

Artist – Monte Dolack  
Black Eagle dam – Missouri River – Montana

# Investor Update

Barclay's Mini Conference | Chicago, IL

**March 11, 2020**

*Originally 8-K'ed on March 2, 2020*

**NorthWestern<sup>®</sup>**  
**Energy**

**Delivering a Bright Future**

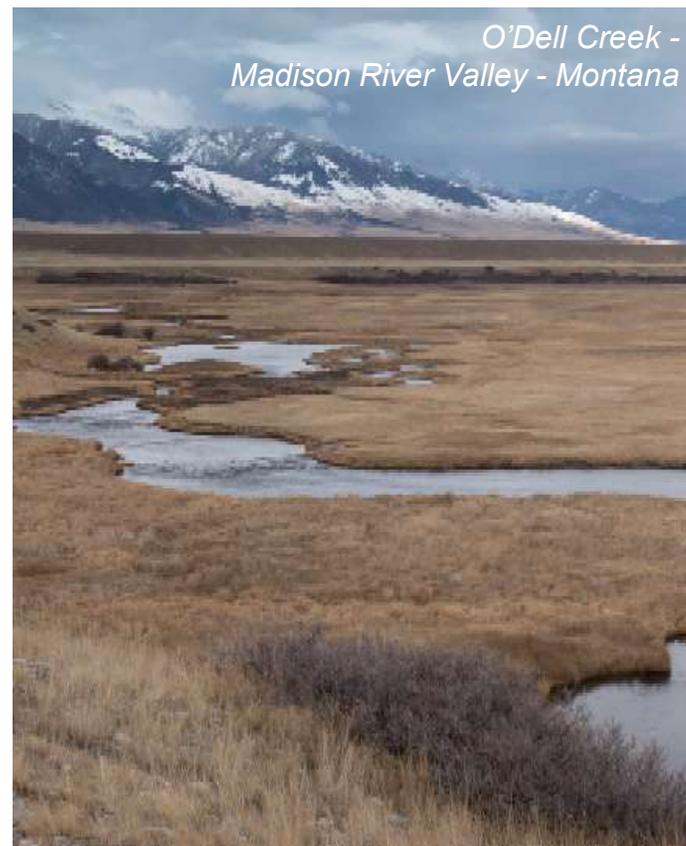


# Forward Looking Statements

## Forward Looking Statements

During the course of this presentation, there will be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the “safe harbor” provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements often address our expected future business and financial performance, and often contain words such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” or “will.”

The information in this presentation is based upon our current expectations as of the date hereof unless otherwise noted. Our actual future business and financial performance may differ materially and adversely from our expectations expressed in any forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to revise or publicly update our forward-looking statements or this presentation for any reason. Although our expectations and beliefs are based on reasonable assumptions, actual results may differ materially. The factors that may affect our results are listed in certain of our press releases and disclosed in the Company’s most recent Form 10-K and 10-Q along with other public filings with the SEC.



## Company Information

### NorthWestern Corporation

dba: NorthWestern Energy

Ticker: NWE

Trading on the NYSE

[www.northwesternenergy.com](http://www.northwesternenergy.com)

### Corporate Office

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# About NorthWestern



**South Dakota Operations**

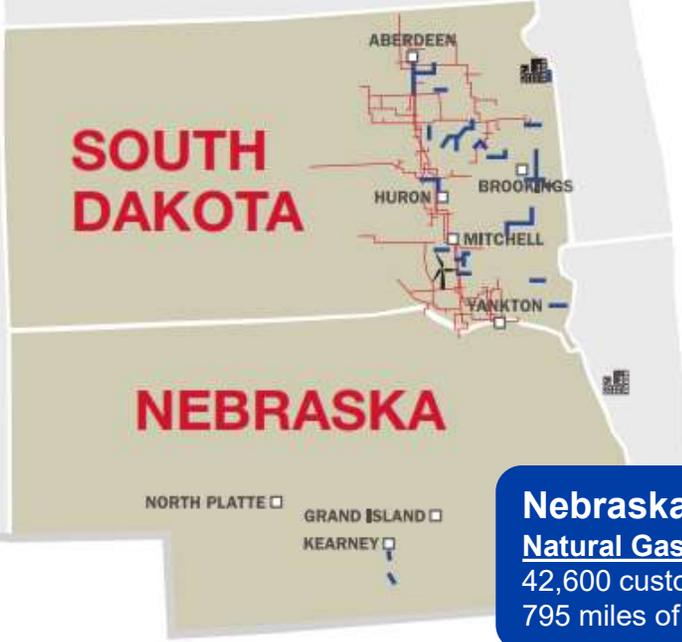
Electric  
 63,800 customers  
 3,529 miles – transmission & distribution lines  
 404 MW nameplate owned power generation

Natural Gas  
 47,500 customers  
 1,713 miles of transmission and distribution pipeline

**Montana Operations**

Electric  
 379,400 customers  
 24,781 miles – transmission & distribution lines  
 874 MW maximum capacity owned power generation

Natural Gas  
 201,500 customers  
 6,975 miles of transmission and distribution pipeline  
 17.75 Bcf of gas storage capacity  
 Own 47.2 Bcf of proven natural gas reserves



**Nebraska Operations**

Natural Gas  
 42,600 customers  
 795 miles of distribution pipeline

- Electric
- Natural Gas
- Wind Farm
- Hydro Facilities
- Thermal Generating Plants
- Natural Gas Reserves
- Peaking Plants

Data as of 12/31/2019

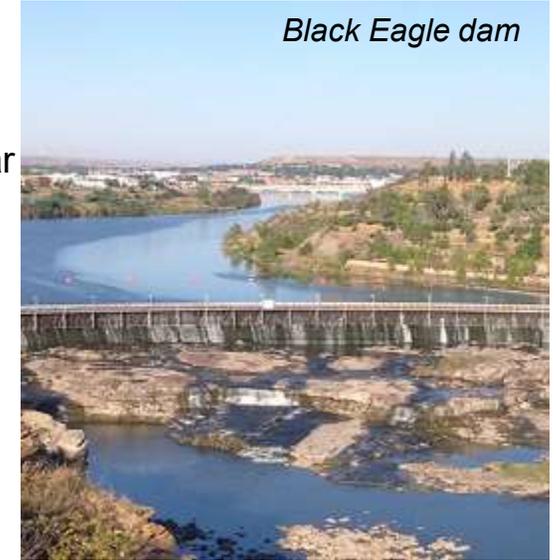


# NWE - An Investment for the Long Term

## Pure Electric & Gas Utility

- 100% regulated electric & natural gas utility business with over 100 years of operating history
- Solid economic indicators in service territory
- Diverse electric supply portfolio ~58% hydro, wind & solar

*Black Eagle dam*



## Solid Utility Foundation

- Residential electric & gas rates below national average
- Solid system reliability
- Low leaks per 100 miles of pipe
- Solid JD Power Overall Customer Satisfaction scores

## Strong Earnings & Cash Flow

- Consistent track record of earnings & dividend growth
- Strong cash flows aided by net operating loss carry-forwards anticipated to be available into 2021
- Strong balance sheet & investment grade credit ratings

## Attractive Future Growth Prospects

- Disciplined maintenance capital investment program to ensure safety and reliability
- Significant investment in renewable resources (hydro & wind) will provide long-term energy supply pricing stability for the benefit of customers for many years to come
- Further opportunity for energy supply investment to meet significant capacity shortfalls

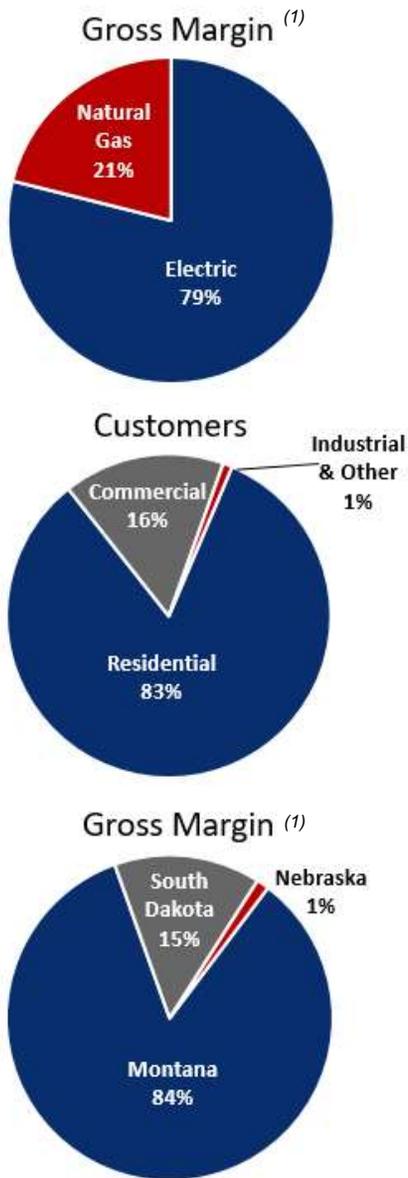
## Financial Goals & Metrics

- Targeted debt to capitalization ratio of 50%-55% with liquidity of \$100 million or greater
- Targeted 6%-9% long-term total shareholder return (eps growth plus dividend yield)
- Targeted dividend payout ratio of 60%-70%

## Best Practices Corporate Governance

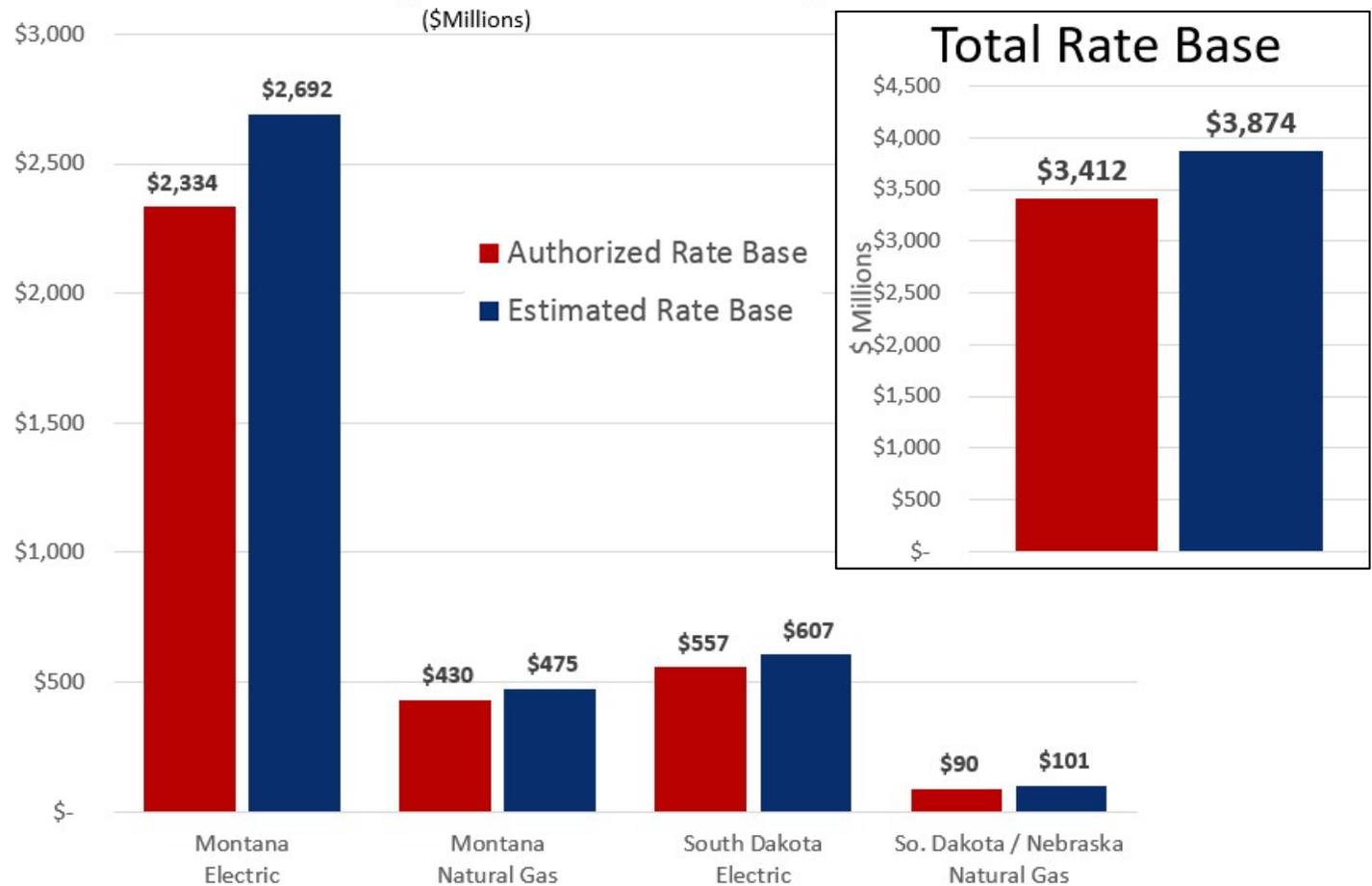


# A Diversified Electric and Gas Utility



Data as reported in our 2019 10-K

## Rate Base by Service Territory

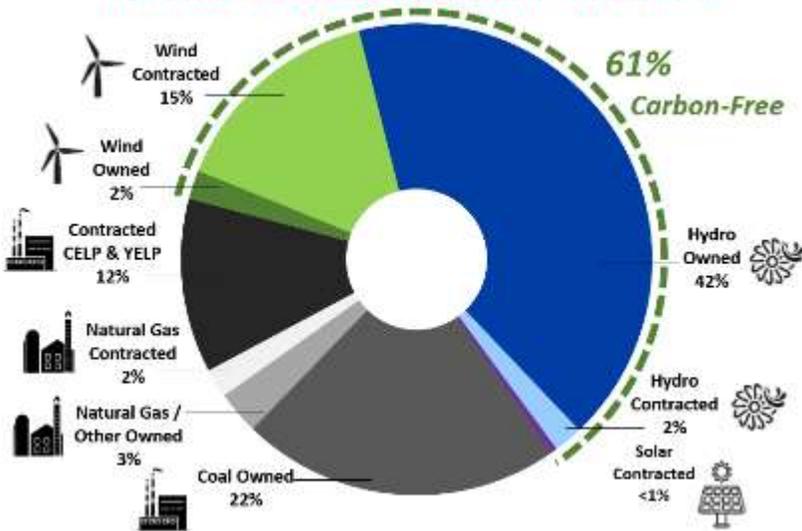


**NorthWestern's '80/20' rules:**  
 Approximately 80% Electric, 80% Residential and 80% Montana.  
 Nearly \$3.9 billion of rate base investment to serve our customers

(1) Gross Margin, defined as revenues less cost of sales, is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix for additional disclosure.

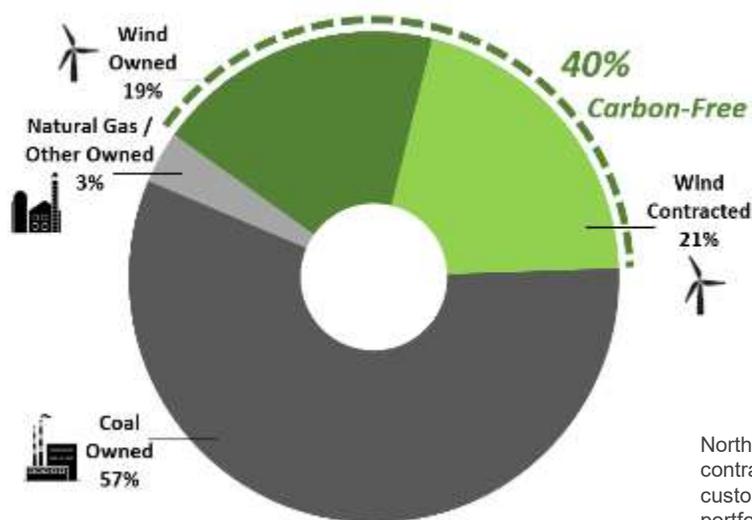
# Highly Carbon-Free Supply Portfolio

Montana 2019 Electric Generation Portfolio

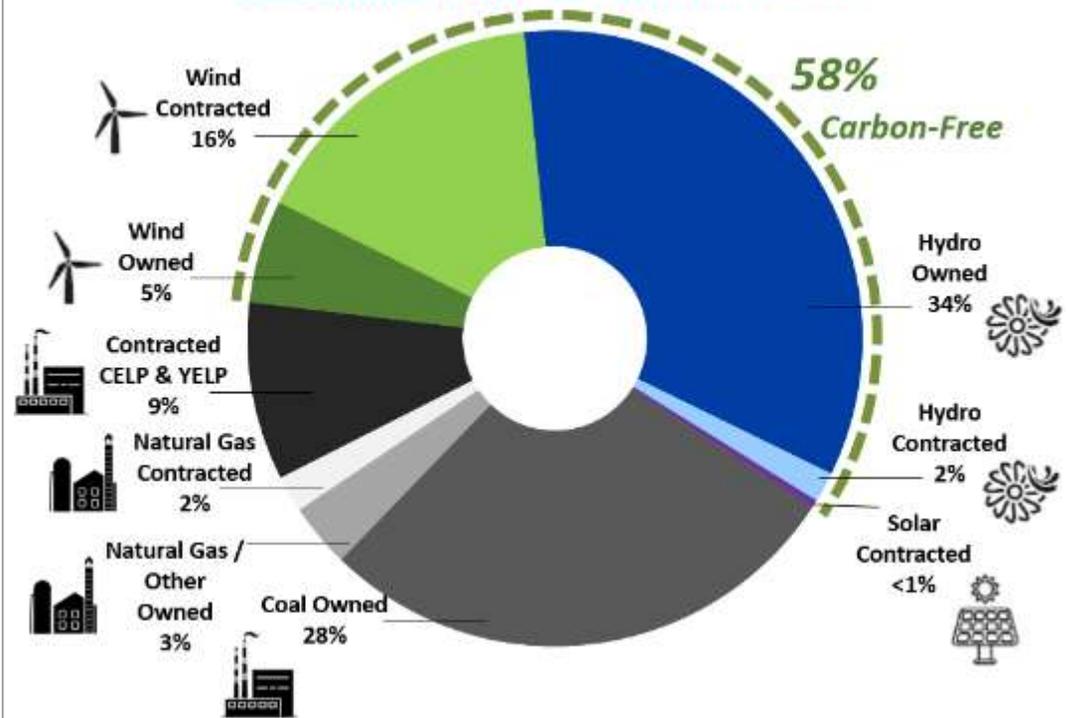


Contracted energy from Colstrip Energy Limited Partners (CELP), Yellowstone Energy Limited Partners (YELP) as well as a majority of the contracted wind, hydro and solar are federally mandated Qualifying Facilities, as defined under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA).

South Dakota 2019 Electric Generation Portfolio



2019 Electric Generation Portfolio



Based upon 2019 MWH's of owned and long-term contracted resources. Approximately 58% of our total company owned and contracted supply is carbon-free.

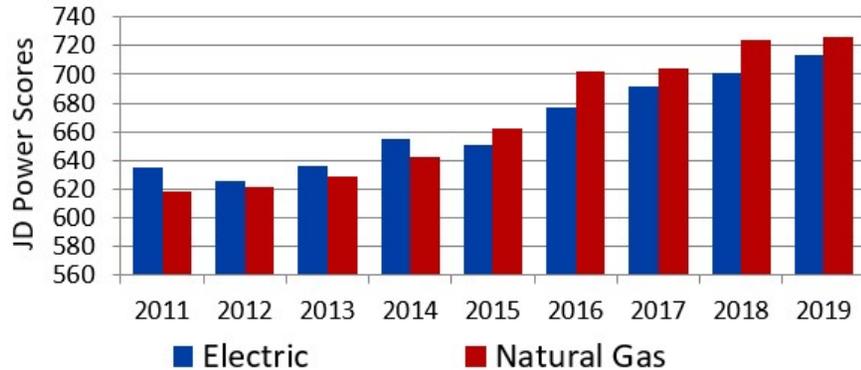
NorthWestern does not own all the renewable energy certificates (RECs) generated by contracted wind, and periodically sells its own RECs with proceeds benefiting retail customers. Accordingly, we cannot represent that 100% of carbon-free energy in the portfolio was delivered to our customers.



