a one-third stake (50 megawatts each) in similar projects that are scheduled to begin commercial operation in April of 2021 and December of 2022. Each project's estimated cost is \$65 million. A separate 20-mw facility is on track for completion in midvear at an expected cost of \$32 million. This will be used to serve customers who choose a renewable-energy rate.

MGE Energy's finances are in good shape. The fixed-charge coverage and common-equity ratio are among the highest in the electric utility industry. We project no additional equity over the fiveyear period after an \$80 million issuance last year. All told, the company has a Financial Strength rating of A+, our secondhighest.

This stock is untimely, and has a high valuation. The dividend yield is more than one percentage point below the mean for electric utility equities. The issue offers wide total return potential for the next 18 months, but prospects for the pull to 2024-2026 are less appealing.

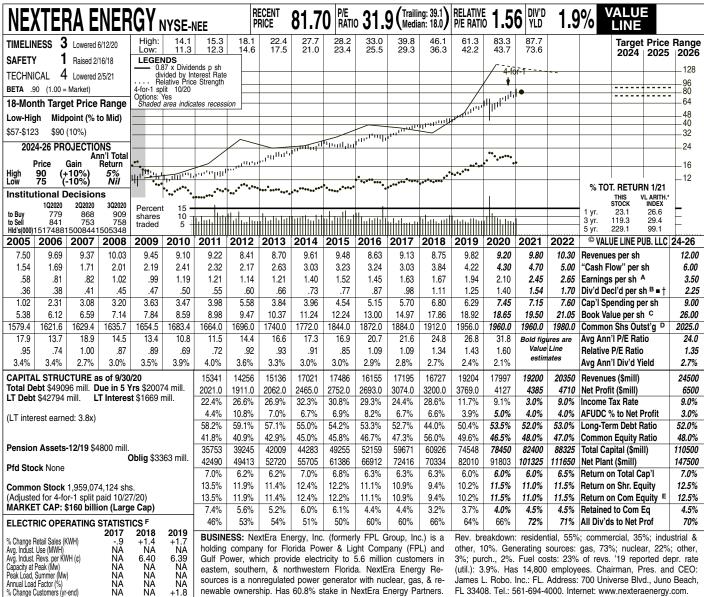
Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted earnings. Excludes nonrecurring gain: '17, 62¢. '19 earnings don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due early May. (B) Dividends historically paid in mid-March,

latory assets. In '20: \$178.6 mill., \$4.94/sh. Climate: Above Average.

June, September, and December. Dividend (D) In millions, adjusted for split. (E) Rate alreinvestment plan available. † Shareholder investment plan available. (C) Includes regundant of common equity, '20: 10.1%. Regulatory

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 75 **Earnings Predictability** 100



eastern, southern, & northwestern Florida. NextEra Energy Resources is a nonregulated power generator with nuclear, gas, & renewable ownership. Has 60.8% stake in NextEra Energy Partners.

(util.): 3.9%. Has 14,800 employees. Chairman, Pres. and CEO: James L. Robo. Inc.: FL. Address: 700 Universe Blvd., Juno Beach, FL 33408. Tel.: 561-694-4000. Internet: www.nexteraenergy.com.

278 266 230 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '24-'26 Revenues -.5% .5% 4.0% 'Cash Flow" 7.0% 7.0% 7.0% 10.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value 11.0% 10.5%

+1.8

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2018	3857	4063	4416	4391	16727
2019	4075	4970	5572	4587	19204
2020	4613	4204	4785	4395	17997
2021	4500	4800	5300	4600	19200
2022	4750	5100	<i>5600</i>	4900	20350
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARE	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.52	.41	.53	.22	1.67
2019	.35	.64	.45	.50	1.94
2020	.21	.65	.62	.61	2.10
2021	.65	.65	.65	.50	2.45
2022	.70	.70	.70	.55	2.65
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIVI	DENDS PA	IDB∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.2456	.2456	.2456	.2456	.98
2018	.2775	.2775	.2775	.2775	1.11
2019	.3125	.3125	.3125	.3125	1.25
2020	.35	.35	.35	.35	1.40
2021					

NextEra Energy was the standout performer in the electric utility industry in 2020. Last year was a bad one for this group, as a whole, but the price of NextEra stock soared 27%. The quotation has risen a further 6% in early 2021. The company's regulated utilities, Florida Power and Light and Gulf Power, are faring well and are earning a healthy return on equity. NextEra Energy Resources has estab-lished a top position in renewable energy. The company has performed consistently well for several years, although reported earnings from year to year will fluctuate based on mark-to-market accounting gains or losses. We *include* these in our earnings presentation because they are a normal part of NextEra's business.

Growth from the regulated and nonregulated businesses points to higher earnings in 2021 and 2022. FPL's earning power rises along with increases in regulatory capital employed. The nonregulated business should benefit from increased demand for renewable energy. Our 2021 and 2022 share-net estimates are within management's targeted ranges of \$2.40-\$2.54 and \$2.55-\$2.75, respectively.

A rate application is upcoming. This will be a combined filing for FPL and Gulf Power, which have been merged into one utility. The company expects to request increases of \$1.1 billion in 2022 and \$615 million in 2023, followed by solar base rate adjustments of \$140 million in 2024 and 2025 as the utility adds solar projects. FPL plans to request a return on equity of 11.5%, which includes a half percentage point incentive for superior performance.

NextEra wrote down a pipeline project in the fourth quarter. This has suffered from cost overruns and delays stemming from litigation. The nonrecurring charge was \$0.61 a share.

We think the board of directors will raise the dividend later this month. We estimate a hike of \$0.035 a share (10%) in the quarterly disbursement. NextEra expects 10% dividend growth to continue through 2022, at least.

The concern we have about the stock is its valuation. The yield is almost two percentage points below the utility mean. The recent quotation is well within our 2024-2026 Target Price Range, too. Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

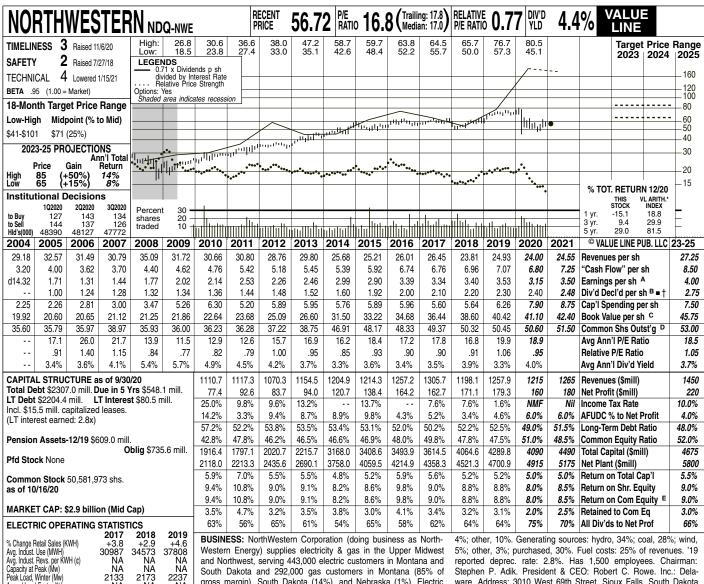
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecur. gains (losses): '11, (6¢); '13, (20¢); '16, 12¢; '17, 23¢; '18, \$1.80; '20, (61¢); gain on disc. ops.: '13, 11¢. '18 & '20 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next

Shareholder investment plan avail. (C) Incl.

earnings report due late Apr. **(B)** Div'ds historically paid in mid-Mar., mid-June, mid-Sept., & mid-Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. †

deferred charges. In '19: \$4.56/sh. **(D)** In mill., adj. for stock split. **(E)** Rate all'd on com. eq. in '17 (FPL): 9.6%-11.6%; earned on avg. com. eq., '19: 10.6%. Reg. Clim.: Avg. (F) FPL only.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 100 **Earnings Predictability** 80



gross margin), South Dakota (14%), and Nebraska (1%). Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 39%; commercial, 47%; industrial,

ware. Address: 3010 West 69th Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57108. Tel.: 605-978-2900. Internet: www.northwesternenergy.com.

