

25%

7.0% 3.5%

Year

5586.7

5859.1

5508.2

5800

6000

Year

3.83

3.26

3.17

3.60

4.00

Full

Year

2 05

2.18

2.33

2.48

1122.1

1279.6

1187.9

1319

1350

Dec.31

.23

.03

.24

.47

.45

535

.5725

.6125

.6425

a rate case pending. As a reminder, Missouri West filed for an increase of \$104 million (13.4%), excluding fuel. The utility is looking to recover grid modernization investments and new rates will go into effect in January 2025, if approved. In Kansas, the utility filed its 2024 integrated resource plan (IRP), which will add 360 MW over the next 10 years compared to the 2023 update. Note, Evergy's \$12.5 billion capital investment plan does not yet include the changes in its 2024 IRP.

Our 2024 bottom-line target is staying put at \$3.60 per share. The company should continue to benefit from investments in its transmission system, and rate relief through this year and beyond. What's more, elevated power demand due to artificial intelligence innovations and data centers will likely rise exponentially and prop up profits nicely. Evergy remains committed to its earnings-per-share growth target of 4%-6% annually through 2026 based on management's original 2023 outlook midpoint. And, it expects annual rate base growth of 6% through 2028. We look for earnings to improve in 2025 to year of rate relief, along with other regulatory matters over that time period. And, borrowing costs should improve if interest rates start to decline, which is important as Evergy generally has low return rates on total capital and relies heavily on high debt levels.

Evergy's stock price has risen nicely of late. The stock is up almost 10% since our early March report, erasing year-todate losses. Indeed, these shares are now up slightly so far this year, after struggling in the early months.

Income-oriented investors may want to take a look here. The dividend yield of this stock stands far above the utility average, and prospective annual dividend increases of 7\% add to the appeal. Meanwhile, intermediate- and long-term capital appreciation potential is decent in comparison to most of its peers. Indeed, our 18-month Target Price Range indicates a 15% premium to the current quotation. And, we look for the stock to trade between \$70-\$95 by 2027-2029. June 7, 2024 Zachary J. Hodgkinson

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

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

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

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

EARNINGS PER SHARE A

Jun.30 Sep.30

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =

1616.5

1909.1

1669.3

1750

1850

1.95

1.86

1.53

1.75

2.00

Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

505

.535

.5725

.6125

1236.7

1446.5

1354 2

1400

1450

.81

.84

.78

.85

.85

505

.535

.5725

.6125

.6425

1611.4

1223.9

1296.8

1331.0

1350

Mar.31

.84

.53

.62

.53

.70

Mar.31

505

.535

.5725

.6125

.6425

Earnings

Cal-

endar

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

Cal-

endar

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

Cal-

endar

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

Book Value

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

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

© 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 90 25