**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

######  Public Meeting held January 13, 2022

 Docket Number: M-2021-3030045

**BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

**REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY EARNINGS**

**OF JURISDICTIONAL UTILITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**September 30, 2021**

|  |
| --- |
| Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman |
| John F. Coleman, Jr., CommissionerRalph V. Yanora, Commissioner |
|  |

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**Attachment H – Development of a Representative Dividend Growth Rate**…………………………………………………... 30

Multiple sources of the water barometer companies projected 5-year Earnings Per Share are used to calculate the Group Average Dividend Growth Estimate.

**Introduction:**

On September 20, 1991, the Commission initiated a rulemaking at L-00910061 pertaining to earnings disclosures by the public utilities subject to its jurisdiction. At that docket, the Commission stated that the submission of accurate, reliable and complete earnings disclosure reports, at regular intervals, is essential to the fulfillment of the broad regulatory oversight responsibilities entrusted to the Commission by the Legislature in the Public Utility Code. The earnings disclosure regulations promulgated by the Commission were adopted October 1, 1992, and published January 23, 1993, at 23 Pa.B. 463. Based upon those regulations, codified at 52 Pa. Code, Chapter 71, a reporting format was developed and distributed to the jurisdictional fixed utilities of Pennsylvania.

All fixed utilities having jurisdictional revenues of $1,000,000 or more, for a calendar year, are required to file the report by March 31 of each year. Such reports are to be based upon the results of operations for the 12-month period ending December 31 of the prior year. Utilities having more than $10,000,000 in jurisdictional revenues are also required to file reports for the 12 months ending on March 31, June 30, and September 30 of each year. On November 30, 2004, however, the Pennsylvania General Assembly signed into law Act 183 concerning alternative telecommunications regulation and broadband deployment. As a result of Act 183, the reporting requirements for the PUC jurisdictional telecommunications companies of Pennsylvania have been streamlined at section 3015(e) of the Public Utility Code. A quarterly earnings report is not listed among those reports now required of PUC jurisdictional telecommunications utilities in Pennsylvania and, therefore, this report does not address telephone company earnings.

The reports have been filed for the period ended September 30, 2021.[[1]](#footnote-1) The Finance Staff of the Bureau of Technical Utility Services has reviewed the reports and has prepared this summary report for public release. This report sets forth the achieved return on equity for each company, the last allowed return for that utility, a market return as determined through the analysis of the barometer group data and the most recent returns allowed, per industry, by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and by other regulatory bodies. Where a utility has not filed a report, the reasons for not filing are indicated.

Questions pertaining to the preparation and contents of this Report should be directed to Ms. Erin Laudenslager, Manager - Finance, Bureau of Technical Utility Services, at (717) 705-4364.

The equity return summaries that follow in Attachment A are, for each quarter;