275 275 284 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '23-'25 -2.0% 5.5% 6.0% 7.5% 7.0% Revenues -2.5% 1.5% 'Cash Flow" 5.0% 7.0% 3.5% 2.5% Earnings 4.0% 3.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

+1.3

NA

+1.2

ŇA

+1.2

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2017	367.3	283.9	309.9	344.6	1305.7
2018	341.5	261.8	279.9	314.9	1198.1
2019	384.2	270.7	274.8	328.2	1257.9
2020	335.3		280.6	329.7	1215
2021	355	285	290	335	1265
Cal-	E/	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	1.17	.44	.75	.98	3.34
2018	1.18	.61	.56	1.06	3.40
2019	1.44	.49	.42	1.18	3.53
2020	1.00	.43	.58	1.14	3.15
2021	1.15	.50	.65	1.20	3.50
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIVI	DENDS PA	IDB∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.525	.525	.525	.525	2.10
2018	.55	.55	.55	.55	2.20
2019	.575	.575	.575	.575	2.30
2020	.60	.60	.60	.60	2.40
2021					

NorthWestern's earnings almost certainly declined in 2020. Mild weather and unusual costs hurt the first-quarter comparison. Over the remainder of the year, the utility was affected by the slump in commercial and industrial kilowatthour sales resulting from the weak economy (partly offset by higher residential volume) and some coronavirus-related costs. NorthWestern stated that it planned to book a pretax charge of \$9.5 million against fourth-quarter results because the Montana commission disallowed some purchased-power costs. We are including this in our earnings presentation even though the company is excluding it from its targeted range of \$3.30-\$3.45 a share.

We expect earnings in 2021 to approach the 2019 tally. We figure North-Western will have a more-typical showing in the March quarter, lower coronavirusrelated effects for the full-year, and no charge for the disallowance in the December period. Our profit estimate of \$3.50 a share is at the midpoint of the company's preliminary guidance of \$3.40-\$3.60.

NorthWestern is adding generating capacity. The company is building a 60-

megawatt gas-fired plant in South Dakota that is scheduled to be on line in late 2021 at a cost of \$80 million. The utility plans to add another 30-40 mw of capacity in 2023 at an expected cost of \$60 million. NorthWestern canceled plans to purchase a stake in a coal-fired plant because obtaining regulatory approval appeared unlikely. The utility has a request for proposals pending in Montana, and expects to announce the winning bidder(s) in the current quarter.

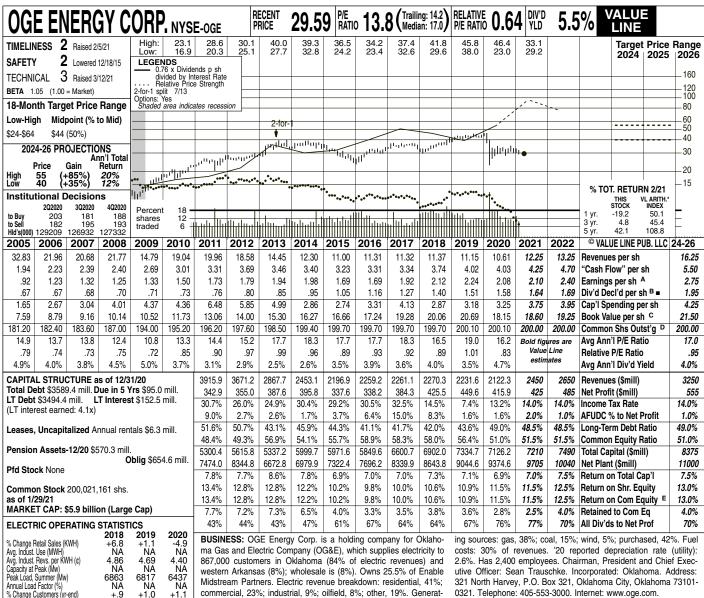
We think the board of directors will raise the dividend in the current quarter. We estimate the annual disbursement will be hiked by \$0.08 a share (3.3%). This would be a slightly smaller increase than in recent years. Based on our estimates for earnings and dividends this year, the payout ratio would be at the upper end of NorthWestern's goal of 60%-70%.

The dividend yield of NorthWestern stock is somewhat above the utility average. Total return potential is attractive for the year ahead and respectable for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. gain (loss) on disc. ops.: '05, (6¢); '06, 1¢; nonrec. gains: '12, 39¢ net; '15, 27¢; '18, 52¢; '19, 45¢. '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due mid-

Feb. (B) Div'ds historically paid in late Mar., June, Sept. & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. def'd charges. In '19: \$16.68/sh. spec.; in NE in '07: 10.4%; earned on avg. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate | com. eq., '19: 9.0%. Reg. Climate: Below Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 85



Midstream Partners. Electric revenue breakdown: residential. 41%: commercial, 23%; industrial, 9%; oilfield, 8%; other, 19%. Generat-

OGE Energy's utility subsidiary was

321 North Harvey, P.O. Box 321, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-0321. Telephone: 405-553-3000. Internet: www.oge.com

292 335 326 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '24-'26 -2.5% 3.0% 3.0% 9.5% 4.0% Revenues -5.0% 4.5% 4.0% 4.5% 7.5% 6.0% 'Cash Flow" 6.0% 4.0% Earnings Dividends 4.5% 1.5% Dividends Book Value

+1.0

+1.1

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal-	QUAR	TERLY RE	VENUES (	\$ mill.)	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30		Dec.31	Year
2018	492.7	567.0	698.8	511.8	2270.3
2019	490.0	513.7	755.4	472.5	2231.6
2020	431.3	503.5	702.1	485.4	2122.3
2021	<b>500</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>2450</b>
2022	<b>575</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>2650</b>
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARI	Dec.31	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30		Year
2018 2019 2020 2021 2022	.27 .24 .23 <b>.15</b>	.55 .50 .51 <b>.50</b> . <b>55</b>	1.02 1.25 1.04 <b>1.20</b> <b>1.30</b>	.27 .26 .30 . <b>25</b>	2.12 2.24 2.08 <b>2.10</b> <b>2.40</b>
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B ■	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30		Dec.31	Year
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	.3025 .3325 .365 .3875 .4025	.3025 .3325 .365 .3875	.3025 .3325 .365 .3875	.3325 .365 .3875 .4025	1.24 1.36 1.48 1.57

hurt by the cold spell that hit the region in February. A surge in gas and purchased-power costs resulting from the disruption of gas supplies cost an estimated \$800 million-\$1 billion. Oklahoma Gas and Electric will defer these for future recovery, but because this is such a large amount, the utility proposes to amortize the cost over a 10-year period beginning in January. The company obtained \$1 billion in bank financing to cover the costs, and will seek recovery of financing costs, too. This will affect earnings in 2021.

OG&E has a guaranteed flat bill program that applies to 3% of its load, so the utility has to absorb higher power expenses for these customers. This will hurt the bottom line by an estimated \$0.06 a share. Financing costs associated with the new debt facility will amount to \$0.03-\$0.04 a share. For now, we assume OG&E will be allowed to recover its power costs, but do not assume recovery of the financing costs. We think OGE Energy's profits will rise slightly in 2021 thanks to higher equity income from the company's stake in Enable Midstream Partners. The utility will get

additional revenues from a formula rate plan in Arkansas and rider recovery of grid enhancement spending in Oklahoma. Enable has agreed to be acquired by Energy Transfer Partners. Once the deal closes, the company will own 3% of Energy Transfer, and will get cash of \$35 million. The poor performance of Enable units in 2020 led to a 28% decline in the price of OGE Energy stock last year. The company plans to sell its stake in Energy Transfer. For now, it expects to get \$60 million-\$73 million in cash distributions from midstream gas investments in 2021. Earnings should improve in 2022. We assume no drag from the weather-related problems experienced in February. OG&E should get a partial year of rate relief from a case it must file in Oklahoma no later than the first quarter of 2022.