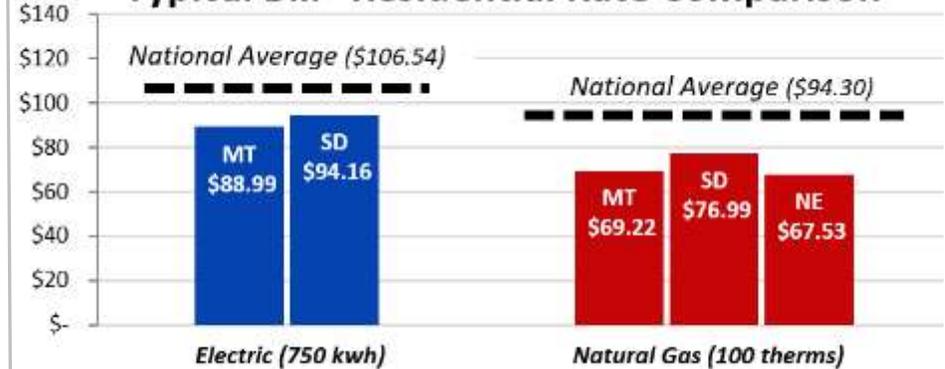


# Strong Utility Foundation

## NWE's Overall Customer Satisfaction Scores via JD Power Electric & Gas Residential Studies

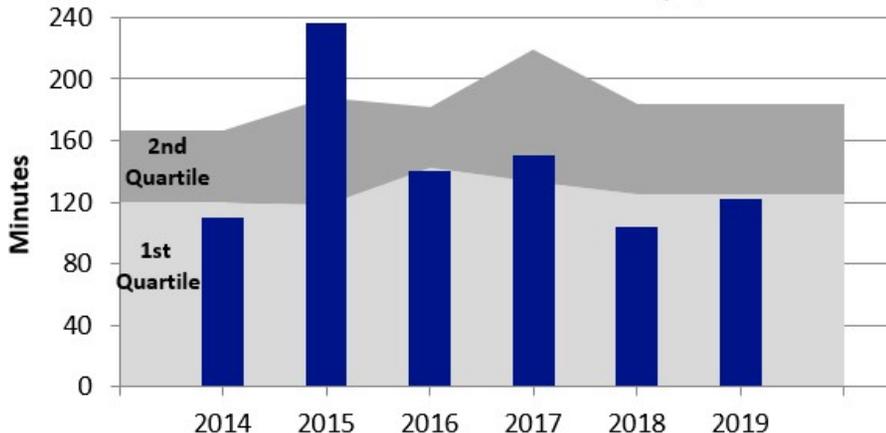


## "Typical Bill" Residential Rate Comparison

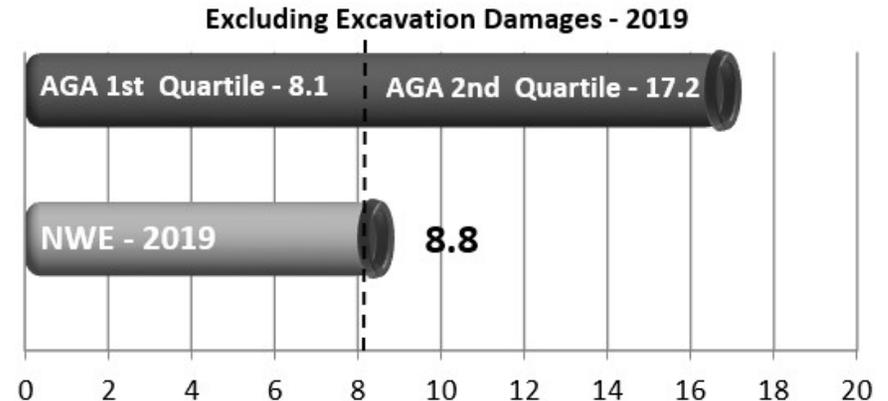


Electric source: Edison Electric Institute Typical Bills and Average Rates Report, 1/1/19  
 Natural Gas source: US EIA - Monthly residential supply and delivery rates as of January 2019

## System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) Includes MED's - NWE versus IEEE Reliability Quartiles



## Leaks per 100 Miles of Pipe



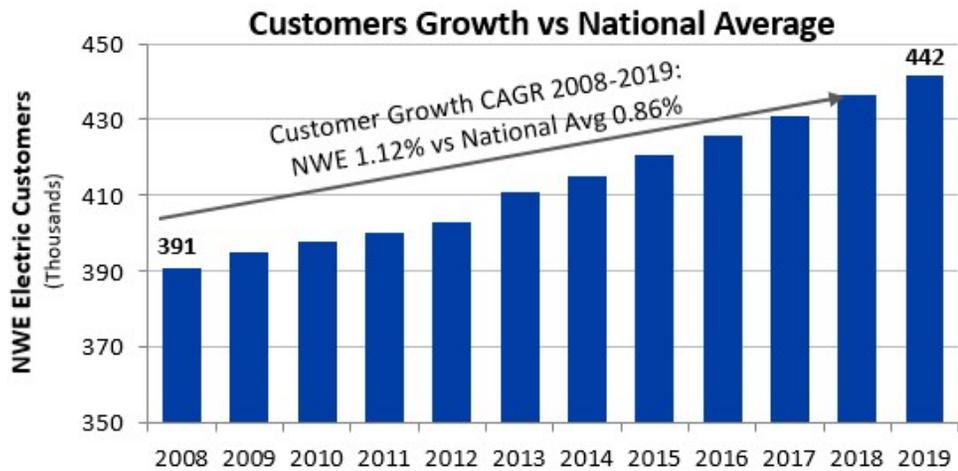
- Solid and improving JD Power Overall Customer Satisfaction Scores
- Residential electric and natural gas rates below national average
- Solid electric system reliability
- Low gas leaks per mile – just outside 1<sup>st</sup> quartile



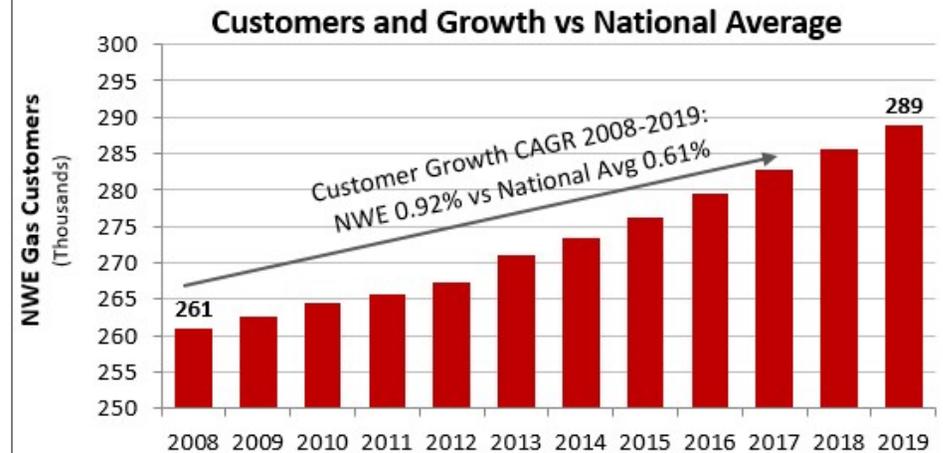


# Solid Economic Indicators

## Electric

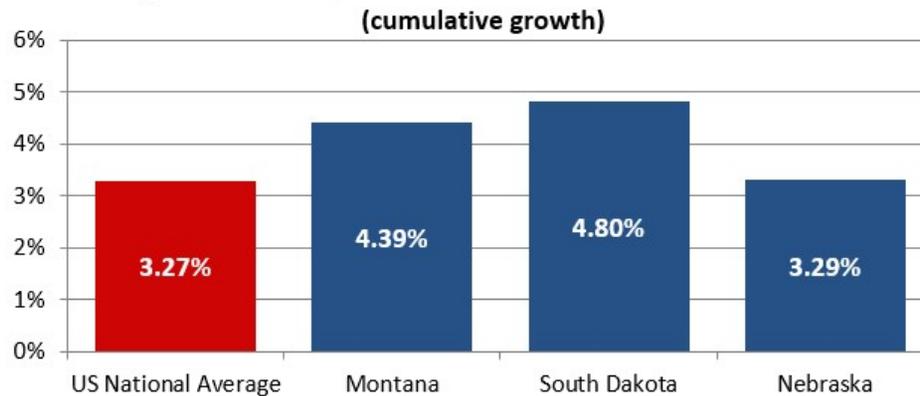


## Natural Gas



Source: Company 10K's, 2017/2018 EEI Statistical Yearbook – Table 7.2 and EIA.gov

## Projected Population Growth 2020 - 2025



Source: Claritas via S&P Global Market Intelligence 10-24-19



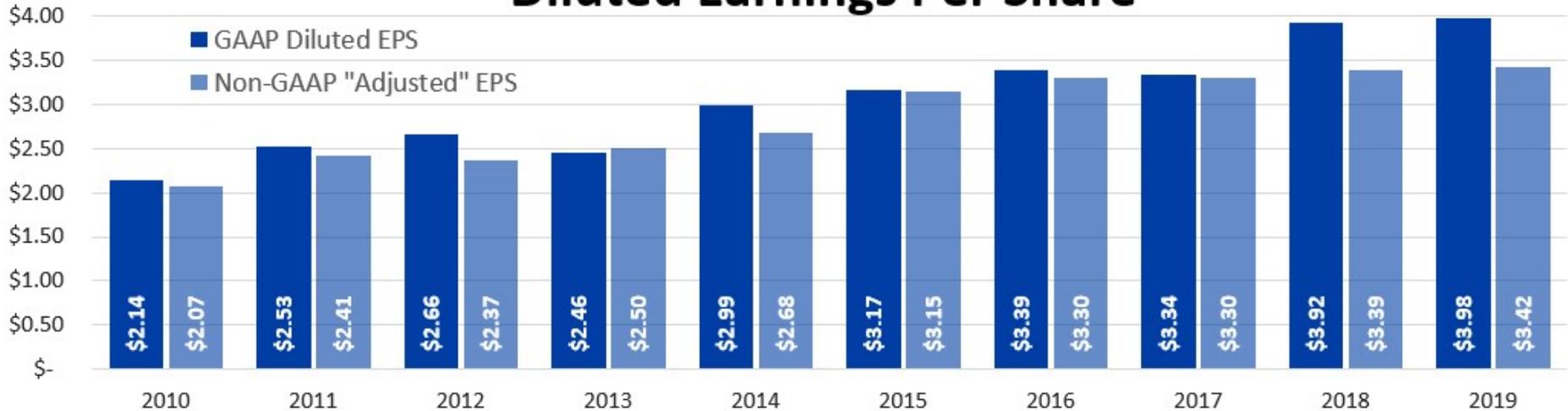
Black Eagle Power House

- Customer growth rates historically exceed National Averages.
- Projected population growth in our service territories better than the National Average.



# A History of Growth

## Diluted Earnings Per Share



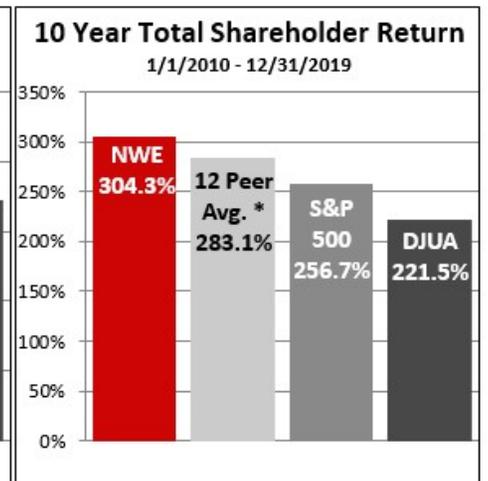
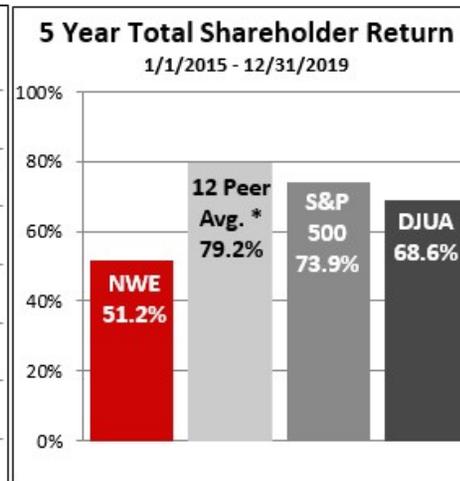
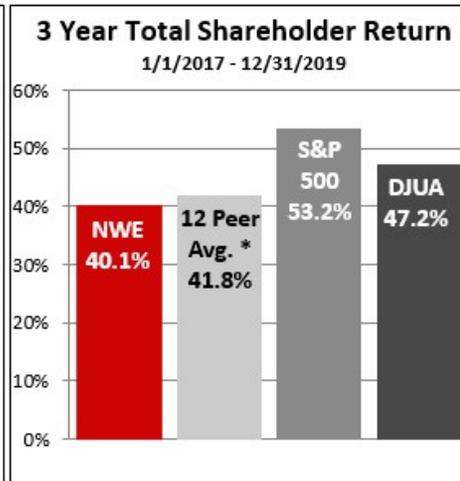
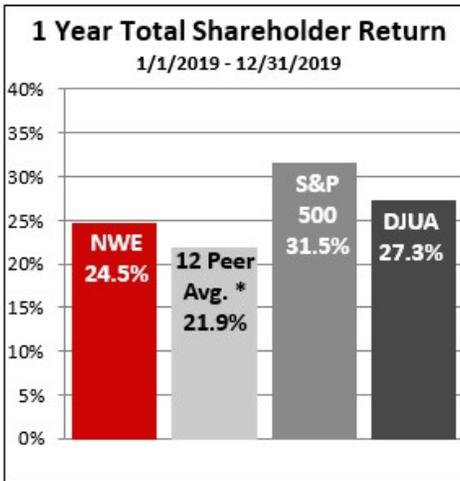
## Dividend Per Share and Payout Ratio



2010-2019 CAGR's: GAAP EPS: 7.1% - Non-GAAP EPS: 5.7% - Dividend: 6.0%  
See appendix for "Non-GAAP Financial Measures"

# Track Record of Delivering Results

## Return on Average Equity



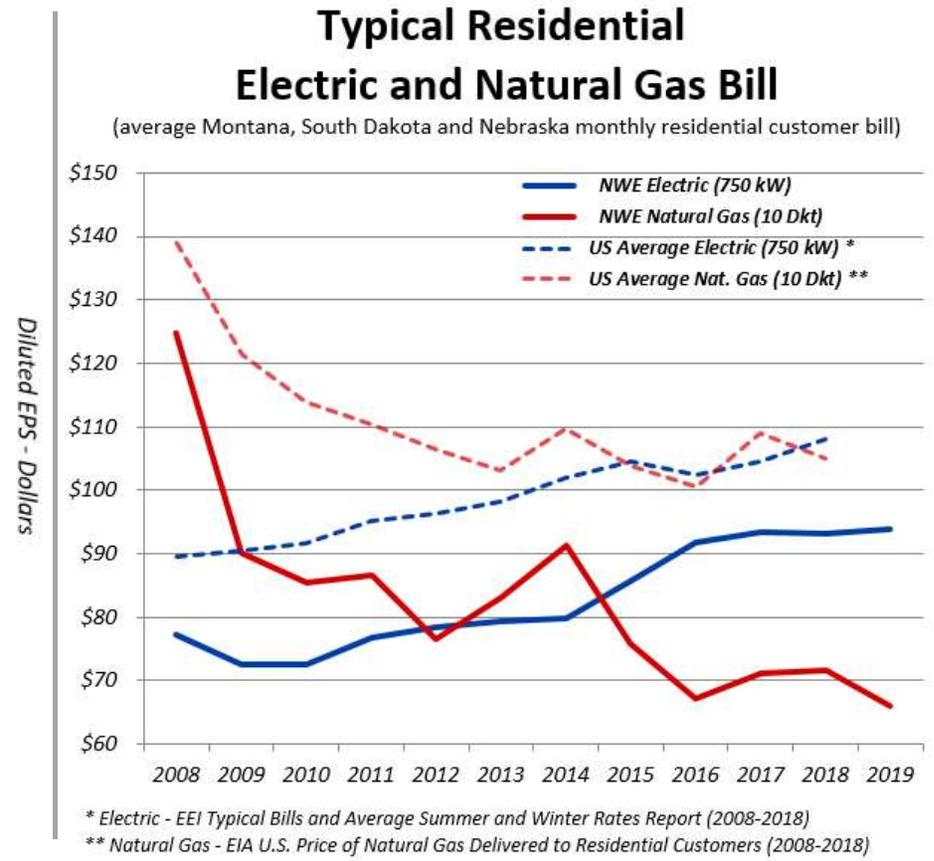
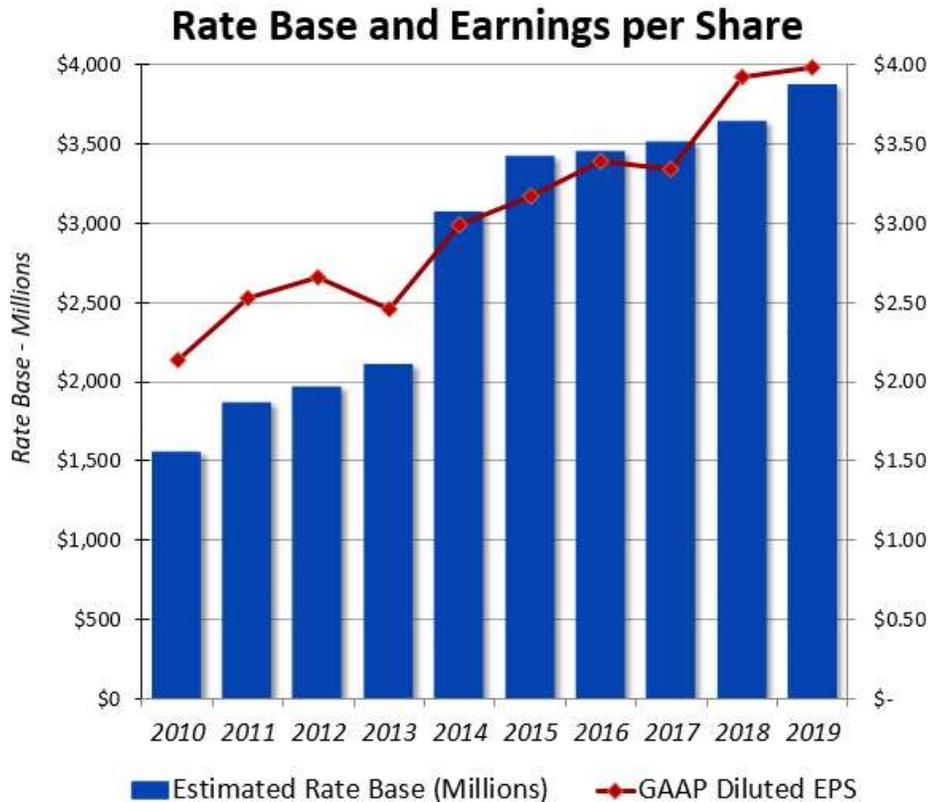
\* Peer Group: ALE, AVA, BKH, EE, IDA, MGEE, NWN, OGE, OTTR, PNM, POR & SR

Return on Equity on GAAP Earnings within 9.5% - 11.0% band over the last 8 years with average of 10.2%. Total Shareholder Return is better than our 12 peer average for the 1 & 10 year periods but lags in the 3 & 5 year periods, due in part to regulatory concerns in Montana.

See appendix for "Non-GAAP Financial Measures"



# Investment for Our Customers' Benefit



Over the past 8 years we have been reintegrating our Montana energy supply portfolio and making additional investments across our entire service territory to enhance system safety, reliability and capacity.

We have made these enhancements with minimal impact to customers' bills while maintaining bills lower than the US average. As a result we have also been able to deliver solid earnings growth for our investors.

2010-2019 CAGRs  
2008-2019 CAGRs  
2008-2018 CAGRs

Estimated Rate Base: 10.7%  
 NWE typical electric bill: 1.8%  
 US average electric bill: 1.9%\*

GAAP Diluted EPS: 7.1%  
 NWE typical natural gas bill: (5.6%)  
 US average natural gas bill: (2.7%)\*\*



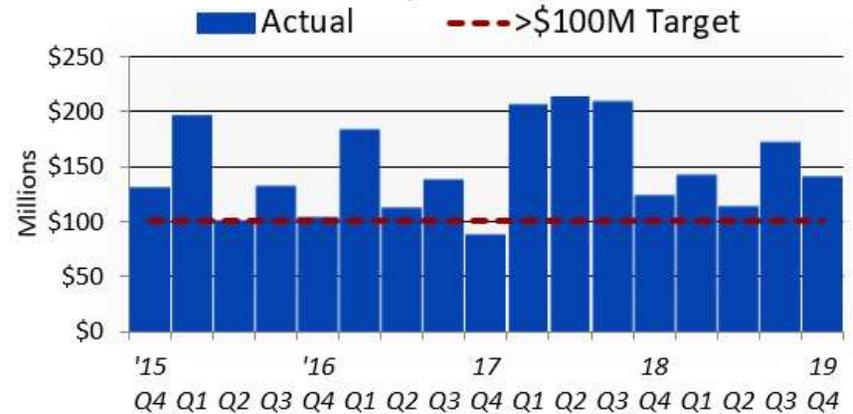
# Balance Sheet Strength and Liquidity

## Credit Ratings

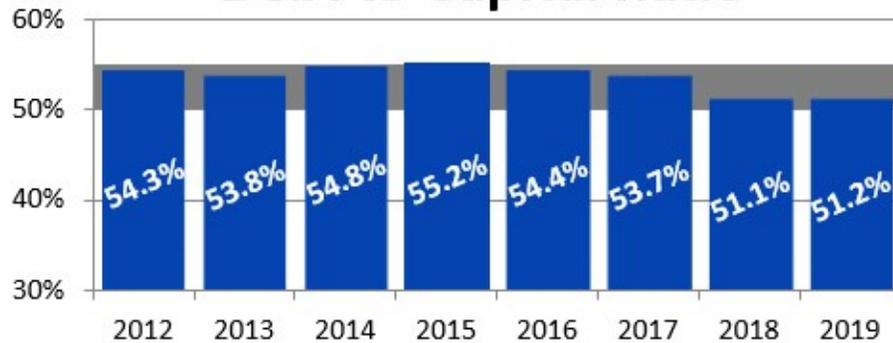
	<u>Fitch</u>	<u>Moody's</u>	<u>S&amp;P</u>
Senior Secured Rating	A	A3	A-
Senior Unsecured Rating	A-	Baa2	BBB
Commerical Paper	F2	Prime-2	A-2
Outlook	Negative	Stable	Stable

A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities. Such ratings may be subject to revisions or withdrawal at any time by the credit rating agency and each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating.

