



# First Quarter Earnings Webinar

April 30, 2026

NorthWestern<sup>®</sup>  
Energy



# Forward-Looking Statements

Information in this communication, other than statements of historical facts, may constitute forward-looking statements, within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the benefits of the proposed transaction between NorthWestern and Black Hills, including future financial and operating results (including the anticipated impact of the transaction on NorthWestern's and Black Hills' respective earnings), statements related to the expected timing of the completion of the transaction, the plans, objectives, expectations and intentions of either company or of the combined company following the merger, anticipated future results of either company or of the combined company following the merger, the anticipated benefits and strategic and financial rationale of the merger, including estimated rate bases, investment opportunities, cash flows and capital expenditure rates and other statements that are not historical facts. Forward-looking statements may be identified by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "targets," "scheduled," "plans," "intends," "goal," "anticipates," "expects," "believes," "forecasts," "outlook," "estimates," "potential," or "continue" or negatives of such terms or other comparable terminology. The forward-looking statements are based on NorthWestern and Black Hills' current expectations, plans and estimates. NorthWestern and Black Hills believe these assumptions to be reasonable, but there is no assurance that they will prove to be accurate.

All forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of NorthWestern or Black Hills to differ materially from any results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, (1) the risk of delays in consummating the potential transaction, including as a result of required regulatory and shareholder approvals, which may not be obtained on the expected timeline, or at all, (2) the risk of any event, change or other circumstance that could give rise to the termination of the merger agreement, (3) the risk that required regulatory approvals are subject to conditions not anticipated by NorthWestern and Black Hills, (4) the possibility that any of the anticipated benefits and projected synergies of the potential transaction will not be realized or will not be realized within the expected time period, (5) disruption to the parties' businesses as a result of the announcement and pendency of the transaction, including potential distraction of management from current plans and operations of NorthWestern or Black Hills and the ability of NorthWestern or Black Hills to retain and hire key personnel, (6) reputational risk and the reaction of each company's customers, suppliers, employees or other business partners to the transaction, (7) the possibility that the transaction may be more expensive to complete than anticipated, including as a result of unexpected factors or events, (8) the outcome of any legal or regulatory proceedings that may be instituted against NorthWestern or Black Hills related to the merger agreement or the transaction, (9) the risks associated with third party contracts containing consent and/or other provisions that may be triggered by the proposed transaction, (10) legislative, regulatory, political, market, economic and other conditions, developments and uncertainties affecting NorthWestern's and Black Hills' businesses; (11) the evolving legal, regulatory and tax regimes under which NorthWestern and Black Hills operate; (12) restrictions during the pendency of the proposed transaction that may impact NorthWestern's or Black Hills' ability to pursue certain business opportunities or strategic transactions; and (13) unpredictability and severity of catastrophic events, including, but not limited to, extreme weather, natural disasters, acts of terrorism or outbreak of war or hostilities, as well as NorthWestern's and Black Hills' response to any of the aforementioned factors.

Additional factors which could affect future results of NorthWestern and Black Hills can be found in NorthWestern Energy's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and Current Reports on Form 8-K, and Black Hills' Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and Current Reports on Form 8-K, in each case filed with the SEC and available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. NorthWestern and Black Hills disclaim any obligation and do not intend to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained in this communication, which speak only as of the date hereof, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by federal securities laws. See Appendix *for Additional Merger Related Disclosures*.

# NorthWestern Energy

**Vision**  
Enriching lives through a **safe and sustainable** energy future.

**Mission**  
Working together to deliver **safe, reliable and affordable** energy solutions.

**Values**  
**S**afety  
**E**xcellence  
**R**espect  
**V**alue  
**I**ntegrity  
**C**ommunity  
**E**nvironment

**NorthWestern Energy Group, Inc.**  
dba: NorthWestern Energy  
Ticker: NWE (Nasdaq)  
[www.northwesternenergy.com](http://www.northwesternenergy.com)

**Corporate Support Office**  
3010 West 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
(605) 978-2900

**Director - Corporate Development  
& Investor Relations Officer**  
Travis Meyer  
605-978-2967  
[travis.meyer@northwestern.com](mailto:travis.meyer@northwestern.com)

# Recent Highlights

- ✓ **Reported GAAP diluted EPS of \$1.03**
  - Non-GAAP diluted EPS of \$1.31<sup>1</sup>
  - Affirming 2026 earnings guidance range of \$3.68 - \$3.83<sup>2</sup>
  - Affirming long-term rate base and EPS growth rates targets of 4% - 6%<sup>3</sup>
  
- ✓ **Merger Progress**
  - Received shareholder approval of NWE-BKH merger proposals
  - Constructive settlements reached with certain key intervenors in Montana, Nebraska, and South Dakota merger dockets
  
- ✓ **Regulatory & Legislative**
  - Constructive wildfire legislation passed in South Dakota<sup>4</sup>
  - Submitted a Large New Load tariff rule proposal with the MPSC
  
- ✓ **Data Centers: Signed Development Agreement with Quantica Infrastructure<sup>5</sup>**
  
- ✓ **Dividend Declared: \$0.67 per share payable June 30, 2026 (June 15 record date)**

(1) See slides “First Quarter 2026 Non-GAAP Earnings” and “Non-GAAP Financial Measures” that follow.

(2) See “Strong Growth Outlook” slide that follows for major assumptions included in guidance.

(3) Based on 2024 Adjusted Diluted Non-GAAP EPS of \$3.40 and 2024 estimated rate base of \$5.38 billion. See “Non-GAAP Financial Measures” slide in appendix for additional information.

(4) See “South Dakota Wildfire Bill” slide that follows for additional information.

(5) See “Large-Load Customers” slide that follows for additional information.





# First Quarter Financial Review

# First Quarter 2026 Financial Results

(\$ in millions, except per share amounts)

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>			
	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>% Variance</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	\$497.6	\$466.6	\$31.0	6.6%
Fuel, Purchased Supply, & Direct Transmission Expense (exclusive of depreciation and depletion)	145.6	138.2	7.4	5.4%
<b>Utility Margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>352.0</b>	<b>328.4</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Operating and Maintenance	74.5	56.7	17.8	31.4%
Administrative and General	46.1	41.4	4.7	11.4%
Property and Other Taxes	50.4	43.2	7.2	16.7%
Depreciation and Depletion	66.8	62.4	4.4	7.1%
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>237.8</b>	<b>203.7</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>16.7%</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>124.7</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>	<b>(8.5%)</b>
Interest Expense, net	(39.9)	(36.5)	3.4	9.3%
Other Income, net	3.1	3.9	(0.8)	(20.5%)
<b>Income Before Income Taxes</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>(14.8)</b>	<b>(16.1%)</b>
Income Tax Expense	(13.8)	(15.2)	(1.4)	(9.2%)
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$63.5</b>	<b>\$76.9</b>	<b>(\$13.4)</b>	<b>(17.4%)</b>
<b>Effective Tax Rate</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	
Diluted Shares Outstanding	61.6	61.4	0.2	0.3%
<b>Diluted Earnings per Share</b>	<b>\$1.03</b>	<b>\$1.25</b>	<b>(\$0.22)</b>	<b>(17.6%)</b>
Dividends Paid per Common Share	\$0.67	\$0.66	\$0.01	1.5%

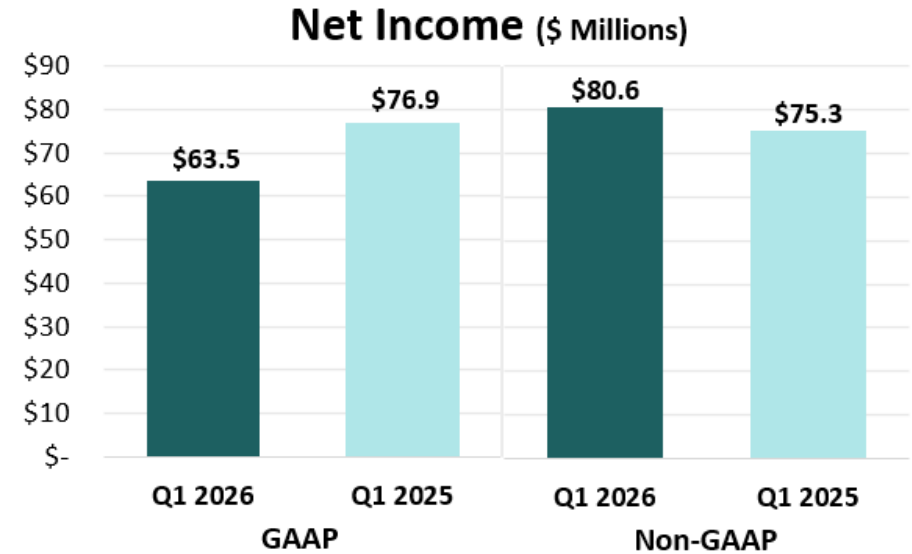
(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

Note: Subtotal variances may exist due to rounding.

# First Quarter 2026 Financial Results

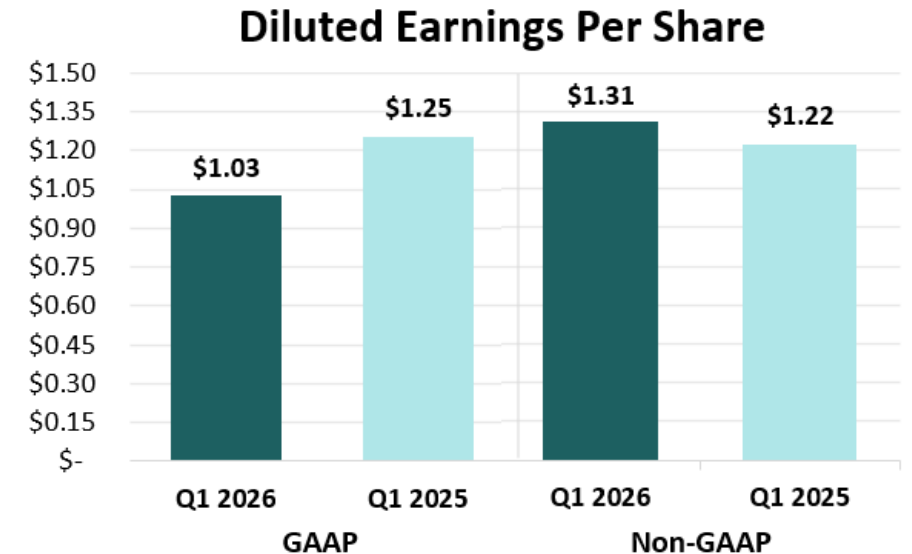
## First Quarter Net Income vs Prior Period