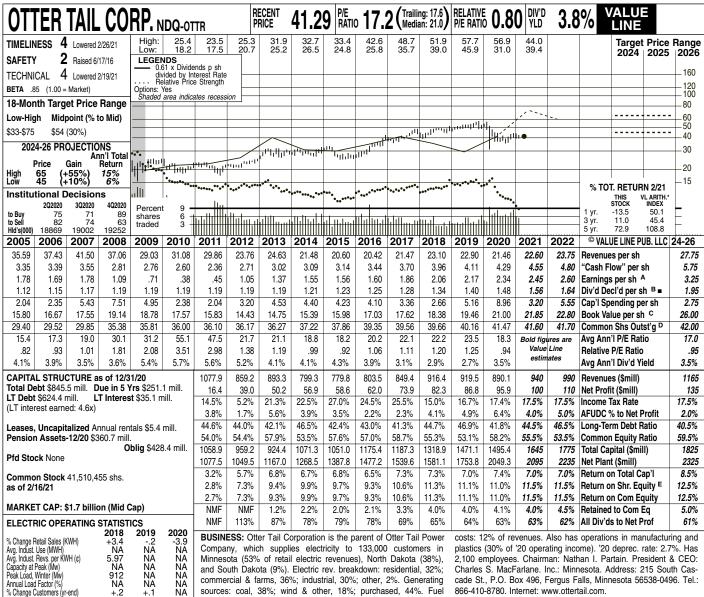
Income-oriented investors should consider this timely stock. The yield is well above the utility mean, which should compensate stockholders for the regulatory uncertainty regarding the surge in power costs. Total return potential is attractive for the 18-month and 2024-2026 periods. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gain (losses): '15, (33¢); '17, \$1.18; '19, (8¢); '20, (\$2.95); gains on discont. ops.: '05, 25¢; '06, 20¢. '18 & '19 EPS don't sum due to rounding.

charges. In '20: \$2.08/sh. (D) In mill., adj. for Regulatory Climate: Average.

Next earnings report due early May. **(B)** Div'ds historically paid in late Jan., Apr., July, & Oct. Div'd reinvestment plan avail. **(C)** Incl. deferred 18: 9.5%; earned on avg. com. eq., '20: 9.9%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 80 Price Growth Persistence 35 **Earnings Predictability** 90



and South Dakota (9%). Electric rev. breakdown: residential, 32%; commercial & farms, 36%; industrial, 30%; other, 2%. Generating sources: coal, 38%; wind & other, 18%; purchased, 44%. Fuel

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

Fixed Charge Cov. (%)		409	407	405
ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh) Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends	Past 10 Yrs. -3.5% 4.0% 11.5% 1.5%	Past 5 Yrs. 6.0% 8.0% 3.0%	Est'd to'	'18-'20 24-'26 3.5% 5.5% 7.0% 5.5%
Book Value	.5%	5.0%	6	5.0%

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

200	u.u.o		,	0,0	,,,,
Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
2018	241.2	226.3	227.7	221.2	916.4
2019	246.0	229.2	228.6	215.7	919.5
2020	234.7	192.8	235.8	226.8	890.1
2021	245	230	240	225	940
2022	260	240	250	240	990
Cal-	E/	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.66	.47	.58	.35	2.06
2019	.66	.39	.62	.51	2.17
2020	.60	.42	.87	.45	2.34
2021	.68	.47	.80	.50	2.45
2022	.72	.50	.85	.53	2.60
Cal-	QUAR'	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.32	.32	.32	.32	1.28
2018	.335	.335	.335	.335	1.34
2019	.35	.35	.35	.35	1.40
2020	.37	.37	.37	.37	1.48
2021	.39				

Otter Tail Corporation's earnings are likely to advance this year, following a surprisingly good showing in 2020. Last year, when the company reported first-quarter results, management cut its earnings guidance due to the expected effects of the weak economy on commercial and industrial volume at Otter Tail Power and income at the nonutility operations (which typically generate 25% of corporate profits). This hurt the stock price, which never recovered, falling 17% for the year. However, business conditions improved as the year went on, and the Plastics segment turned in a better-than-expected showing. The full-year tally wound up near the upper end of management's original targeted range of \$2.22-\$2.37 a share. This year, the utility has received interim rate relief in Minnesota (see below). The Manufacturing division should benefit from more-favorable business conditions. Our 2021 estimate of \$2.45 a share is within Otter Tail's targeted range of \$2.39-\$2.54. We think further improvement in the economy will produce additional profit growth in 2022. We look for a

6% earnings increase, to \$2.60 a share.

**A rate case is pending in Minnesota.** Otter Tail filed for an increase of \$14.5 million (6.8%), based on a 10.2% return on equity and a 52.5% common-equity ratio. An interim increase of \$6.9 million (3.2%) took effect in January. A final order is expected by November.

A large capital project began commercial operation in December, and another is expected to be completed in the current quarter. A 150-megawatt wind farm became operating at a cost of \$260 million. This was the utility's largest project ever. A 245-mw gas-fired plant is on schedule for completion this quarter at an expected cost of \$152.5 million

The board of directors raised the dividend in the first quarter. The increase was two cents a share (5.4%) quarterly, the same as last year. Otter Tail's goals for the disbursement are annual increases of 5%-7% (in line with its target for profit

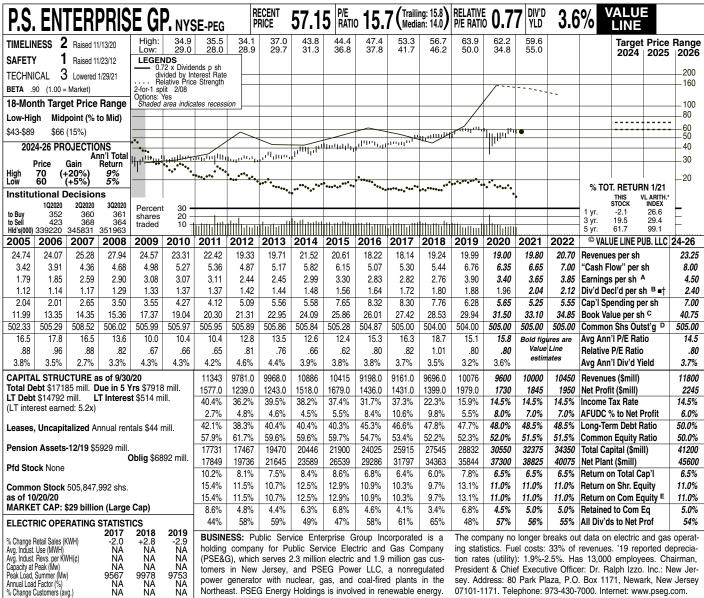
growth) and a payout ratio of 60%-70%. This untimely stock's dividend yield is average, for a utility. Total return potential is attractive for the next 18 months and average for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '10, (44¢); '11, 26¢; '13, 2¢; gains (losses) from disc. ops.: '05, 33¢; '06, 1¢; '11, (\$1.11); '12, (\$1.22); '13, 2¢; '14, 2¢; '15, 2¢; '16, 1¢; '17,

1¢. 19 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due early May. (**B**) Div'ds histor. pd. in early Mar., Jun., Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '20:

\$5.21/sh. **(D)** In mill. **(E)** Rate all'd on com. eq. in MN in '17: 9.41%; in ND in '18: 9.77%; in SD in '19: 8.75%; earn. avg. com. eq., '20: 11.6%. Reg. Clim.: MN, ND, Avg.; SD, Above Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 90 Note that PCG does not have a quarterly Value Line report but is covered by Value Line under the Electric Utility (West) Industry



tomers in New Jersey, and PSEG Power LLC, a nonregulated power generator with nuclear, gas, and coal-fired plants in the Northeast. PSEG Energy Holdings is involved in renewable energy.

President & Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Ralph Izzo. Inc.: New Jersey. Address: 80 Park Plaza, P.O. Box 1171, Newark, New Jersey 07101-1171. Telephone: 973-430-7000. Internet: www.pseg.com.

361 503 413 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 Revenues -3.0% -1.0% 3.0% 'Cash Flow' 2.0% 1.0% 2.0% 4.5% 5.0% Earnings Book Value 6.0% 5.0% 4.5%

% Change Customers (avg.)

NA NA

NA NA

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 2018 2818 2016 2394 2468 9696.0 2019 2980 2316 2302 2478 10076 2020 2781 2050 2370 2399 9600 2021 2900 2050 2500 2500 10000 2022 3050 2150 2600 2600 10450 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar Year 1.10 2018 .53 .81 .32 2.76 .86 2019 1.38 .86 .80 3.90 .88 .98 .65 2020 .89 3.40 1.15 .85 1.00 .65 3.65 2021 .70 .90 3.85 2022 1.20 1.05 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = † Calendar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2017 .43 .43 2018 .45 .45 .45 .45 1.80 2019 .47 .47 .47 .47 1.88 2020 .49 .49 .49 .49 1.96 2021

Public Service Enterprise Group is trying to sell its non-nuclear generating assets. These nonregulated facilities consist of 6,750 megawatts of fossil-fueled capacity and 467 mw of solar capacity. PSEG will retain its nuclear units. The company wants to reduce its business risk by increasing the proportion of income that comes from its regulated utility, Public Service Electric and Gas. Management expects to complete the sales this year and use the proceeds to reduce debt.

