

and South Dakota (10%). Electric rev. breakdown: residential, 32%; commercial & farms, 36%; industrial, 30%; other, 2%. Generating sources: coal, 38%; wind & other, 18%; purchased, 44%. Fuel

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405 651 653 Fixed Charge Cov. (%) ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '19-'21 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '26-'28 4.0% 9.5% 14.5% Revenues -1.0% 5.0% 'Cash Flow' 7.5% 18.0% 5.5% 4.5% Earnings 2.5% 3.5% 4.0% 6.0% 7.0% 8.0% Dividends Book Value

% Change Customers (vr-end)

NA NA NA

Cal-	QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020	234.7	192.8	235.8	226.8	890.1
2021	261.7	285.6	316.3	333.2	1196.8
2022	374.9	400.0	383.9	301.4	1460.2
2023	339.1	330.9	305	285	1260
2024	320	330	310	290	1250
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020	.60	.42	.87	.45	2.34
2021	.73	1.01	1.26	1.23	4.23
2022	1.72	2.05	2.01	1.00	6.78
2023	1.49	1.50	1.01	.75	4.75
2024	.80	1.00	1.00	.70	3.50
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2019	.35	.35	.35	.35	1.40
2020	.37	.37	.37	.37	1.48
2021	.39	.39	.39	.39	1.56
2022	.4125	.4125	.4125	.4125	1.65
2023	.4375				

The price of Otter Tail stock has con**tinued to surge.** The quotation has risen more than 5% since our March report and is up 15% over the past 12 months due to a string of better-than-expected performances of late. Indeed, the company has raised its earnings guidance for 2023 on the heels of its strong first quarter results. Management now expects the bottom-line to wind up in a range of \$4.55-\$4.85 a share, from the initial guidance range of \$3.70-\$4.06 per share. While the bottomline will likely decline over the next few years as conditions normalize within the utlity's plastics division, the electric and manufacturing segments remain a main driver to earnings, and both grew by double digits in the first quarter of 2023. Too, Otter Tail continues to benefit from elevated PVC pipe pricing, as PVC pipe remains higher-than-anticipated, near historic highs. All told, we look for 2023 earnings of \$4.75 per share.

We expect the company's bottom line to decline in 2024 and beyond as demand for PVC pipe is dropping noticeably. The Plastics segment earnings decreased 34%, while sales volumes

declined 46% versus 2022 levels. Margins should begin to compress in the second half of this year, causing sales prices of PVC pipe to recede. Otter Tail expects the new normal level of plastics segment earnings to be around \$36-\$41 million. As a result, our 2024 earnings per share estimate is staying put at \$3.50.

Otter Tail is making progress in a number of capital projects. In May, the Federal Energy Regulatory commission approved incentive rate treatment for its investments in the Jamestown project and the Big Stone South Project. Too, Hoot Lake Solar, a 49 megawatt solar project is approximately 85% complete and is expected to be in service by the end of the vear.

This stock is trading near the high end of our 3-to 5-year Target Price Range. Near-term potential is more appealing. Otter Tail has outperformed nearly all of its peers of late, and these shares are ranked Above Average (2) for Timeliness. Meanwhile, this issue offers a dividend yield of 2.3%, which is just belowaverage for a utility. Zachary J. Hodgkinson June 9, 2023

(A) Dil. EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (loss): '10, (44¢); '11, 26¢; '13, 2¢; gains (losses) from disc. ops.: '11, (\$1.11); '12, (\$1.22); '13, 2¢;

avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '22: \$4.10/sh. (D) In

not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due early Aug. (B) Div'ds histor. pd. in early Mar, Jun., Sept., & Dec. ■ Div'd reinv. plan 4.5%; earned on avg. com. eq., in MN in '22: 9.48%; in ND in '18: 9.77%; in SD in '19: 8.75%; earned on avg. com. eq., '21: 19.2%.

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

'14, 2¢; '15, 2¢; '16, 1¢; '17, 1¢. '19 EPS may © 2023 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 90

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