- GAAP: ↓ \$13.4 or (17.4)%
- Non-GAAP<sup>1</sup>: ↑ \$5.3 or 7.0%



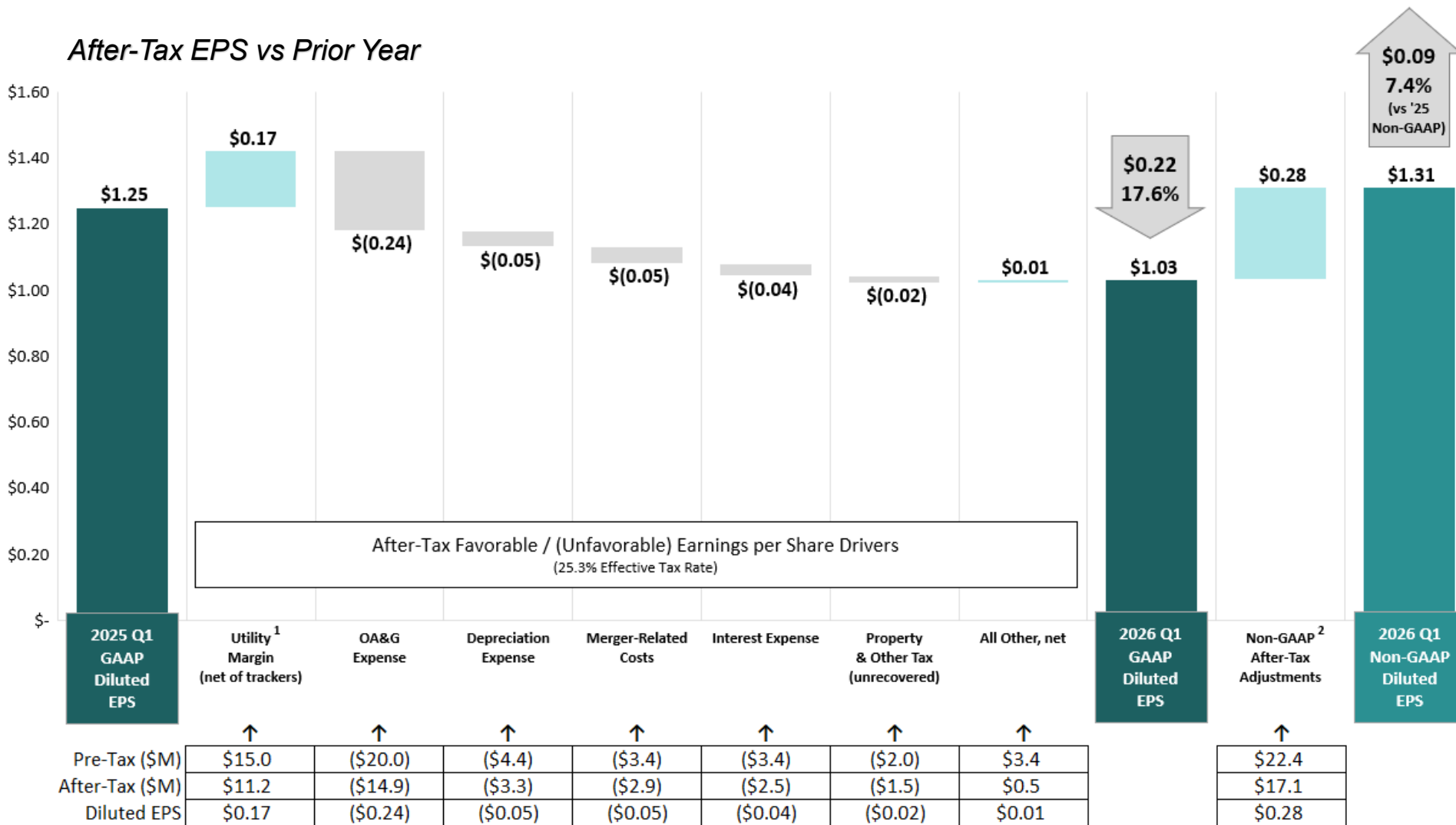
## First Quarter EPS vs Prior Period

- GAAP: ↓ \$0.22 or (17.6)%
- Non-GAAP<sup>1</sup>: ↑ \$0.09 or 7.4%



# First Quarter 2026 Earnings Drivers

After-Tax EPS vs Prior Year



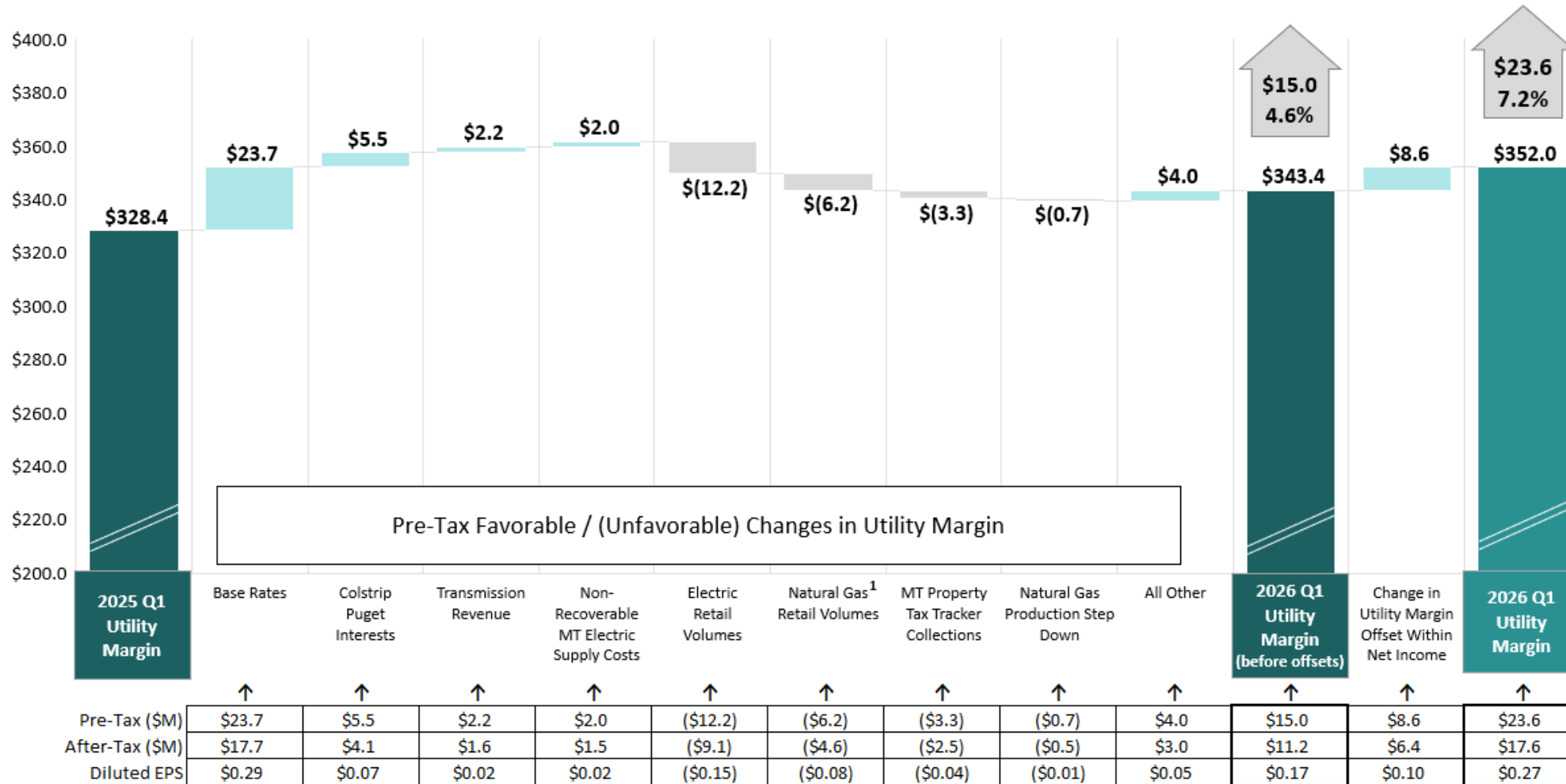
The decrease in GAAP diluted EPS for the quarter vs prior year was primarily due to retail volumes and operating expenses, including merger-related costs and incremental Colstrip operating costs, partly offset by an improvement in Utility Margin primarily due to a Montana electric base rates increase.

(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

(2) See "First Quarter 2026 Non-GAAP Earnings" and "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" slides that follow.

# First Quarter 2026 Utility Margin Bridge

Pre-Tax Millions vs Prior Year



\$15.0 million or 4.6% increase in Utility Margin items that impact Net Income

# First Quarter 2026 Non-GAAP Earnings

Three Months Ended March 31,															
	GAAP	Non-GAAP Adjustments						Non-GAAP	Non-GAAP Variance		Non-GAAP	Non-GAAP Adjustments			GAAP
		Three Months Ended March 31, 2026	Unfavorable Weather (addback)	Move Pension Expense to OG&A (disaggregated with ASU 2017-07) (1)	Deferred Compensation	Merger-Related Costs (2)	Remove January PCCAM Expense Following MPSC Suspension of 90/10 Sharing		Colstrip Avista Interests (3)	Three Months Ended March 31, 2026		\$	%	Three Months Ended March 31, 2025	
(in millions)															
<b>Revenues</b>	\$497.6	14.4	-	-	-	0.7	3.9	\$516.6	\$52.2	11.2%	\$464.4	-	-	(2.2)	\$466.6
Fuel, Supply, & Dir. Tx	145.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	145.6	7.4	5.4%	138.2	-	-	-	138.2
<b>Utility Margin<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>352.0</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>371.0</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>326.2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2.2)</b>	<b>328.4</b>
<b>Op. Expenses</b>															
OG&A Expense	120.6	-	0.2	(0.3)	(3.4)	-	-	117.0	20.7	21.5%	96.3	(1.3)	(0.5)	-	98.1
Prop. & Other Taxes	50.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.4	7.2	16.7%	43.2	-	-	-	43.2
Depreciation	66.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	66.8	4.4	7.1%	62.4	-	-	-	62.4
<b>Total Op. Exp.</b>	<b>237.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>(0.3)</b>	<b>(3.4)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>234.3</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>201.9</b>	<b>(1.3)</b>	<b>(0.5)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>203.7</b>
<b>Op. Income</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>(0.2)</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>136.6</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>124.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>(2.2)</b>	<b>124.7</b>
Interest Expense	(39.9)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(39.9)	(3.4)	-9.3%	(36.5)	-	-	-	(36.5)
Other Income, net	3.1	-	0.2	(0.3)	-	-	-	3.0	0.9	42.9%	2.1	(1.3)	(0.5)	-	3.9
<b>Pre-Tax Income</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>99.7</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>89.9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2.2)</b>	<b>92.1</b>
Income Tax Expense	(13.8)	(3.6)	-	-	(0.5)	(0.2)	(1.0)	(19.1)	(4.5)	-30.8%	(14.6)	-	-	0.6	(15.2)
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$63.5</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>\$80.6</b>	<b>\$5.3</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>\$75.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1.6)</b>	<b>\$76.9</b>
ETR	17.9%	25.3%	-	-	14.7%	25.3%	25.3%	19.2%			16.3%	-	-	25.3%	16.5%
Diluted Shares	61.6							61.6	0.2	0.3%	61.4				61.4
<b>Diluted EPS</b>	<b>\$1.03</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>\$1.31</b>	<b>\$0.09</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>\$1.22</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(0.03)</b>	<b>\$1.25</b>

