

to 1000 communities, 750,000 customers, in Oregon (89% of customers) and in southwest Washington state. Principal cities served: Portland and Eugene, OR; Vancouver, WA. Service area population: 3.7 mill. (77% in OR). Company buys gas supply from Canadian and U.S. producers; has transportation rights on Northwest

down: residential, 37%; commercial, 22%; industrial, gas transportation, 41%. Employs 1,167. BlackRock Inc. owns 15.5% of shares; Off./Dir. own less than 1% (4/20 proxy). CEO: David H. Anderson. Inc.: Oregon. Address: 220 NW 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97209. Tel.: 503-226-4211. Internet: www.nwnatural.com

357% 336% 368% Fix. Chg. Cov ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. 2.5% 8.0% Revenues "Cash Flow" -4.0% -3.0% -2.0% -5.5% 24.5% 1.0% 2.0% -11.0% 2.0% -17.0% Dividends **Book Value** -.5% QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

115.9 247.6

509.1

113.4

224 2

144.6

482.2

79.9 268.2

486.9

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Other

endar 2017 297.3 136.3 88.2 240.4 762.2 124.6 91.2 2018 264.7 226.7 706.1 2019 285.4 123.4 90.3 247.3 746.4 2020 285.2 135.0 105 254.8 780 2021 305 145 110 260 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2017 1.40 .10 d3.14 d1.94 d.30 2018 1.46 d.01 d.39 2.33 1.27 2019 1.50 .07 d.61 1.26 2.19 2020 1.58 d.17 d.40 1.34 2.35 2021 1.60 d.05 d.35 1.35 2.55 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar 2016 .4675 .4675 .4675 .470 1.87 2017 .470 .470 .470 .4725 1.88 2018 .4725 .4725 .4725 .475 1.89 .475 .475 2019 .475 .4775 1.90 2020 .4775 .4775 .4775

Northwest Natural Holding recorded mixed second-quarter results. Revenues expanded to \$135.0 million, aided by additional contributions from the North Mist natural gas storage facility and its recently acquired water operations. It added around 13,000 new customers over the past 12 months, growing its base by 1.7%. However, the company incurred higher gas costs and maintenance expenses. Moreover, interest expense rose due to a higher debt load, but a tax benefit helped some. Overall, these factors led to a net loss of \$0.17 per share during the quarter. Still, the utility ought to have better results in the coming months, as it will likely benefit from new legislation in Oregon. This allows utilities to recover 5% of renewable natural gas' incremental costs, which incremental costs, which would equate to about \$30 million annually. Additionally, the company filed for a \$45.8 million increase in revenues with the Oregon Public Utility Commission. If approved, this would take effect in November, though we don't think it will earn the full amount. Northwest sold about 1.4 million shares in June, which will spread profits among a higher total share count.

Overall, we have reduced our 2020 fullyear share-net estimate by a dime to \$2.35.

The long-term outlook is bright here. Revenues will likely expand at a steady clip, assuming the company's rate cases yield favorable outcomes. Moreover, the entry into the water utility space should further enhance the top line as it closed several new water utility transactions. These include Suncadia in Washington State and its first water utility in Texas. Too, Northwest closed on a few water utilities in Idaho and will likely see some economies of scale emerge over the long haul. We project that earnings will expand to \$2.55 per share in 2021 and \$3.20 per share by mid-decade.

Shares of Northwest Natural Holding are neutrally ranked for Timeliness. This equity holds ample 3- to 5-year recovery potential based on our projections. Too, the dividend yield is attractive, though we expect modest increases in the payout in the years ahead. Overall, we think this equity will appeal to connservative long-term accounts. John E. Seibert III August 28, 2020

(A) Diluted earnings per share. Excludes non-recurring items: '06, (\$0.06); '08, (\$0.03); '09, \$0.06; May not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due in early November.

(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-February, (D) Includes intangibles. In 2019: \$343.2 mil-May, August, and November. Dividend reinvestment plan available

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 90 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability**