

tricity to 1.2 million customers in most of Arizona, except about half of the Phoenix metro area, the Tucson metro area, and Mohave County in northwestern Arizona. Discontinued SunCor real estate subsidiary in '10. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 50%;

costs: 31% of revenues. '16 reported deprec. rate: 2.7%. Has 6,300 employees. Chairman, President & CEO: Donald E. Brandt. Inc.: AZ. Address: 400 North Fifth St., P.O. Box 53999, Phoenix, AZ 85072-3999. Tel.: 602-250-1000. Internet: www.pinnaclewest.com.

404 438 416 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '14-'16 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '20-'22 Revenues .5% 4.0% 3.5% 6.5% 3.0% 4.0% 'Cash Flow' 5.0% 5.5% 1.5% 3.5% Earnings 5.0% 4.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

7007

+1.2

7031

+1.3

7051

48.0

+1.3

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31		VENUES (Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2014	686.2	906.3	1172.7	726.4	3491.6
2015	671.2	890.7	1199.1	734.4	3495.4
2016	677.2	915.4	1166.9	739.2	3498.7
2017	700	950	1275	775	3700
2018	750	1000	1325	825	3900
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A Full				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.14	1.19	2.20	.05	3.58
2015	.14	1.10	2.30	.37	3.92
2016	.04	1.08	2.35	.47	3.95
2017	.20	1.20	2.50	.40	4.30
2018	.20	1.25	2.60	.40	4.45
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = F				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.545	.545	.545	.567	2.20
2014	.568	.568	.568	.595	2.30
2015	.595	.595	.595	.625	2.41
2016	.625	.625	.625	.655	2.53
2017	.655				

Pinnacle West's utility subsidiary has reached a settlement of its general rate case. Arizona Public Service had filed for a rate hike of \$165.9 million (5.7%), based on a return of 10.5% on a common-equity ratio of 55.8%. The utility also sought changes in rate design so that users of solar power would not be subsidized by nonsolar customers to such an extent. APS, the staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), and some intervenor groups, have reached a settlement calling for an increase of \$94.6 million (3.3%), based on a return of 10% on a common-equity ratio of 55.8%. The company didn't get everything it wanted regarding rate design, but the subsidization of solar customers would be reduced initially, and even more so each year after that. Finally, there would be a rate moratorium until mid-2019. The ACC still must rule on the settlement. An order is expected in time for new tariffs to take effect on July 1st.

We estimate strong profit growth this year, followed by a respectable increase in 2018. Our estimates are based on the assumption that the regulatory

settlement is approved. The utility should also benefit from modest kilowatt-hour sales growth. Note that management hasn't provided earnings guidance for 2017 due to the pending rate case.

Two major construction projects are **under way.** APS is adding pollution control equipment to two coal-fired generating units at an expected cost of \$400 million. Completion is expected by the spring of 2018. The utility is constructing five gasfired units for \$500 million, which will replace older facilities and provide a net increase in generating capacity of 220 megawatts. This project is expected to be completed by the spring of 2019. Under terms of the aforementioned regulatory settlement, costs associated with these projects would be deferred until APS recovers them in a future rate case.

Untimely Pinnacle West stock has a high valuation. The dividend yield is a bit below the utility average. With the recent quotation above the top end of our 3to 5-year Target Price Range, total return potential is minimal, despite the company's good dividend growth prospects.

Paul E. Debbas, CFA April 2 April 28, 2017

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. losses: '02, 77¢; sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due (C) Incl. deferred chgs. In '16: \$14.54/sh. (D) In '09, \$1.45; excl. gains (losses) from disc. ops.: or '05, (36¢); '06, 10¢; '08, 28¢; '09, (13¢); '10, Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. There were 5 declantations in '12. ■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. or '12: 10%; earned on avg. com. eq., '16: 9.4%. Regulatory Climate: Average.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 95 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 90

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