## Liquidity

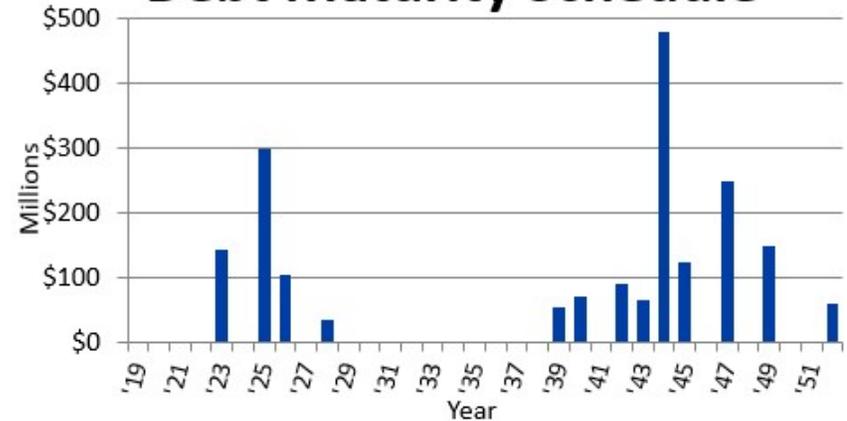


## Debt to Capital Ratio



Target: 50% - 55% - Annual ratio based on average of each quarter's debt/cap ratio  
Excludes Basin Creek capital lease and New Market Tax Credit Financing

## Debt Maturity Schedule

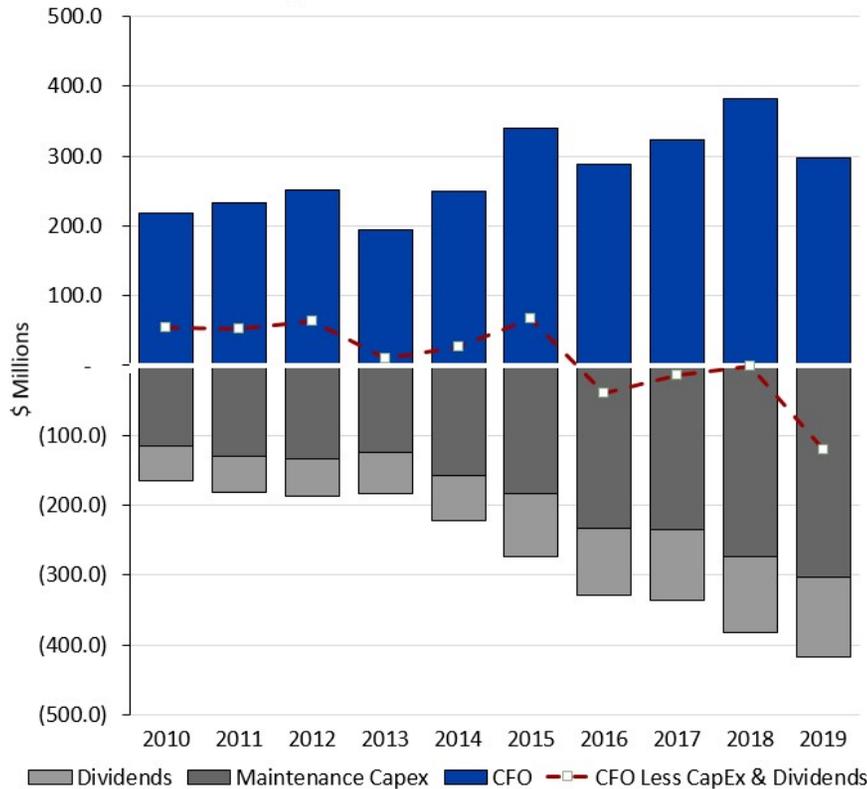


Investment grade credit ratings, generally liquidity in excess of \$100 million target, debt to cap within our targeted 50%-55% range and no long-term debt maturities until 2023.

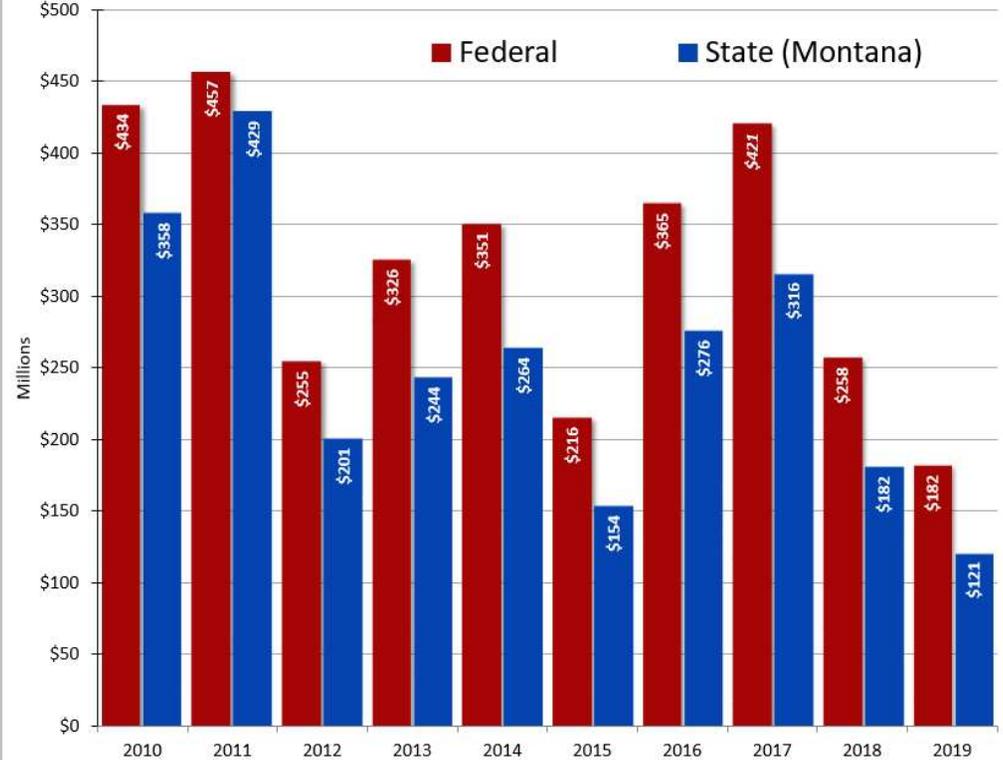


# Strong Cash Flows

## Components of Free Cash Flow



## Net Operating Loss (NOL) Carryforward Balance

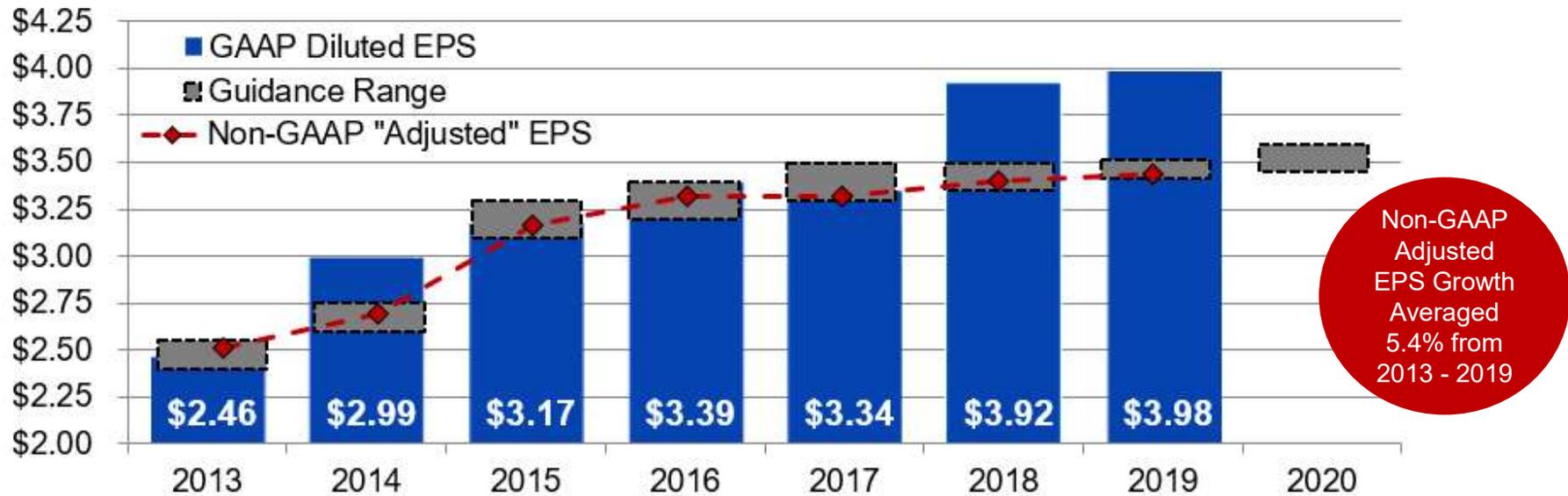


While maintenance capex and total dividend payments have continued to grow since 2010 (11.3% and 10.0% CAGR respectively), maintenance capex and dividend payments have slightly exceeded Cash From Operations (CFO), on average, by approximately \$10 million per year. *Note: 2016 CFO is less than 2015 largely due to \$30.8M refund to customers related to FERC/DGGS ruling and \$7.2M refund to customers for difference in SD Electric interim & final rates. 2019 CFO is less than 2018 due to under-collection of supply costs by \$35.5M, \$20.5M credit to MT customers for TCJA, \$22.1M in refunds for transmission generation interconnections and a \$6.1M insurance proceed in 2018.*

We expect NOLs to be available into 2021 with alternative minimum tax credits and production tax credits to be available into 2023 to reduce cash taxes. Additionally, we anticipate our effective tax rate to reach approximately 10% by 2023.

*(See appendix for "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" relating to free cash flow and disclaimer on NOLs)*

# Earnings Growth



NorthWestern affirms its 2020 earnings guidance range of \$3.45 - \$3.60 per diluted share based upon, but not limited to, the following major assumptions and expectations:

- Normal weather in our electric and natural gas service territories;
- A consolidated income tax rate of approximately (2%) to 3% of pre-tax income; and
- Diluted shares outstanding of approximately 50.9 million.

**Continued investment in our system to serve our customers and communities is expected to provide a targeted long-term 6-9% total return to our investors through a combination of earnings growth and dividend yield.**

# 2019 Non-GAAP to 2020 EPS Bridge

2019 Non-GAAP Adjusted Diluted EPS		\$3.42	
	<u>Low</u>	<u>Midpoint</u>	<u>High</u>
	\$3.42		\$3.42
<b>2020 Earnings Drivers (after-tax and per share)</b>			
Gross margin improvements	0.15	-	0.21
OG&A expense decreases	0.11	-	0.14
Property & other taxes	(0.09)	-	(0.08)
Depreciation expense	(0.16)	-	(0.14)
Interest expense	(0.04)	-	(0.02)
Other income	0.03	-	0.05
Incremental tax benefit*	0.03	-	0.05
<b>Subtotal of anticipated improvements</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.21</b>
<b>2020 EPS guidance range prior to potential equity dilution</b>	<b>\$3.45</b>		<b>\$3.63</b>
Dilution from Potential 2020 Equity Program	-	-	(0.03)
<b>2020 EPS guidance range after potential equity dilution</b>	<b>\$3.45</b>		<b>\$3.60</b>
<b>2020 Non-GAAP Adjusted Diluted EPS (Midpoint)</b>		<b>\$3.53</b>	
<b>2020 Targeted dividend payout ratio</b>	<b>68.0%</b>		<b>68.0%</b>
<b>2020 targeted dividend range</b>	<b>\$2.35</b>		<b>\$2.45</b>
<b>2020 Targeted annual dividend</b>		<b>\$2.40</b>	

NorthWestern affirms its 2020 earnings guidance range of \$3.45 - \$3.60 per diluted share based upon, but not limited to, the following major assumptions and expectations:

- Normal weather in our electric and natural gas service territories;
- A consolidated income tax rate of approximately (2%) to 3% of pre-tax income; and
- Diluted shares outstanding of approximately 50.9 million.

\*2020 earnings drivers shown above are calculated using a 25.3% effective tax rate. The tax benefit included above is predicated upon increased investment related to certain repairs that are eligible for immediate tax deduction.

# Recent Significant Achievements

## Strong year for safety at NorthWestern

- Continue to be a top performer among Edison Electric Institute member companies.

## Record best customer satisfaction scores with JD Power & Associates

- Once again received our best JD Powers overall satisfaction survey score.

## Best electric reliability scores

- Low SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) and SAIFI (System Average Interruption Frequency Index) in 2018. Especially significant considering the rugged service territories served.

## Corporate Governance Finalist

- In 2019 NorthWestern's proxy statement was winner of the "Best Proxy Statement (Small to Mid Cap)" by *Corporate Secretary Magazine*. We have been a finalist in 7 of the last 8 years and also won the award in 2014.

## Board Diversity Recognition

- Recognized for gender diversity on its board of directors by 2020 Women on Boards. Four of the company's ten directors are female.



## Best Investor Relations Program

- Recognized, in 2018 and 2019, by Institutional Investor as a top midcap utility and energy company based on access to senior management, well-informed and empowered IR team, appropriate and timely disclosures and constructive earnings calls.

## Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting

- Published EEI's ESG / Sustainability reporting template in December 2018. This quantitative information supplements our biennial Stewardship Report that highlights our commitment to the stewardship of natural resources and our sustainable business practices.



# NWE Welcomes New Board Members



Term commenced Oct. 2019

Jeffrey Yingling has more than 35 years of investment banking experience, serving as an advisor to companies in the power and utilities sector and is currently a Partner of Energy Capital Ventures, a strategic venture fund formed to invest in early stage energy companies. His career has included serving as the Senior Advisor Investment of Banking for Power, Energy and Renewables at Guggenheim Securities, LLC, the investment banking and capital markets business of Guggenheim Partners, as well as senior investment banking positions in the power and utilities sector, with J.P. Morgan, Morgan Stanley, Dean Witter Reynolds, and The First Boston Corporation. He also serves on the board of directors of LendingPoint LLC, and the board of trustees of the Chicago Historical Society. He formerly served on the board of directors for Navigant Consulting, Inc.



Term commenced Dec. 1, 2019

Mahvash Yazdi is president of Feasible Management Consulting, providing strategic consulting in energy and technology, and the former senior vice president and chief information officer of Edison International as well as former chief information officer at Hughes Electronics. Yazdi is nationally recognized as an expert in corporate information technology, drawing from over 38 years of experience over three industries and continents. She also has dedicated her life to serving others, exemplified by receiving the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor and publishing her charitable memoir, *60:60 Celebrating Sixty Years With Sixty Acts Of Kindness*.

# Looking Forward

## Regulatory

- In December 2019, the MPSC issued a final order approving our Montana electric rate case settlement, effective April 1, 2019, that results in an annual increase to electric revenue of approximately \$6.5 million (based upon a 9.65% return on equity) and a \$9.3 million decrease in depreciation expense. Various parties have filed petitions for reconsideration of parts of the order. We expect the MPSC to issue an order on these requests during the first quarter of 2020.
- In May 2019, we submitted a filing with FERC for our Montana transmission assets. In June 2019, the FERC issued an order accepting our filing, granting interim rates (effective July 1 and subject to refund), establishing settlement procedures and terminating our related Tax Cuts and Jobs Act filing. A settlement judge has been appointed and settlement negotiations are ongoing. We expect to submit a compliance filing with the MPSC upon resolution of our case adjusting the FERC credit in our retail rates.
- In February 2020 we filed an application with the MPSC for pre-approval to Acquire Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) 25%, 185MW, interest in Colstrip Unit 4 for one dollar and approval to sell 90 megawatts back to PSE for a 5 year period. We anticipate a decision near the end of 2020.
- Each year we submit filings for recovery of electric, natural gas and property taxes. The respective commissions review these tracker filings and make cost recovery determinations based on prudence.

## Electric Resource Planning

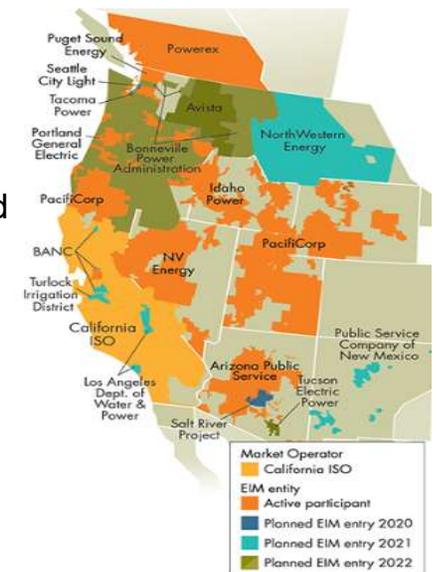
- South Dakota: Construction of approximately 60MW / \$80 million flexible reciprocating internal combustion engines in Huron, SD to be online by late 2021.
- Montana: Competitive all-source solicitation for up to 280 MWs of flexible capacity issued February 2020 with project(s) selection in first quarter 2021 and online in early 2023.

## Continue to Invest in our Transmission & Distribution Infrastructure

- Comprehensive grid modernization and infrastructure program to ensure safety, capacity and reliability.

## Plans to join Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) in April 2021

- Real-time energy market could mean lower cost of energy for Montana customers, more efficient use of renewables and greater power grid reliability.





# Montana Electric Rate Case

## September 2018 Filing (Docket D2018.2.12)

- Filed based on 2017 test year and \$2.34 billion of rate base.
- Requested \$34.9 million annual increase to electric rates.
- On April 5, 2019, we filed rebuttal testimony that updated and lowered our requested increase to \$30.7 million. This update responded to intervenor testimony and included certain known and measurable adjustments.
- Request includes a 10.65% return on equity, 4.26% cost of debt, 49.4% equity & 7.42% return on rate base<sup>1</sup>
- In March 2019, the MPSC issued an order approving an increase in rates of approximately \$10.5 million on an interim and refundable basis effective April 1, 2019.
- In May 2019, we reached a settlement with all parties who filed comprehensive revenue requirement, cost allocation, and rate design testimony in our Montana electric rate case.
- A comprehensive hearing was held in May 2019 with post-hearing briefing completed in late August 2019.
- MPSC staff recommended that the MPSC approve and adopt the settlement as filed in September 2019.
- The MPSC issued a final order approving our electric rate case settlement effective April 1, 2019 resulting in an annual increase to electric revenue of approximately \$6.5 million (based upon a 9.65% return on equity and rate base and capital structure as filed) and an annual decrease in depreciation expense of approximately \$9.3 million.

### The filing also provided approval to:

- Establish a new baseline for PCCAM costs;
- Place Two Dot Wind in rate base; and
- Create new net metering customer class and rate for new residential private generation.

## Next Steps

- Various parties have filed petitions for reconsideration of parts of the order and we expect the MPSC to issue an order on these requests during the first quarter of 2020.
- As of December 31, 2019 we have recognized revenue of approximately \$4.4 million, reduced depreciation expense by approximately \$8.9 million, and have deferred approximately \$2.9 million of the interim revenues based on the order. This difference between the interim and final approved rates will be refunded to customers.