- (1) As a result of the adoption of Accounting Standard Update 2017-07 in March 2018, pension and other employee benefit expense is now disaggregated on the GAAP income statement with portions now recorded in both OG&A expense and Other (Expense) Income lines. To facilitate better understanding of trends in year-over-year comparisons, the non-GAAP adjustment above re-aggregates the expense in OG&A - as it was historically presented prior to the ASU 2017-07 (with no impact to net income or earnings per share).
- (2) Certain merger-related costs are not tax-deductible.
- (3) Power prices in the Pacific Northwest associated with the designated power sales contracts included within our temporary PCCAM tariff waiver were insufficient to recover the operating expenses associated with the Avista Interests.
- (4) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

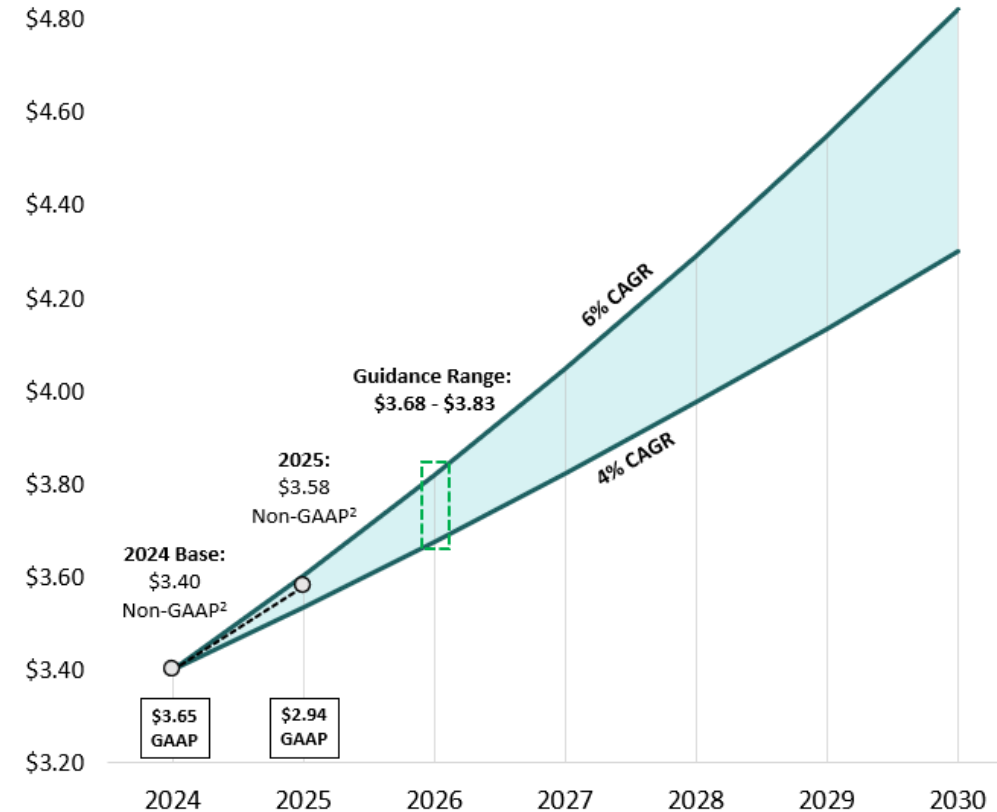
Note: Subtotal variances may exist due to rounding.

We estimate weather to be a \$14.4 million pre-tax detriment as compared to normal, and a \$16.6 million detriment as compared to first quarter 2025.

# Strong Growth Outlook

## Affirming 2026 Non-GAAP EPS Guidance of \$3.68 - \$3.83 per diluted share

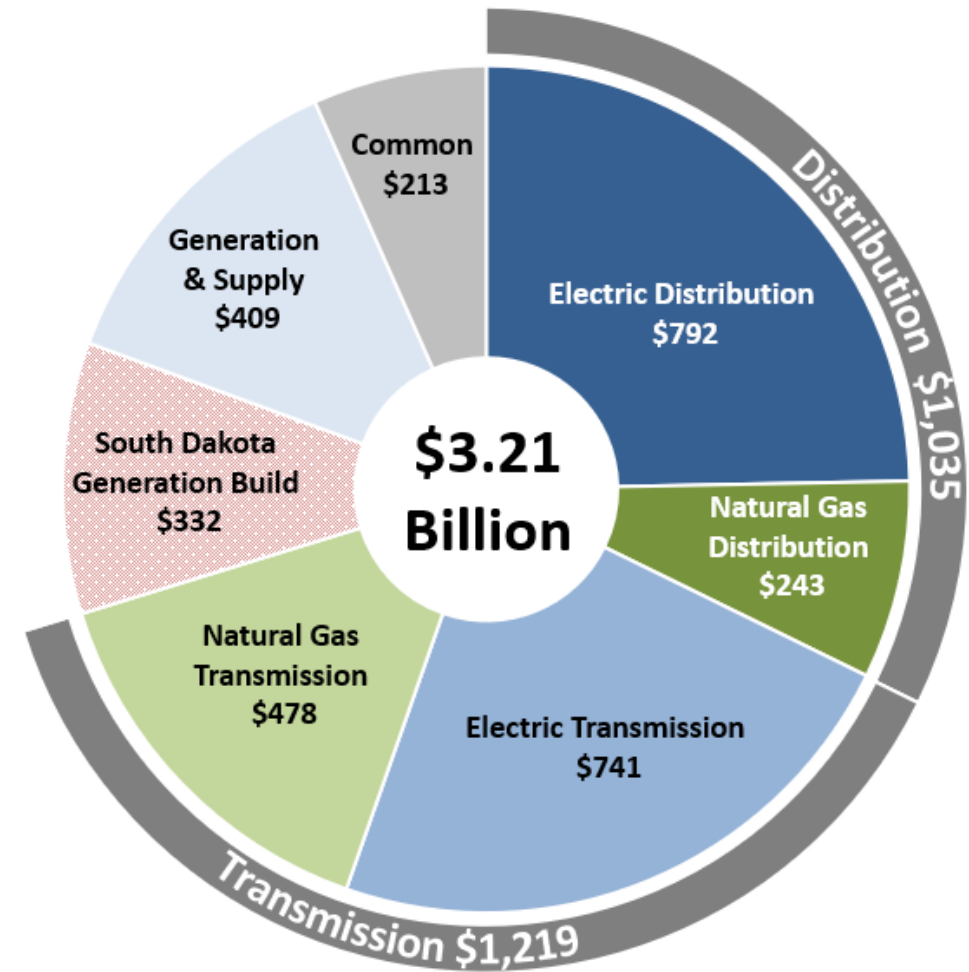
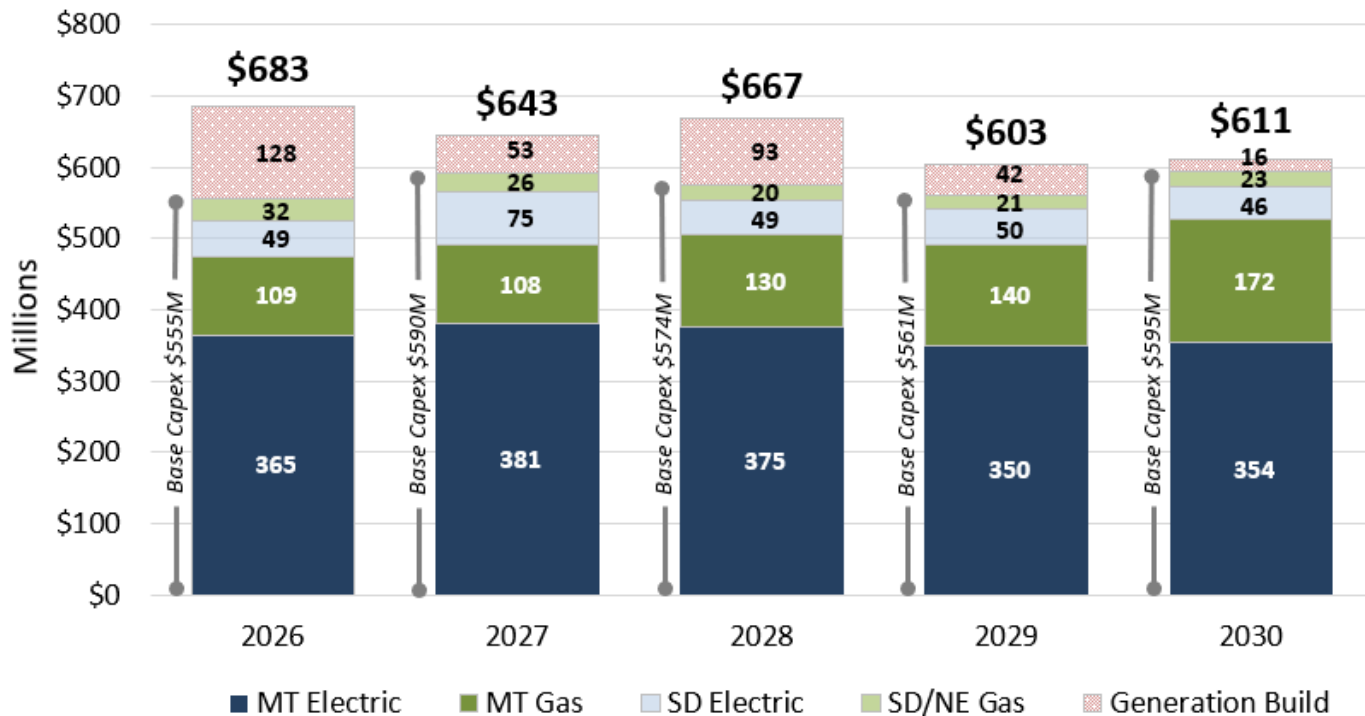
- ✓ **Affirming long-term growth rate from 2024 base<sup>1</sup>**
  - **EPS growth of 4% to 6%**
  - **Rate base growth of 4% to 6%**
  - Continued focus on closing the gap between earned & authorized returns
- ✓ **\$3.2 billion 5-year capital plan** including approximately \$300 million of investment for generation development in South Dakota
- ✓ **Cash from operations and debt to fund base capital plan.** Equity issuances expected beginning in 2027 to fund South Dakota generation investment
- ✓ **Targeting FFO / Debt > 14%**



**This guidance range is based upon, but not limited to, the following major assumptions:**

- Normal weather in our service territories;
- Excludes costs related to the pending merger with Black Hills Corp.;
- Approval of PCCAM waiver and power prices sufficient to recover operating expense from incremental Avista and Puget Colstrip interests;
- An effective income tax rate of approximately 14%-18%; and
- Diluted average shares outstanding of approximately 61.7 million.

