

Gas and Electric Company and nonutility subsidiaries. Supplies electricity and gas to most of northern and central California. Has 5.4 million electric and 4.4 million gas customers. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 40%; commercial, 39%; industrial, 11%; agricultural, 9%; other, 1%. Generating sources: nuclear, 24%; hydro,

reported depreciation rate (utility): 3.8%. Has 24,000 employees. Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer: Anthony F. Earley, Jr. President & CEO: Geisha J. Williams. Incorporated: California. Address: 77 Beale Street, P.O. Box 770000, San Francisco, CA 94177. Tel.: 415-973-1000. Internet: www.pgecorp.com.

189 242 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) 304 ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '14-'16 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs 5 Yrs. to '20-'22 Revenues 1.0% -.5% 3.0% -1.0% -2.0% 1.0% 3.5% 5.5% 9.5% 7.5% 5.0% 'Cash Flow' 1.5% 1.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NMF

NMF

+.6

NMF

NMF

NMF

+.7

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES (Sep.30		Full Year
2014	3891	3952	4939	4308	17090
2015	3899	4217	4550	4167	16833
2016	3974	4169	4810	4713	17666
2017	4350	4400	4900	4700	18350
2018	4400	4600	5150	4950	19100
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.49	.57	1.71	.27	3.06
2015	.27	.83	.63	.27	2.00
2016	.22	.46	.77	1.36	2.83
2017	.85	.75	1.30	.75	3.65
2018	.90	.80	1.40	.80	3.90
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = †				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.455	.455	.455	.455	1.82
2014	.455	.455	.455	.455	1.82
2015	.455	.455	.455	.455	1.82
2016	.455	.455	.49	.49	1.89
2017	.49	.49			

PG&E has received a proposed decision from an administrative law judge for its general rate case. The utility reached a settlement calling for rate increases for electricity and gas totaling \$88 million in 2017 (retroactive to the start of the year), \$444 million in 2018, and \$361 million in 2019. The ALJ's recommendation was similar to the settlement, except that the hike this year would be \$86 million. A ruling from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is expected soon.

The utility has reached a settlement regarding its cost of capital. (In California, the cost of capital is reviewed separately from a general rate case.) The settlement, if approved by the CPUC, would reduce PG&E's allowed return on equity from 10.4% to 10.25%, beginning in 2018. Its common-equity ratio would remain at 52%. The change would reduce the utility's earning power by an estimated \$29 million.

Earnings should be much improved this year and next. Ever since a gas pipeline exploded in San Bruno, California in September of 2010, PG&E's earnings

have been hurt by unrecovered costs associated with the accident. Much of this (and \$300 million in fines) was funded with equity, which is why the share count is much higher than in 2010. PG&E expects to record most of the last of these costs in the first quarter of 2017. However

Costs associated with a wildfire in 2015 are unresolved. The estimated third-party claims are \$750 million, and the utility also incurred cleanup and legal expenses. PG&E believes the claims are recoverable through insurance, but the net effect of this reduced the bottom line by \$0.27 a share in 2016.

We look for a dividend hike with the July payment. That was the timing of the raise last year—the first increase since the San Bruno explosion. We estimate that the board of directors will boost the quarterly disbursement by \$0.04 a share (8.2%). PG&E is targeting a payout ratio of 55%-65%.

We have a neutral stance on this stock. The dividend yield and 3- to 5-year total return potential are not far from the averages for the electric utility industry. Paul E. Debbas, CFA April 28, 2017

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '04, \$6.95; '09, 18¢; '11, (68¢); '12, (15¢); '15,

(21e); '16, (5e); gain from disc. ops: '08, 41e. | Apr., July, and Oct.

Div'd reinvest. plan avail. | in '15: 10.4%; earned on avg. con '14 & '16 EPS don't sum due to change in shs. | † Shareholder investment plan avail. (C) Incl. | 8.2%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

outstanding. Next earnings report due early May. (B) Div'ds historically paid in mid-Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. • Div'd reinvest. plan avail. in '15: 10.4%, earned on avg. com. eq., '16:

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 35 **Earnings Predictability** 50

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