

throughout a 24,000-square-mile area in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon (population: 1 million). Most of the company's revenues are derived from the Idaho portion of its service area. Revenue breakdown: residential, 41%; commercial, 24%; industrial, 14%; ir-

reported depreciation rate: 2.6%. Has 2,000 employees. Chairman: Robert A. Tinstman. President & CEO: Darrel T. Anderson. Incorporated: Idaho. Address: 1221 W. Idaho St., Boise, Idaho 83702. Telephone: 208-388-2200. Internet: www.idacorpinc.com.

287 307 295 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '14-'16 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '20-'22 3.5% 4.5% 5.5% Revenues 2.0% 1.5% 4.0% 3.5% 7.0% 4.0% 'Cash Flow' 5.0% 7.0% Earnings 10.0% 5.5% Dividends Book Value 5.0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

3184

+1.4

3402

NA

+1.8

NA

+1.8

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES(S Sep.30	mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2014	292.7	317.8	382.2	289.8	1282.5
2015	279.4	336.3	369.2	285.4	1270.3
2016	281.0	315.4	372.0	293.6	1262.0
2017	300	320	380	300	1300
2018	305	325	390	305	1325
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.55	.89	1.73	.69	3.85
2015	.47	1.31	1.46	.63	3.87
2016	.51	1.12	1.65	.66	3.94
2017	.61	.97	1.90	.57	4.05
2018	.63	1.01	1.97	.59	4.20
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = †				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.38	.38	.38	.43	1.57
2014	.43	.43	.43	.47	1.76
2015	.47	.47	.47	.51	1.92
2016	.51	.51	.51	.55	2.08
2017	.55				

We estimate that IDACORP's earnings will advance 3% in 2017. Idaho Power, the company's utility subsidiary, is benefiting from population growth and the service area's healthy economy. The customer count in 2016 climbed 1.8%, which is at least twice the rate for the electric utility industry. The increase in kilowatthour sales is typically less than customer growth due to the effects of energy efficiency, but volume growth is also above the industry norm. (Many electric companies are seeing little or no sales increases.) Effective control of operating and maintenance expenses is another strong point. We are sticking with our earnings estimate of \$4.05 a share, which is the top end of IDACORP's targeted range of \$3.90-\$4.05

We forecast 4% profit growth in 2018. The same factors that are helping earnings this year should continue to benefit the bottom line next year. Our estimate is \$4.20 a share. Note that we are not assuming that Idaho Power files a rate case through the end of next year.

Idaho Power has a regulatory chanism that can stabilize the utility's

earnings, if needed. Each year, it may use up to \$25 million of accumulated deferred investment tax credits to augment its income if its return on equity falls below 9.5%. This mechanism is available through 2019, but might be extended beyond then.

Finances are sound. The fixed-charge coverage and common-equity ratio are solid. The company has no long-term debt due until 2020. This year, it might use some short-term borrowings to finance things such as fuel purchases, but expects to issue no long-term debt or equity. IDACORP has a Financial Strength rating

We continue to believe this stock is expensively priced. The dividend yield, currently below 3%, is low for a utility. The price-earnings ratio is above the market median. The recent quotation is above the upper end of our 3- to 5-year Target Price Range. Total return potential over that time frame is close to zero, despite IDACORP's strong dividend growth potential. Thus, we do not recommend this equity, despite the company's strong points. Paul E. Debbas, CFA April 28, 2017

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gains (loss): '03, 26¢; '05, (24¢); '06, 17¢. '14 earnings don't add due to rounding. Next earnings

report due early May. (B) Div'ds historically \$28.15/sh. (D) In millions. (E) Rate base: Net

paid in late Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. • Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. intangibles. In '16: 9.4%. Regulatory Climate: Above Average.

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