# Regulated Utility Five-Year Capital Plan (millions)



\$ Millions	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>5yr Total</u>
Electric	\$542	\$509	\$517	\$442	\$416	\$2,426
Natural Gas	\$141	\$134	\$150	\$161	\$195	\$781
<b>Total Capital Forecast</b>	<b>\$683</b>	<b>\$643</b>	<b>\$667</b>	<b>\$603</b>	<b>\$611</b>	<b>\$3,207</b>

**Highly diversified, executable, and low-risk critical capital investment plan.**



# Business Updates

# South Dakota Wildfire Bill

## No Strict Liability:

- Strict liability *cannot* be applied to utility operations alleged to have caused wildfire-related damages

## Legal Protections for Providers:

- Rebuttable presumption that a valid and current wildfire mitigation plan is reasonable preparation for, and mitigation of, wildfire risk (burden of proof rests on plaintiffs)
- 4-year statute of limitations from date of initial ignition of the wildfire

## Damages:

- **Economic:** Property damages (including real property, personal property, livestock, and crops) and monetary losses (such as loss of business income)
- **Noneconomic:** *Only* if death or bodily injury occurs
- **Punitive:** *Only* with clear & convincing evidence of willful and wanton misconduct

**NorthWestern plans to submit a Wildfire Mitigation Plan for SDPUC approval in the second half of 2026 and expects to update the plan every two years going forward.**



SB 36 was passed by the South Dakota Legislature with broad bipartisan support in both the House (63-2) and Senate (31-3) and has been signed into law. The new law clarifies and limits wildfire-related liability risks, protecting our customers, communities, and investors.

# Merger with Black Hills Benefits Stakeholders

## **Increases Scale Position and Growth**

Increases the combined company target EPS growth rate to 5-7%, supported by the doubling of each company's rate base to total of ~\$11 bn with significant growth opportunities

## **Expands Investment Opportunity**

Leverages enhanced resources to make strategic investments that foster economic development, including addressing the growing demand for energy, including from data centers

## **Substantial Long-Term Value for Customers**

Bringing together two complementary teams focused on reliability and exceptional customer service to deliver even greater value.

## **Strengthens Balance Sheet**

Strong and predictable cash flows support a customer-focused capital investment program while producing high-quality, investment-grade credit metrics

## **Enhances Business Diversity**

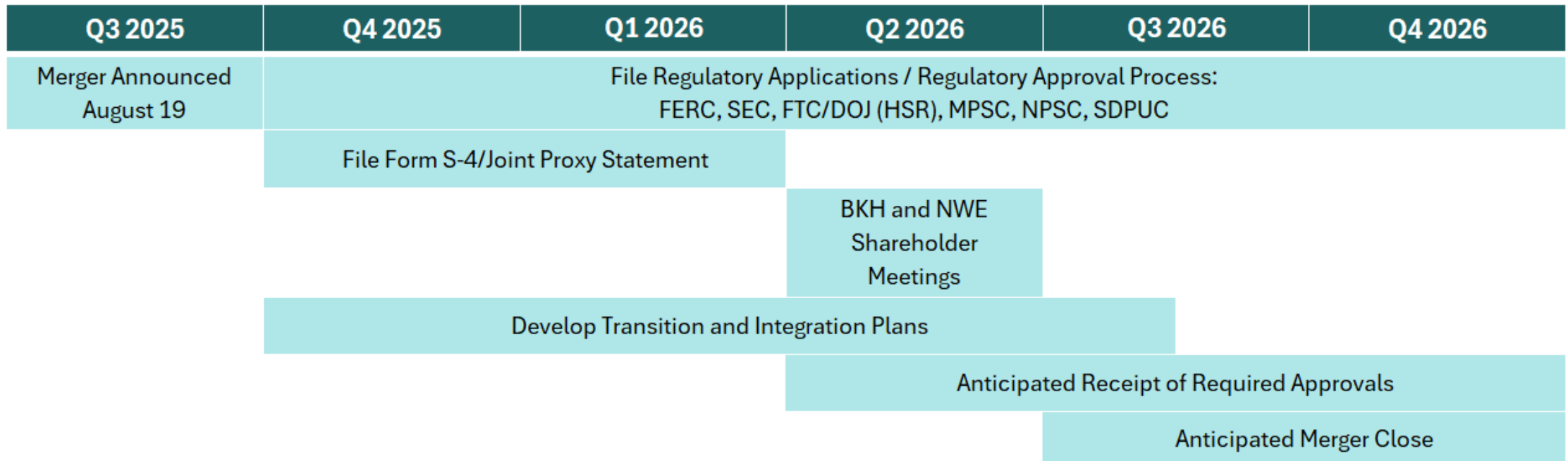
Delivering energy to more than 2.1 mm customers across multiple contiguous jurisdictions, served by a highly skilled workforce focused on safety and reliability

**Strategic combination represents a highly attractive value creation opportunity for both companies.**

# Merger with Black Hills Timeline



- ✓ Filed joint applications for approval in Montana, Nebraska, and South Dakota in Q4 2025
  - ✓ Nebraska hearing held on April 7, 2026; final order anticipated in Q2 2026
  - ✓ Settlements reached with certain key intervenors in Montana, Nebraska, and South Dakota
    - Montana and South Dakota hearings are scheduled to commence on May 12th and June 22nd, respectively
- ✓ Filed joint application with FERC on December 22, 2025
  - Federal Power Act provides 180 days for approval with extension for good cause
- ✓ Filed S-4/Joint Proxy Statement on January 30, 2026
  - ✓ Shareholder approvals received by both companies on April 2, 2026
- ✓ Filed Hart-Scott-Rodino on March 20, 2026
  - ✓ The 30-day waiting period expired on April 20, 2026, satisfying a U.S. antitrust condition to closing



# Data Center Process (Montana & South Dakota)



## Data Center Request

- Load & Location
- Supply Potential
- Customer/Developer Required Timing

Queue Count: 8

## High-Level Assessment

- Viability Assessment
- Southwest Power Pool Screening
- High Level Cost Estimate

Queue Count: 4

## ~~Letter of Intent (LOI)~~

- ~~• Supply Development Estimates~~
- ~~• Development Agreement Negotiations~~

~~Queue Count: 0~~

## Development Agreement

- Development Deposit to Fund Studies:
  - Montana: System Impact Study & Facility Study
  - South Dakota: Southwest Power Pool Delivery Point Network Study

Queue Count: 3

## Energy Service Agreement (ESA)

- Regulatory Approvals (as needed)
- Contract Signing
- Business Development Handoff

Queue Count: 0

## Construction

- Project Management Assignment
- Construction Kick-Off
- Supply Development
- Generation Build Process

Queue Count: 0

# Large-Load Customers

## ✓ Montana

- Expected to be served by overall utility portfolio, which is long capacity beginning in 2026
- Diversified and highly carbon-free generating portfolio
- Submitted a Large New Load tariff rule proposal with the MPSC in March 2026

Filed

## ✓ South Dakota

- Significant indications of interest
- Any new large-load customers would require incremental capacity with infrastructure rider to provide generation cost recovery
- South Dakota PUC has an established process for large-load customers with a deviated rate tariff

Development Agreement signed

## Montana Large-Load Opportunities

- ✓ **Confidentially Announced: December 17, 2024**
  - Company: Sabey Data Centers
  - Study Load: 50 MW ramping to 200 MW
  - Targeted Start Date: Mid-2028
  - Agreement Status: Letter of Intent + **Development Agreement**
- ✓ **Announced: December 19, 2024**
  - Company: Atlas Power
  - Study Load: 75 MW ramping to 150 MW
  - Targeted Start Date: Late 2027
  - Agreement Status: Letter of Intent + **Development Agreement**
- ✓ **Announced: July 30, 2025**
  - Company: Quantica Infrastructure
  - Study Load: 25 MW ramping to 1,100 MW
  - Targeted Start Date: Early 2029
  - Agreement Status: Letter of Intent + **Development Agreement**

# Colstrip Transaction Overview

	<u>Avista</u>	<u>Puget</u>
<b>Announcement:</b>	January 2023	July 2024
<b>Effective Date:</b>	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2025
<b>Capacity:</b>	<b>222 MW</b> (111 MW each of units 3 & 4)	<b>370 MW</b> (185 MW each of units 3 & 4)
<b>Acquisition Price:</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>
<b>Status Update:</b>	Filed a temporary PCCAM tariff waiver request with the MPSC in August 2025 that would provide a near-term cost-recovery mechanism to offset a portion of the ~\$18.0 million of incremental annual operating costs resulting from the transfer. The waiver was temporarily granted in January 2026.	Signed contract in October 2025 to sell the dispatchable capacity and associated energy through late 2027. Revenue from the contract is expected to largely offset the ~\$30 million of incremental annual operating costs resulting from the transfer. Filed with FERC for cost-based rates in October 2025, with approval received in February 2026 retroactive to January 1, 2026.