Growth at PSE&G points to higher profits in 2021 and 2022. The utility has programs to make its system more resilient to storms and increase energy efficiency. Most of these expenditures are recovered contemporaneously. Another program will see PSE&G spend \$700 million from 2021 through 2024 to install advanced meters. Most of this will occur in the latter two years, and the utility expects to place this spending in the rate base through a rate case that will be filed in 2023 and resolved in 2024.

PSEG Power is seeking additional support for its nuclear facilities. Even with subsidies from New Jersey's Zero

Emission Certificates. However, these assets are still unprofitable, so the company is asking the state for additional subsidies, and for the program to be extended from 2022 through 2025. A ruling is expected in April.

PSEG plans to invest in offshore wind. The company has agreed to take a 25% stake in a 1,100 megawatt project, subject to regulatory approval. The deal is expected to close in mid-2021. The capital investment has not been disclosed. Note that offshore wind comes with significant construction risk.

We think the board of directors will raise the dividend this month. We expect an increase of two cents a share (4.1%), the same as in recent years. Note that the possible sale of generating assets is not expected to have a negative effect on the company's dividend policy.

This timely and high-quality stock has a dividend yield that is about equal to the industry average. Total return prospects are appealing for the next 18 months, but are unspectacular for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA

February 12, 2021

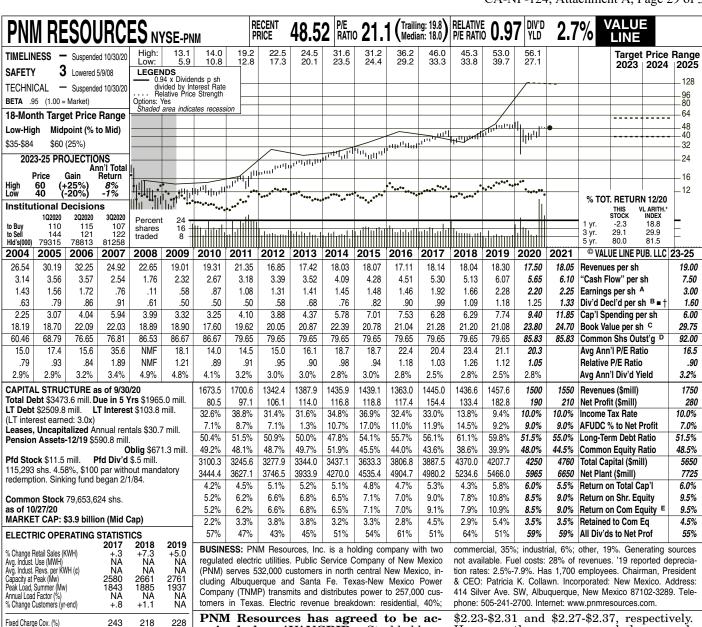
(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '06, (35¢); '08, (96¢); '09, 6¢; '11, (34¢); '12, 7¢; '16, (30¢); '17, 28¢ (net); '18, 8¢; '19, (62¢); '20, (15¢); gains (loss) from disc. ops.:

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'05, (33¢); '06, 12¢; '07, 3¢; '08, 40¢; '11, 13¢. In '19: \$7.59/sh. **(D)** In mill., adj. for Next earnings report due late Feb. **(B)** Div'ds split. **(E)** Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate all'd historically paid in late Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. **(C)** Incl. eq., '19: 13.2%. Regulatory Climate: Average. © 2021 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

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

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quired by AVANGRID. Stockholders would receive \$50.30 in cash for each of their shares. The transaction requires the

the combination to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Est'd '17-'19 approval of PNM Resources' shareholders, the regulatory commissions in New Mexico and Texas, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The companies expect Year

> We advise stockholders to sell their shares on the open market. The recent quotation is just 4% below the buyout price, so investors have little to gain by waiting for completion of the takeover. PNM Resources has offered credits on customers' bills in New Mexico and Texas for three years. AVANGRID's presence in renewable energy might also help in obtaining regulatory approval. Even so, there is no assurance that the commissions will approve the transaction. The stock's Timeliness rank is suspended because the equity is trading on the basis of the takeover price.

> Our earnings estimates require an explanation. PNMResources' shareearnings guidance for 2020 and 2021 is

However, the company excludes unrealized gains and losses on its nuclear decommissioning trust, and will also exclude merger-related expenses (unquantified). We include these items in our earnings presentation. Accordingly, our estimates are below the lower end of PNM Resources' targeted ranges.

Rate filings are upcoming. In Texas, the utility will file two requests this year for recovery of transmission costs and one for recovery of distribution costs under regulatory mechanisms that provide for revenues each year. In New Mexico, PNM plans to file a general rate case after the deal with AVANGRID is completed. The utility had planned to put forth an application in 2020, but postponed this due to the effects on customers of the weak economy. The board of directors raised the divi-

dend, effective with the February pay**ment.** The increase was two cents a share (6.5%) quarterly. PNM Resources' goal is a payout ratio of 50%-60%. The dividend yield is about a percentage point below the utility average.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '08, (\$3.77); '10, (\$1.36); '11, 88¢; '13, (16¢); '15, (\$1.28); '17, (92¢); '18, (59¢); '19, (\$1.31). Excl. gains from disc. ops.: '08, 42¢; '09, 78¢.

**ANNUAL RATES** 

of change (per sh)

Revenues

"Cash Flow' Earnings

Book Value

330.2

317.9

349.7

333.6

.29

.19

.23

d.19

.19

.2425

.265

.29

3075

.3275

350

endar

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

Cal

endar

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

Cal-

endar

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

Past

-2.0% 9.5% 15.0%

5.0%

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

EARNINGS PER SHARE A

419.9

422 7

433.6

472.5

500

.92

1.09

1.29

1.52

1.25

.2425 .2425

.265 .265

.29 .29

.3075

362.3

3523

330.2

357.6

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30

.47

48

.36

72

.44

.2425

.265

.29

.3075

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = †

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

350

10 Yrs

Past

1.0%

8.5% 7.0%

10.0%

332.6

343.7

344.1

336.3

Dec.31

.25

.40

.15

.37

.3075

d.10

350

to '23-'25

1.0%

5.5% 7.5%

6.5% 6.0%

1445.0

1436.6

1457.6

1500

1550

Full

Year

1.92

1.66

2.28

2.20

2.25

Year

97

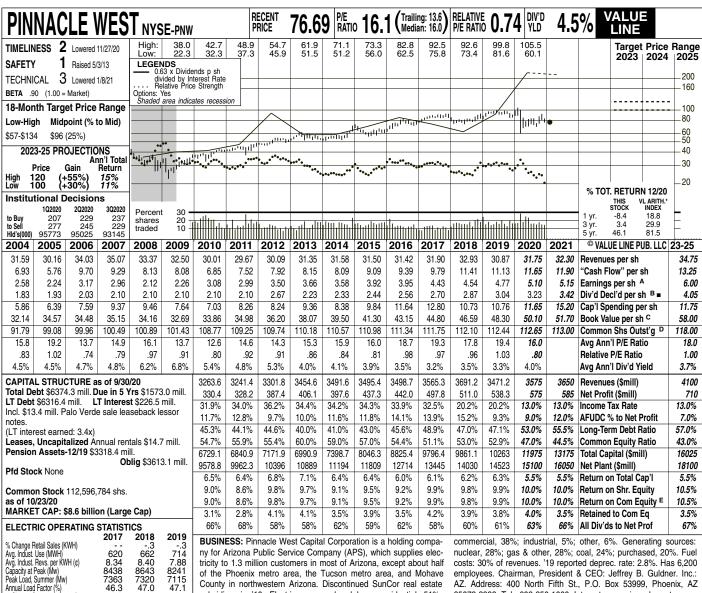
1.06

1.16

1.23

'17 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next egs. report due late Feb. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Feb., May, Aug., & Nov. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) 10.125%; earned on avg. com. eq., '19: 10.2%. Incl. intang. In '19: \$11.81/sh. (D) In mill., adj. Regulatory Climate: NM, Below Avg.; TX, Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 80 Price Growth Persistence 85 **Earnings Predictability** 



subsidiary in '10. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 51%;

85072-3999. Tel.: 602-250-1000. Internet: www.pinnaclewest.com.

