

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

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

405 651 653 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '21-'23 to '27-'29 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs 4.0% 9.5% 14.5% Revenues -1.0% 5.0% 'Cash Flow' 7.5% 18.0% 5.5% 4.5% Earnings 2.5% 3.5% 4.0% 6.0% 7.0% 8.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA NA NA NA

NA NA NA

| Cal- | QUAR | TERLY RE | VENUES (| \$ mill.) | Full |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec.31 | Year |
| 2021 | 261.7 | 285.6 | 316.3 | 333.2 | 1196.8 |
| 2022 | 374.9 | 400.0 | 383.9 | 301.4 | 1460.2 |
| 2023 | 339.1 | 337.7 | 358.1 | 314.3 | 1349.2 |
| 2024 | 347.1 | 365 | 390 | 347.9 | 1450 |
| 2025 | 375 | 395 | 395 | 385 | 1550 |
| Cal- | EA | RNINGS P | ER SHARI | Dec.31 | Full |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | | Year |
| 2021 | .73 | 1.01 | 1.26 | 1.23 | 4.23 |
| 2022 | 1.72 | 2.05 | 2.01 | 1.00 | 6.78 |
| 2023 | 1.49 | 1.95 | 2.19 | 1.37 | 7.00 |
| 2024 | 1.77 | 1.70 | 1.75 | 1.13 | 6.35 |
| 2025 | 1.10 | 1.15 | 1.20 | 1.20 | 4.65 |
| Cal- endar | QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 | | | | Full Year |
| 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 | .37 .39 .4125 .4375 .4675 | .37 .39 .4125 .4375 | .37 .39 .4125 .4375 | .37 .39 .4125 .4375 | 1.48 1.56 1.65 1.75 |

Otter Tail Corporation raised its earnings target for 2024 upon reporting March-period results. Management now looks for profits this year to end up in a range of \$6.23-\$6.53 per share, from the previous target range of \$5.13-\$5.43 a share. The Plastics segment continues to outperform expectations due to higher sales driven by growth in customer volumes and strong distributor and end market demand. Indeed, earnings in the Plastics division rose 39% from the first quarter of 2023, and PVC pipe is expected to recede at a much slower rate than previously anticipated, which is largely responsible for Otter Tail's updated guidance range. Meanwhile, the manufacturing segment's profit target was cut due to lower-than-expected sales volumes and margins. Too, the Electric division is projected to make up just 34% of the bottom line, versus the long-term goal of 65% electric and 35% non-electric.

We have raised our 2025 earnings estimate by \$0.65, to \$4.65 per share. Otter Tail should benefit from rate relief in Minnesota and North Dakota over that interim. Furthermore, the utility's updated

expectations for the Plastics segment will likely pour into next year, lifting profits higher than previously projected. The company is also well positioned to take advantage of its clean-energy transmission investments, which include \$1.3 billion of capital spending over the next five years, and is expected to produce 7.7% rate base growth.

Otter Tail shares have risen slightly in value since our March report, and are now up nearly 20% over the past year. Investors are enthused by betterthan-expected earnings and power demand from tech innovations and data centers. At the recent quotation, upside potential here in the 18-month and 3to 5-year time frames is negative.

The dividend yield is below average by utility standards. Even after the payout was raised in the March quarter, the current yield of 2.1% sits below the highpaying industry median. Too, long-term prospects are unattractive. On the other hand, these shares are ranked to outpace the broader-market averages over the coming six to 12 months.

Zachary J. Hodgkinson

June 7, 2024

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '10, (44¢); '11, 26¢; '13, 2¢; gains (losses) from disc. ops.: '11, (\$1.11); '12, (\$1.22); '13, 2¢; '14, 2¢; '15, 2¢; '16, 1¢; '17, 1¢. '19 EPS may

avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '23: \$4.72/sh. (D) In

not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due early Aug. (B) Div'ds histor. pd. in early Mar., Jun., Sept., & Dec. Div'd reinv. plan war, Jun., Sept., & Dec. Div'd reinv. plan 8.75%; earned on avg. com. eq., '21: 19.2%.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 80 Price Growth Persistence 80 **Earnings Predictability** 70

© 2024 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