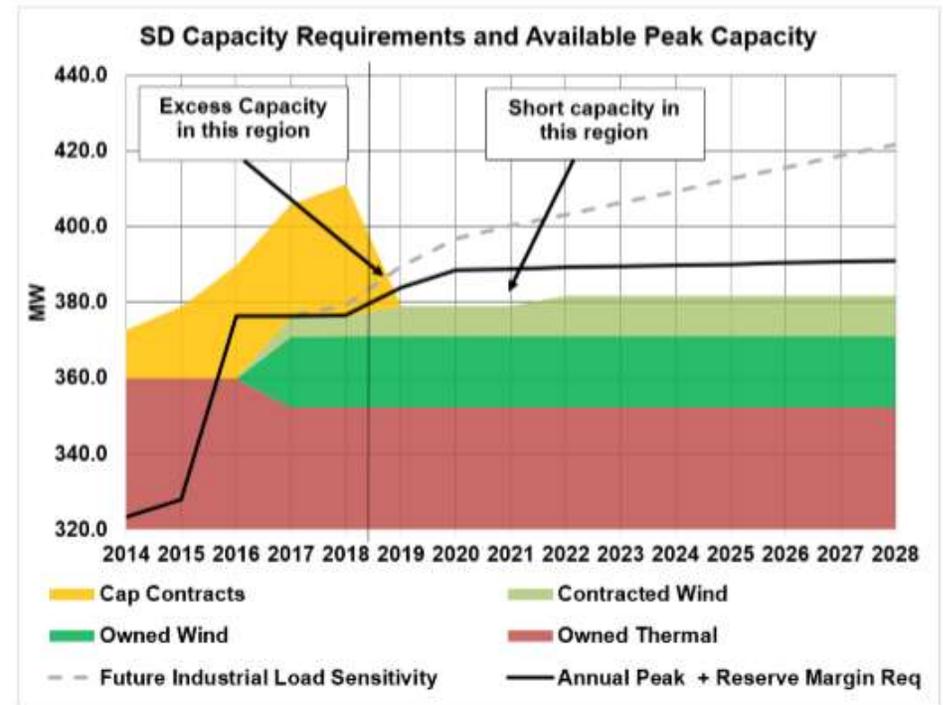
1. Except for Colstrip Unit 4 which has an lifetime ROR of 8.25% per D2008.6.69 (Order No. 6925f)



# South Dakota Electricity Supply Resource Plan

## South Dakota

- Published fall of 2018, the plan focuses on modernization of our fleet to improve reliability and flexibility, maintain compliance in Southwest Power Pool, and lowering operating costs. The plan identifies 90MWs of existing generation that should be retired and replaced over the next 10 years. In addition, we are currently installing 8MWs of mobile capacity generation, with units expected to be operational in early 2020.
- April 15, 2019, we issued a 60MW all-source RFP to provide capacity for South Dakota customers by the end of 2021.
- As a result of the competitive solicitation process, we anticipate to construct and own natural gas fired reciprocating internal combustion engines at a brownfield site in Huron, South Dakota. Dependent upon manufacturer selection, we anticipate 55-60 MW of new capacity to be online by late 2021 at a total investment of approximately \$80 million. The selected proposal is subject to the execution of construction contracts and obtaining the applicable environmental and construction related permits.

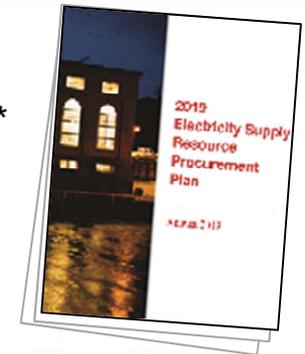
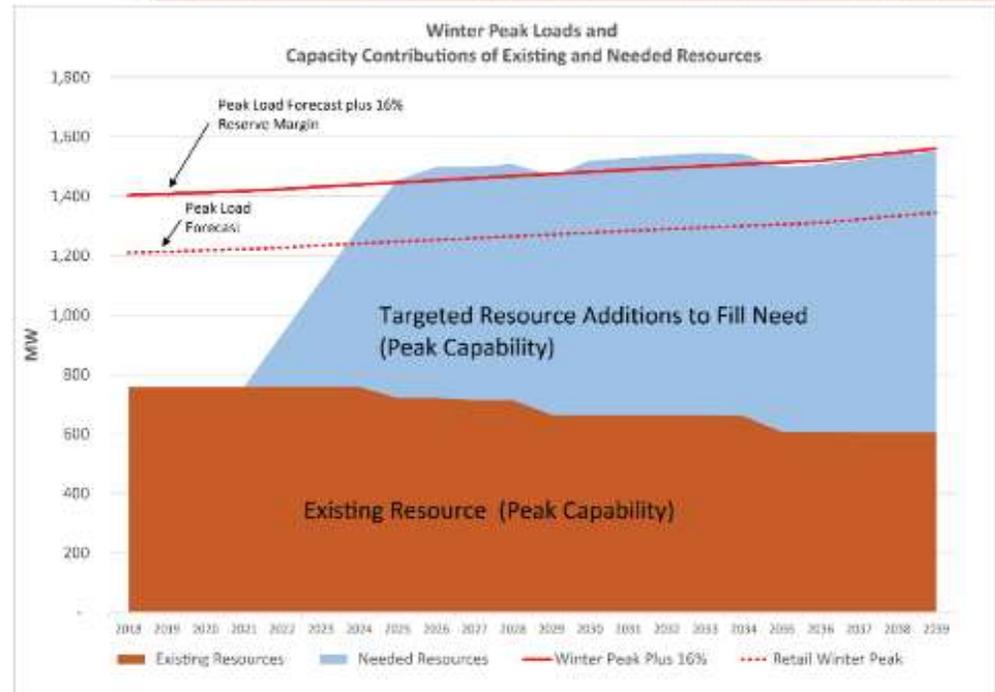


# Montana Electricity Supply Resource Plan

## Montana

- The draft plan was filed in early March 2019 followed by a 60 day public comment period.
- The final plan, including responses to public comment, was filed August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The plan demonstrates an urgent need for additional flexible capacity that will address the changing energy landscape in Montana. This will also enable our participation in the Western EIM and help meet our customers' energy needs in a reliable and affordable manner.
  - We are currently 630 MW short of our peak needs, which we procure in the market. We forecast that our energy portfolio will be 725 MW short by 2025 with the expiration of an existing long-term contract and a modest increase in customer demand.
  - Planned regional retirements of 3,500 MW of coal-fired generation are forecasted by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council causing regional energy shortages as early as 2021.
- We issued a competitive all-source solicitation request in February 2020 for up to 280MW\* of peaking and flexible capacity to be available for commercial operation in early 2023. An independent evaluator is being used to administer the solicitation process and evaluate proposals, with the successful project(s) selected by the first quarter of 2021. We expect the process will be repeated in subsequent years to provide a resource-adequate energy and capacity portfolio by 2025.

\* Open to all types of resources that meet our peak and flexible capacity needs



**NorthWestern**  
Energy  
Delivering a Bright Future

# Capital Investment Forecast

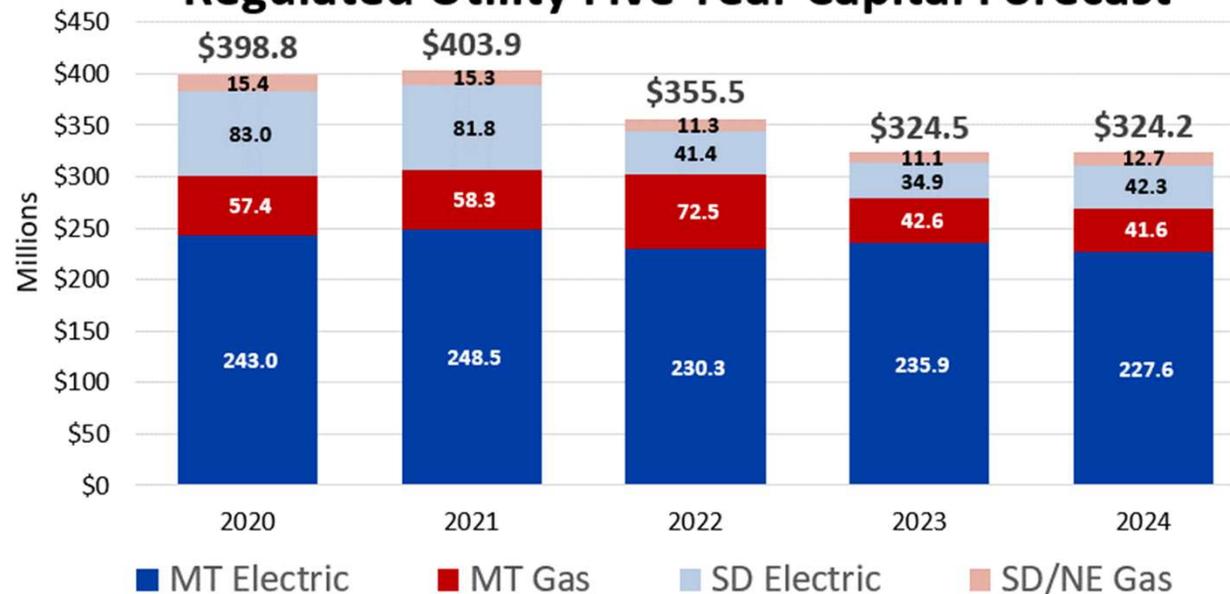
## \$1.8 billion of total capital investment over five years

We anticipate financing this capital with a combination of cash flow from operations (aided by NOLs available into 2021), first mortgage bonds and equity issuances.

Based on current expectations, any equity issuance would be late 2020 or early 2021 and would be sized to maintain and protect current credit ratings.

Significant capital investments that are not in the projections or negative regulatory actions could necessitate additional equity funding.

## Regulated Utility Five Year Capital Forecast



\$ Millions	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Electric	\$ 326.1	\$ 330.3	\$ 271.7	\$ 270.8	\$ 269.9
Natural Gas	72.7	73.6	83.8	53.7	54.4
Total Capital Forecast	\$ 398.8	\$ 403.9	\$ 355.5	\$ 324.5	\$ 324.2

Based on the results of the recent competitive solicitation process in South Dakota, \$80 million of incremental investment for SD generation is included above (spread between 2020-2021). Capital projections above do not include investment necessary to address identified generation capacity issues in Montana. These additions could increase the capital forecast above in excess of \$200 million over the next five years.

# Environmental – Social – Governance (ESG)

## Environmental



Updated  
Environmental  
Report coming soon

### Environmental Report

<http://www.northwesternenergy.com/environment/our-environment>

## Social



### Community Works Report

<http://www.northwesternenergy.com/community-works/community-works>

## Governance



### Annual Report

<http://www.northwesternenergy.com/our-company/investor-relations/annual-reports>

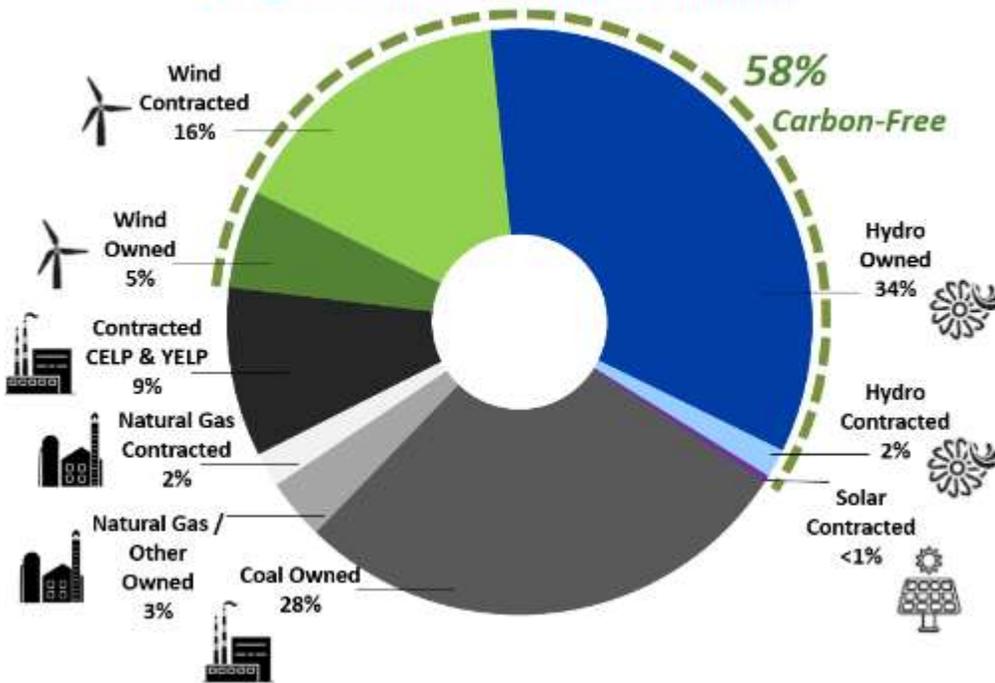
### Proxy Statement

<http://www.northwesternenergy.com/our-company/investor-relations/proxy-materials>

**These four documents provide valuable insight in NorthWestern Energy's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Sustainability practices.**

# ESG - Environmental

## 2019 Electric Generation Portfolio

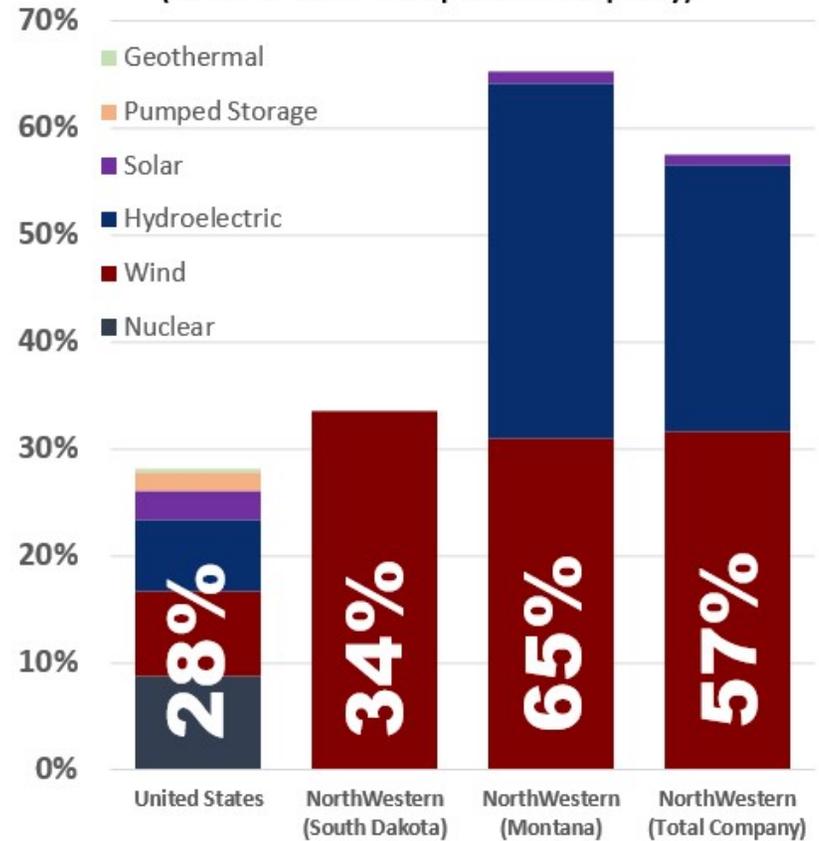


Based upon 2019 MWh's of owned and long-term contracted resources.

**58% of NorthWestern Energy's 2019 Electric Generation Portfolio Delivered, based on MWh's, was Carbon-Free**



## 2019 Carbon-Free Owned & Long-Term Contracted Nameplate Generation Resources (As a % of Total Nameplate MW Capacity)



**57% Carbon Free Nameplate Portfolio vs 28% National Average**



# ESG - Environmental

## Environmental Stewardship

### Highlights of our Environmental Report

- Energy Conservation
- Recycling Efforts
- Smart Meters
- Environmental Protection Programs
  - O'Dell Creek Restoration
  - Pallid Sturgeon Recovery
  - Rainbow Trout Stocking – Hauser & Holter Reserves
  - Lower Madison River Thermal Pulse Program
  - Public Recreation Support with Missouri-Madison Trust
  - Crow Creek Shore Restore
  - Thompson Falls Fish Ladder Program
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) Management
- Cultural Resource Management
- Avian Protection Plan
- Environmental Permitting
- Storm Water Management
- Vegetation Management
- Aerial Tree Trimming
- Oil Spill Prevention Measures
- Hazardous Waste Management
- Air Quality Controls



*Ariel Tree Trimming and Trout Stocking*



**LED Streetlights** — plan to replace 43,000 company-owned streetlights in Montana with LED lights by 2022, with SD in planning stage.

**Solar Projects** - Our Solar projects are focused on building sustainability in collaboration with our communities, schools and universities. Projects integrate Solar with Storage and Automation creating an educational platform that demonstrates the economics and social benefits of Community Solar, Urban integration (unique solar configurations), Rural Reliability, and Micro-grids. To date projects have been built in Bozeman, Missoula, Deer Lodge and Yellowstone National Park with others planned.

*Missoula Solar Project*



**LEED Gold Certification** - In 2019 NorthWestern Energy's General Office in Butte earned a Gold Certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) from the U.S. Green Building Council recognizing a sustainable site, community connectivity, maximum open space water use reduction, construction waste management, recycled content and green power.



**Hydroelectric Projects** — provide \$1.9M annually under a Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement (PME) Program partnering with landowners and agencies to manage fish, wildlife, habitat and water quality. NWE has also provided \$1.25M in support of 126 recreation projects through the Missouri-Madison River Fund.

*O'Dell Creek Restore*



**Avian Protection Plan** - We incorporate industry best practices developed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) to reduce bird mortalities from power line collisions and electrocutions - including avian-friendly design standards for power poles, training line crews, collaboration with resource agencies, a formal avian mortality reporting process, building osprey platforms and efforts to increase public awareness.

*Osprey protection*





# ESG - Social

## Community

**\$2.1 Billion** Economic Output in 2018 (\$1.88B in Montana & \$266M in SD/NE)

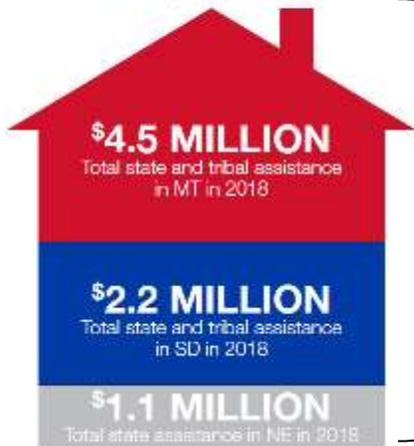
**\$1.75 million** Donations, Sponsorships & Economic Development in 2018

**184** Number of nonprofits that received grants through Employee Volunteer Program

**\$7.8 Million** Low-Income Energy Assistance in 2018

### LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE

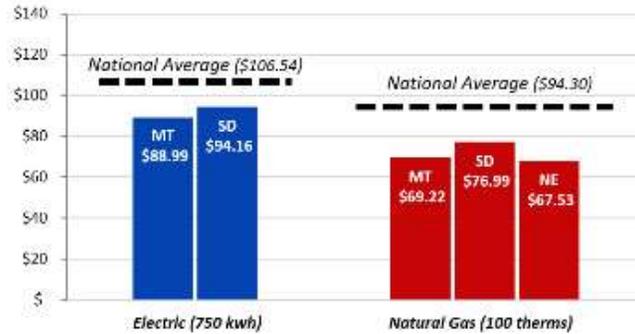
We work closely with the federal Low Income Energy Assistance programs to provide critical short-term aid to our community's most vulnerable citizens.



## Customers

Typical Residential Bills Lower than National Average

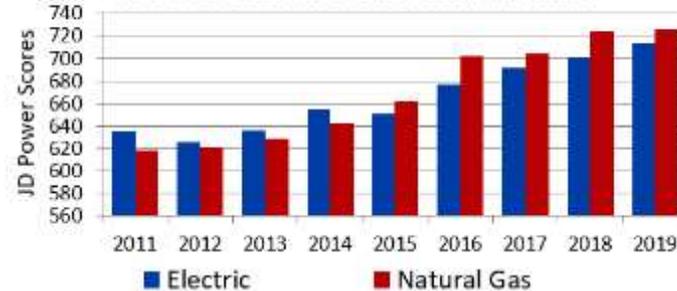
"Typical Bill" Residential Rate Comparison



Electric source: Edison Electric Institute Typical Bills and Average Rates Report, January 1, 2019. Natural Gas source: US EIA Monthly residential supply and delivery rates as of January 2019

Building on Our Best – Improved Customer Satisfaction Scores

NWE's Overall Customer Satisfaction Scores via JD Power Electric & Gas Residential Studies

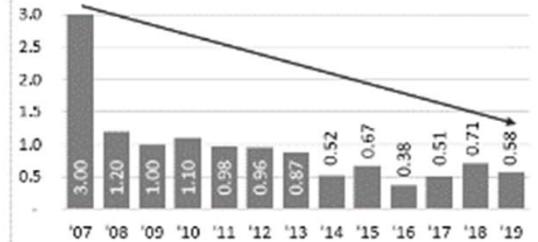


Over the last 13 years, our energy efficiency programs have helped customers save 685,041 MWh's of energy – enough to power 76,000 homes for a year.