ACTUAL

1. Based on actual results of operations

and

ADJUSTED

2. Based on company proposed pro forma and ratemaking adjustments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **ELECTRIC UTILITIES****EQUITY RETURNS BY QUARTER** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **QTR****END** | **PECO** | **PPL** | **Duq** | **W Penn** | **PaPwr** | **UGI** | **Penelec** | **MetEd** |  |
| ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2015 | 4 | 10.74 | 8.84 | 8.89 | 8.48 | 9.73 | 9.36 | 8.09 | 8.09 | 5.13 | 5.13 | 9.74 | 9.21 | 5.45 | 5.45 | 7.04 | 7.04 |
| 2016 | 1 | 10.86 | 9.74 | 7.75 | 6.94 | 9.87 | 9.89 |  |  |  |  | 10.41 | 8.69 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | 11.46 | 10.15 | 9.15 | 8.51 | 9.57 | 9.47 |  |  |  |  | 8.29 | 8.10 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | 13.42 | 11.44 | 10.15 | 9.59 | 10.12 | 9.46 |  |  |  |  | 19.18 | 6.99 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 | 12.52 | 10.65 | 10.45 | 10.29 | 9.71 | 9.01 |  |  |  |  | 26.07 | 7.30 |  |  |  |  |
| 2017 | 1 | 13.01 | 11.40 | 9.76 | 8.49 | 9.53 | 8.99 |  |  |  |  | 22.86 | 6.81 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | 12.98 | 11.40 | 10.71 | 9.70 | 9.86 | 9.24 | 8.23 | 7.38 | 7.32 | 7.97 | 21.96 | 6.74 | 9.23 | 9.20 | 9.74 | 9.35 |
|  | 3 | 12.84 | 10.52 | 10.15 | 9.30 | 9.53 | 9.23 | 7.63 | 7.24 | 8.32 | 9.08 | 16.13 | 5.22 | 9.61 | 9.50 | 11.37 | 10.97 |
|  | 4 | 12.07 | 9.11 | 11.07 | 10.63 |  |  | 9.47 | 9.12 | 8.46 | 8.19 |  |  | 11.70 | 10.93 | 12.58 | 11.67 |
| 2018 | 1 |  |  | 12.53 | 11.36 |  |  | 10.35 | 9.08 | 9.03 | 8.08 |  |  | 11.84 | 9.93 | 12.77 | 11.38 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 11.05 | 9.49 |  |  | 9.92 | 8.52 | 8.79 | 7.57 |  |  | 11.56 | 9.39 | 11.90 | 10.26 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 11.19 | 9.83 |  |  | 11.41 | 6.74 | 10.30 | 5.80 |  |  | 13.97 | 8.44 | 14.46 | 9.62 |
|  | 4 | 10.88 | 7.61 | 11.10 | 10.15 | 12.06 | 9.39 | 9.92 | 6.78 | 10.64 | 7.43 |  |  | 13.27 | 9.31 | 13.05 | 7.40 |
| 2019 | 1 | 12.65 | 7.93 | 10.10 | 8.96 | 12.58 | 9.73 | 9.08 | 6.62 | 9.14 | 7.61 | 7.05 | 5.22 | 12.03 | 8.07 | 12.54 | 7.66 |
|  | 23 | 12.3412.49 | 7.947.96 | 10.5110.61 | 8.958.99 | 12.3813.88 | 9.349.33 | 8.029.90 | 5.997.87 | 8.299.28 | 7.107.76 | 5.776.20 | 3.222.04 | 11.4211.26 | 8.168.78 | 11.7212.25 | 7.217.77 |
|  | 4 | 12.21 | 8.50 | 10.53 | 10.40 | 13.92 | 9.08 | 14.13 | 7.07 | 8.08 | 6.90 | 7.20 | 2.38 | 10.02 | 8.54 | 10.96 | 9.27 |
| 2020 | 1 | 11.31 | 8.35 | 10.84 | 11.20 | 12.66 | 8.31 | 9.82 | 5.54 | 5.06 | 6.71 | 5.43 | 2.26 | 7.24 | 8.74 | 7.20 | 8.31 |
|  | 2 | 9.38 | 8.17 | 11.20 | 10.81 | 12.73 | 8.56 | 10.41 | 5.53 | 5.56 | 6.55 | 6.06 | 2.01 | 6.68 | 7.94 | 7.34 | 8.04 |
|  | 3 | 9.62 | 8.56 | 11.14 | 11.20 | 12.32 | 8.08 | 10.22 | 5.42 | 5.62 | 6.74 | 7.76 | 0.41 | 7.87 | 8.75 | 7.64 | 8.37 |
|  | 4 | 9.16 | 7.64 | 11.10 | 11.48 | 12.57 | 8.15 | 7.48 | 5.65 | 11.36 | 7.34 |  |  | 10.08 | 8.62 | 9.91 | 8.64 |