425 318 286 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '23-'25 Revenues -.5% .5% 1.5% 6.0% 5.0% 3.5% 4.0% 'Cash Flow" 2.5% 6.5% 3.5% 4.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value 6.0% 3.5%

+1.8

+2.0

+2.0

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES (Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2017	677.7	944.6	1183.3	759.7	3565.3
2018	692.7	974.1	1268.0	756.4	3691.2
2019	740.5	869.5	1190.8	670.4	3471.2
2020	661.9	929.6	1254.5	729	3575
2021	750	900	1250	750	3650
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	PER SHAR	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.21	1.49	2.46	.27	4.43
2018	.03	1.48	2.80	.23	4.54
2019	.16	1.28	2.77	.57	4.77
2020	.27	1.71	3.07	.05	5.10
2021	.15	1.50	3.15	.35	5.15
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.655	.655	.655	.695	2.66
2018	.695	.695	.695	.7375	2.82
2019	.7375	.7375	.7375	.7825	3.00
2020	.7825	.7825	.7825	.83	3.18
2021					

Pinnacle West's utility subsidiary has revised its general rate case. Arizona Public Service originally filed for an increase of \$184 million (5.6%), based on a return on equity of 10.15% and a commonequity ratio of 54.7%. The utility reduced its requested hike to \$169 million (5.1%), based on an ROE of 10% and the same common-equity ratio. APS is trying to place capital investments in the rate base and obtain regulatory mechanism to track and recover certain expenses, such as property taxes. The staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission recommended an increase of \$59.8 million (1.8%), based on a 9.4% ROE and the same common-equity ratio. There is no statutory time frame for an order, and the case has been delayed several months. Perhaps an increase will go into effect as early as mid-2021. There is always some risk surrounding rate cases, but the fact that two of the five commissioners are new to their positions adds uncertainty to the current proceedings.

We raised our 2020 earnings estimate by \$0.15 a share, to \$5.10. The company's third-quarter tally was boosted significantly by a record-hot summer in APS'

service area. In fact, upon reporting thirdquarter profits, Pinnacle West raised its targeted range by \$0.20 a share, to \$4.95-\$5.15. The fourth-quarter comparison will almost certainly be materially negative due to some discretionary spending and the acceleration of some operating expenses from 2021 to 2020.

We look for slightly higher profits this year. This is based on the assumption that a rate increase will be in effect by the start of the seasonally strong third quarter. However, APS benefited from favorable weather conditions in the second and third quarters of 2020, and we base our 2021 estimate on normal weather.

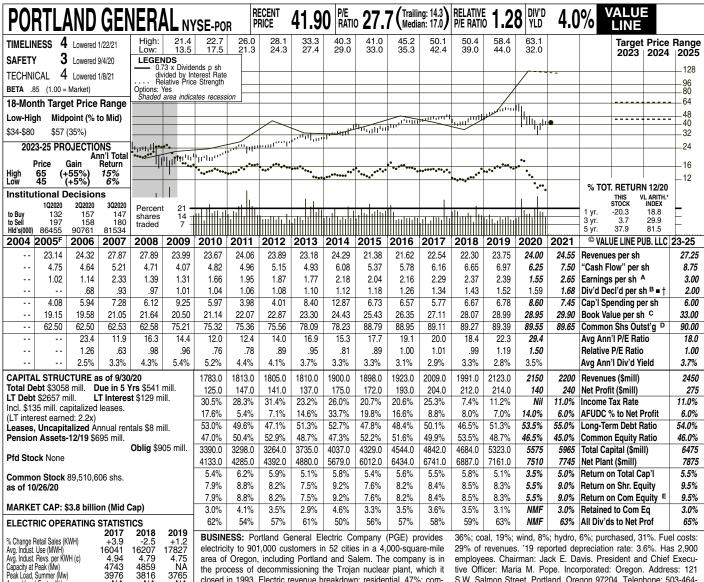
The board of directors raised the annual dividend \$0.19 a share (6.1%) in the fourth quarter. This has been the growth rate of the disbursement in recent years. We think dividend hikes will continue at that level through 2023-2025.

This timely stock is attractive for conservative income-oriented investors. The yield is above the utility average, and total return potential for the 18-month span and 3- to 5-year period are solid. Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (loss): '09, (\$1.45); '17, 8¢; gains (losses) from discont. ops.: '05, (36¢); '06, 10¢; '08, 28¢; '09, (13¢); '10, 18¢; '11, 10¢; '12, (5¢). '19 EPS don't sum

due to rounding. Next earnings report due late Feb. (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. There were 5 declarations com. eq. in '17: 10.0%; earned on avg. com. in '12. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. | eq., '19: 10.1%. Regulatory Climate: Average. © 2021 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.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 90 Price Growth Persistence 65 **Earnings Predictability** 100



area of Oregon, including Portland and Salem. The company is in the process of decommissioning the Trojan nuclear plant, which it closed in 1993. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 47%; commercial, 30%; industrial, 9%; other, 14%. Generating sources: gas,

employees. Chairman: Jack E. Davis. President and Chief Executive Officer: Maria M. Pope. Incorporated: Oregon. Address: 121 S.W. Salmon Street, Portland, Oregon 97204. Telephone: 503-464-8000. Internet: www.portlandgeneral.com

298 266 265 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '23-'25 Revenues -1.5% -1.0% 3.0% "Cash Flow" Earnings 4.0% 3.5% 3.5% 5.0% 4.0% 5.5% 3.5% 6.0% 2.5% Book Value 3.0% QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

% Change Customers (vr-end)

3976

+1.3

3765

NA

+1.1

3816

ΝĀ

+1.1

endar	Mar.31		Sep.30		Year
2017	530	449	515	515	2009
2018	493	449	525	524	1991
2019	573	460	542	548	2123
2020	573	469	547	561	2150
2021	580	475	570	575	2200
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.82	.36	.44	.67	2.29
2018	.72	.51	.59	.55	2.37
2019	.82	.28	.61	.68	2.39
2020	.91	.43	d.19	.40	1.55
2021	.85	.45	.60	.75	2.65
Cal-	QUART	ERLY DIVI	DENDS PA	IDB∎†	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.32	.32	.34	.34	1.32
2018	.34	.34	.3625	.3625	1.41
2019	.3625	.3625	.385	.385	1.50
2020	.385	.385	.385	.4075	1.56
2021	.4075				

Portland General Electric's earnings almost certainly declined sharply in 2020. The reason was a large energytrading loss in August. This hurt thirdquarter and full-year profits by \$1.09 a share, and sent the September-period tally into the red. The company established a committee of board members to review its operations, and made some changes in personnel and its organizational structure as a result. The costs of these changes were not material, and PGE cut some expenses to offset part of the cost of the trading loss. Management is guiding Wall Street to the upper half of its earnings target of \$1.40-\$1.60 a share.

We expect an earnings recovery this year. The energy-trading loss was limited to the incident in the third quarter of 2020, so we assume no recurrence of any such problems. We also expect the utility to benefit from a better economy in its service area. Renewable-energy investments are being recovered through a renewable adjustment clause. PGE's longterm goal for annual earnings growth is 4%-6%, using the 2019 tally as the base. We expect a dividend increase, too, as the

company expects the trading loss will not affect this.

A noteworthy capital project was completed in 2020, and another is on track for completion in 2021. PGE has a one-third stake in a 300-megawatt windfarm in a joint venture with NextEra Energy. (In conjunction with the project, the latter company will own 50 mw of solar capacity and 30 mw of battery of storage that are scheduled for completion by yearend.) The cost of PGE's share of the windfarm was \$160 million. The company is building an integrated operations center at an expected cost of \$200 million. This is scheduled for completion by yearend.

Despite the trading loss, finances are sound. Interest coverage is adequate, and the common-equity ratio is healthy. PGE does not need to issue equity to finance its capital expenditures. PGE's Financial Strength rating is B++.