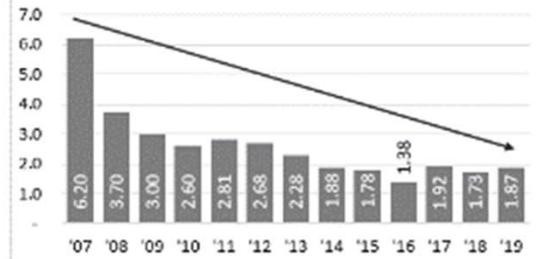
## Employees

Safety Culture Transformation

Lost Time Incident Rate



OSHA Recordable Rate



Strong Engagement

**86%** of employees are proud to work for NorthWestern Energy SpencerStuart



# ESG - Governance

**5<sup>th</sup>** Best Score Among **50** Publicly Traded North American Utility and Power Companies by **Moody's Investment Services** on **Best Governance Practices**

## Corporate Governance

### What We Do:

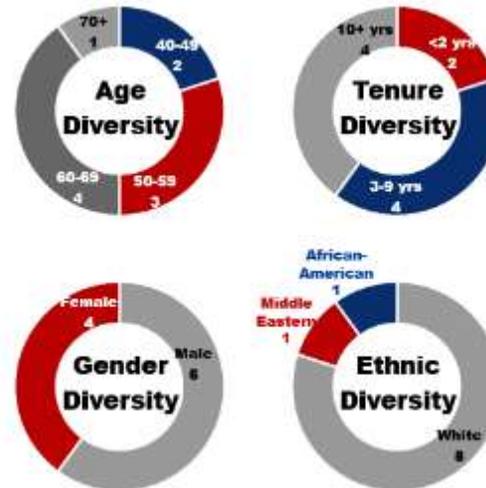
- Annual election of all directors.
- Majority vote plus resignation standard in uncontested elections. If a director receives more "WITHHOLD AUTHORITY" votes than "FOR" votes, the director must submit a resignation for the Board to consider.
- Allow shareholders owning 25 percent of our shares to call a special meeting.
- Independent Board of Directors, except our CEO.
- Independent Board Chair.
- Each of our Board committees (audit, compensation, and governance ) is made up solely of independent directors.
- Committee authority to retain independent advisors, which will be paid for by the company.
- Code of Conduct and Ethics. Applies to all employees and Board, with a separate Code of Ethics for Chief Executive Officers and Senior Financial Officers concerning financial reporting and other related matters.
- Robust stock ownership guidelines for executive officers and directors.

### What We Don't Do:

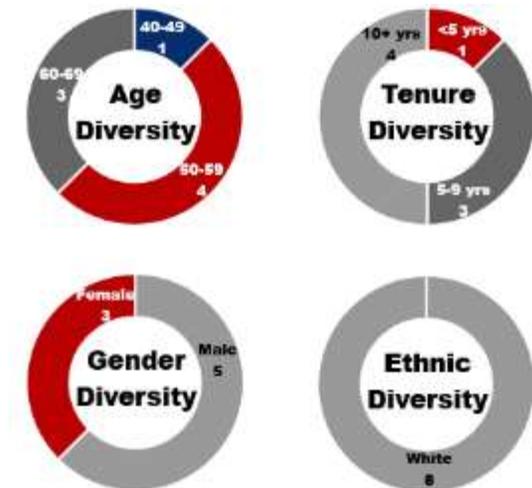
- Poison pill or a shareholder rights plan.
- Hedging of company securities.
- Corporate political contributions.
- Supermajority voting, except to approve certain business combinations or mergers.

## Diverse Leadership

### Board of Directors



### Executive Team



## Other Recent Governance Recognition



### 20 / 20 – Women on Boards

Recognized for gender diversity on its board of directors by 2020 Women on Boards. Four of the company's ten directors are female.

### Corporate Governance Award Winner

NorthWestern Corporation's proxy statement has won governance awards – *Best Proxy Statement (Small to Mid-Cap)* by Corporation Secretary magazine (2014 & 2019) and *Exemplary Compensation Discussion and Analysis* from NYSE Governance Services (2014) and NorthWestern was recognized as a finalist by Corporate Secretary magazine in the same category for our '12, '13, '16, '17 & '18 statements

## CEO Pay Ratio To Average Employee Salary

**NWE**  
**27:1**

All Utilities Average  
**58:1**

Peer Group Average  
**37:1**



# Our Carbon Reduction Vision for NorthWestern Energy in Montana

1

## 90% carbon reduction by 2045

NorthWestern Energy commits to reduce the carbon intensity of our electric energy portfolio for Montana 90% by 2045.\*

\* As compared with our 2010 carbon intensity as a baseline

2

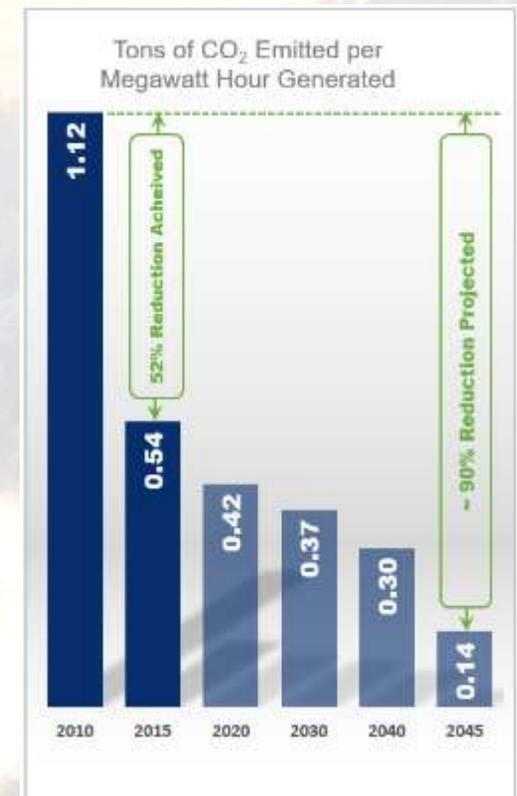
## Already over 60% carbon free

Today, NorthWestern Energy serves Montana with an electric portfolio that is over 60% carbon free and more than two times better than the total U.S electric power industry (28% carbon free). Over the last decade, we have already reduced the carbon intensity of our energy generation in Montana by more than 50%.

3

## How we're going to get there

Our vision for the future builds on the progress we have already made. Already, the foundation of our energy generation is our hydro system, which is 100% carbon free and is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Wind generation is a close second and continues to grow. While utility-scale solar energy is not a significant portion of our energy mix today, we expect it to evolve along with advances in energy storage. We are committed to working with our customers and communities to help them achieve their sustainability goals and add new technology on our system.





# Transaction Overview

**On December 9, 2019 NorthWestern (NWE) executed a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the acquisition of Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) 25% ownership interests in Colstrip Unit 4 (CU4).**

- Generating Capacity: 185 MW (bringing our total ownership to 407 MW, or 55% of CU4)
- Purchase Price: \$1.00
- PSE will remain responsible for its current pro rata ownership share of environmental and pension liabilities attributed to events or conditions existing prior to closing of the transaction and for any demolition, reclamation, or remediation costs associated with the existing facilities that comprise CU4.
- PSE will enter a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with NWE to purchase 90 MW of power for approximately 5 years – generally indexed to Mid-C prices.
  - Net proceeds from the PPA will be placed in a fund and applied against future decommissioning and remediation costs related to the existing 30%, or 222 MW, ownership in CU4.
  - PPA includes a price floor that reflects the recovery of all fixed and variable PPA power costs.
- **The transaction is conditioned upon Pre-Approval by the Montana Public Service Commission.**



# Transaction Overview (cont.)

- In a separate transaction, NorthWestern expects to acquire a portion of PSE's interest in the 500 kilovolt Colstrip Project Transmission System (CTS) and will retain an option to purchase another portion of PSE's interest in the system at the expiration of the previously discussed PPA.
- NorthWestern is not seeking MPSC pre-approval for the transmission assets, but would expect to request recovery in its next general filing.
  - Purchase price is the depreciated book value, anticipated to be \$2.75 - \$3.75 million, for approximately 5% of the total system with a similar purchase option expected at PPA expiration. NorthWestern currently owns 36.4% of the Colstrip to Broadview (A) segment and 24.3% of the Broadview to Townsend segment (B).
  - The CTS is a critical backbone of Montana. It provides a path for energy import to serve our customers – which is especially critical as Colstrip Units 1 and 2 close – and provides an export path for Montana-based renewable development. Additionally, increased CTS ownership is required to integrate the planned generation acquisition from PSE into the system.

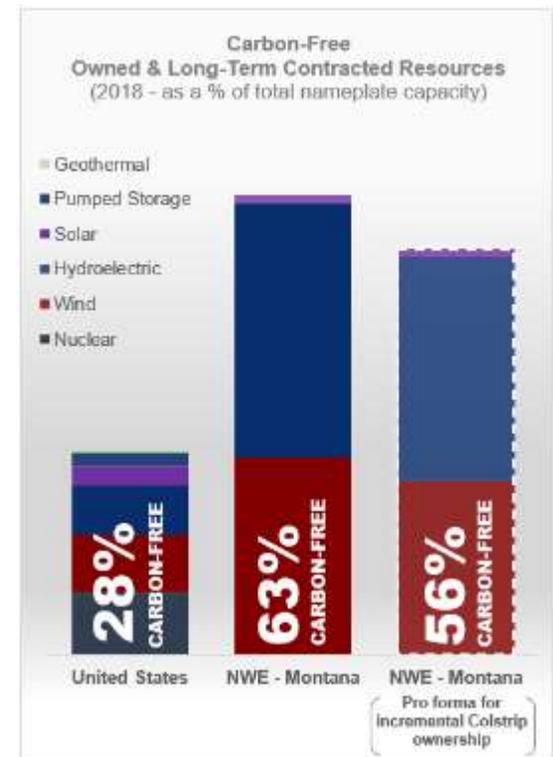


## Anticipated timeline of Condition-to-Close filings:

- Q1 2020 – MPSC pre-approval of the CU4 acquisition and FERC Section 203 authorization
- Q3 2020 – FERC Decision on Section 203 filing
- Q4 2020 – MPSC Decision on pre-approval filing

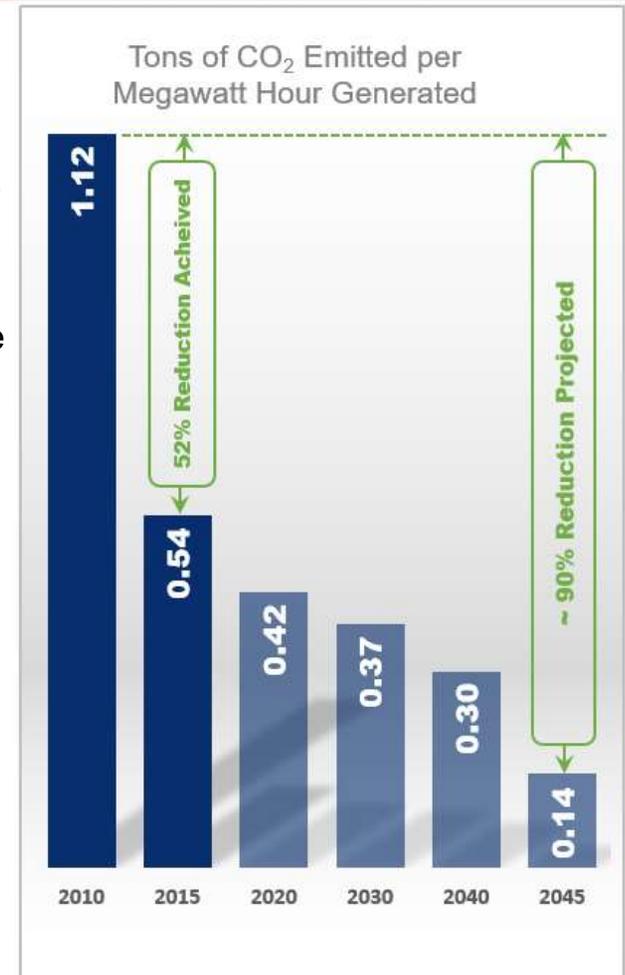
# Customer & Community Considerations

- Affordable Capacity: Acquiring a larger share of Colstrip for \$1.00 will reduce exposure to market prices and keep energy & capacity affordable. Customer bills are expected to stay flat as a result of the transaction. Increased operating cost due to increased ownership percentage is expected to be offset by lower purchased power costs.
- Provides Reliability and Safety: Greater ownership of CU4 will expand access to around-the-clock capacity that can meet sudden increases in demand, such as when Montana experiences extremely cold temperatures – oftentimes when the wind isn't blowing and the sun isn't shining. This larger share will help keep homes warm and the lights on.
- Economic Viability: This transaction is a first step in preserving good-paying jobs in Colstrip and across the state while providing critical local and state tax dollars.
- Minimal Environmental Impact: There will be **no new carbon emissions in Montana** as a result of our owning a greater share of CU4. In fact – as shown in the chart to the right, even after acquiring the additional 185 MW, NWE Montana will still be twice as 'green' (56%) as the total U.S. electric power industry (28%) on a nameplate basis.
- Funding for Remediation: Net benefits from the transaction and net proceeds from the new 90 MW, approximately 5 year, PPA will be placed in a fund and applied against future decommissioning and remediation costs related to NorthWestern's existing 30% ownership in CU4.
- Colstrip Transmission System is a critical backbone to serve our customers; allows energy import to serve industry, as Colstrip Units 1 and 2 close; and is an export path for Montana-based renewable development.



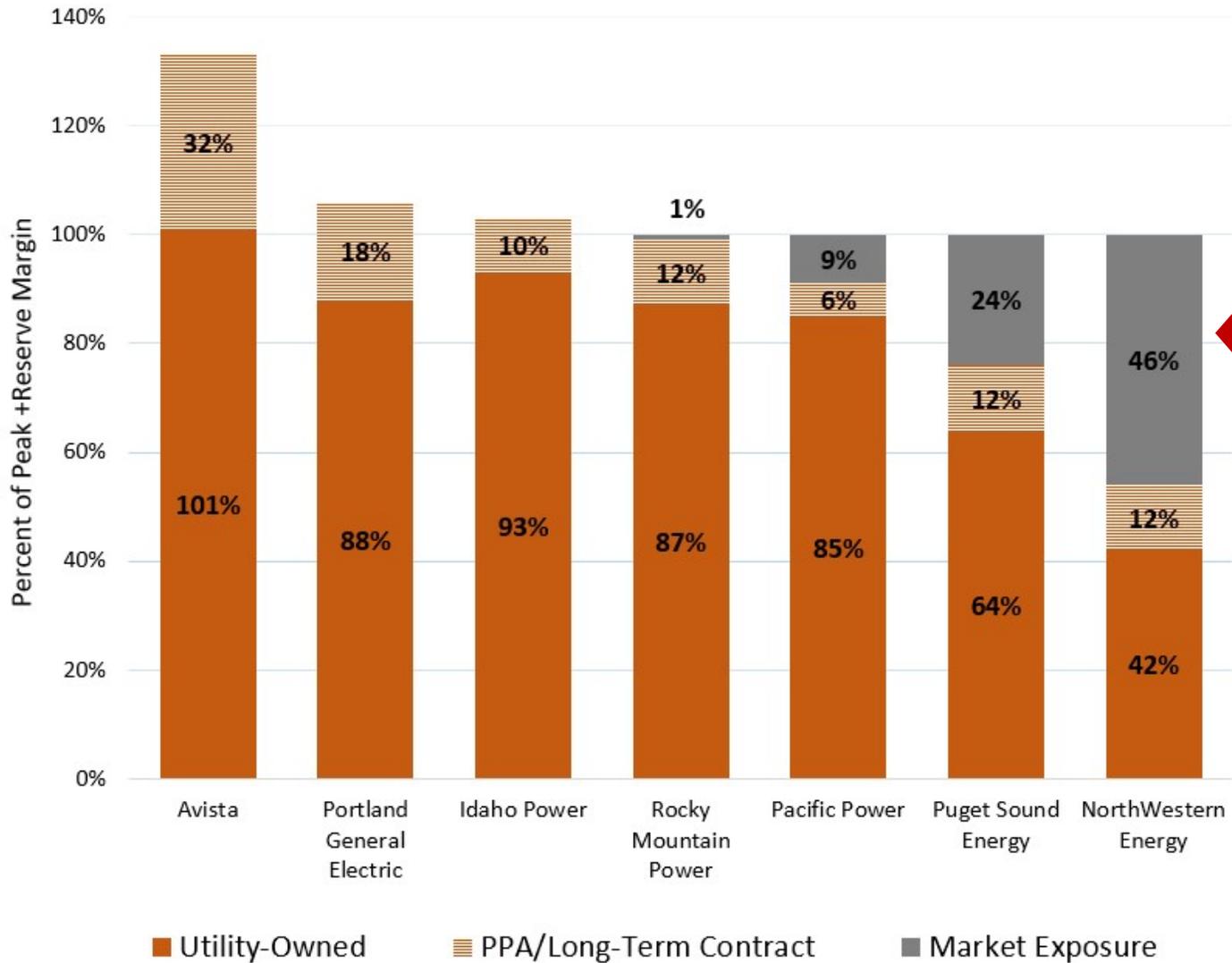
# Investor & Credit Considerations

- Protects Existing Ownership Interests: Increased ownership (from 30% to 55%) of CU4 provides greater say in future capital decisions to ensure the plant continues to operate and meet all environmental guidelines. Per the Joint Owners Agreement, closure of Colstrip Units 3 and 4 requires a unanimous decision of owners.
- Limited Additional Exposure on Incremental Ownership: PSE will continue to be responsible for existing environmental liabilities up to the point of sale and future remediation costs according to its pre-transaction 25% joint ownership in CU4.
- Limited Impact on Customers' Bills: Resolves 25% of the estimated 725 MW of capacity deficit for \$1.00 and limits exposure of customers to high and volatile market prices.
- Financial Implications: Predicated on MPSC Pre-Approval, the transaction is anticipated to be earnings neutral and credit supportive (reduced energy purchases and incoming proceeds from 90MW PPA).
- Provides a Bridge to Future Generation Technologies: The region is quickly reaching a point where there may not be enough capacity during critical peak-demand times. This transaction will help meet the immediate needs of our customers while allowing time to work with stakeholders across our state to build a plan for a cleaner energy future. **We are committed to a strategy that will work for all Montanans and enable us to reach our targeted 90% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> intensity by 2045, as shown in the chart above.**