| 2021 | 1 |  |  | 11.03 | 11.76 |  |  | 10.89 | 6.64 | 12.01 | 7.01 |  |  | 13.27 | 8.96 | 14.19 | 9.44 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 11.17 | 11.73 |  |  | 11.42 | 7.07 | 11.27 | 5.94 |  |  | 13.23 | 8.15 | 14.13 | 9.06 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 10.57 | 10.65 |  |  | 12.08 | 7.91 | 11.27 | 5.91 |  |  | 13.85 | 8.67 | 14.29 | 9.38 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **GAS UTILITIES****EQUITY RETURNS BY QUARTER** |
| **QTR** |  | **Columbia** | **Peoples Natural** | **PECO** | **NFG** | **UGI** | **Peoples** **Gas**  |
| **END** |  | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2015 | 4 | 9.75 | 9.73 | 8.80 | 9.83 | 12.50 | 12.70 | 15.01 | 10.59 |  |  | 12.71 | 12.14 |
| 2016 | 1 |  |  | 7.01 | 10.02 | 10.73 | 13.58 | 12.60 | 10.97 |  |  | 8.54 | 10.48 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 6.24 | 9.99 | 11.55 | 13.85 | 12.31 | 11.08 |  |  | 9.20 | 10.43 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 6.93 | 9.34 | 12.09 | 14.40 | 13.00 | 10.34 |  |  | 9.07 | 12.02 |
|  | 4 | 8.90 | 9.26 | 10.11 | 11.03 | 11.39 | 12.37 | 14.18 | 9.58 |  |  | 12.47 | 11.87 |
| 2017 | 1 | 10.52 | 10.17 | 9.96 | 9.27 | 11.45 | 12.55 | 12.84 | 9.26 | 21.08 | 10.09 | 11.82 | 12.34 |
|  | 2 | 9.15 | 9.81 | 9.41 | 9.71 | 10.87 | 12.17 | 13.33 | 10.53 | 19.16 | 9.44 | 11.89 | 13.47 |
|  | 3 | 8.15 | 8.77 | 6.69 | 6.40 | 11.26 | 10.92 | 10.92 | 10.00 | 13.34 | 9.03 | 12.04 | 13.36 |
|  | 4 | 7.76 | 8.48 | 9.66 | 7.27 | 11.48 | 9.83 | 11.58 | 10.56 | 11.06 | 8.62 | 12.65 | 11.79 |
| 2018 | 1 |  |  | 11.42 | 7.00 | 12.65 | 9.77 | 14.40 | 10.20 | 12.82 | 7.90 | 14.02 | 10.17 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 11.03 | 6.80 | 12.66 | 9.05 | 12.06 | 9.89 | 16.75 | 6.80 | 12.78 | 10.15 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 10.21 | 7.43 | 12.54 | 8.36 | 12.52 | 10.12 | 18.69 | 8.04 | 13.03 | 10.20 |
|  | 4 | 11.39 | 9.81 |  |  | 12.86 | 8.68 | 12.24 | 10.21 |  |  | 13.92 | 11.13 |
| 2019 | 1 | 12.76 | 10.22 |  |  | 13.68 | 9.06 | 11.83 | 10.93 |  |  | 14.10 | 10.71 |
|  | 23 | 12.0411.77 | 9.929.85 |  |  | 12.6212.40 | 8.418.31 | 14.5614.17 | 9.999.75 |  |  | 13.8014.02 | 11.6611.63 |
|  | 4 | 9.21 | 9.09 | 10.74 | 12.26 | 11.75 | 6.99 | 14.20 | 9.77 |  |  | 12.76 | 11.20 |
| 2020 | 1 | 8.42 | 9.11 | 12.34 | 12.34 | 10.84 | 7.68 | 11.82 | 9.92 |  |  | 11.40 | 11.07 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 13.81 | 12.38 | 11.26 | 7.25 | 11.28 | 9.05 |  |  | 11.89 | 11.10 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 14.60 | 12.77 |  |  | 10.39 | 8.25 |  |  | 11.82 | 11.50 |
|  | 4 |  |  | 12.09 | 10.37 |  |  | 9.68 | 8.12 |  |  | 12.93 | 12.11 |
| 2021 | 1 |  |  | 12.69 | 10.43 |  |  | 10.27 | 8.47 | 11.22 | 7.70 | 12.69 | 11.76 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 12.31 | 10.23 | 8.85 | 5.13 | 10.02 | 8.47 | 11.57 | 8.04 | 11.20 | 11.61 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 11.97 | 10.27 | 9.16 | 5.27 | 9.64 | 8.45 | 11.24 | 6.97 | 10.56 | 11.38 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



