

County in northwestern Arizona. Discontinued SunCor real estate subsidiary in '10. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 49%;

Inc.: AZ. Address: 400 North Fifth St., P.O. Box 53999, Phoenix, AZ 85072-3999. Tel.: 602-250-1000. Internet: www.pinnaclewest.com.

317 226 220 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '21-'23 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '27-'29 3.5% 3.5% 2.0% Revenues 2.0% 4.0% 'Cash Flow' 4.0% 3.5% 3.5% 4.5% Earnings 5.0% 1.5% 4.5% Dividends Book Value 4 0% QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

+2.2

+2.1

+1.8

% Change Customers (vr-end)

endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2021	696.5	1000.2	1308.2	798.9	3803.8
2022	783.5	1061.7	1469.9	1009.3	4324.4
2023	945.0	1121.7	1637.8	991.5	4696.0
2024	951.7	1200	1695	1033.3	4880
2025	1000	1250	1760	1090	5100
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2021	.32	1.91	3.00	.24	5.47
2022	.15	1.45	2.88	d.21	4.26
2023	d.03	.94	3.50	Nil	4.41
2024	.15	1.20	3.35	Nil	4.70
2025	.15	1.30	3.55	Nil	5.00
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020	.783	.783	.783	.83	3.18
2021	.83	.83	.83	.85	3.34
2022	.85	.85	.85	.865	3.42
2023	.865	.865	.865	.88	3.48
2024	.88	.88			

Year to date, Pinnacle West is outperforming the electric utility peer group. The stock is up nearly 7% in 2024 versus a 2% decline in the Value Line Utility Index. Good news on the regulatory front earlier this year likely accounts for the decent run for the stock. A revamped state commission, which has some new members and a different chairperson (due to term limits), heeded the recommendation of a state administrative law judge who consulted on the latest general rate case (GRC). The newly established ROE of 9.55% (up from 8.7% previously) plus an additional fair value increment (FVI) of .25% passed by a 4-1 vote. According to Pinnacle's CEO, assuming certain criteria are met for the FVI to kick in, the company's effective ROE will be 9.85%. The net effect of the GRC lifts the company's earning power by over \$1.00 per share. We've raised our rating on the Arizona regulatory climate back to "average." The 2021 decision landed it in the belowaverage camp when the company's ROE was cut from 10.0% to 8.7%.

The company is off to a solid operational start to 2024 that we see contin-

**uing.** First-quarter customer growth was up 1.8%, year over year. For the full year, management is looking for an increase of 2.5%.Pinnacle's weatherto normalized volume growth came in at 5.9% in the March period, driven by strong demand from commercial and industrial customers. Management expects a 2%-3% volume gain for 2024 in aggregate. Overall, Pinnacle has a premium service area in terms of growth from interstate migration and rising energy demand from a thriving economy. One notable example is the investments Taiwan Semiconductor is making in the Phoenix metro area with tens of billions of dollars budgeted for increasing its semiconductor fabrication capacity. For Pinnacle West, there really is no lack of capital investment prospects to drive rate-base growth. Expansions, modernization and reliability work to keep the A/C on in the desert are a high priority.

Patient utility investors should target a better entry point on this stock. We think it would offer good long-term value when trading at or just below the midpoint of our 18-month Target Price Range. Anthony J. Glennon July 19, 2024

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gain/(loss): '09, (\$1.45); '17, 8¢; gains/(losses) from discont. ops.: '08, 28¢; '09, (13¢); '10, 18¢; '11, 10¢; 12, (5¢). Qtly. EPS may not sum to full year

in '12. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail.

due to rounding. Next egs. report due early (C) Incl. deferred charges/other intangibles. In Aug. (B) Div'ds historically paid in early Mar., '23: \$27.22/sh. (D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Fair June, Sept., & Dec. There were 5 declarations value. Rate allowed on common equity in '23: 9.55%-9.85%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 85 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability** 90