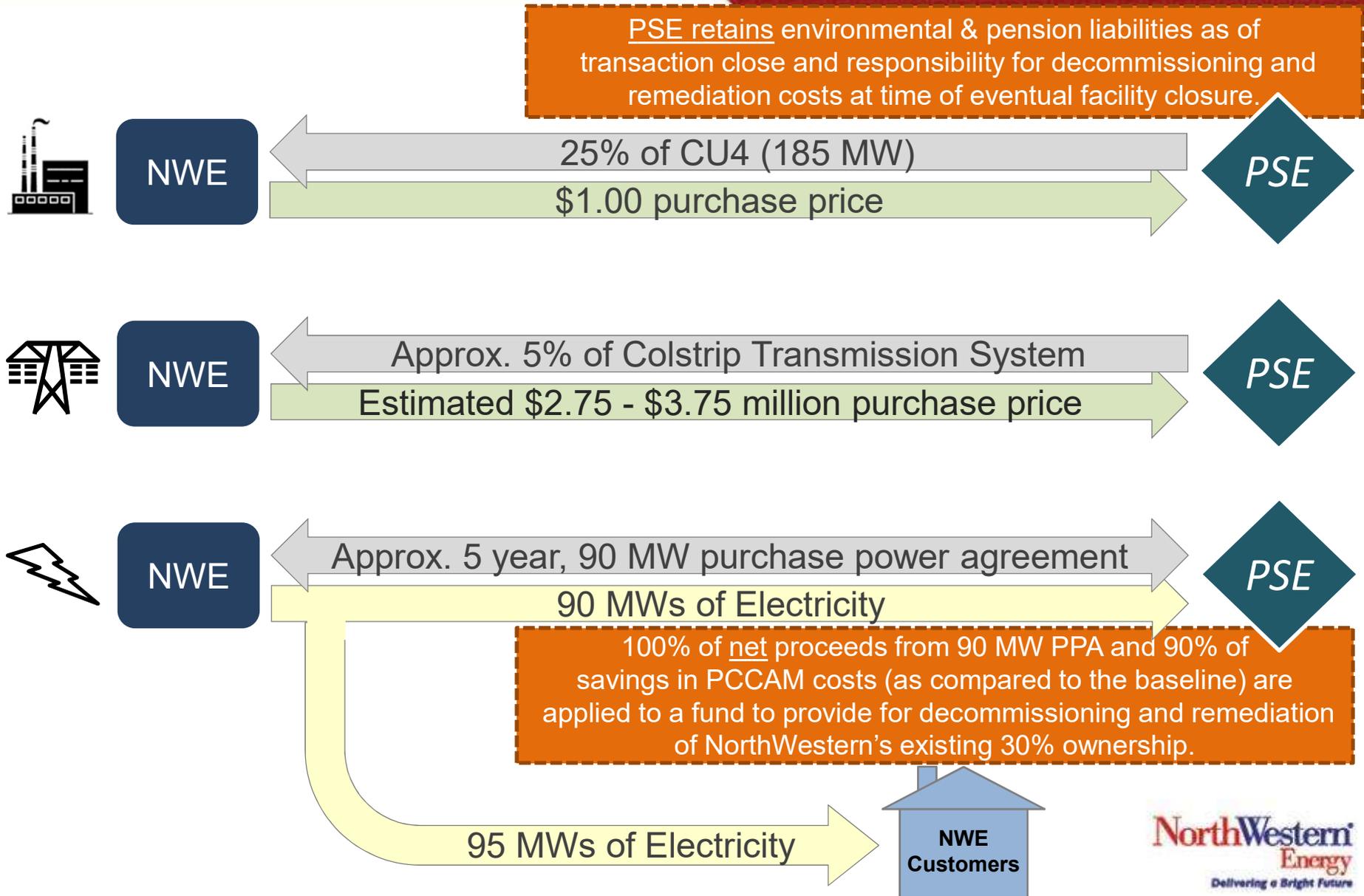


# NWE Capacity as compared to Regional Peers

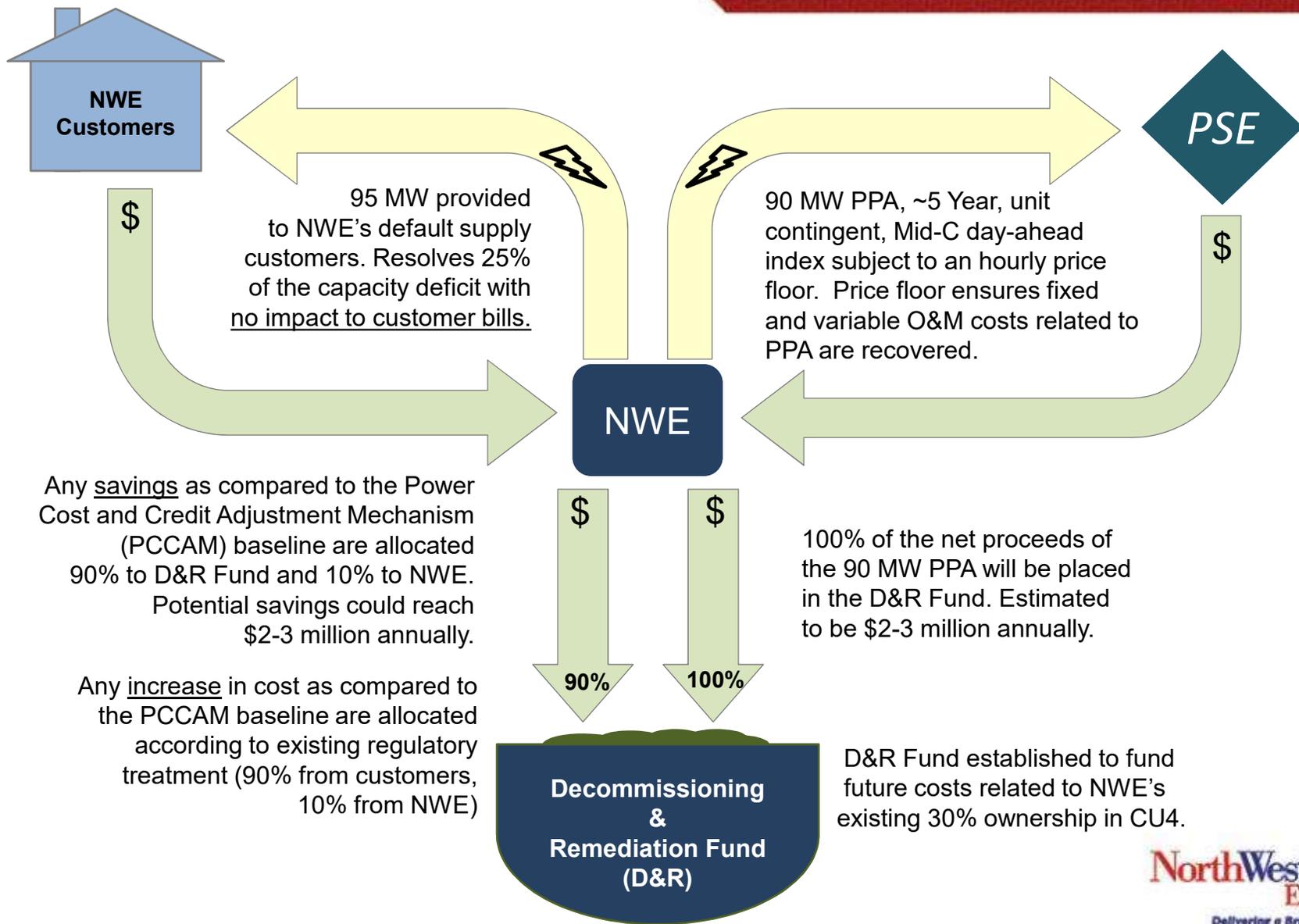


NWE's capacity deficit exposes our customers to greater market exposure (price and availability) than any of our regional peers.

# General Transaction Structure



# Proposed Post-Closing Structure



# Existing Ownership



## Colstrip Power Plant

Facility Owner (%)	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
AVISTA Corporation	-	-	15%	15%
NorthWestern Energy	-	-	-	30%
PacifiCorp	-	-	10%	10%
Portland General	-	-	20%	20%
Puget Sound Energy	50%	50%	25%	25%
Talen Energy	50%	50%	30%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Facility Owner (MW)	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
AVISTA Corporation	-	-	111.0	111.0
NorthWestern Energy	-	-	-	222.0
PacifiCorp	-	-	74.0	74.0
Portland General	-	-	148.0	148.0
Puget Sound Energy	153.5	153.5	185.0	185.0
Talen Energy	153.5	153.5	222.0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>307.0</b>	<b>307.0</b>	<b>740.0</b>	<b>740.0</b>



## Colstrip Transmission System



System Owner	Segment A	Segment B
AVISTA Corporation	10.2%	12.1%
NorthWestern Energy	36.4%	24.3%
PacifiCorp	6.8%	8.1%
Portland General	13.6%	16.2%
Puget Sound Energy	33.0%	39.3%



# Conclusion

Pure  
Electric &  
Gas Utility

Solid Utility  
Foundation

Best  
Practices  
Corporate  
Governance

Attractive  
Future  
Growth  
Prospects

Strong  
Earnings &  
Cash Flows



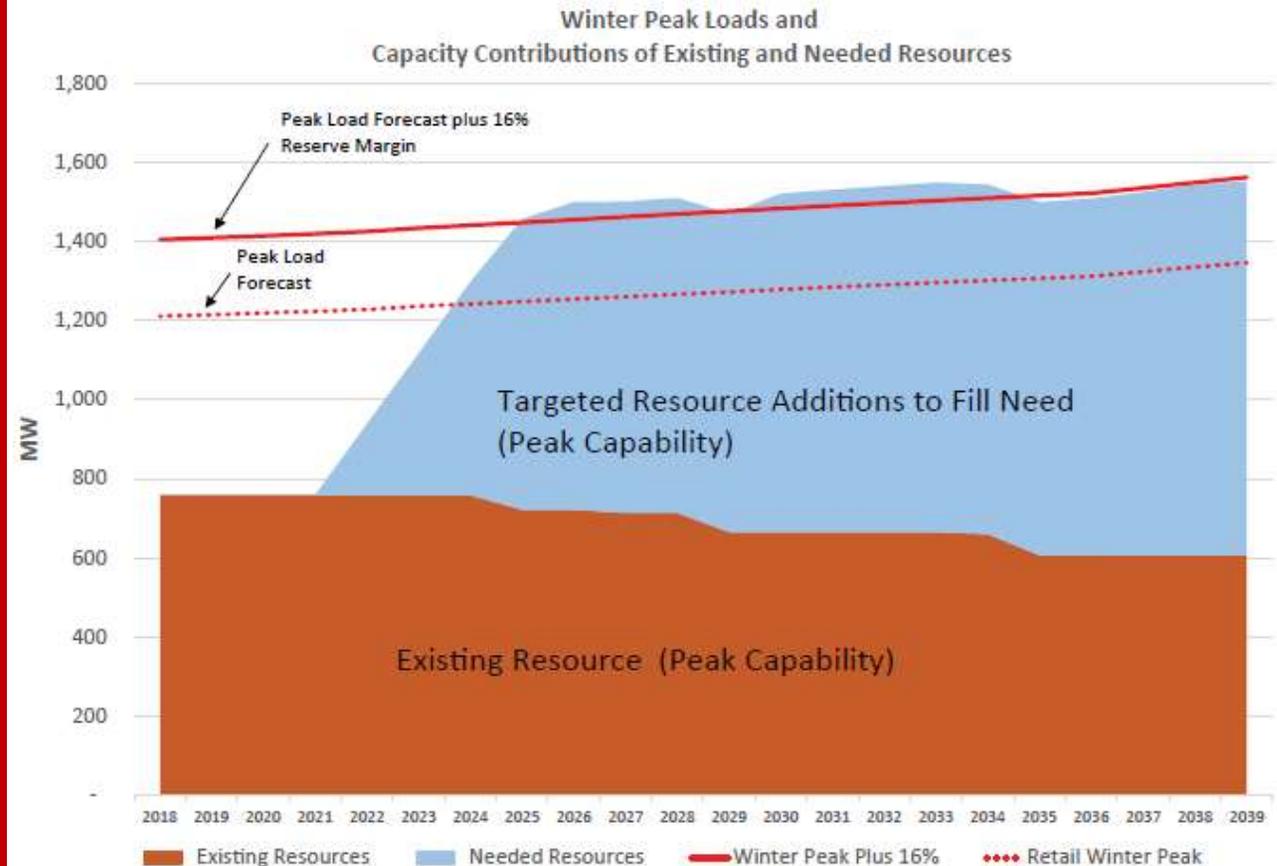


Delivering a  
**bright future**

**NorthWestern**<sup>®</sup>  
Energy

# Significant Capacity Deficit in Montana

NorthWestern Energy's current resources provide about 755 MW of peaking capacity, which is the energy available during periods of our customers' highest demand. An additional 645 MW of peaking capacity must currently be purchased from the market to meet our needs. Without new capacity, the market exposure will increase to about 725 MW by 2025 (including reserve margins). This need assumes continued development of cost effective demand side management (conservation) and small distributed generators (net-metering). Meeting peak load with market purchases means being exposed to the market at the worst possible time – when the market is most volatile and prices are high.



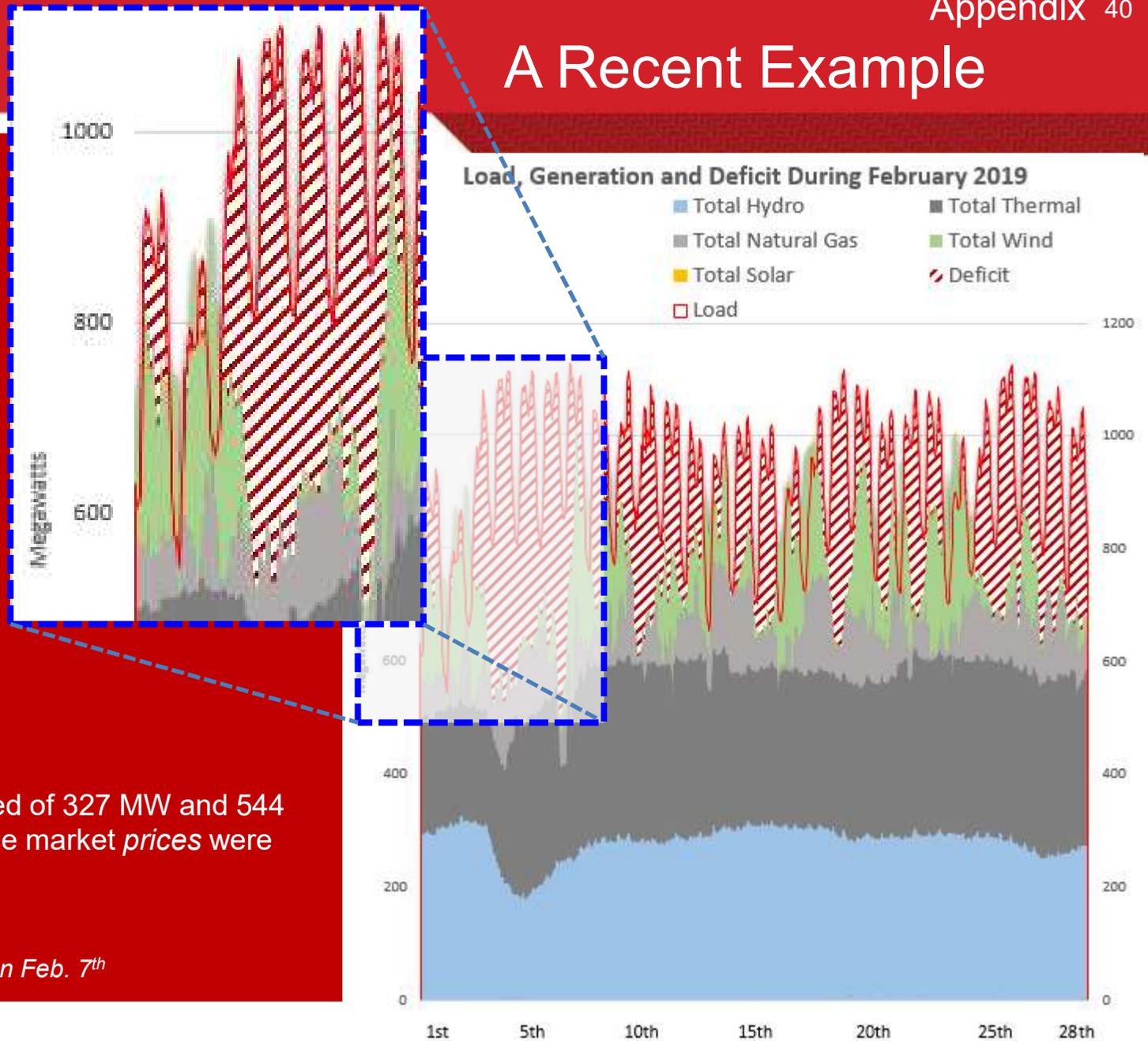
# A Recent Example

In early February, 2019, NorthWestern experienced a nearly **five day span\*** when the wind didn't blow and the sun was scant.

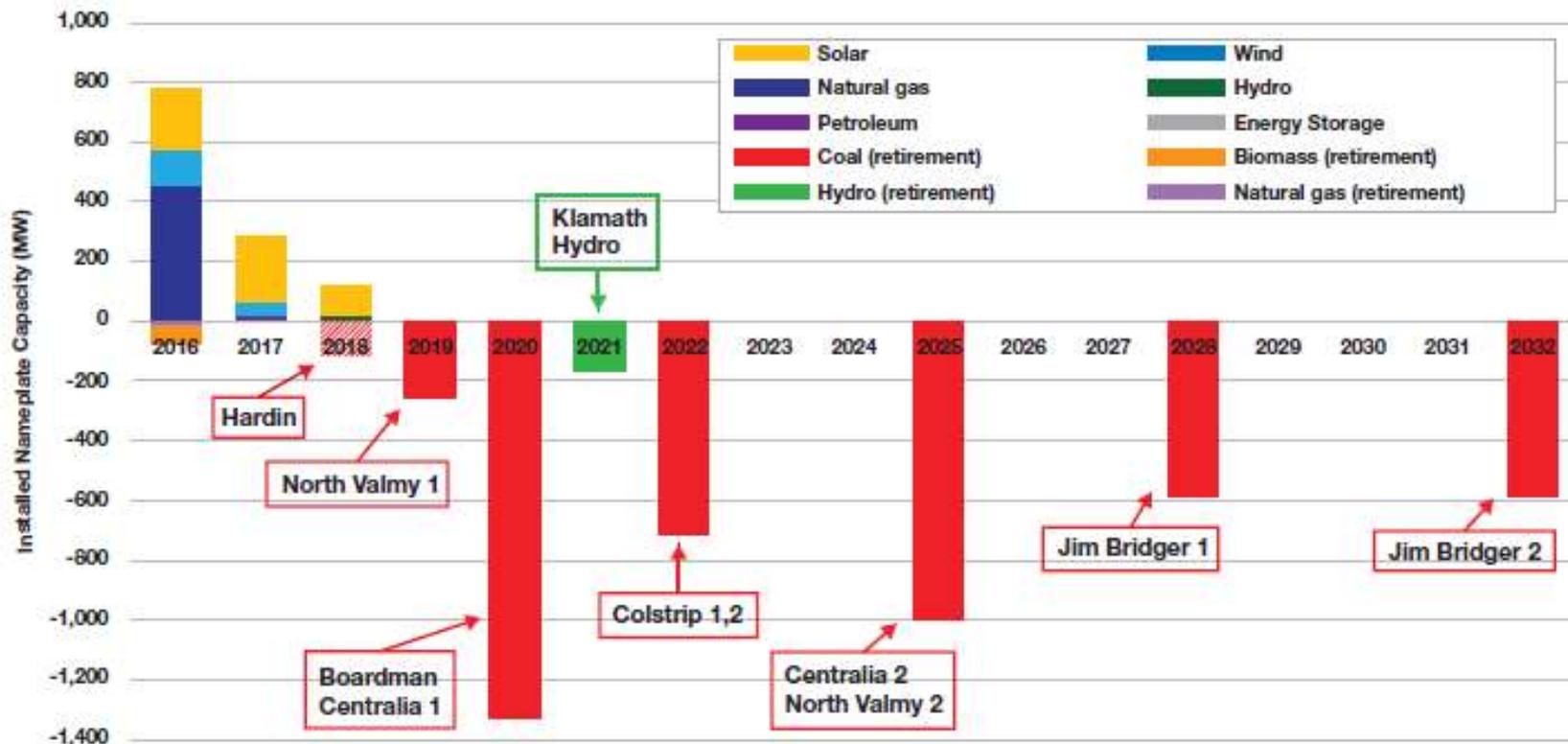
We were forced to rely upon an already strained market and transmission system for a significant amount of our required capacity (shown in red hatch).

We had an average need of 327 MW and 544 MW peak need when the market *prices* were also peaking.

\* 6am on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10pm on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>



# Significant Capacity Retirements in the Pacific NW



Source: Northwest Power and Conservation Council. Note: Hardin is idle, but has not been retired.

**Planned retirements in the Pacific Northwest region exceed 3,600 MW and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council forecasts regional capacity shortfalls as early as 2021. NorthWestern's continued reliance on the market to purchase energy to fill the gap during peak customer demand will significantly increase price and reliability risk for NorthWestern's customers because of the reduced energy supply availability.**

# Capacity Cost Alternatives



## Colstrip 185 MW

Capacity  
92%  
Credit

185,000 kW  
x 92% capacity credit  
**170,200 kW of capacity**

**Purchase price: \$1.00**



## Natural Gas Simple Cycle Plant



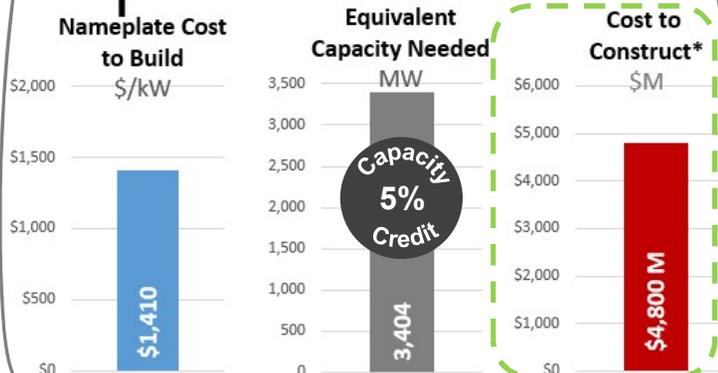
170,200 kW ÷ 97% capacity credit = 175,500 kW  
175,500 kW need x \$1,361 per kW costs =  
**\$239 Million for equivalent capacity**

The 185 MW Colstrip Unit 4 purchase would resolve approximately 25% of our estimated 725 MW capacity deficit for \$1.00.

Alternative solutions to provide equivalent capacity are estimated to range from roughly \$240 million to over \$5 billion.