|  |
| --- |
| **WATER UTILITIES** |
| **EQUITY RETURNS BY QUARTER** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **QTR** |  | **PAWC** | **AQUA** | **SUEZ** | **York** |
| **END** |  | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ | ACT | ADJ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2015 | 4 | 9.80 | 8.48 | 12.61 | 12.16 | 8.54 | 8.77 | 12.50 | 11.10 |
| 2016 | 1 | 10.12 | 8.68 | 12.31 | 11.71 | 9.27 | 10.19 | 12.40 | 10.90 |
|  | 2 | 9.99 | 8.47 | 11.71 | 11.21 | 11.00 | 12.37 | 12.20 | 10.80 |
|  | 3 | 9.82 | 8.47 | 11.55 | 10.32 | 8.23 | 9.99 | 12.20 | 11.00 |
|  | 4 | 9.37 | 8.51 | 11.70 | 10.57 | 9.13 | 9.90 | 11.50 | 10.40 |
| 2017 | 1 |  |  | 11.34 | 10.04 | 9.22 | 9.60 | 11.61 | 9.50 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 10.99 | 9.22 | 9.03 | 9.07 | 11.60 | 9.10 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 10.99 | 9.23 | 8.57 | 8.57 | 11.60 | 8.70 |
|  | 4 |  |  | 11.05 | 8.63 | 8.75 | 8.73 | 11.30 | 8.40 |
| 2018 | 1 | 9.55 | 8.97 | 10.94 | 8.41 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | 10.27 | 9.65 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | 11.03 | 9.48 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 | 10.08 | 9.03 |  |  |  |  | 10.70 | 10.30 |
| 2019 | 1 | 9.82 | 8.87 |  |  |  |  | 11.60 | 11.60 |
|  | 23 | 9.729.13 | 8.908.41 | 9.8410.69 | 9.048.84 | 10.7811.55 | 10.3611.75 | 11.8012.00 | 11.8012.00 |
|  | 4 | 8.71 | 8.09 | 10.33 | 8.24 | 11.80 | 12.15 | 12.00 | 9.80 |
| 2020 | 1 | 8.74 | 7.56 | 10.47 | 8.31 | 11.30 | 11.30 | 12.39 | 12.39 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 10.81 | 8.57 | 10.72 | 10.69 | 12.51 | 12.51 |
|  | 3 |  |  | 10.33 | 8.55 | 11.13 | 10.69 | 13.76 | 13.76 |
|  | 4 | 8.90 | 8.15 | 9.89 | 8.30 | 13.98 | 10.17 | 13.42 | 9.94 |
| 2021 | 1 | 9.41 | 8.90 | 9.99 | 8.38 | 14.34 | 10.48 | 12.98 | 9.74 |
|  | 2 | 10.03 | 9.28 |  |  | 13.43 | 9.83 | 12.76 | 9.66 |
|  | 3 | 9.89 | 8.65 |  |  | 13.58 | 9.07 | 12.51 | 9.32 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