## NorthWestern's acquisition of Avista and Puget's 592 MW of additional Colstrip capacity:

- Avista interests advance our regulated portfolio to resource adequacy and increase facility ownership from 15% to 30%
- Puget interests move ownership from 30% to 55% which provides the ability to determine strategic direction and investment decisions at the facility
- Combined interests support the integration of large-load customers, delivering substantial benefits to our customers, communities, and investors

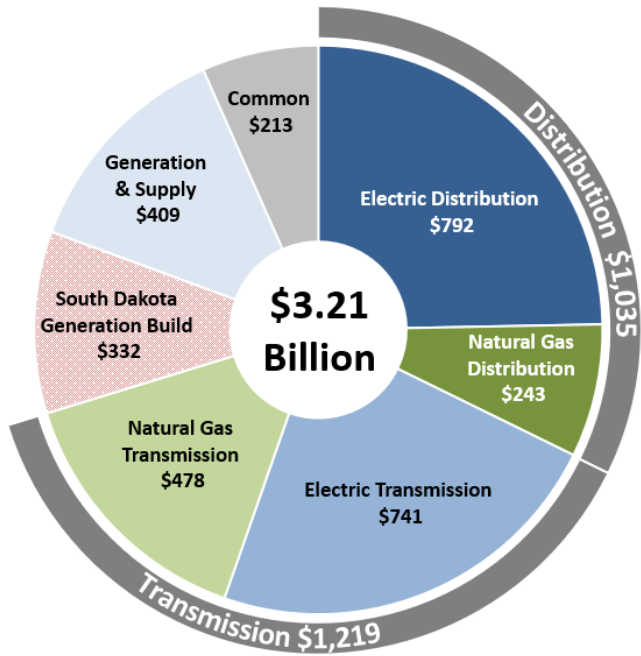
# The NorthWestern Value Proposition

Approximately 4% Dividend Yield

Base Capital Plan:  
4% to 6% EPS Growth

Incremental Opportunities:  
> 6% EPS Growth

2026-2030 Capital Investment  
(\$ Millions)



- ✓ Data centers & new large-load opportunities
- ✓ FERC Regional Transmission
- ✓ Incremental generating capacity  
(subject to successful resource procurement bids)

8% to 10% Total Return

>10% Total Return

**\$3.21 billion**  
of highly diversified, executable and low-risk critical capital investment forecasted over the next five years.

This investment is expected to drive annualized earnings and rate base growth of approximately 4% - 6%.

# Conclusion

Pure Electric  
& Gas Utility

Solid Utility  
Foundation

Best Practices  
Corporate  
Governance

Attractive  
Future Growth  
Prospects

Strong  
Earnings &  
Cash Flows

The pending merger with Black Hills Corporation will combine the strengths of both companies, resulting in an organization with greater scale, financial stability, and operational expertise and is designed to create a stronger, more resilient energy company focused on ***delivering safe, reliable, and affordable energy solutions to customers.***



# Appendix:

# Rate Base & Authorized Return Summary

Estimate as of 12/31/2025

Jurisdiction and Service	Implementation Date	Authorized Rate Base (millions)	Year-End Estimated Rate Base (millions)	Authorized Overall Rate of Return	Authorized Return on Equity	Authorized Equity Level
Montana electric delivery and production <sup>(1)</sup>	February 2026	\$ 3,176.2	\$ 3,425.6	7.00%	9.65%	47.84%
Montana - Colstrip Unit 4	February 2026	\$ 256.7	\$ 256.0	8.25%	10.00%	50.00%
Montana natural gas delivery and production <sup>(2)</sup>	February 2026	\$ 757.3	\$ 886.6	6.97%	9.60%	47.84%
Montana natural gas delivery - Great Falls Gas	October 2018 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 17.5	\$ 27.4	6.91%	9.20%	50.97%
<b>Total Montana<sup>(4)</sup></b>		<b>\$ 4,207.7</b>	<b>\$ 4,595.6</b>			
South Dakota electric <sup>(5)</sup>	January 2024	\$ 791.8	\$ 795.0	6.81%	n/a	n/a
South Dakota natural gas <sup>(5)</sup>	December 2024	\$ 96.2	\$ 124.4	6.91%	n/a	n/a
<b>Total South Dakota</b>		<b>\$ 888.0</b>	<b>\$ 919.4</b>			
Nebraska natural gas <sup>(5)</sup>	July 2025	\$ 46.0	\$ 54.7	7.09%	9.55%	n/a
<b>Total NorthWestern Energy</b>		<b>\$ 5,141.7</b>	<b>\$ 5,569.7</b>			

(1) The revenue requirement associated with the FERC regulated portion of Montana electric transmission and ancillary services are included as revenue credits to our MPSC jurisdictional customers. Therefore, we do not separately reflect FERC authorized rate base or authorized returns.

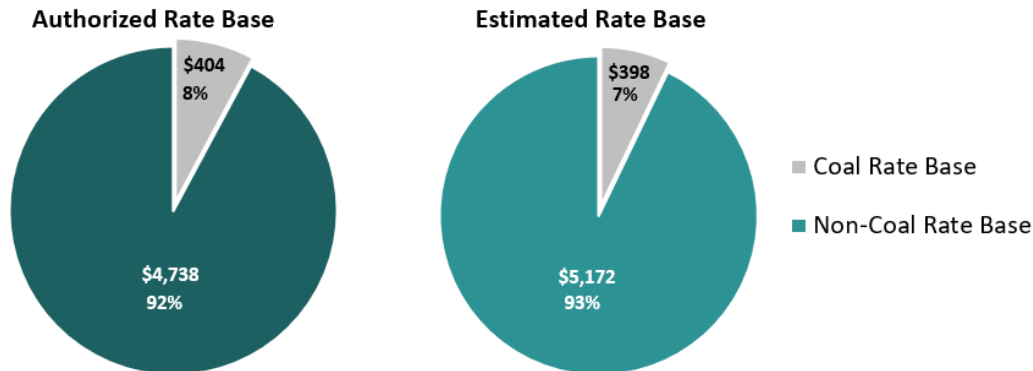
(2) The Montana gas revenue requirement includes a step-down which approximates annual depletion of our natural gas production assets included in rate base.

(3) This jurisdiction was acquired in 2025 as part of the acquisition of Energy West Operations.

(4) This table excludes insignificant jurisdictions for Montana propane delivery, Havre Pipeline Company, and Cut Bank Gas natural gas delivery.

(5) For those items marked as "n/a," the respective settlement and/or order was not specific as to these terms.

## Coal Generation Rate Base as a percentage of Total Rate Base



Revenue from coal generation is not easily identifiable due to the use of bundled rates in South Dakota and other rate design and accounting considerations. However, NorthWestern is a fully regulated utility company for which rate base is the primary driver of earnings. The data to the left illustrates that NorthWestern only derives approximately 8-10% of earnings from its jointly owned coal generation rate base.

# First Quarter 2026 Financial Results

(\$ in millions, except per share amounts)

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>			
	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>% Variance</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	\$497.6	\$466.6	\$31.0	6.6%
Fuel, Purchased Supply, & Direct Transmission Expense (exclusive of depreciation and depletion)	145.6	138.2	7.4	5.4%
<b>Utility Margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>352.0</b>	<b>328.4</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Operating and Maintenance	74.5	56.7	17.8	31.4%
Administrative and General	46.1	41.4	4.7	11.4%
Property and Other Taxes	50.4	43.2	7.2	16.7%
Depreciation and Depletion	66.8	62.4	4.4	7.1%
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>237.8</b>	<b>203.7</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>16.7%</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>124.7</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>	<b>(8.5%)</b>
Interest Expense, net	(39.9)	(36.5)	3.4	9.3%
Other Income, net	3.1	3.9	(0.8)	(20.5%)
<b>Income Before Income Taxes</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>(14.8)</b>	<b>(16.1%)</b>
Income Tax Expense	(13.8)	(15.2)	(1.4)	(9.2%)
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$63.5</b>	<b>\$76.9</b>	<b>(\$13.4)</b>	<b>(17.4%)</b>
<b>Effective Tax Rate</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	
Diluted Shares Outstanding	61.6	61.4	0.2	0.3%
<b>Diluted Earnings per Share</b>	<b>\$1.03</b>	<b>\$1.25</b>	<b>(\$0.22)</b>	<b>(17.6%)</b>
Dividends Paid per Common Share	\$0.67	\$0.66	\$0.01	1.5%

(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

Note: Subtotal variances may exist due to rounding.

# Appendix

## Utility Margin (Q1)

(\$ in millions)

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2026	2025	Variance	
Electric	\$ 271.8	\$ 242.7	\$ 29.1	12.0%
Natural Gas	80.2	85.7	(5.5)	(6.4%)
<b>Total Utility Margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$ 352.0</b>	<b>\$ 328.4</b>	<b>\$ 23.6</b>	<b>7.2%</b>

### Increase in utility margin due to the following factors:

\$ 23.7	Base rates
5.5	Electric margin from the acquisition of the Puget Interests
2.2	Transmission revenue due to market conditions and rates
2.0	Non-recoverable Montana electric supply costs
(12.2)	Electric retail volumes
(6.2)	Natural gas retail volumes (including a \$3.2 million increase due to acquisition of Energy West Operations)
(3.3)	Montana property tax tracker collections
(0.7)	Natural gas production step down
4.0	Other
<b>\$ 15.0</b>	<b>Change in Utility Margin <u>Impacting</u> Net Income</b>
\$ 5.2	Property & other taxes recovered in revenue, offset in property & other taxes
2.6	Production tax credits, offset in income tax expense
0.8	Operating expenses recovered in revenue, offset in operating & maintenance expense
<b>\$ 8.6</b>	<b>Change in Utility Margin <u>Offset Within</u> Net Income</b>
<b>\$ 23.6</b>	<b>Increase in Consolidated Utility Margin</b>

# Operating Expenses (Q1)

(\$ in millions)

Three Months Ended March 31,

	2026	2025	Variance	
Operating & maintenance	\$ 74.5	\$ 56.7	\$ 17.8	31.4%
Administrative & general	46.1	41.4	4.7	11.4%
Property & other taxes	50.4	43.2	7.2	16.7%
Depreciation & depletion	66.8	62.4	4.4	7.1%
<b>Total Operating Expenses*</b>	<b>\$ 237.8</b>	<b>\$ 203.7</b>	<b>\$ 34.1</b>	<b>16.7%</b>

## Increase in operating expenses due to the following factors:

\$ 10.1	Electric generation maintenance (Including \$6.4 million and \$3.9 million due to the acquisition of the Puget Interests and Avista Interests, respectively)
4.4	Depreciation expense due to plant additions and higher depreciation rates
3.5	Labor and benefits <sup>(1)</sup>
3.4	Merger-related costs, including consulting and legal fees
2.0	Property and other taxes not recoverable within trackers
1.9	Wildfire mitigation expense, partly offset by higher base revenues
0.7	Insurance expense, primarily due to increased wildfire risk premiums
0.5	Uncollectible accounts
0.2	Technology implementation and maintenance expenses
3.1	Other
<b>\$ 29.8</b>	<b>Change in Operating Expense Items <u>Impacting</u> Net Income</b>
\$ 5.2	Property and other taxes recovered in trackers, offset in revenue
0.8	Operating and maintenance expenses recovered in trackers, offset in revenue
(0.7)	Pension and other postretirement benefits, offset in other income <sup>(1)</sup>
(1.0)	Deferred compensation, offset in other income
<b>\$ 4.3</b>	<b>Change in Operating Expense Items <u>Offset Within</u> Net Income</b>
<b>\$ 34.1</b>	<b>Increase in Operating Expenses*</b>

\*Excluding fuel, purchased supply, and direct transmission expense.