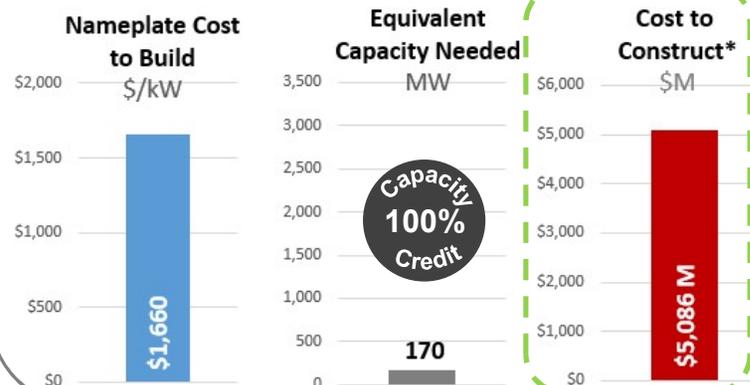
## Wind Farm



170,200 kW ÷ 5% capacity credit = 3,404,000 kW  
3,404,000 kW need x \$1,410 per kW cost =  
**\$4.8 Billion for equivalent capacity**



## Lithium Ion Battery (24 Hour Capacity Solution)



170,200 kW ÷ 100% capacity credit = 170,200 kW  
170,200 kW x \$1,660 per kW = \$282.5 Million per four-hour battery bank  
\$282.5 Million x 18 batteries banks =  
**\$5.1 Billion for 72 hours of battery capacity**

\* Cost to Construct based on estimates in NWE's 2019 Electricity Supply Resource Procurement Plan



# Summary Financial Results (Full Year)

(in millions except per share amounts)

	Twelve Months Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	Variance	% Variance
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	\$ 1,257.9	\$ 1,192.0	\$ 65.9	5.5%
Cost of Sales	318.0	272.9	45.1	16.5%
<b>Gross Margin <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>939.9</b>	<b>919.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Operating, general & administrative	318.2	307.1	11.1	3.6%
Property and other taxes	171.9	171.3	0.6	0.4%
Depreciation and depletion	172.9	174.5	(1.6)	(0.9%)
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>663.0</b>	<b>652.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>276.9</b>	<b>266.3</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
Interest Expense	(95.1)	(92.0)	(3.1)	(3.4%)
Other Income	0.4	4.0	(3.6)	(91.0%)
<b>Income Before Taxes</b>	<b>182.2</b>	<b>178.3</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
Income Tax Benefit	19.9	18.7	1.2	(6.1%)
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 202.1</b>	<b>\$ 197.0</b>	<b>\$ 5.1</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
Effective Tax Rate	(10.9%)	(10.5%)	(0.4%)	
Diluted: Average Shares Outstanding	50.8	50.2	0.6	1.2%
Diluted Earnings Per Share	\$3.98	\$3.92	\$0.06	1.5%
Dividends Paid per Common Share	\$ 2.30	\$ 2.20	\$ 0.10	4.5%

(1) Gross Margin, defined as revenues less cost of sales, is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix for additional disclosure.

# Gross Margin (Full Year)

(dollars in millions)

Twelve Months Ended December 31,

	2019	2018	Variance	
Electric	\$ 741.6	\$ 726.5	\$ 15.1	2.1%
Natural Gas	198.3	192.6	5.7	3.0%
<b>Total Gross Margin <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 939.9</b>	<b>\$ 919.1</b>	<b>\$ 20.8</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

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

\$ 22.1	Tax Cuts and Jobs Act impact (settlement in 2018)
10.9	Natural gas retail volumes
6.4	Electric retail volumes
4.4	Montana electric rates
3.9	Montana electric supply cost recovery
(20.9)	Electric Qualifying Facilities liability adjustment
(5.6)	Electric transmission
(1.5)	Montana natural gas production rates
<u>0.5</u>	Other
<b>\$ 20.2</b>	<b>Change in Gross Margin Impacting Net Income</b>
\$ 3.0	Property taxes recovered in trackers
(1.7)	Production tax credits flowed-through trackers
<u>(0.7)</u>	Operating expenses recovered in trackers
<b>\$ 0.6</b>	<b>Change in Gross Margin Offset Within Net Income</b>
<b><u>\$ 20.8</u></b>	<b>Increase in Gross Margin</b>

(1) Gross Margin, defined as revenues less cost of sales, is a non-GAAP Measure. See appendix for additional disclosure.

# Weather (Full Year)

## Heating Degree - Days

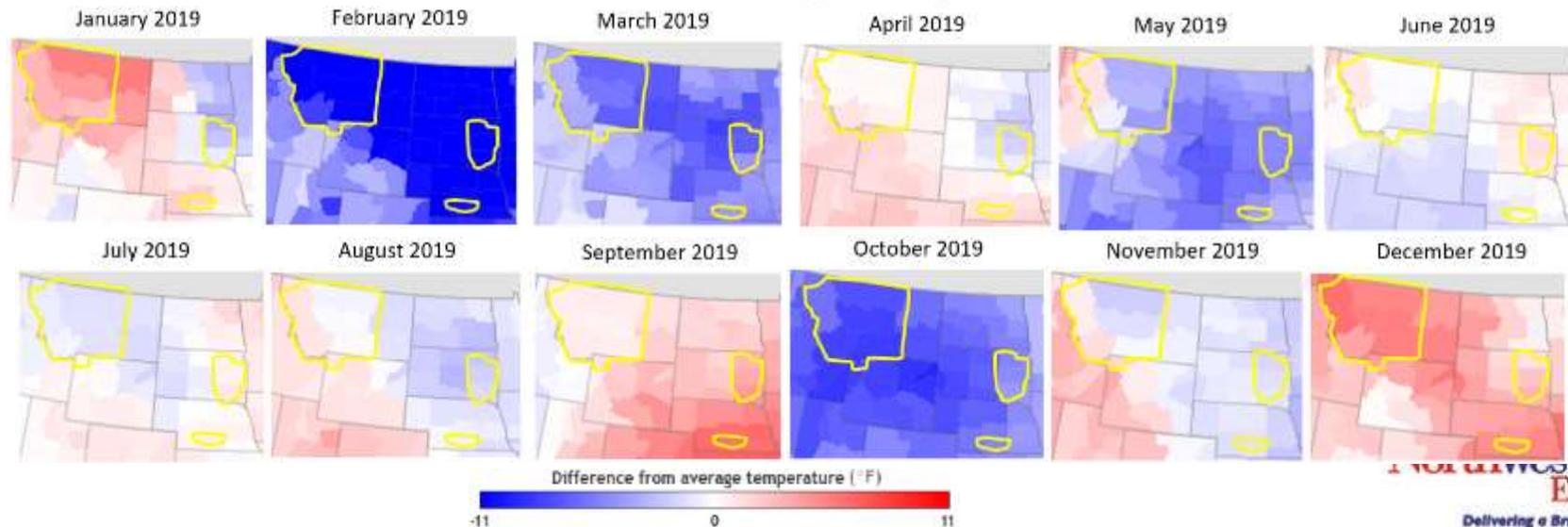
	Full Year 2019 Degree Days			2019 as compared with:	
	2019	2018	Historic Average	2018	Historic Average
Montana	8,647	7,978	7,775	8% colder	11% colder
South Dakota	8,478	8,385	7,595	1% colder	12% colder
Nebraska	6,571	6,792	6,267	3% warmer	5% colder

## Cooling Degree-Days

	Full Year 2019 Degree Days			2019 as compared with:	
	2019	2018	Historic Average	2018	Historic Average
Montana	370	337	403	10% warmer	8% colder
South Dakota	715	951	733	25% colder	2% colder

We estimate overall favorable weather in 2019 resulted in a \$7.3 million pretax benefit as compared to normal and a \$6.0 million benefit as compared to 2018.

## Difference from Average Temperatures



# Operating Expenses (Full Year)

(dollars in millions)

Twelve Months Ended December 31,

	2019	2018	Variance	
Operating, general & admin.	\$ 318.2	\$ 307.1	\$ 11.1	3.6%
Property and other taxes	171.9	171.3	0.6	0.4%
Depreciation and depletion	172.9	174.5	(1.6)	(0.9%)
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 663.0</b>	<b>\$ 652.9</b>	<b>\$ 10.1</b>	<b>1.5%</b>

## Increase in operating, general & administrative expense due to the following factors:

\$ 4.2	Hazard trees
3.7	Generation maintenance
2.2	Labor, due to compensation increases
1.7	Distribution maintenance
1.5	Gas transmission maintenance
1.5	General legal costs
1.2	Technology costs
1.2	Employee benefits, primarily pension related
0.9	Western Energy Imbalance Market costs
(0.8)	Other miscellaneous
<u>\$ 17.3</u>	<b>Change in OG&amp;A Items Impacting Net Income</b>
(\$7.8)	Pension and other postretirement benefits
(0.7)	Operating expenses recovered in trackers
2.3	Non-employee directors deferred compensation
<u>\$ (6.2)</u>	<b>Change in OG&amp;A Items Offset Within Net Income</b>
<u><u>\$ 11.1</u></u>	<b>Increase in Operating, General &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>



# Operating to Net Income (Full Year)

(dollars in millions)

Twelve Months Ended December 31,

	2019	2018	Variance	
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>\$ 276.9</b>	<b>\$ 266.3</b>	<b>\$ 10.6</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
Interest Expense	(95.1)	(92.0)	(3.1)	(3.4%)
Other Income	0.4	4.0	(3.6)	(91.0%)
<b>Income Before Taxes</b>	<b>182.2</b>	<b>178.3</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
Income Tax Benefit	19.9	18.7	1.2	6.1%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 202.1</b>	<b>\$ 197.0</b>	<b>\$ 5.1</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

**\$3.1 million increase in interest expenses** was primarily due to higher borrowings.

**\$3.6 million decrease in other income** was due to a \$7.8 million increase in pension expense that was partly offset by a \$2.3 million increase in the value of deferred shares held in trust for non-employee directors deferred compensation, both of which are offset in operating, general and administrative expense with no impact to net income. This unfavorable variance was partly offset by \$1.6 million higher capitalization of Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (AFUDC).

**\$1.2 million increase in income tax benefit** due primarily due to the release of approximately \$22.8 million of unrecognized tax benefits, including \$2.7 million of accrued interest and penalties, due to the lapse of statutes of limitation in the second quarter of 2019. These tax adjustments were partly offset by an income tax benefit in 2018 of \$19.8 million associated with the final measurement of excess deferred taxes associated with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.



# Income Tax Reconciliation (Full Year)

(in millions)

**Twelve Months Ended December 31,**

	<b>2019</b>		<b>2018</b>		<b>Variance</b>
<b>Income Before Income Taxes</b>	<b>\$182.2</b>		<b>\$178.3</b>		<b>\$3.9</b>
Income tax calculated at federal statutory rate	38.3	21.0%	37.4	21.0%	0.9
<u>Permanent or flow through adjustments:</u>					
State income, net of federal provisions	1.2	0.7%	1.6	0.9%	(0.4)
Release of unrecognized tax benefit	(22.8)	(12.5%)	-	-	(22.8)
Flow - through repairs deductions	(19.7)	(10.8%)	(19.3)	(10.8%)	(0.4)
Production tax credits	(11.5)	(6.3%)	(10.9)	(6.1%)	(0.6)
Plant and depreciation of flow through items	(4.0)	(2.2%)	(2.2)	(1.2%)	(1.8)
Amortization of excess deferred income tax	(1.7)	(0.9%)	(3.7)	(2.1%)	2.0
Impact of Tax Cuts and Jobs Act	(0.2)	(0.1%)	(19.8)	(11.1%)	19.6
Prior year permanent return accrual adjustments	0.6	0.3%	(3.0)	(1.7%)	3.6
Other, net	(0.1)	(0.1%)	1.2	0.6%	(1.3)
Sub-total	(58.2)	(31.9%)	(56.1)	(31.5%)	(2.1)
<b>Income Tax Benefit</b>	<b>\$ (19.9)</b>	<b>(10.9%)</b>	<b>\$ (18.7)</b>	<b>(10.5%)</b>	<b>\$ (1.2)</b>

# Adjusted Non-GAAP Earnings (Full Year)

	GAAP					Non-GAAP Variance		Non-GAAP					GAAP		
	Twelve Months Ended Dec. 31, 2019	Favorable Weather	(1) Move Pension Expense to OG&A (disaggregated with ASU 2017-07)	Non-employee Deferred Compensation	Remove Benefit Related to Release of Previously Unrecognized Tax Benefits	Twelve Months Ended Dec. 31, 2019	\$	%	Twelve Months Ended Dec. 31, 2018	Non-employee Deferred Compensation	(1) Move Pension Expense to OG&A (disaggregated with ASU 2017-07)	(2) Impact of Tax Cuts & Jobs Act Jurisdictional Settlements	(3) Gain on Qualifying Facilities (Periodic Liability Reset)	Favorable Weather	Twelve Months Ended Dec. 31, 2018
<i>(in millions)</i>															
<b>Revenues</b>	\$1,257.9	(7.3)	-	-	-	\$1,250.6	\$53.8	4.5%	\$1,196.8	-	-	6.1	-	(1.3)	\$1,192.0
Cost of sales	318.0	-	-	-	-	318.0	27.6	9.5%	290.4	-	-	-	17.5	-	272.9
<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>939.9</b>	<b>(7.3)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>932.6</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>906.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>(17.5)</b>	<b>(1.3)</b>	<b>919.1</b>
<b>Op. Expenses</b>															
OG&A	318.2	-	7.6	(2.4)	-	323.4	19.9	6.6%	303.5	(0.1)	(0.2)	(3.3)	-	-	307.1
Prop. & other taxes	171.9	-	-	-	-	171.9	0.6	0.4%	171.3	-	-	-	-	-	171.3
Depreciation	172.9	-	-	-	-	172.9	(1.6)	-0.9%	174.5	-	-	-	-	-	174.5
<b>Total Op. Exp.</b>	<b>663.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>(2.4)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>668.2</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>649.3</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	<b>(0.2)</b>	<b>(3.3)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>652.9</b>
<b>Op. Income</b>	<b>276.9</b>	<b>(7.3)</b>	<b>(7.6)</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>264.4</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>257.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>(17.5)</b>	<b>(1.3)</b>	<b>266.3</b>
Interest expense	(95.1)	-	-	-	-	(95.1)	(3.1)	-3.4%	(92.0)	-	-	-	-	-	(92.0)
Other Inc. (Exp.), net	0.4	-	7.6	(2.4)	-	5.6	1.9	51.4%	3.7	(0.1)	(0.2)	-	-	4.0	
<b>Pretax Income</b>	<b>182.2</b>	<b>(7.3)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174.9</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>168.9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>(17.5)</b>	<b>(1.3)</b>	<b>178.3</b>
Income tax Ben / (Exp)	19.9	1.8	-	-	(22.8)	(1.1)	(2.3)	-195.2%	1.2	-	-	(22.2)	4.4	0.3	18.7
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$202.1</b>	<b>(5.5)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(22.8)</b>	<b>\$173.8</b>	<b>\$3.7</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>\$170.1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(12.8)</b>	<b>(13.1)</b>	<b>(1.0)</b>	<b>\$197.0</b>
<i>ETP</i>	-10.9%	25.3%	-	-	-	0.6%			-0.7%	-	-	235.9%	25.3%	25.3%	-10.5%
Diluted Shares	50.8					50.8	0.6	1.2%	50.2						50.2
<b>Diluted EPS</b>	<b>\$3.98</b>	<b>(0.11)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(0.45)</b>	<b>\$3.42</b>	<b>\$0.03</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>\$3.39</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(0.25)</b>	<b>(0.26)</b>	<b>(0.02)</b>	<b>\$3.92</b>

The adjusted non-GAAP measures presented in the table are being shown to reflect significant items that are non-recurring or variance from normal weather, however they should not be considered a substitute for financial results and measures determined or calculated in accordance with GAAP.

(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) Impact of Tax Cuts & Jobs (TCJA) Jurisdictional Settlements includes the addback of \$6.1M pretax revenue deferred for customer refunds in excess of the income tax benefits realized in 2018 and \$3.3M of pretax expense related to hazard tree removal that was originally proposed to be funded with 50% of TCJA benefits (in lieu of customer refunds). This treatment was ultimately conceded in exchange for agreement by the stipulating parties to not oppose a known-and-measurable adjustment equal to the actual 2018 expenditures for hazard tree removal included in our Montana electric rate review 2017 test year. These increases to Non-GAAP earnings were more than offset by the removal of a \$19.8M income tax benefit in 2018 related to the final adjustment of excess deferred taxes and \$2.4M of increased tax expense related to the two pretax items previously discussed (( $\$6.1M + \$3.3M$ )  $\times$  25.3% = \$2.4M). These sum to \$22.2M (or  $\$19.8M + \$2.4M$ ) increase to income tax expense and ultimately result in \$12.8M reduction to GAAP Net Income.

(3) Due to our expectations regarding remeasurement of our Qualifying Facilities (QF) liability, effective 2019 we no longer reflect this adjustment as a non-GAAP measure. Absent an adjustment to remove the QF liability benefit, our 2018 Adjusted Non-GAAP Diluted EPS would have been \$3.65 twelve months ended December 31, 2018. The 2019 QF adjustment, as noted in our gross margin discussion herein, was \$6.3 million (\$3.3 million liability reduction plus \$3.0 million lower actual output and pricing).

# Qualified Facility Earnings Adjustment

	Liability Adjustment due to underlying change in contract pricing assumptions	Actual Cost less than expected (due to price and volumes)	Total
Jun-15	(6.1)	1.8	<b>(4.3)</b>
Jun-16	0.0	1.8	<b>1.8</b>
Jun-17	0.0	2.1	<b>2.1</b>
Jun-18	17.5	9.7	<b>27.2</b>
Jun-19	3.3	3.0	<b>6.3</b>

## Year-over-Year Better (Worse)

Jun-16	6.1	0.0	<b>6.1</b>
Jun-17	0.0	0.3	<b>0.3</b>
Jun-18	17.5	7.6	<b>25.1</b>
Jun-19	(14.2)	(6.7)	<b>(20.9)</b>

*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.*

The gain in 2019 for our QF liability was \$6.3 million in total, it was comprised of \$3.3 million adjustment to the liability and \$3.0 million lower actual costs over last 12 months (QF contract year). This \$6.6 million benefit is \$20.9 million less than the \$27.2 million total benefit we recognized in Q2 last year.

Due to our expectations regarding remeasurement of our QF liability, we no longer reflect this adjustment as a non-GAAP measure. Absent a QF liability adjustment, our 2018 Adjusted Non-GAAP Diluted EPS would have been \$0.89 and \$2.00 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2018, respectively.

# Quarterly PCCAM Impacts

## PCCAM Impact by Quarter

Pretax Millions

	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Q4</u>	<u>Full Year</u>
'17/'18 Tracker	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>
'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>
<b>Year-over-Year Variance</b>	<b>(\$1.6)</b>	<b>\$4.6</b>	<b>\$1.9</b>	<b>(\$1.0)</b>	<b>\$3.9</b>

In 2017, the Montana legislature revised the statute regarding our recovery of electric supply costs. In response, the MPSC approved a new design for our electric tracker in 2018, effective July 1, 2017. The revised electric tracker, or PCCAM established a baseline of power supply costs and tracks the differences between the actual costs and revenues. Variances in supply costs above or below the baseline are allocated 90% to customers and 10% to shareholders, with an annual adjustment. From July 2017 to May 2019, the PCCAM also included a "deadband" which required us to absorb the variances within +/- \$4.1 million from the base, with 90% of the variance above or below the deadband collected from or refunded to customers. In 2019, the Montana legislature revised the statute effective May 7, 2019, prohibiting a deadband, allowing 100% recovery of QF purchases, and maintaining the 90% / 10% sharing ratio for other purchases.



# Balance Sheet

(dollars in millions)	As of December 31, 2019	As of December 31, 2018
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5.1	\$ 7.9
Restricted cash	6.9	7.5
Accounts receivable, net	167.4	162.4
Inventories	53.9	50.8
Other current assets	68.3	49.2
Goodwill and other intangibles, net	357.6	357.6
PP&E and other non-current assets	5,251.4	5,009.1
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,910.7</b>	<b>\$ 5,644.4</b>
Payables	96.7	87.0
Finance leases	2.5	2.3
Other current liabilities	235.1	257.7
Long-term debt & capital leases	2,250.7	2,122.3
Other non-current liabilities	1,286.6	1,232.7
Shareholders' equity	2,039.1	1,942.4
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$ 5,910.7</b>	<b>\$ 5,644.4</b>
<b>Capitalization:</b>		
Finance Leases	2.5	2.3
Long Term Debt & Finance Leases	2,250.7	2,122.3
Less: Basin Creek Finance Lease	(19.9)	(22.2)
Less: New Market Tax Credit Financing Debt	(27.0)	(27.0)
Shareholders' Equity	2,039.1	1,942.4
<b>Total Capitalization</b>	<b>\$ 4,245.4</b>	<b>\$ 4,017.7</b>
<b>Ratio of Debt to Total Capitalization</b>	<b>52.0%</b>	<b>51.7%</b>

Debt to Capitalization remains at lower end of our targeted 50% - 55% range.