 

Attachment B includes:

A. Overall Returns on rate base

1. Actual

2. Company proposed pro forma and ratemaking adjustments

and

B. Equity Returns

1. Actual

2. Company proposed pro forma and ratemaking adjustments

Summary of Returns

For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **OVERALL RETURN** | **EQUITY RETURN** | ROE | YEAR |
| COMPANY NAME | ACTUAL | ADJ |  ACTUAL | ADJ | AUTH | AUTH |
| **ELECTRIC** |  |  |   |   |  |  |
| **$10,000,000 Revenues** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PECO Energy - Electric Operations\*  |  |  |  |  | Settled | 2021 |
| PPL Electric Utilities Corp. | 7.47 | 7.51 | 10.57 | 10.65 | Settled | 2015 |
| Duquesne Light Company\* |  |  |  |  | Settled | 2021 |
| West Penn Power Company  | 8.04 | 5.97 | 12.08 | 7.91 | Settled | 2017 |
| Pennsylvania Power Company  | 8.34 | 5.61 | 11.27 | 5.91 | Settled | 2017 |
| UGI Utilities, Inc. - Electric Division\*  |  |  |  |  | Settled | 2021 |
| Pennsylvania Electric Company  | 9.00 | 6.41 | 13.85 | 8.67 | Settled | 2017 |
| Metropolitan Edison Company  | 9.37 | 6.80 | 14.29 | 9.38 | Settled | 2017 |
| **GAS** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **$10,000,000 Revenues** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Columbia Gas of PA, Inc.\* |  |  |  |  | Settled | 2021 |
| Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC | 8.10 | 7.23 | 11.97 | 10.27 | Settled | 2019 |
| PECO Energy - Gas Operations | 6.67 | 4.47 | 9.16 | 5.27 | 10.24 | 2021 |
| National Fuel Gas Distribution Co. | 6.89 | 6.37 | 9.64 | 8.45 | Settled | 2006 |
| UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division | 7.65 | 5.62 | 11.24 | 6.97 | Settled | 2020 |
| Peoples Gas Company, LLC | 7.05 | 7.36 | 10.56 | 11.38 | Settled | 2013 |
| **WATER**  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **$10,000,000 Revenues** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PA American Water Company | 7.38 | 6.69 | 9.89 | 8.65 | Settled | 2021 |
| Aqua Pennsylvania\* |  |  |  |  | Settled | 2018 |
| York Water Company | 8.85 | 6.98 | 12.51 | 9.32 | Settled | 2019 |
| SUEZ Water Pennsylvania, Inc. | 9.60 | 7.01 | 13.58 | 9.07 | Settled | 2018 |
| **$1,000,000 to $10,000,000** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Revenues** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newtown Artesian Water Co. | 12.40 | 11.02 | 16.15 | 14.08 | Settled | 2019 |
| Columbia Water Company | 6.51 | 6.51 | 7.79 | 7.79 | Settled | 2015 |

\* Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc., Duquesne Light Company, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., UGI Utilities, Inc. – Electric Division, and PECO Energy Company – Electric Operations have rate filings at Docket Nos. R‑2021‑3027385, R-2021-3027386, R‑2021‑3024750, R-2021-3024296, R‑2021‑3023618, and R‑2021‑3024601 respectively, and filed a letter with the Secretary in place of a report in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 71.4.

**ALLOWED RATES OF RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY**

This is a historical chart that shows the most recent rate cases for select companies in electric, gas, and water. A docket number followed by their final return on equity and year is also given.

**ELECTRIC** **Docket Number ROE (%) Year**

Recent PA PUC Allowed

 Duquesne Light Company R‑2021‑3024750 Settled 2021

PECO Energy Company R-2021-3024601 Settled 2021

UGI – Electric R‑2021‑3023618 Settled 2021

 Pennsylvania Electric Company R-2016-2537352 Settled 2017

 Metropolitan Edison Company R-2016-2537349 Settled 2017

 Pennsylvania Power Company R-2016-2537355 Settled 2017

 West Penn Power Company R-2016-2537359 Settled 2017

 Current Market Indicated ROE as calculated by the **7.64-9.99**

Bureau of Technical Utility Services.