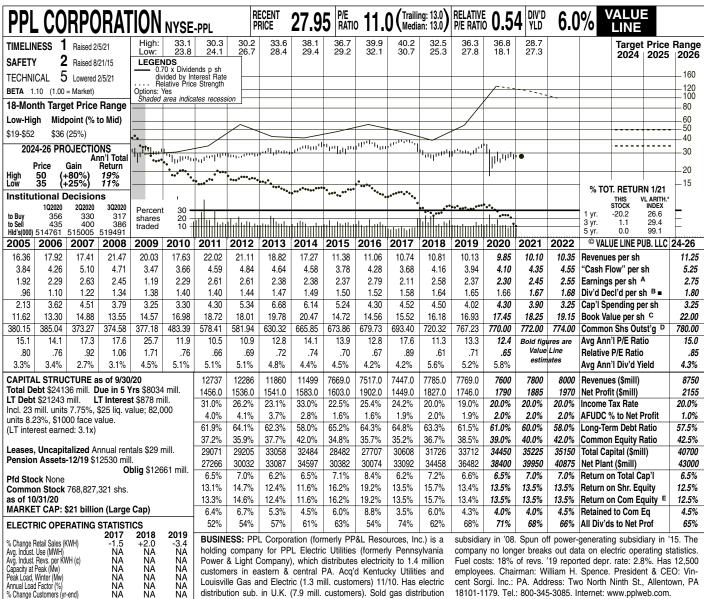
This untimely stock's dividend yield is slightly above the utility average. The equity is noteworthy for its 18-month prospects, however, and offers respectable 3- to 5-year total return potential. Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring losses: '13, 42¢; '17, 19¢. Next earnings report due mid-Feb. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. Div'd reinvestment plan avail. † Share-

com. eq. in '19: 9.5%; earned on avg. com. eq.,

holder investment plan avail. **(C)** Incl. deferred charges. In '19: \$483 mill., \$5.40/sh. **(D)** In mill. per-share data are pro forma, based on shs. **(E)** Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate allowed on outstanding when stock began trading in '06.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 75 **Earnings Predictability** 90



Louisville Gas and Electric (1.3 mill. customers) 11/10. Has electric distribution sub. in U.K. (7.9 mill. customers). Sold gas distribution cent Sorgi. Inc.: PA. Address: Two North Ninth St., Allentown, PA 18101-1179. Tel.: 800-345-3085. Internet: www.pplweb.com.

283 336 292 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '24-'26 Revenues -6.0% -11.0% 1.0% 'Cash Flow" -1.0% 1.0% -3.5% -1.0% Earnings Dividends 1.5% 4.5% 2.0% -3.5% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

Cal-			VENUES (		Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	2126	1848	1872	1939	7785.0
2019	2079	1803	1933	1954	7769.0
2020	2054	1739	1885	1922	7600
2021	2100	1800	1925	1975	7800
2022	2150	1850	1975	2025	8000
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.65	.73	.62	.57	2.58
2019	.64	.60	.65	.48	2.37
2020	.72	.45	.50	.63	2.30
2021	.65	.55	.70	.55	2.45
2022	.68	.57	.73	.57	2.55
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.38	.395	.395	.395	1.57
2018	.395	.41	.41	.41	1.63
2019	.41	.4125	.4125	.4125	1.65
2020	.4125	.415	.415	.415	1.66
2021	.415				

PPL Corporation expects to announce a transaction involving its United Kingdom operations in the first half of 2021. This business is performing well, but has been a drag on the share price in recent years because investors have been worried about regulatory risk (the current ratemaking scheme will be replaced in April of 2023), political uncertainty, and currency fluctuations. The stock price declined 21% in 2020, but has been relatively stable so far this year. PPL is aiming for a cash offer or an exchange of the U.K. assets for utility assets in the United States. Such a deal might well lower the company's business risk, but might also reduce its earning power.

Our estimates and projections are for PPL in its current configuration. Note that our figures include the effects of currency hedges. These reduced earnings by \$0.10 a share in the first nine months of 2020. The coronavirus hurt profits by the same amount during that period. We expect modest profit growth in 2021 and 2022, helped by rate relief at PPL's utilities in Kentucky.

The company's utilities in Kentucky

have rate cases pending. Kentucky Utilities filed for an electric increase of \$170 million (10.4%). Louisville Gas and Electric requested electric and gas hikes of \$131 million (11.6%) and \$30 million (8.3%), respectively. The utilities based their requests on a 10% return on equity, above the currently allowed 9.725%. An order is expected in time for new tariffs to take effect at the start of July.

We think the board of directors will raise the dividend slightly, effective with the payment in April. We expect a raise of just one cent a share annually, the same as in each of the past two years. Note, though, that if a transaction involving the U.K. operations lowers PPL's earning power, this might cause the board to consider a reduction in the disbursement. We are not showing a split dividend at the top of the page because we expect no cut in the payout as long as PPL owns the U.K. assets.

PPL has the highest dividend yield of any electric utility stock. Total return potential is attractive for the 18-month and 3- to 5-year periods.

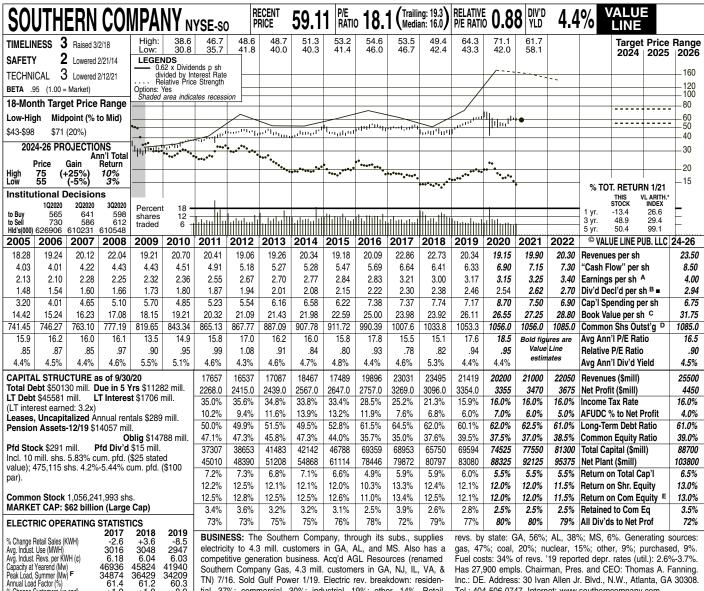
Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '07, (12¢); '10, (8¢); '11, 8¢; '13, (62¢); '20, (13¢); gains (losses) on discont. ops.: '07, 19¢; 08, 3¢; '09, (10¢); '10, (4¢); '12, (1¢); '14, 23¢;

15, (\$1.36). '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due Feb. 18. **(B)** Div'ds paid in early Jan., Apr., July, & Oct.

'19: \$7.08/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Fair value. Rate all'd on com. eq. in PA in '16: none specified; in KY in '19: 9.725%; earned on avg. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In | com. eq., '19: 14.3%. Regulatory Climate: Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 75 Price Growth Persistence 15 **Earnings Predictability** 80



Southern Company Gas, 4.3 mill. customers in GA, NJ, IL, VA, & TN) 7/16. Sold Gulf Power 1/19. Electric rev. breakdown: residential, 37%; commercial, 30%; industrial, 19%; other, 14%. Retail Has 27,900 empls. Chairman, Pres. and CEO: Thomas A. Fanning. Inc.: DE. Address: 30 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd., N.W., Atlanta, GA 30308. Tel.: 404-506-0747. Internet: www.southerncompany.com.

280 281 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 318 ANNUAL RATES Est'd '17-'19 10 Yrs. of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. to '24-'26 Revenues 2.5% 1.0% 4.5% 3.0% 3.5% 3.0% 4.0% 3.5% 3.0% 3.5% Cash Flow" 4.0% Earnings 3.0% Dividends Book Value

+1.0

% Change Customers (yr-end)

34209 60.3 -8.9

+1.0

Cal- endar	QUAI Mar.31	RTERLY R Jun.30	EVENUES Sep.30		Full Year
2018	6372	5627	6159	5337	23495
2019	5412	5098	5995	4914	21419
2020	5018	4620	5620	4942	20200
2021	5200	4800	5800	5200	21000
2022	5450	5050	6100	5450	22050
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARE	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.99	.71	1.13	.17	3.00
2019	.75	.85	1.25	.32	3.17
2020	.81	.75	1.18	.41	3.15
2021	.85	.75	1.25	.40	3.25
2022	.90	.80	1.30	.40	3.40
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.56	.58	.58	.58	2.30
2018	.58	.60	.60	.60	2.38
2019	.60	.62	.62	.62	2.46
2020	.62	.64	.64	.64	2.54
2021					

The first of two nuclear units that Southern Company's Georgia Power subsidiary is building at the site of the Vogtle station is scheduled to come on line in November. The project has had extensive delays and cost overruns, and the company has written off a portion of its capital costs that are not recoverable from customers. As of September 30th, \$1.6 billion of capital costs and \$500 million of financing costs remained (of a total of \$11.5 billion) for Georgia Power's 45.7% share of the project. It now appears unlikely that Unit 3 will come in ahead of schedule, as the company had hoped last fall, because the utility stated in January that coronavirus cases have disrupted construction. Unit 4 is still scheduled for commercial operation in November of 2022. Management will provide a further update when the company reports 2020 earnings in mid-February, and whether the cost estimate will be raised remains to be seen.