## Cash Flow

(dollars in millions)	Twelve Months Ending December 31,	
	2019	2018
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Net Income	\$ 202.1	\$ 197.0
Non-Cash adjustments to net income	165.8	169.5
Changes in working capital	(53.0)	51.8
Other non-current assets & liabilities	(18.2)	(36.3)
<b>Cash provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>296.7</b>	<b>382.0</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
PP&E additions	(316.0)	(284.0)
Acquisitions / Investments	(0.1)	(21.0)
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	0.1
<b>Cash used in Investing Activities</b>	<b>(316.2)</b>	<b>(304.9)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net	-	44.8
Issuance (Repayments) of debt, net	131.0	(11.6)
Dividends on common stock	(115.1)	(109.2)
Financing costs	(1.1)	(0.1)
Other	1.4	2.2
<b>Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>(73.8)</b>
<b>(Decrease) Increase in Cash, Cash Equiv. &amp; Restricted Cash</b>	<b>(3.2)</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Beginning Cash, Cash Equiv. & Restricted Cash	15.3	12.0
<b>Ending Cash, Cash Equiv. &amp; Restricted Cash</b>	<b>\$ 12.1</b>	<b>\$ 15.3</b>

Cash from operating activities decreased by \$85.3M primarily due to:

- Under collection of supply costs.....(\$35.5M)
- Tax Cuts and Jobs Act customer refunds...(\$20.5M)
- Generation inter-connection refunds.....(\$22.1M)
- Receipt of insurance proceeds in 2018.....(\$6.1M)
- Other miscellaneous.....(\$1.1M)



# NorthWestern Energy Profile

Jurisdiction and Service	Implementation Date	Authorized Rate Base (millions) (1)	Estimated Rate Base (millions) (2)	Authorized Overall Rate of Return	Authorized Return on Equity	Authorized Equity Level
Montana electric delivery and production (3)	April 2019	\$ 2,030.1	\$ 2,407.3	6.92%	9.65%	49.38%
Montana - Colstrip Unit 4	April 2019	304.0	284.2	8.25%	10.00%	50.00%
Montana natural gas delivery and production (4)	September 2017	430.2	474.8	6.96%	9.55%	46.79%
<b>Total Montana</b>		<b>\$ 2,764.3</b>	<b>\$ 3,166.3</b>			
South Dakota electric (5)	December 2015	\$ 557.3	\$ 606.6	7.24%	n/a	n/a
South Dakota natural gas (5)	December 2011	65.9	69.6	7.80%	n/a	n/a
<b>Total South Dakota</b>		<b>\$ 623.2</b>	<b>\$ 676.2</b>			
Nebraska natural gas (5)	December 2007	\$ 24.3	\$ 31.2	8.49%	10.40%	n/a
<b>Total NorthWestern Energy</b>		<b>\$ 3,411.8</b>	<b>\$ 3,873.7</b>			

(1) Rate base reflects amounts on which we are authorized to earn a return.

(2) Rate base amounts are estimated as of December 31, 2019.

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

(4) The Montana gas revenue requirement includes a stepdown which approximates annual depletion of our natural gas production assets included in rate base.

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

**Note:**

Data as reported in our 2019 10-K



# 2019 System Statistics



## Owned Energy Supply

<b>Electric (MW)</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Total</b>
Base load coal	222	210	432
Wind	51	80	131
Hydro	451	-	451
Other resources (2)	150	114	264
	874	404	1,278

<b>Natural Gas (Bcf)</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Total</b>
Proven reserves	47.2	-	47.2
Annual production	3.8	-	3.8
Storage	17.8	-	17.8



## Transmission

<b>Trans for Others</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Total</b>
Electric (GWh)	12,258	20	12,278
Natural Gas (Bcf)	45.8	31.2	77.0

<b>System (miles)</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Total</b>
Electric	6,809	1,237	8,046
Natural gas	2,165	55	2,220
	8,974	1,292	10,266



## Distribution

<b>Demand</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD / NE (1)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Daily MWs	750	200	950
Peak MWs	1,200	330	1,530
Annual GWhs	6,600	1,750	8,350
Annual Bcf	23.7	11.8	35.5

<b>Customers</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD / NE</b>	<b>Total</b>
Electric	379,400	63,800	443,200
Natural gas	201,500	90,100	291,600
	580,900	153,900	734,800

<b>System (miles)</b>	<b>MT</b>	<b>SD / NE</b>	<b>Total</b>
Electric	17,972	2,292	20,264
Natural gas	4,810	2,453	7,263
	22,782	4,745	27,527

Note: Statistics above are as of 12/31/2019 except for electric transmission for others which is 2018 data

(1) Nebraska is a natural gas only jurisdiction

(2) Dave Gates Generating Station (DGGs) in Montana is a 150 MW nameplate facility but consider it a 105 MW (60 MW FERC & 45MW MPSC jurisdictions) peaker

# Experienced & Engaged Board of Directors



**Stephan P. Adik**

- Chairman of the Board
- Independent
- Director since Nov. 2004



**Tony Clark**

- Committees: Governance, Human Resources
- Independent
- Director since Dec. 2016



**Dana J. Dykhouse**

- Committees: Human Resources (chair), Audit
- Independent
- Director since Jan. 2009



**Jan R. Horsfall**

- Committees: Operations (chair), Audit,
- Independent
- Director since April 2015



**Britt E. Ide**

- Committees: Governance, Operations
- Independent
- Director since April 2017



**Julia L. Johnson**

- Committees: Governance (chair), Human Resources
- Independent
- Director since Nov. 2004



**Robert C. Rowe**

- Committees: None
- CEO and President
- Director since August 2008



**Linda G. Sullivan**

- Committees: Audit (Chair), Operations
- Independent
- Director since April 2017



**Mahvash Yazdi**

- Committees: Human Resources, Operations
- Independent
- Director starting Dec. 2019



**Jeff Yingling**

- Committees: Audit, Governance
- Independent
- Director since Oct. 2019



# Strong Executive Team



**Robert C. Rowe**

- President and Chief Executive Officer
- Current position since 2008



**Heather H. Grahame**

- General Counsel and Vice President of Regulatory and Federal Government Affairs
- Current position since 2010



**Curtis T. Pohl**

- Vice President - Distribution
- Current position since 2003



**Brian B. Bird**

- Chief Financial Officer
- Current position since 2003



**John D. Hines**

- Vice President – Supply/Montana Affairs
- Current Position since 2011



**Bobbi L. Schroepel**

- Vice President – Customer Care, Communications and Human Resources
- Current Position since 2002



**Michael R. Cashell**

- Vice President - Transmission
- Current Position since 2011



**Crystal D. Lail**

- Vice President and Controller
- Current position since 2015



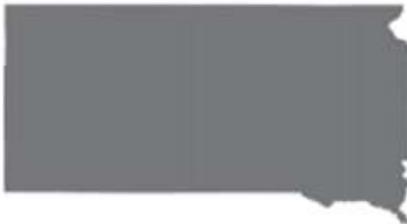
# Our Commissioners

## Montana Public Service Commission



<u>Name</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Began Serving</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<i>Commissioners are elected in statewide elections from each of five districts. Chairperson is elected by fellow Commissioners. Commissioner term is four years, Chairperson term is two years.</i>
Roger Koopman	R	Jan-13	Jan-21	
Brad Johnson (Chairperson)	R	Jan-15	Jan-23	
Bob Lake (Vice Chairperson)	R	Jan-13	Jan-21	
Tony O'Donnell	R	Jan-17	Jan-21	
Randy Pinocci	R	Jan-19	Jan-23	

## South Dakota Public Utilities Commission



<u>Name</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Began Serving</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<i>Commissioners are elected in statewide elections. Chairperson is elected by fellow Commissioners. Commissioner term is six years, Chairperson term is one year.</i>
Kristie Fiegen	R	Aug-11	Jan-25	
Gary Hanson (Chairperson)	R	Jan-03	Jan-21	
Chris Nelson (Vice Chairperson)	R	Jan-11	Jan-23	

## Nebraska Public Service Commission



<u>Name</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Began Serving</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<i>Commissioners are elected in statewide elections. Chairperson is elected by fellow Commissioners. Commissioner term is six years, Chairperson term is one year.</i>
Rod Johnson (Vice Chairperson)	R	Jan-93	Jan-23	
Crystal Rhoades	D	Jan-15	Jan-21	
Mary Ridder (Chairperson)	R	Jan-17	Jan-23	
Tim Schram	R	Jan-07	Jan-25	
Dan Watermeier	R	Jan-19	Jan-25	



# Non-GAAP Financial Measures (1 of 3)

## Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures - Reconcile to Non-GAAP diluted EPS

Pre-Tax Adjustments (\$ Millions)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Reported GAAP Pre-Tax Income</b>	<b>\$ 103.1</b>	<b>\$ 102.6</b>	<b>\$ 116.5</b>	<b>\$ 108.3</b>	<b>\$ 110.4</b>	<b>\$ 181.2</b>	<b>\$ 156.5</b>	<b>\$ 176.1</b>	<b>\$ 178.3</b>	<b>\$ 182.2</b>
Non-GAAP Adjustments to Pre-Tax Income:										
Weather	3.5	(3.0)	8.4	(3.7)	(1.3)	13.2	15.2	(3.4)	(1.3)	(7.3)
Release of MPSC DGGS deferral	-	-	(3.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lost revenue recovery related to prior periods	-	-	(3.0)	(1.0)	-	-	(14.2)	-	-	-
DGGS FERC ALJ initial decision - portion related to 2011	-	-	7.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MSTI Impairment	-	-	24.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Favorable CELP arbitration decision	-	-	(47.5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remove hydro acquisition transaction costs	-	-	-	6.3	15.4	-	-	-	-	-
Exclude unplanned hydro earnings	-	-	-	-	(8.7)	-	-	-	-	-
Remove benefit of insurance settlement	(4.7)	-	-	-	-	(20.8)	-	-	-	-
QF liability adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	6.1	-	-	(17.5)	-
Electric tracker disallowance of prior period costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.2	-	-	-
Transmission impacts (unfavorable hydro conditions)	-	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Settlement of Workers Compensation Claim	-	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remove Montana Rate Adjustments not included in guidance	(2.9)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.4	-
Income tax adjustment	-	(10.1)	(3.6)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Adjusted Non-GAAP Pre-Tax Income</b>	<b>\$ 99.0</b>	<b>\$ 95.5</b>	<b>\$ 99.1</b>	<b>\$ 109.8</b>	<b>\$ 115.8</b>	<b>\$ 179.7</b>	<b>\$ 169.7</b>	<b>\$ 172.7</b>	<b>\$ 168.9</b>	<b>\$ 174.9</b>
<b>Tax Adjustments to Non-GAAP Items (\$ Million)</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>GAAP Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 77.4</b>	<b>\$ 92.6</b>	<b>\$ 98.4</b>	<b>\$ 94.0</b>	<b>\$ 120.7</b>	<b>\$ 151.2</b>	<b>\$ 164.2</b>	<b>\$ 162.7</b>	<b>\$ 197.0</b>	<b>\$ 202.1</b>
Non-GAAP Adjustments Taxed at 38.5%:										
Weather	2.2	(1.8)	5.2	(2.3)	(0.8)	8.1	9.3	(2.1)	(1.0)	(5.5)
Release of MPSC DGGS deferral	-	-	(1.9)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lost revenue recovery related to prior periods	-	-	(1.9)	(0.6)	-	-	(8.7)	-	-	-
DGGS FERC ALJ initial decision - portion related to 2011	-	-	4.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MSTI Impairment	-	-	14.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Favorable CELP arbitration decision	-	-	(29.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remove hydro acquisition transaction costs	-	-	-	3.9	9.5	-	-	-	-	-
Exclude unplanned hydro earnings	-	-	-	-	(5.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Remove benefit of insurance settlement	(2.9)	-	-	-	-	(12.8)	-	-	-	-
QF liability adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	(13.1)	-
Electric tracker disallowance of prior period costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.5	-	-	-
Transmission impacts (unfavorable hydro conditions)	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Settlement of Workers Compensation Claim	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remove Montana Rate Adjustments not included in guidance	(1.8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income tax adjustment	-	(6.2)	(2.2)	-	(18.5)	-	(12.5)	-	(12.8)	(22.8)
<b>Non-GAAP Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 74.9</b>	<b>\$ 88.2</b>	<b>\$ 87.7</b>	<b>\$ 94.9</b>	<b>\$ 105.5</b>	<b>\$ 150.3</b>	<b>\$ 159.8</b>	<b>\$ 160.6</b>	<b>\$ 170.1</b>	<b>\$ 173.8</b>
<b>Non-GAAP Diluted Earnings Per Share</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<i>Diluted Average Shares (Millions)</i>	36.2	36.5	37.0	38.2	40.4	47.6	48.5	48.7	50.2	50.8
<b>Reported GAAP Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 2.14</b>	<b>\$ 2.53</b>	<b>\$ 2.66</b>	<b>\$ 2.46</b>	<b>\$ 2.99</b>	<b>\$ 3.17</b>	<b>\$ 3.39</b>	<b>\$ 3.34</b>	<b>\$ 3.92</b>	<b>\$ 3.98</b>
Non-GAAP Adjustments:										
Weather	0.06	(0.05)	0.14	(0.05)	(0.02)	0.17	0.19	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.11)
Release of MPSC DGGS deferral	-	-	(0.05)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lost revenue recovery related to prior periods	-	-	(0.05)	(0.02)	-	-	(0.18)	-	-	-
DGGS FERC ALJ initial decision - portion related to 2011	-	-	0.12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MSTI Impairment	-	-	0.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Favorable CELP arbitration decision	-	-	(0.79)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remove hydro acquisition transaction costs	-	-	-	0.11	0.24	-	-	-	-	-
Exclude unplanned hydro earnings	-	-	-	-	(0.14)	-	-	-	-	-
Remove benefit of insurance settlements & recoveries	(0.08)	-	-	-	-	(0.27)	-	-	-	-
QF liability adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	(0.26)	-
Electric tracker disallowance of prior period costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.16	-	-	-
Transmission impacts (unfavorable hydro conditions)	-	0.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Settlement of Workers Compensation Claim	-	0.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remove Montana rate adjustments not included in guidance	(0.05)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income tax adjustment	-	(0.17)	(0.06)	-	(0.47)	-	(0.26)	-	(0.25)	(0.45)
Unplanned Equity Dilution from Hydro transaction	-	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Non-GAAP Diluted Earnings Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 2.07</b>	<b>\$ 2.41</b>	<b>\$ 2.37</b>	<b>\$ 2.50</b>	<b>\$ 2.68</b>	<b>\$ 3.15</b>	<b>\$ 3.30</b>	<b>\$ 3.30</b>	<b>\$ 3.39</b>	<b>\$ 3.42</b>

These materials include financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP, as well as other financial measures, such as Gross Margin and Adjusted 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 exclude (or include) amounts that are included in (or excluded from) the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. Gross Margin (Revenues less Cost of Sales) is a non-GAAP financial measure due to the exclusion of depreciation from the measure. Gross 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. Adjusted Diluted EPS is another non-GAAP measure. The Company believes the presentation of Adjusted Diluted EPS is more representative of our normal earnings than the GAAP 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.



# Non-GAAP Financial Measures (2 of 3)

## Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures - Dividend Payout Ratio to GAAP and Non-GAAP diluted EPS

(per share)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Dividend per Share	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.52	\$ 1.60	\$ 1.92	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.30
Reported GAAP diluted EPS	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.53	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.99	\$ 3.17	\$ 3.39	\$ 3.34	\$ 3.92	\$ 3.98
Dividend Payout Ratio - GAAP diluted EPS	63.6%	56.9%	55.6%	61.8%	53.5%	60.6%	59.0%	62.9%	56.1%	57.8%
Reported Non-GAAP diluted EPS	\$ 2.07	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.37	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.68	\$ 3.15	\$ 3.30	\$ 3.30	\$ 3.39	\$ 3.42
Dividend Payout Ratio - Non-GAAP diluted EPS	65.7%	59.8%	62.4%	60.8%	59.7%	61.0%	60.6%	63.6%	64.9%	67.3%

## Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures - Return on Average Equity for GAAP and Non-GAAP Earnings

(per share)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
GAAP Net Income (\$M's)	\$ 77.4	\$ 92.6	\$ 98.4	\$ 94.0	\$ 120.7	\$ 151.2	\$ 164.2	\$ 162.7	\$ 197.0	\$ 202.1
Average Quarterly Equity (\$M's)	\$ 809.5	\$ 842.8	\$ 895.9	\$ 991.1	\$ 1,119.3	\$ 1,520.2	\$ 1,632.3	\$ 1,720.4	\$ 1,875.7	\$ 2,064.4
Return On Average Equity (ROAE) - GAAP Earnings	9.6%	11.0%	11.0%	9.5%	10.8%	9.9%	10.1%	9.5%	10.5%	9.8%
Reported Non-GAAP diluted EPS	\$2.07	\$2.41	\$2.37	\$2.50	\$2.68	\$3.15	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.39	\$3.42
Average Diluted Shares (M)	36.2	36.5	37.0	38.2	39.3	47.6	48.4	48.7	50.0	50.0
Calculated Non-GAAP Adjusted Net Income (\$M's)	\$75.0	\$88.2	\$87.7	\$94.9	\$105.3	\$150.3	\$159.8	\$160.6	\$170.1	\$171.6
Return on Average Equity (ROAE) - Non-GAAP Earnings	9.3%	10.5%	9.8%	9.6%	9.4%	9.9%	9.8%	9.3%	9.1%	8.3%

### **Net Operating Losses (NOL's):**

*The expected tax rate and the expected availability of NOLs are subject to significant business, economic, regulatory and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond the control of the Company and its management, and are based upon assumptions with respect to future decisions, which are subject to change. Actual results will vary and those variations may be material. For discussion of some of the important factors that could cause these variations, please consult the "Risk Factors" section of our most recent 10-K filed with the SEC.*



# Non-GAAP Financial Measures (3 of 3)

## Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures - Free Cash Flow - 2010 to 2019

(in millions)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Capital Spending	240.7	188.7	322.5	299.1	1,174.0	430.4	287.9	276.4	305.0	316.2
Less: Infrastructure Programs (DSIP/TSIP)	-	(15.2)	(18.7)	(47.4)	(52.0)	(51.6)	(47.8)	(37.3)	-	-
Less: Investment Growth	(125.7)	(43.9)	(170.5)	(126.6)	(964.2)	(195.9)	(7.5)	(3.9)	(31.3)	(13.7)
Maintenance Capex	115.1	129.7	133.2	125.2	157.8	182.9	232.6	235.3	273.7	302.5
Free Cash Flow										
Cash Flow from Operations	218.9	233.8	251.2	193.7	250.0	339.8	286.8	322.7	382.0	296.7
Less: Maintenance Capex	(115.1)	(129.7)	(133.2)	(125.2)	(157.8)	(182.9)	(232.6)	(235.3)	(273.7)	(302.5)
Less: Dividends	(49.0)	(51.9)	(54.2)	(57.7)	(65.0)	(90.1)	(95.8)	(101.3)	(109.2)	(115.1)
Free Cash Flow	54.9	52.2	63.7	10.9	27.2	66.9	(41.5)	(13.8)	(0.9)	(120.9)

## Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures - Gross Margin Full Year Ending December 31, 2019

(in millions)	Electric	Gas	Other	Total
Operating Revenues	\$ 981.2	\$ 276.7	\$ -	\$ 1,257.9
Cost of Sales	\$ 239.6	\$ 78.4	\$ -	\$ 318.0
Gross Margin	\$ 741.6	\$ 198.3	\$ -	\$ 939.9

## Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures - Gross Margin Year Ending December 31, 2019

(in millions)	Montana	South Dakota	Nebraska	Eliminations	Total
Operating Revenues	\$ 1,007.6	\$ 224.0	\$ 32.5	\$ (6.2)	\$ 1,257.9
Cost of Sales	\$ 215.7	\$ 87.5	\$ 20.9	\$ (6.2)	\$ 318.0
Gross Margin	\$ 791.9	\$ 136.4	\$ 11.5	\$ -	\$ 939.9

The data presented in this presentation includes financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP, as well as other Non-GAAP financial measures such as Gross Margin (Revenues less Cost of Sales), Free Cash Flows (Cash flows from operations less maintenance capex and dividends) and Net Debt (Total debt less capital leases), 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 exclude (or include) amounts that are included in (or excluded from) the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. The presentation of Gross Margin, Free Cash Flows and Net Debt is intended to supplement investors' understanding of our operating performance. Gross 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. Net Debt is used by our company to determine whether we are properly levered to our Total Capitalization (Net Debt plus Equity). Our Gross Margin, Free Cash Flows and Net Debt measures may not be comparable to other companies' similarly labeled measures. Furthermore, these measures are not intended to replace measures as determined in accordance with GAAP as an indicator of operating performance.



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