**GAS**

Recent PA PUC Allowed

 Columbia Gas of Pa. R-2020-3024296 Settled 2021

PECO Energy R-2020-3018929 10.24 2021

UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division R‑2019‑3015162 Settled 2020

Peoples Natural Gas Company R-2018-3006818 Settled 2019

Peoples Gas Company R-2013-2355886 Settled 2013

 Current Market Indicated ROE as calculated by the **9.10-10.91**

 Bureau of Technical Utility Services.

**WATER**

Recent PA PUC Allowed

 PA American Water R‑2020‑3019369 Settled 2021

 York Water R‑2018‑3000019 Settled 2019

SUEZ Water R-2018-3000834 Settled 2018

Aqua Pennsylvania R-2018-3003558 Settled 2018

Columbia Water R-2017-2598203 Settled 2017

 Current Market Indicated ROE as calculated by the **6.38-10.59**

Bureau of Technical Utility Services.

**Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC) Eligible Utilities**

**Return on Equity (ROE) Summary**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Utility Adjusted****ROE[[2]](#footnote-2) (%)** | **Commission Approved** **ROE[[3]](#footnote-3) (%)** |
| **ELECTRIC** |  |  |
| PECO Energy – Electric Operations\* |  | 9.45 |
| PPL Electric Utilities Corp. | 10.65 | 9.45 |
| Duquesne Light Company\* |  | 9.45 |
| West Penn Power Company | 7.91 | 9.45 |
| Pennsylvania Power Company | 5.91 | 9.45 |
| Pennsylvania Electric Company | 8.67 | 9.45 |
| Metropolitan Edison Company | 9.38 | 9.45 |
| UGI Utilities, Inc.- Electric Division\* |  | 9.45 |
| **GAS** |  |  |
| Columbia Gas of PA, Inc.\* |  | 10.20 |
| Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC | 10.27 | 10.20 |
| PECO Energy – Gas Operations | 5.27 | 10.24 |
| Peoples Gas Company, LLC | 11.38 | 10.20 |
| UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division | 6.97 | 10.20 |
| **WATER**  |  |  |
| PA American Water Company | 8.65 | 9.80 |
| PA American – Wastewater | 8.65 | 9.80 |
| AQUA Pennsylvania\* |  | 9.80 |
| AQUA Pennsylvania – Wastewater\* |  | 9.80 |
| York Water Company | 9.32 | 9.80 |
| SUEZ Water Pennsylvania Inc. | 9.07 | 9.80 |
| Columbia Water Company | 7.79 | 9.80 |
| Newtown Artesian Water | 14.08 | 9.80 |
| \* Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc., Duquesne Light Company, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., UGI Utilities, Inc. – Electric Division, and PECO Energy Company – Electric Operations have rate filings at Docket Nos. R‑2021‑3027385, R-2021-3027386, R‑2021‑3024750, R-2021-3024296, R‑2021‑3023618, and R‑2021‑3024601 respectively, and filed a letter with the Secretary in place of a report in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 71.4. |

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Explanation of Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) and Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)

**Barometer Group Criteria**

The criteria used for determining the industry barometer groups used to calculate ROEs in this report are as follows:

* 50% or more of the company’s assets must be related to the jurisdictional utility industry;
* The company’s stock must be publicly traded and must have at least three years of earnings history;
* Companies targeted by merger and acquisition (M&A) activity will be excluded; companies involved in M&A activity may be excluded;
* Investment information for the company must be available to the Commission from more than one source;
* The barometer group companies must have an investment grade credit rating (S&P BBB- or better, Moody’s Baa3 or better; and
* Geographic Regions:

EDCs: *Value Line* East, Central, and West Group Electric Utility companies;

NGDCs: *Value Line* Investment Survey’s Natural Gas Utility industry group companies;

Water/Wastewater: *Value Line* Investment Survey’s Water Utility industry group companies.

The barometer group companies are reviewed by staff on a quarterly basis and make any changes to these companies based upon the criteria above.

**ROE Calculations**

 The Commission consistently uses the DCF model to determine the appropriate cost of equity for utilities. In this report, the DSIC ROE is calculated using two DCF models.