Rate relief should help lift earnings in 2021 and 2022. Georgia Power received the second phase of a three-year rate increase, \$181 million, at the start of this

year. The last phase, \$386 million, will take effect at the start of 2022. Some of Southern Company's gas utilities have rate cases pending. Atlanta Gas Light and Virginia Natural Gas filed for increases of \$37.6 million and \$49.6 million, respectively. In Illinois, Nicor Gas requested a hike of \$293 million, based on a 10.35% return on equity and a 54.5% common-equity ratio. An order is due by mid-December. Some of Southern Company's other utilities receive annual revenues through various regulatory mechanisms. An improved economy ought to help, as well. Our estimates of \$3.25 a share and \$3.40 a share would produce earnings growth of 3% and 5%, respectively, this year and next.

Southern Company stock has a dividend yield that is above average, even by utility standards. Investors must be willing to accept the risks involving the nuclear construction project. We project steady, but modest, dividend growth through mid-decade. Total return potential does not stand out among utility issues, either for the 18-month span or the 3- to 5year period.

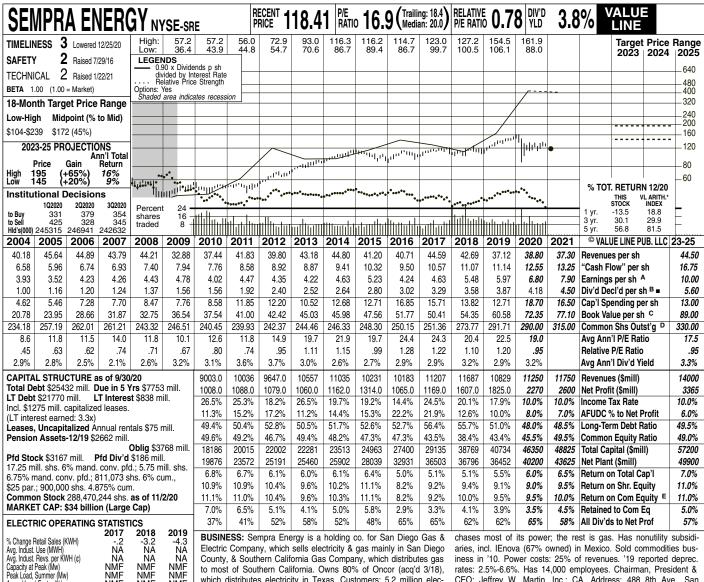
Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 12, 2021

(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¢). Next earnings report due mid-Feb.

(B) Div'ds paid in early Mar., June, Sept., and Dec. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. def'd charges. In '19: \$17.64/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate Regulatory Climate: GA, AL Above Average;

base: AL, MS, fair value; FL, GA, orig. cost. Al- MS, FL Average. (F) Winter peak in '18.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 35 **Earnings Predictability** 90



to most of Southern California. Owns 80% of Oncor (acq'd 3/18), which distributes electricity in Texas. Customers: 5.2 million electric, 6.9 million gas. Electric revenue breakdown not available. Pur-

rates: 2.5%-6.6%. Has 14,000 employees. Chairman, President & CEO: Jeffrey W. Martin. Inc.: CA. Address: 488 8th Ave., San Diego, CA 92101. Tel.: 619-696-2000. Internet: www.sempra.com.

186 181 264 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '23-'25 Revenues .5% -.5% 1.0% 'Cash Flow" 4.0% 7.5% 11.0% Earnings 4.0% 7.5% 4.5%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NMF

+.8

NMF

NMF

+.9

NMF

+.8

DOOK V	alue	5.0	<sup>7</sup> 0 4.	5%	0.5%
Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
2017	3031	2533	2679	2964	11207
2018	2962	2564	2940	3221	11687
2019	2898	2230	2758	2943	10829
2020	3029	2526	2644	3051	11250
2021	3200	2550	2800	3200	11750
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHAR	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	1.75	1.20	.22	1.46	4.63
2018	1.43	1.27	1.23	1.55	5.48
2019	1.78	.85	2.00	1.34	5.97
2020	2.30	1.58	1.21	1.71	6.80
2021	2.30	1.80	1.85	1.95	7.90
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.755	.8225	.8225	.8225	3.22
2018	.8225	.895	.895	.895	3.51
2019	.895	.9675	.9675	.9675	3.80
2020	.9675	1.045	1.045	1.045	4.10
2021	1.045				

Sempra has announced a transaction that would revamp its corporate **structure.** Sempra owns 70% of IEnova, a Mexican energy infrastructure company. Through a tender offer to IEnova shareholders, the company would issue stock (an estimated 13.6 million shares, valued at \$1.6 billion) for the 30% it doesn't own. Then Sempra would combine this business with its own infrastructure operations to create Sempra Infrastructure Partners, focused on liquefied natural gas, pipelines, and renewables. Then, the company would sell a minority stake in Sempra Infrastructure Partners. Projects in operation include the Cameron LNG facility (see below), and several more projects are under development, including an LNG terminal in Mexico in which the company would take a \$500 million equity stake. Sempra expects to complete the transaction in the current quarter. This should benefit the company's earning power, but we will not reflect the deal in our figures until it is completed.

Earnings will probably rise sharply in **2021.** Note that our 2020 estimate is below Sempra's targeted range of \$7.20-\$7.80 a

share because the company excludes some expenses we include and includes earnings (other than the gains on the sales) of its discontinued operations in South America. Sempra's utilities in California are benefiting from rate relief, and its utility in Texas is growing fast and has increased its capital budget. This is Cameron's first full year of operation, and this is expected to provide \$400 million-\$450 million of net profit. Our 2021 earnings estimate is within Sempra's targeted range of \$7.50-\$8.10 a share.

We expect the board of directors to raise the dividend, effective with the **April payment.** We estimate a boost of \$0.32 a share (7.7%) in the annual payout. San Diego Gas & Electric is trying to extend its franchise agreement with the city of San Diego. The agreement was extended for five months, but the possibility of losing the agreement is a source of uncertainty.

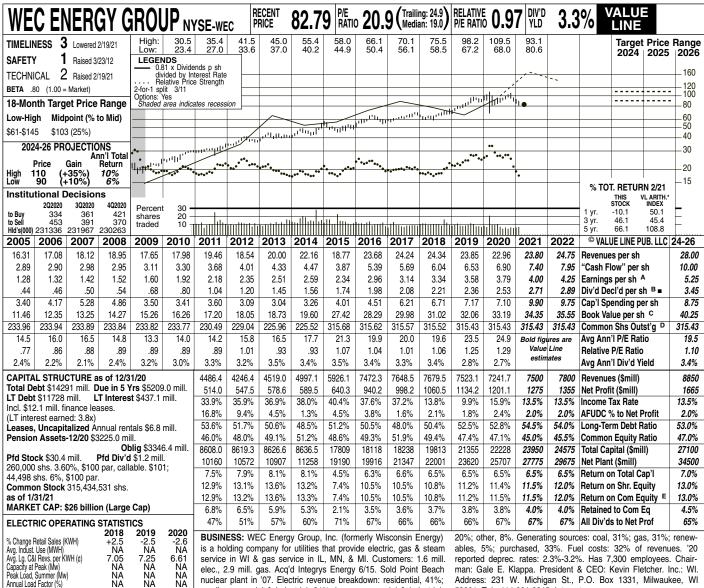
Sempra stock has an average dividend yield for a utility. The equity offers attractive total return potential for the 18-month and 3- to 5-year periods. Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '09, (26¢); '10, (\$1.05); '11, \$1.15; '12, (98¢); '13, (30¢); '15, 14¢; '16, \$1.23; '17, (17¢); '18, (\$2.06); '19, 16¢; gain (losses) from disc. ops.:

plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '19: \$13.37/sh.

'06, \$1.21; '07, (10¢); '19, 95¢; '20, \$6.32. Next earnings report due late Feb. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Jan., Apr., July, Oct. ■ Div'd reinvestment SoCalGas in '20: 10.05%; earned on avg. com. eq., '19: 10.4%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 75 **Earnings Predictability** 75



elec., 2.9 mill. gas. Acq'd Integrys Energy 6/15. Sold Point Beach nuclear plant in '07. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 41%; small commercial & industrial, 31%; large commercial & industrial,

man: Gale E. Klappa. President & CEO: Kevin Fletcher. Inc.: WI. Address: 231 W. Michigan St., P.O. Box 1331, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Tel.: 414-221-2345. Internet: www.wecenergygroup.com.