(1) In order to present the total change in labor and benefits, we have included the change in the non-service cost component of our pension and other postretirement benefits, which is recorded within other income on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. This change is offset within this table as it does not affect our operating expenses.

# Operating to Net Income (Q1)

(\$ in millions)

Three Months Ended March 31,

	2026	2025	Variance	
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>\$ 114.1</b>	<b>\$ 124.7</b>	<b>(\$10.6)</b>	<b>(8.5%)</b>
Interest expense, net	(39.9)	(36.5)	3.4	9.3%
Other income, net	3.1	3.9	(0.8)	(20.5%)
<b>Income Before Income Taxes</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>(14.8)</b>	<b>(16.1%)</b>
Income tax expense	(13.8)	(15.2)	(1.4)	(9.2%)
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 63.5</b>	<b>\$ 76.9</b>	<b>(\$13.4)</b>	<b>(17.4%)</b>

# Tax Reconciliation (Q1)

(\$ in millions)

	Three Months Ended March 31,				
	2026		2025		Variance
<b>Income Before Income Taxes</b>	<b>\$ 77.3</b>		<b>\$ 92.1</b>		<b>(\$14.8)</b>
<b>Income tax calculated at federal statutory rate</b>	16.2	21.0%	19.4	21.0%	(3.2)
<b>State income tax, net of federal provision</b>	1.1	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.2
<b>Tax Credits</b>					
Production tax credits	(0.5)	(0.6)	(2.1)	(2.3)	1.6
Other	-	-	0.5	0.5	(0.5)
<b>Impact of utility ratemaking on income taxes</b>					
Flow-through repairs deductions	(7.6)	(9.8)	(8.0)	(8.7)	0.4
Amortization of excess deferred income taxes	(1.3)	(1.7)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.6)
AFUDC, net	(0.6)	(0.8)	(0.7)	(0.8)	0.1
Plant and depreciation of flow-through items	6.3	8.2	5.3	5.8	1.0
<b>Changes in Unrecognized Tax Benefits</b>					
Interest and penalties	-	-	0.3	0.3	(0.3)
<b>Nontaxable and nondeductible items</b>	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	(0.1)
	(2.4)	(3.1)%	(4.2)	(4.5)%	1.8
<b>Income Tax Expense and Effective Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$ 13.8</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>\$ 15.2</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>\$ (1.4)</b>

# Segment Results (Q1)

(\$ in thousands)

<b>Three Months Ended March 31, 2026</b>	<b>Electric</b>	<b>Gas</b>	<b>Total</b>
Operating revenues	\$ 362,054	\$ 135,516	\$ 497,570
Fuel, purchased supply, & direct transmission*	90,275	55,290	145,565
<b>Utility margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>271,779</b>	<b>80,226</b>	<b>352,005</b>
Operating, general, and administrative	89,601	27,131	116,732
Property & other taxes	39,211	11,152	50,363
Depreciation & depletion	55,469	11,362	66,831
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>87,498</b>	<b>30,581</b>	<b>118,079</b>
Interest expense, net	(30,185)	(7,871)	(38,056)
Other income, net	1,545	624	2,169
Income tax expense	(11,483)	(3,135)	(14,618)
<b>Segment net income</b>	<b>\$ 47,375</b>	<b>\$ 20,199</b>	<b>\$ 67,574</b>

Reconciliation to consolidated net income

Other, net <sup>2</sup>			(4,118)
<b>Consolidated net income</b>			<b>\$ 63,456</b>

<b>Three Months Ended March 31, 2025</b>	<b>Electric</b>	<b>Gas</b>	<b>Total</b>
Operating revenues	\$ 335,483	\$ 131,147	\$ 466,630
Fuel, purchased supply, & direct transmission*	92,752	45,445	138,197
<b>Utility margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>242,731</b>	<b>85,702</b>	<b>328,433</b>
Operating, general, and administrative	72,479	25,170	97,649
Property & other taxes	33,286	9,795	43,081
Depreciation & depletion	52,488	9,912	62,400
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>84,478</b>	<b>40,825</b>	<b>125,303</b>
Interest expense, net	(27,756)	(7,034)	(34,790)
Other income, net	2,490	1,091	3,581
Income tax expense	(9,872)	(4,427)	(14,299)
<b>Segment net income</b>	<b>\$ 49,340</b>	<b>\$ 30,455</b>	<b>\$ 79,795</b>

Reconciliation to consolidated net income

Other, net <sup>2</sup>			(2,855)
<b>Consolidated net income</b>			<b>\$ 76,940</b>

\*Direct transmission expense excludes depreciation and depletion.

(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

(2) Consists of unallocated corporate costs, including merger-related costs, and certain limited unregulated activity within the energy industry.

# Electric Segment (Q1)

## Three Months Ended March 31,

	Revenues		Change		Megawatt Hours (MWH)		Average Customer Counts	
	2026	2025	\$	%	2026	2025	2026	2025
	(in thousands)							
Montana	\$ 120,438	\$ 114,977	\$ 5,461	4.7 %	783	902	337,181	332,339
South Dakota	23,229	22,292	937	4.2 %	178	195	52,020	51,790
<b>Residential</b>	<b>143,667</b>	<b>137,269</b>	<b>6,398</b>	<b>4.7 %</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>389,201</b>	<b>384,129</b>
Montana	106,482	96,952	9,530	9.8 %	789	846	78,419	77,418
South Dakota	31,397	29,315	2,082	7.1 %	269	284	13,238	13,129
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>137,879</b>	<b>126,267</b>	<b>11,612</b>	<b>9.2 %</b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>91,657</b>	<b>90,547</b>
Industrial	11,864	10,100	1,764	17.5 %	702	704	81	80
Other	5,509	4,693	816	17.4 %	12	12	26,840	27,030
<b>Total Retail Electric</b>	<b>298,919</b>	<b>278,329</b>	<b>20,590</b>	<b>7.4 %</b>	<b>2,733</b>	<b>2,943</b>	<b>507,779</b>	<b>501,786</b>
Regulatory amortization	12,277	27,690	(15,413)	(55.7) %				
Transmission	28,765	26,555	2,210	8.3 %				
Wholesale and other	22,093	2,909	19,184	659.5 %				
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>362,054</b>	<b>335,483</b>	<b>26,571</b>	<b>7.9 %</b>				
<b>Total fuel, purchased supply, &amp; direct transmission expense*</b>	<b>90,275</b>	<b>92,752</b>	<b>(2,477)</b>	<b>(2.7) %</b>				
<b>Utility Margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>271,779</b>	<b>242,731</b>	<b>29,048</b>	<b>12.0 %</b>				

\* Direct transmission expense is exclusive of depreciation and depletion.

(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

# Natural Gas Segment (Q1)

## Three Months Ended March 31,

	Revenues		Change		Dekatherms (Dkt)		Average Customer Counts	
	2026	2025	\$	%	2026	2025	2026	2025
	(in thousands)							
Montana	\$ 48,138	\$ 51,418	\$ (3,280)	(6.4) %	6,191	6,516	217,980	186,999
South Dakota	14,524	15,570	(1,046)	(6.7) %	1,591	1,787	43,406	43,062
Nebraska	11,161	13,209	(2,048)	(15.5) %	1,121	1,382	38,176	38,138
<b>Residential</b>	<b>73,823</b>	<b>80,197</b>	<b>(6,374)</b>	<b>(7.9) %</b>	<b>8,903</b>	<b>9,685</b>	<b>299,562</b>	<b>268,199</b>
Montana	26,877	26,758	119	0.4 %	3,820	3,632	30,553	26,562
South Dakota	11,754	11,175	579	5.2 %	1,548	1,610	7,769	7,540
Nebraska	6,506	7,441	(935)	(12.6) %	774	948	5,203	5,145
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>45,137</b>	<b>45,374</b>	<b>(237)</b>	<b>(0.5) %</b>	<b>6,142</b>	<b>6,190</b>	<b>43,525</b>	<b>39,247</b>
Industrial	791	484	307	63.4 %	805	69	246	237
Other	524	591	(67)	(11.3) %	83	94	235	207
<b>Total Retail Gas</b>	<b>\$ 120,275</b>	<b>\$ 126,646</b>	<b>\$ (6,371)</b>	<b>(5.0) %</b>	<b>15,933</b>	<b>16,038</b>	<b>343,568</b>	<b>307,890</b>
Regulatory amortization	(1,001)	(9,436)	8,435	89.4 %				
Transportation, wholesale, and other	16,242	13,937	2,305	16.5 %				
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 135,516</b>	<b>\$ 131,147</b>	<b>\$ 4,369</b>	<b>3.3 %</b>				
<b>Total fuel, purchased supply, &amp; direct transmission expense*</b>	<b>\$ 55,290</b>	<b>\$ 45,445</b>	<b>\$ 9,845</b>	<b>21.7 %</b>				
<b>Utility Margin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$ 80,226</b>	<b>\$ 85,702</b>	<b>\$ (5,476)</b>	<b>(6.4) %</b>				

\* Direct transmission expense is exclusive of depreciation and depletion.

(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix slide titled "Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin" for additional disclosure.

# First Quarter 2026 Cash Flow

(\$ in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2026	2025
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Net income	\$ 63.5	\$ 76.9
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operations	82.1	77.1
Changes in working capital	21.0	(0.1)
Other noncurrent assets and liabilities	(7.2)	(0.5)
<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>159.4</b>	<b>153.4</b>
<b>Cash Used in Investing Activities</b>	<b>(116.1)</b>	<b>(96.7)</b>
<b>Cash Used in Financing Activities</b>	<b>(46.4)</b>	<b>(5.6)</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>\$ 159.4</b>	<b>\$ 153.4</b>
Less: Changes in working capital	21.0	(0.1)
<b>Funds from Operations</b>	<b>\$ 138.4</b>	<b>\$ 153.5</b>
<hr/>		
Property, plant, and equipment additions	116.1	92.1
Capital expenditures included in trade accounts payable	0.1	(8.3)
AFUDC Credit	1.9	1.8
<b>Total Capital Investment</b>	<b>\$ 118.2</b>	<b>\$ 85.5</b>

## No Planned Equity Issuances in 2026

*Financing plans (targeting a FFO to Debt ratio > 14%) are expected to maintain our current credit ratings and are subject to change*

## Debt financing in 2026

- Amended our existing NorthWestern Energy Group \$150 million term loan to extend the maturity date from April 10, 2026 to December 31, 2026
- Priced \$150 million, 5.51% coupon, 10-year South Dakota First Mortgage Bonds expected to be issued on June 15, 2026

**Cash from Operating Activities increased by \$6.0 million.** The increase in cash provided by working capital is primarily due to a decrease in our net cash outflows for energy supply costs, as shown in the table below.

