

DTE Gas (formerly Michigan Consolidated Gas). Customers: 2.1 mill. electric, 1.3 mill. gas. Has various nonutility operations. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 48%; commercial, 34%; industrial,

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357 279 300 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '14-'16 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '20-'22 4.0% 2.0% 6.0% 5.5% 4.0% 2.5% 3.5% 5.5% Revenues 3.5% 'Cash Flow' 6.0% 6.0% 7.0% 4.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value 4.0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

NA NA

NA NA

NA

NA NA

Cal-	QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	3930	2698	2595	3078	12301
2015	2984	2268	2598	2487	10337
2016	2566	2262	2928	2874	10630
2017	3236	2450	3014	3000	11700
2018	3250	2600	3150	3150	12150
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	1.84	.70	.88	1.68	5.10
2015	1.53	.61	1.47	.83	4.44
2016	1.37	.84	1.88	.73	4.83
2017	2.23	.92	1.50	1.10	5.75
2018	1.90	1.00	1.65	1.20	5.75
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.62	.62	.655	.655	2.55
2014	.655	.655	.655	.69	2.66
2015	.69	.69	.69	.73	2.80
2016	.73	.73	.73	.77	2.96
2017	.825	.825			

DTE Energy's electric utility subsidiary has filed a general rate case. DTE Electric expects to file applications annually through 2018, and possibly beyond then. The utility is seeking an increase of \$231 million, based on a 10.5% return on equity. It expects to self-implement an interim hike in November, with a final order due in April of 2018. This was the last case filed under Michigan's previous regulatory law. Subsequent petitions will be decided within 10 months, rather than 12, but without the self-implementation provision. As for DTE Gas, it expects to file a rate case in the next one to two years.

We have raised our 2017 earnings estimate by \$0.45 a share, despite unfavorable weather in the first quarter. The company's service area experienced a milder-than-normal winter — except for severe storms that hurt net income by \$20 million. Even so, rate relief and effective cost control helped, and should be positive factors in the remainder of 2017 and in 2018, as well. Note that we include markto-market accounting gains or losses in our earnings presentation because these are an ongoing part of DTE Energy's results.

This hurt the bottom line by \$0.39 a share last year, but boosted profits by \$0.44 a share in the March period. This is why our estimate of \$5.75 a share is above the company's targeted range of \$5.15-\$5.46. We forecast flat share net in 2018 because the first-quarter comparison will be difficult. Nonutility operations are contributing to DTE Energy's profit growth, too. The company is expanding its gas transportation and storage segment. It made an acquisition last year, and plans to build some infrastructure. A 50% stake in the NEXUS project (a \$1 billion investment) between Michigan and Ohio, with a target of late 2017, awaits the approval of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Even if this is delayed, DTE Energy will be able to collect the allowance for funds used construction, a noncash credit to income, to offset the effect of the delay. Timely DTE Energy stock has a dividend yield that is about equal to the utility average. Like most utility equities, the recent price is within our 2020-2022 Target Price Range, so total return potential is unimpressive.

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '03, (16¢); '05, (2¢); '06, 1¢; '07, \$1.96; '08, 50¢; '11, 51¢; '15, (39¢); gains (losses) on disc. ops.: '03, 40¢; '04, (6¢); '05, (20¢); '06,

(2¢); '07, \$1.20; '08, 13¢; '12, (33¢). '16 EPS don't sum due to rounding. Next egs report due late July. (B) Div'ds paid in mid-Jan., Apr., July and Oct. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (C) Incl. in '17: 10.1% elec.; in '16: 10.1% gas; earn. on avg. com. eq., '16: 4.9%. Reg. Clim.: Avg.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA

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

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