323 300 338 Fixed Charge Cov. (% **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '18-'20 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 2.5% 7.5% 8.0% 3.0% 9.0% 7.5% Revenues 3.0% 'Cash Flow" 7.5% 6.5% Earnings 8.5% 8.0% Dividends Book Value 6.5% 4.0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

+.6

NA

NΑ

+.7

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2018	2286	1672	1643	2076	7679.5
2019	2377	1590	1608	1947	7523.1
2020	2108	1548	1651	1933	7241.7
2021	2250	1600	1700	1950	7500
2022	2350	1650	1750	2050	7800
Cal-	EA	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	1.23	.73	.74	.65	3.34
2019	1.33	.74	.74	.77	3.58
2020	1.43	.76	.84	.76	3.79
2021	1.50	.80	.90	.80	4.00
2022	1.60	.85	.95	.85	4.25
Cal-	QUAR	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	.52 .5525 .59 .6325 .6775	.52 .5525 .59 .6325	.59	.52 .5525 .59 .6325	2.08 2.21 2.36 2.53

We expect WEC Energy Group to continue to produce steady earnings growth in 2021 and 2022. The service area's economy is showing signs of improvement, and management previously cut expenses effectively to deal with the lost margin from weak commercial and industrial kilowatt-hour sales stemming from the recession. The company's Peoples Gas subsidiary in Chicago is spending \$280 million-\$300 million annually to replace gas pipes. The utility is recovering these expenditures through a rider (surcharge) on customers' bills. Management expects the company's investment in nonregulated wind projects will produce an incremental \$0.08 a share to the bottom line this year. Our 2021 earnings estimate of \$4.00 a share is within WEC Energy's typically narrow guidance of \$3.99-\$4.03. We expect profit growth in 2022 in line with the company's targeted range of 5%-7% annually.

Some regulatory matters are pending. The company is asking the Wisconsin commission for permission to build two liquefied natural gas facilities to provide additional gas supplies to the state. The ex-

pected cost is \$370 million. Construction is expected to begin this fall, with an inservice date in late 2023. The utility is deciding whether to postpone the rate case it is scheduled to file in Wisconsin this year. In Illinois, North Shore Gas filed for a hike of \$7.6 million (8.5%), based on a return on equity of 10% and a commonequity ratio of 52.5%. New rates are expected to take effect in September.

The board of directors raised the dividend in the current quarter. The increase was \$0.18 a share (7.1%) annually, slightly above our expectation. WEC Energy's goals for the dividend are 5%-7% annual growth (matching that for earnings) and a payout ratio of 65%-70%.

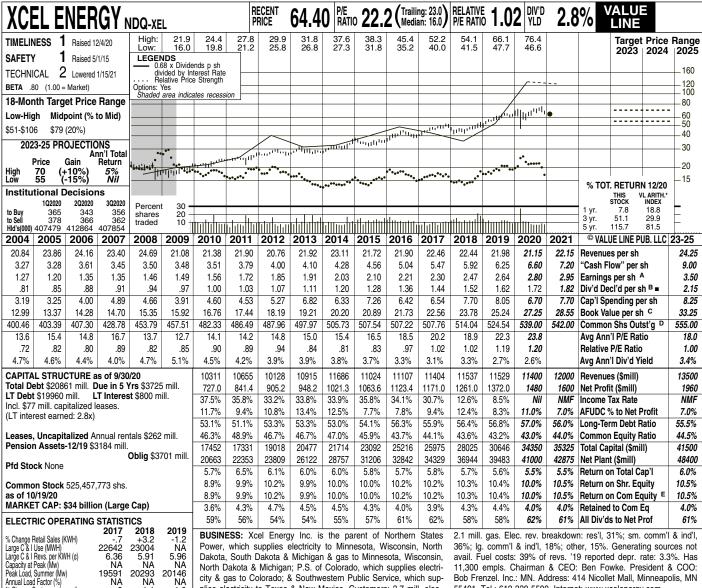
High-quality WEC Energy stock has a below-average dividend yield, by utility standards. The price held up well in 2020, being virtually unchanged in what was a bad year for most utility equities. This year, the quotation has declined 10%. This is probably just a correction after a lofty valuation. Total return potential is more appealing for the next 18 months than for the 3- to 5-year period. Paul E. Debbas, CFA March 12, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. gains on discont. ops.: '11, 6¢; nonrecurring gain: '17, 65¢. '18 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next earnings

Mar., June, Sept. & Dec. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '20: \$20.85/sh. (D) In mill., adj. for split. (E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. '20: 11.7%. Regulatory Climate: WI, Above Rates all'd on com. eq. in WI in '15: 10.0%-

Avg.; IL, Below Avg.; MN & MI, Avg.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 85 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 95



city & gas to Colorado; & Southwestern Public Service, which supplies electricity to Texas & New Mexico. Customers: 3.7 mill. elec.

Bob Frenzel, Inc.: MN. Address: 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401. Tel.: 612-330-5500. Internet: www.xcelenergy.com.

330 281 272 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '23-'25 Revenues -.5% .5% 1.5% 7.5% 5.0% "Cash Flow" Earnings 5.5% 5.5% 7.5% 6.0% Dividends Book Value 6.5% 4.5%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA +.9

ŇĀ

+1.0

+1.1

DOOK V	aiao	1.070 1.0		370 0.070	
Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
2017	2946	2645	3017	2796	11404
2018	2951	2658	3048	2880	11537
2019	3141	2577	3013	2798	11529
2020	2811	2586	3182	2821	11400
2021	3100	2700	3150	3050	12000
Cal-	EA	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.47	.45	.97	.42	2.30
2018	.57	.52	.96	.42	2.47
2019	.61	.46	1.01	.56	2.64
2020	.56	.54	1.14	.56	2.80
2021	.65	.55	1.15	.60	2.95
Cal-	QUAR	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	.34	.36	.36	.36	1.42
2018	.36	.38	.38	.38	1.50
2019	.38	.405	.405	.405	1.60
2020	.405	.43	.43	.43	1.70
2021					

Xcel Energy's Northern States Power facility will not have a general rate case in Minnesota in 2021. NSP had filed a request for a multiyear rate hike over three years, but included an alternative proposal for a continuation of mechanisms that benefited the utility's earning power in 2020 by adjusting revenues for fluctuations in sales, earning a return on certain capital expenditures, and recouping higher property taxes. The commission adopted the alternative proposal, just as it did a year earlier. NSP did file a traditional rate case in North Dakota. The utility asked for a hike of \$22 million (10.8%), based on a return on equity of 10.2% and a common-equity ratio of 52.5%. An interim increase of \$16 million this month, and a final order is expected in the third quarter.

The Minnesota commission approved a proposal to repower some wind projects. This will add 650 megawatts of capacity at a cost of \$750 million. NSP plans to ask the regulators to approve the addition of 460 mw of solar capacity at a projected cost of \$650 million. The spending will occur from 2021 through 2024.

A rate filing is pending in New Mexico and upcoming in Texas. Southwestern Public Service filed for an \$88 million increase in New Mexico, based on a 10.35% ROE and a 54.7% common-equity ratio. We were expecting an application in Texas as this report went to press. The utility wants to place a wind project in the rate base. Orders on the cases are expected later in 2021, but won't likely have much effect on Xcel's earning power until next vear.

Earnings probably rose strongly in 2020, and we expect another solid increase this year. Xcel's utilities are benefiting from rate relief. Effective cost control is helping, too. We have raised our 2020 and 2021 share-earnings estimates \$0.05 each year. These are within the company's guidance of \$2.75-\$2.81 and \$2.90-\$3.00 for 2020 and 2021 33.00 for 2020 and 2021, respectively.

This timely and high-quality equity has a low dividend yield for a utility. This is about a percentage point below the industry mean. Total return potential is attractive for the 18-month span, but low for the 2023-2025 period.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA January 22, 2021

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gain (losses): '10, 5¢; '15, (16¢); '17, (5¢); gains (losses) on discontinued ops.: '04, (30¢); '05, 3¢; '06, 1¢; '09, (1¢); '10, 1¢. '17 EPS don't

available. (C) Incl. intangibles. In '19: \$5.60/sh. | Average.

sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due late Jan. (B) Div'ds historically paid mid-Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. • Div'd reinvestment plan com. eq. (blended): 9.6%; earned on avg. com. eq., '19: 10.8%. Regulatory Climate:

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 65 **Earnings Predictability** 100