**Funds from Operations decreased by \$15.1 million** over prior period.

## Net Under-Collected Supply Costs

(\$ in millions)

	Beginning (Jan. 1)	Ending (Mar. 31)	Inflow / (Outflow)
<b>2025</b>	\$5.9	\$25.6	<b>(\$19.7)</b>
<b>2026</b>	\$44.8	\$53.4	<b>(\$8.6)</b>
<b>2026 Decrease in Net Cash Outflows</b>			<b>\$11.1</b>

# Balance Sheet

<i>(\$ in millions)</i>	<b>As of March 31, 2026</b>	<b>As of December 31, 2025</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5.9	\$ 8.8
Restricted cash	21.7	22.0
Accounts receivable, net	199.3	209.8
Inventories	134.1	132.5
Other current assets	152.2	130.9
Goodwill	367.6	367.6
PP&E and other noncurrent assets	7,701.7	7,588.1
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 8,582.5</b>	<b>\$ 8,459.7</b>
Payables	121.8	129.6
Current maturities - debt and finance leases	256.8	256.8
Other current liabilities	352.3	311.0
Long-term debt & finance leases	3,186.0	3,181.0
Other noncurrent liabilities	1,756.7	1,695.5
Shareholders' equity	2,908.9	2,885.7
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$ 8,582.5</b>	<b>\$ 8,459.7</b>
<b>Capitalization:</b>		
Short-Term Debt & Short-Term Finance Leases	256.8	256.8
Long-Term Debt & Long-Term Finance Leases	3,186.0	3,181.0
Less: Short- and Long-Term Finance Leases	(10.3)	(1.9)
Shareholders' Equity	2,908.9	2,885.7
<b>Total Capitalization</b>	<b>\$ 6,341.4</b>	<b>\$ 6,321.7</b>
<b>Ratio of Debt to Total Capitalization</b>	<b>54.1%</b>	<b>54.4%</b>

**Debt to Total  
Capitalization  
slightly down from  
last quarter and  
inside our targeted  
50% - 55% range.**

# Reconciling Gross Margin to Utility Margin

## Reconciliation of Gross Margin to Utility Margin for the Three Months Ended March 31,

	Electric		Natural Gas		Total	
	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025
<i>(\$ in millions)</i>						
<b>Reconciliation of gross margin to utility margin:</b>						
Operating Revenues	\$ 362.1	\$ 335.5	\$ 135.5	\$ 131.1	\$ 497.6	\$ 466.6
Less: Fuel, purchased supply, and direct transmission expense (exclusive of depreciation and depletion shown separately below)	90.3	92.8	55.3	45.4	145.6	138.2
Less: Operating and maintenance	59.2	42.6	15.3	14.1	74.5	56.7
Less: Property and other taxes	39.2	33.3	11.2	9.8	50.4	43.1
Less: Depreciation and depletion	55.5	52.5	11.3	9.9	66.8	62.4
<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>117.9</b>	<b>114.3</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>160.3</b>	<b>166.2</b>
Add back: Operating and maintenance	59.2	42.6	15.3	14.1	74.5	56.7
Add back: Property and other taxes	39.2	33.3	11.2	9.8	50.4	43.1
Add back: Depreciation and depletion	55.5	52.5	11.3	9.9	66.8	62.4
<b>Utility Margin <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 271.8</b>	<b>\$ 242.7</b>	<b>\$ 80.2</b>	<b>\$ 85.7</b>	<b>\$ 352.0</b>	<b>\$ 328.4</b>

*Note: Subtotal variances may exist due to rounding.*

*(1) Utility Margin is a non-GAAP Measure.*

Management believes that Utility Margin provides a useful measure for investors and other financial statement users to analyze our financial performance in that it excludes the effect on total revenues caused by volatility in energy costs and associated regulatory mechanisms. This information is intended to enhance an investor's overall understanding of results. Under our various state regulatory mechanisms, our supply costs are generally collected from customers. In addition, Utility Margin is used by us to determine whether we are collecting the appropriate amount of energy costs from customers to allow recovery of operating costs, as well as to analyze how changes in loads (due to weather, economic or other conditions), rates and other factors impact our results of operations. Our Utility Margin measure may not be comparable to that of other companies' presentations or more useful than the GAAP information provided elsewhere in this report.

# PCCAM Impact by Quarter

## Pre-Tax \$ Millions – Shareholder (Detriment) Benefit

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'17/'18 Tracker	First full year recorded in Q3			\$3.3	\$3.3
'18/'19 Tracker			(\$5.1)	\$0.3	(4.8)
<b>2018 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>(\$1.8)</b>	<b>\$0.3</b>	<b>(\$1.5)</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'18/'19 Tracker	(\$1.6)	\$4.6			\$3.0
'19/'20 Tracker			\$0.1	(\$0.7)	(0.6)
<b>2019 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>(\$1.6)</b>	<b>\$4.6</b>	<b>\$0.1</b>	<b>(\$0.7)</b>	<b>\$2.4</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
CU4 Disallowance ('18/'19 Tracker)				(\$9.4)	(\$9.4)
'19/'20 Tracker	(\$0.1)	\$0.2			\$0.1
Recovery of modeling costs	\$0.7				\$0.7
'20/'21 Tracker			(\$0.6)	(\$0.3)	(\$0.9)
<b>2020 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>\$0.6</b>	<b>\$0.2</b>	<b>(\$0.6)</b>	<b>(\$0.3)</b>	<b>(\$0.1)</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'20/'21 Tracker	(\$0.8)	(\$0.5)			(\$1.3)
'21/'22 Tracker			(\$2.7)	(\$1.4)	(\$4.1)
<b>2021 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>(\$0.8)</b>	<b>(\$0.5)</b>	<b>(\$2.7)</b>	<b>(\$1.4)</b>	<b>(\$5.4)</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'21/'22 Tracker	(\$0.8)	(\$0.8)			(\$1.6)
'22/'23 Tracker			(\$3.9)	(\$1.7)	(\$5.6)
<b>2022 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>(\$0.8)</b>	<b>(\$0.8)</b>	<b>(\$3.9)</b>	<b>(\$1.7)</b>	<b>(\$7.2)</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'22/'23 Tracker	\$0.5	\$2.1			\$2.6
Retro-active application of PCCAM base				\$3.2	\$3.2
'23/'24 Tracker			\$0.1	\$1.1	\$1.2
<b>2023 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>\$0.5</b>	<b>\$2.1</b>	<b>\$0.1</b>	<b>\$4.3</b>	<b>\$7.0</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'23/'24 Tracker	(\$3.0)	\$1.2			(\$1.8)
'24/'25 Tracker			\$0.7	\$0.2	\$0.9
<b>2024 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>(\$3.0)</b>	<b>\$1.2</b>	<b>\$0.7</b>	<b>\$0.2</b>	<b>(\$0.9)</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'24/'25 Tracker	(\$2.7)	(\$0.8)			(\$3.5)
'25/'26 Tracker			(\$2.3)	(\$2.3)	(\$4.6)
<b>2025 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>(\$2.7)</b>	<b>(\$0.8)</b>	<b>(\$2.3)</b>	<b>(\$2.3)</b>	<b>(\$8.2)</b>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Full Year
'25/'26 Tracker	(\$0.7)				(\$0.7)
'26/'27 Tracker					\$0.0
<b>2026 (Expense) Benefit</b>	<b>(\$0.7)</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>(\$0.7)</b>

**Year-over-Year Variance**      **\$2.0**      **\$2.0**  
**2025 - 2026**

# Qualified Facility Earnings Adjustment

(Millions)	Annual actual contract price escalation	Annual adjustment for actual output and pricing	Adjustment associated with the one-time clarification in contract term	Total
Nov-12	(Arbitration) \$47.9 Non-GAAP Adj.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$47.9
Jun-13	\$0.0	1.0	0.0	\$1.0
Jun-14	\$0.0	0.0	0.0	\$0.0
Jun-15	(\$6.1) Non-GAAP Adj.	1.8	0.0	(\$4.3)
Jun-16	\$0.0	1.8	0.0	\$1.8
Jun-17	\$0.0	2.1	0.0	\$2.1
Jun-18	\$17.5 Non-GAAP Adj.	9.7	0.0	\$27.2
Jun-19	\$3.3	3.1	0.0	\$6.4
Jun-20	\$2.2	0.9	0.0	\$3.1
Jun-21	(\$2.1)	2.6	8.7 Non-GAAP Adj.	\$9.2
Sep-21	\$0.0	0.0	(1.3) Non-GAAP Adj.	(\$1.3)
Dec-21	\$0.0	0.0	(0.4) Non-GAAP Adj.	(\$0.4)
Jun-22	\$3.3	1.8	0.0	\$5.1
Jun-23	\$4.2	0.8	0.0	\$5.0
Jun-24	\$0.0	0.8	0.0	\$0.8
Jun-25	\$0.0	0.8	0.0	\$0.8
<b>Year-over-Year Better (Worse)</b>				
2013	(\$47.9)	1.0	0.0	(\$46.9)
2014	\$0.0	(1.0)	0.0	(\$1.0)
2015	(\$6.1)	1.8	0.0	(\$4.3)
2016	\$6.1	0.0	0.0	\$6.1
2017	\$0.0	0.3	0.0	\$0.3
2018	\$17.5	7.6	0.0	\$25.1
2019	(\$14.2)	(6.6)	0.0	(\$20.8)
2020	(\$1.1)	(2.2)	0.0	(\$3.3)
2021	(\$4.3)	\$1.7	\$7.0	\$4.4
2022	\$5.4	(\$0.8)	(\$7.0)	(\$2.4)
2023	\$0.9	(\$1.0)	\$0.0	(\$0.1)
2024	(\$4.2)	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$4.2)
2025	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Our electric QF liability consists of unrecoverable costs associated with contracts covered under PURPA that are part of a 2002 stipulation with the MPSC and other parties. Risks / losses associated with these contracts are born by shareholders, not customers. Therefore, any mitigation of prior losses and / or benefits of liability reduction also accrue to shareholders.

