

Pepco, Delmarva Power, & Atlantic City Electric. Has 8.6 mill. elec., 1.3 mill. gas customers. Has nonregulated generating & energymarketing ops. Acq'd Constellation Energy 3/12; Pepco Holdings 3/16. Elec. rev. breakdown: res'l, 63%; small comm'l & ind'l, 23%;

rates: 2.8%-3.5% elec., 2.2% gas. Has 34,000 empls. Chairman: Mayo A. Shattuck III. Pres. & CEO: Christopher M. Crane. Inc.: PA. Address: 10 S. Dearborn St., P.O. Box 805379, Chicago, IL 60680-5379. Tel.: 312-394-7398. Internet: www.exeloncorp.com.

338 367 263 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '13-'15 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '20-'22 3.0% 1.5% -2.0% 2.5% -3.5% -10.5% Revenues 2.5% 'Cash Flow' 6.0% 5.0% Earnings 0.5% 7.0% -9.0% 7.5% 4.0% 4.0% Dividends Book Value

Nuclear Capacity Factor (%) % Change Customers (vr-end)

NA

+.6

94.1

NA NA

+.6

NΑ

NA

+1.1

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES (Sep.30		Full Year
2014	7237	6024	6912	7256	27429
2015	8830	6514	7401	6702	29447
2016	7573	6910	9002	7875	31360
2017	7950	7100	8800	7800	31650
2018	8350	7400	9000	8000	32750
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.10	.68	.96	.35	2.10
2015	.80	.74	.69	.33	2.54
2016	.26	.45	.76	.32	1.80
2017	.70	.66	.87	.42	2.65
2018	.74	.70	.90	.46	2.80
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.525	.31	.31	.31	1.46
2014	.31	.31	.31	.31	1.24
2015	.31	.31	.31	.31	1.24
2016	.31	.318	.318	.318	1.26
2047	1				1

Exelon will benefit from a new law in **Illinois.** Low electric prices (a result of low prices of natural gas) and subsidies for wind power had made the company's nuclear plants in the state unprofitable, so management had intended to shut the three units unless a law was passed that would provide subsidies to them. This law will take effect at the start of June. Despite this, we have cut our 2017 earnings estimate by \$0.15 a share, to \$2.65, because unfavorable conditions in the power markets are affecting the rest of Ex-

elon's merchant generating units.

A similar law in New York is facing legal challenges. Another company, Entergy, had planned to shut a nuclear unit there until the law was enacted. Instead, Exelon will buy the 838-megawatt facility for \$110 million. The new law will boost Exelon's profits by \$0.08-\$0.10 a share, and the plant purchase will contribute another \$0.02-\$0.08—provided the legal challenges are decided in the company's favor. The enactment of these laws shows

that conditions in the power markets are unfavorable for owners of merchant generating plants. This has per-

sisted since early this decade, and explains why Exelon's profits are well below their level several years ago. This also explains why the company has placed increased emphasis on its regulated utility business in recent years, most notably by acquiring Pepco Holdings last March. Costs associated with this purchase hurt the bottom line in 2016.

The utilities that came with the Pepco purchase are awaiting rate orders. They are underearning their allowed returns on equity by a wide margin. Pepco is seeking an \$82.1 million increase in Washington, DC. Delmarva requested electric and gas raises of \$62.8 million and \$21.5 million, respectively, in Delaware and an electric boost of \$57.0 million in Maryland. Each application is based on a 10.6% ROE. Rate relief should benefit earnings this year and next.

This timely stock has a dividend yield that is about equal to the utility average. We think dividend growth will accelerate over the 3- to 5-year period, thanks to a low payout ratio. This should produce a respectable long-term total return. Paul E. Debbas, CFA February 17, 2017

(A) Diluted egs. Excl. nonrec. gain (losses): '03, (\$1.06); '05, (\$1.85); '06, (\$1.15); '09, (20¢); '12, (50¢); '13, (31¢); '14, 23¢; '16, (58¢). '14-'16 EPS don't add due to rounding or

chg. in shs. Next egs. report due early May. **(B)**Div'ds paid in early Mar., June, Sept., & Dec.
MD in '16: 9.75% elec., 9.65% gas; in NJ in Div'd reinv. plan avail. **(C)** Incl. def'd chgs. In '16: 9.75%; earn. on avg. com. eq., '15: 9.4%.

'15: \$10.02/sh. (D) In mill., adj. for split. (E) Reg. Clim.: PA, NJ Avg.; IL, MD, Below Avg. © 2017 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

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

B++ 85 60