TUS uses the following formula to calculate the current dividend DCF: K = D1/P0 + G

TUS uses the following formula to calculate the 52-week average dividend DCF: K = D0/Pa + G

Definitions:

 K = Cost of equity

 D1 = Dividend expected during the year

 = D0 + ½g

 D0 = Latest indicated dividend, obtained from Yahoo! Finance

 g = Expected 5-year dividend growth rate of barometer group obtained from Value Line Investment Survey.

 P0 = Current price of the stock, obtained from Yahoo! Finance

 Pa = Average of high and low stock price over the latest 52-week period, obtained from Yahoo! Finance

 G = Average of 5-year expected earnings growth rate forecasts obtained from Value Line, Zacks Investment Survey, Yahoo! Finance, and Morningstar.

 The CAPM uses the yield of a risk-free interest-bearing obligation plus a rate of return premium that is proportional to the systematic risk of an investment.

 TUS uses the following formula to calculate CAPM: K = β(Rm-Rf)

Three components are necessary to calculate the CAPM cost of equity:

 β = Beta, a measure of systematic risk for each stock

 Rf = The risk-free rate of return, 10-year U.S. Treasury yields are used for Rf .

 Yields are taken from the previous two quarters and forecasted next four quarters.

 Rm = Total return of the equity market as determined by the SBBI Yearbook

 *The Commission determines the ROE used for DSIC purposes* based on the range of reasonableness from the DCF barometer group data, CAPM data, recent ROEs adjudicated by the Commission, and informed judgment.

The market indicated common equity cost rate range consists of data used from the barometer groups and is based on a series of calculations to average the DCF methods.



**Historic Electric Industry Barometer Group DCF and CAPM Average ROEs**



**Chart of Historic Electric Industry DCF and CAPM Average ROEs**



Barometer electric companies are used to calculate a current DCF in the first chart. The second chart demonstrates the companies 52-week average DCF. A final average of the two calculations is also shown at the bottom.





Multiple sources of the Barometer companies projected 5-year Earnings Per Share are used to calculate the Group Average Dividend Growth Estimate.



The market indicated common equity cost rate range consists of data used from the barometer groups and is based on a series of calculations to average the DCF methods.



**Historic Gas Industry DCF and CAPM Average ROEs**



**Graph of Historic Gas Industry DCF and CAPM Average ROEs**



Barometer gas companies are used to calculate a current DCF in the first chart. The second chart demonstrates the companies 52-week average DCF. A final average of the two calculations is also shown at the bottom.





Multiple sources of the Barometer companies projected 5-year Earnings Per Share are used to calculate the Group Average Dividend Growth Estimate.

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The market indicated common equity cost rate range consists of data used from the barometer groups and is based on a series of calculations to average the DCF methods.



**Historic Water Industry DCF and CAPM Average ROEs**



**Chart of Historic Water Industry DCF and CAPM Average ROEs**



Barometer water companies are used to calculate a current DCF in the first chart. The second chart demonstrates the companies 52-week average DCF. A final average of the two calculations is also shown at the bottom.





Multiple sources of the Barometer companies projected 5-year Earnings Per Share are used to calculate the Group Average Dividend Growth Estimate.



1. Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc., Duquesne Light Company, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., UGI Utilities, Inc. – Electric Division, and PECO Energy Company – Electric Operations have rate filings at Docket Nos. R-2021-3027385, R-2021-3027386, R‑2021‑3024750, R-2021-3024296, R‑2021‑3023618, and R‑2021‑3024601 respectively, and filed a letter with the Secretary in place of a report in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 71.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Each utility lists adjustments on Schedule B of their quarterly financial report. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The ROE is approved in a utility's most recent fully litigated base rate proceeding for which a final order was entered not more than two years prior to the effective date of the DSIC. If more than two years have elapsed between the entry of a final order and the DSIC effective date, the ROE is from this report. If the base rate proceeding is settled, without a stipulated ROE, the ROE is from this report. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)