# Appendix

## Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Pre-Tax Adjustments (\$ Millions)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Reported GAAP Pre-Tax Income</b>	<b>\$ 156.5</b>	<b>\$ 176.1</b>	<b>\$ 178.3</b>	<b>\$ 182.2</b>	<b>\$ 144.2</b>	<b>\$ 190.2</b>	<b>\$ 182.4</b>	<b>\$ 201.6</b>	<b>\$ 214.7</b>	<b>\$ 187.6</b>
Non-GAAP Adjustments to Pre-Tax Income:										
Weather	15.2	(3.4)	(1.3)	(7.3)	9.8	1.1	(8.9)	4.3	10.6	14.4
Lost revenue recovery related to prior periods	(14.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
QF liability adjustment	-	-	(17.5)	-	-	(6.9)	-	-	-	-
Electric tracker disallowance of prior period costs	12.2	-	-	-	9.9	-	-	-	-	-
Income tax adjustment	-	-	9.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Renewable Energy Project Penalty	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.5	-	(2.3)	1.3
Impairment of Alternative Energy Storage Investment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.2	-
NWE-BKH Merger Transaction Costs (not tax deductible)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.3
Regulatory Disallowance of Certain YCGS Capital Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.2
Remove Q4 2025 PCCAM Expense Following Suspension of 90/10 Sharing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.3
<b>Adjusted Non-GAAP Pre-Tax Income</b>	<b>\$ 169.7</b>	<b>\$ 172.7</b>	<b>\$ 168.9</b>	<b>\$ 174.9</b>	<b>\$ 163.9</b>	<b>\$ 184.4</b>	<b>\$ 176.0</b>	<b>\$ 205.9</b>	<b>\$ 227.2</b>	<b>\$ 246.1</b>

Tax Adjustments to Non-GAAP Items (\$ Millions)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>GAAP Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 164.2</b>	<b>\$ 162.7</b>	<b>\$ 197.0</b>	<b>\$ 202.1</b>	<b>\$ 155.2</b>	<b>\$ 186.8</b>	<b>\$ 183.0</b>	<b>\$ 194.1</b>	<b>\$ 224.1</b>	<b>\$ 181.1</b>
Non-GAAP Adjustments Taxed at 38.5% (12'-17') and 25.3% (18'-current):										
Weather	9.3	(2.1)	(1.0)	(5.5)	7.3	0.8	(6.6)	3.2	7.9	10.8
Lost revenue recovery related to prior periods	(8.7)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
QF liability adjustment	-	-	(13.1)	-	-	(5.2)	-	-	-	-
Electric tracker disallowance of prior period costs	7.5	-	-	-	7.4	-	-	-	-	-
Income tax adjustment	(12.5)	-	(12.8)	(22.8)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Renewable Energy Project Penalty	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.5	-	(2.3)	1.3
Previously claimed AMT credit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.2	-	-
Release of Unrecognized Tax Benefit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3.2)	(16.9)	(7.4)
Impairment of Alternative Energy Storage Investment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.1	-
Natural Gas Safe Harbor Method Change	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7.0)	-
NWE-BKH Merger Transaction Costs (not tax deductible)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.3
Regulatory Disallowance of Certain YCGS Capital Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23.3
Remove Q4 2025 PCCAM Expense Following Suspension of 90/10 Sharing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.7
<b>Non-GAAP Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 159.8</b>	<b>\$ 160.6</b>	<b>\$ 170.1</b>	<b>\$ 173.8</b>	<b>\$ 169.9</b>	<b>\$ 182.4</b>	<b>\$ 178.9</b>	<b>\$ 197.3</b>	<b>\$ 208.9</b>	<b>\$ 220.1</b>

Non-GAAP Diluted Earnings per Share	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<i>Diluted Average Shares (Millions)</i>	48.5	48.7	50.2	50.8	50.7	51.9	56.3	60.4	61.4	61.5
<b>Reported GAAP Diluted Earnings per Share</b>	<b>\$ 3.39</b>	<b>\$ 3.34</b>	<b>\$ 3.92</b>	<b>\$ 3.98</b>	<b>\$ 3.06</b>	<b>\$ 3.60</b>	<b>\$ 3.25</b>	<b>\$ 3.22</b>	<b>\$ 3.65</b>	<b>\$ 2.94</b>
Non-GAAP Adjustments:										
Weather	0.19	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.11)	0.14	0.01	(0.11)	0.05	0.13	0.18
Lost revenue recovery related to prior periods	(0.18)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
QF liability adjustment	-	-	(0.26)	-	-	(0.10)	-	-	-	-
Electric tracker disallowance of prior period costs	0.16	-	-	-	0.15	-	-	-	-	-
Income tax adjustment	(0.26)	-	(0.25)	(0.45)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Renewable Energy Project Penalty	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.04	-	(0.04)	0.02
Previously claimed AMT credit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.05	-	-
Release of Unrecognized Tax Benefit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(0.05)	(0.28)	(0.12)
Impairment of Alternative Energy Storage Investment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.05	-
Natural Gas Safe Harbor Method Change	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(0.11)	-
NWE-BKH Merger Transaction Costs (not tax deductible)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.15
Regulatory Disallowance of Certain YCGS Capital Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.38
Remove Q4 2025 PCCAM Expense Following Suspension of 90/10 Sharing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.03
<b>Non-GAAP Diluted Earnings per Share</b>	<b>\$ 3.30</b>	<b>\$ 3.30</b>	<b>\$ 3.39</b>	<b>\$ 3.42</b>	<b>\$ 3.35</b>	<b>\$ 3.51</b>	<b>\$ 3.18</b>	<b>\$ 3.27</b>	<b>\$ 3.40</b>	<b>\$ 3.58</b>



# Non-GAAP Financial Measures

This presentation includes financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP, as well as other financial measures, such as Utility Margin, Adjusted Non-GAAP pretax income, Adjusted Non-GAAP net income and Adjusted Non-GAAP Diluted EPS that are considered “non-GAAP financial measures.” Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company’s financial performance, financial position or cash flows that excludes (or includes) amounts that are included in (or excluded from) the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP.

We define Utility Margin as Operating Revenues less fuel, purchased supply and direct transmission expense (exclusive of depreciation and depletion) as presented in our Consolidated Statements of Income. This measure differs from the GAAP definition of Gross Margin due to the exclusion of Operating and maintenance, Property and other taxes, and Depreciation and depletion expenses, which are presented separately in our Consolidated Statements of Income. A reconciliation of Utility Margin to Gross Margin, the most directly comparable GAAP measure, is included in this presentation.

Management believes that Utility Margin provides a useful measure for investors and other financial statement users to analyze our financial performance in that it excludes the effect on total revenues caused by volatility in energy costs and associated regulatory mechanisms. This information is intended to enhance an investor's overall understanding of results. Under our various state regulatory mechanisms, our supply costs are generally collected from customers. In addition, Utility Margin is used by us to determine whether we are collecting the appropriate amount of energy costs from customers to allow recovery of operating costs, as well as to analyze how changes in loads (due to weather, economic or other conditions), rates and other factors impact our results of operations. Our Utility Margin measure may not be comparable to that of other companies' presentations or more useful than the GAAP information provided elsewhere in this report.

Management also believes the presentation of Adjusted Non-GAAP pre-tax income, Adjusted Non-GAAP net income and Adjusted Non-GAAP Diluted EPS is more representative of normal earnings than GAAP pre-tax income, net income and EPS due to the exclusion (or inclusion) of certain impacts that are not reflective of ongoing earnings. The presentation of these non-GAAP measures is intended to supplement investors' understanding of our financial performance and not to replace other GAAP measures as an indicator of actual operating performance. Our measures may not be comparable to other companies' similarly titled measures.

# Additional Merger Related Disclosures

## **No Offer or Solicitation**

This document is for informational purposes only and is not intended to and shall not constitute an offer to buy or sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any securities, or a solicitation of any vote or approval, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made, except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

## **Important Information and Where to Find It**

Black Hills filed a registration statement on Form S-4 (No. 333-293105) with the SEC on January 30, 2026 to register the shares of Black Hill's capital stock that will be issued to NorthWestern stockholders in connection with the proposed transaction. The registration statement was declared effective on February 6, 2026, at which time Black Hills filed a final prospectus and NorthWestern filed a definitive proxy statement. Black Hills and NorthWestern commenced mailing of the joint proxy statement/prospectus to their respective stockholders on or about February 10, 2026. Investors and security holders are urged to read the registration statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus (and any other documents filed with the SEC in connection with the transaction or incorporated by reference into the joint proxy statement/prospectus) because such documents contain important information regarding the proposed transaction and related matters. Investors and security holders may obtain free copies of these documents and other documents filed with the SEC by NorthWestern or Black Hills through the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov> or by contacting the investor relations department of NorthWestern or Black Hills at [travis.meyer@northwestern.com](mailto:travis.meyer@northwestern.com) or [investorrelations@blackhillscorp.com](mailto:investorrelations@blackhillscorp.com), respectively.

Before making any investment decision, investors and security holders of NorthWestern and Black Hills are urged to read carefully the entire registration statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus, including any amendments thereto when they become available (and any other documents filed with the SEC in connection with the transaction), because they contain or will contain important information about the proposed transaction. Free copies of these documents may be obtained as described above.

## **Participants in Solicitation**

NorthWestern, Black Hills and certain of their directors and executive officers may be deemed participants in the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders of each of NorthWestern and Black Hills in connection with the proposed transaction. Information regarding the directors and executive officers of NorthWestern and Black Hills and other persons who may be deemed participants in the solicitation of the stockholders of NorthWestern or of Black Hills in connection with the proposed transaction is included in the joint proxy statement/prospectus related to the proposed transaction, which was filed with the SEC on February 6, 2026. Information about the directors and executive officers of NorthWestern and their ownership of NorthWestern common stock can also be found in NorthWestern's filings with the SEC, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025, which was filed on February 12, 2026, under the header "Information About Our Executive Officers" and its Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, which was filed on March 12, 2026, under the headers "Election of Directors" and "Who Owns our Stock". Information about the directors and executive officers of Black Hills and their ownership of Black Hills common stock can also be found in Black Hills' filings with the SEC, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025, which was filed on February 11, 2026, under the header "Information About Our Executive Officers," and its Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, which was filed on March 18, 2026, under the headers "Election of Directors" and "Security Ownership of Management and Principal Shareholders," and other documents subsequently filed by Black Hills with the SEC. To the extent any such person's ownership of NorthWestern's or Black Hills' securities, respectively, has changed since the filing of such proxy statement, such changes have been or will be reflected on Forms 3, 4 or 5 filed with the SEC. Additional information regarding the interests of such participants are included in the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents regarding the proposed transaction filed with the SEC.



# Delivering a bright future

NorthWestern<sup>®</sup>  
Energy

*Delivering a Bright Future*