

COST OF CAPITAL STUDY

YIELD CAPITALIZATION

2017 Assessment Year

APPENDIX C

NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

QUITY RATE						8.00%	
CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL							PAGE
CAPM Ex Ante			6.94%				4
DIVIDEND GROWTH MODELS							
Value Line, based on Dividends Grow	vth		7.00%				6
Value Line, based on Earnings Grow	th		8.40%				7
Value Line, based on Return on Equ	ty		6.50%				8
					RANGE	6.50 -8.40%	
DEBT RATE						4.40%	9
MARKET CAPITAL STRUCTURE							
MARKET CAPITAL STRUCTURE	70%	x	8.00%	=		5.60%	3
MARKET CAPITAL STRUCTURE Equity Debt	70% 30%	x x	8.00% 4.40%		1.32%	5.60%	3

WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF CAPITAL

6.42%

SUPPORT FOR GUIDELINE COMPANIES

Washington State Department of Revenue

2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Company	Ticker	Beta	Fin'l Strength	P/E Ratio	Div'd Yield	Common Stock	%	Preferred Stock	%	Long Term Debt	%	Total Debt & Equity
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	0.70	A	21.50	2.3%	3,504,446,994	61.4%		0.0%	2,205,600,000	38.6%	5,710,046,994
Chesapeake Util	cpk	0.70	B++	24.40	1.8%	448,281,928	75.8%		0.0%	143,500,000	24.2%	591,781,928
New Jersey Resources	njr	0.80	A+	25.80	2.8%	1,172,133,419	54.8%		0.0%	967,800,000	45.2%	2,139,933,419
Nisource Inc	ni	nmf	B+	25.00	2.9%	4,075,417,345	40.2%		0.0%	6,058,200,000	59.8%	10,133,617,345
NW Natural Gas	nwn	0.65	A	27.30	3.1%	799,174,924	60.1%		0.0%	530,200,000	39.9%	1,329,374,924
South Jersey Industries	sji	0.80	A	25.00	3.1%	1,291,514,608	61.5%		0.0%	808,700,000	38.5%	2,100,214,608
Southwest Gas	SWX	0.75	B++	26.20	2.3%	1,657,124,173	51.0%		0.0%	1,592,900,000	49.0%	3,250,024,173
Spire Inc	sr	0.70	B++	20.00	3.0%	1,771,467,481	49.3%		0.0%	1,821,300,000	50.7%	3,592,767,481
UGI Corp	ugi	0.90	B++	20.40	2.0%	2,846,445,972	43.0%		0.0%	3,774,700,000	57.0%	6,621,145,972
WGL Holdings	wgl	0.80	A	24.70	2.5%	1,398,790,890	48.9%	28,200,000	1.0%	1,435,300,000	50.1%	2,862,290,890
	Mean	0.76		24.03	2.6%	1,896,479,773	54.6%		0.1%	1,933,820,000	45.3%	3,833,119,773
Harmo	onic Mean	0.75		23.78	2.50%		52.9%				42.6%	
	Median	0.75		24.85	2.65%		52.9%		0.0%		47.1%	
Weigh	ted Mean					18,964,797,732	49.5%	28,200,000	0.1%	19,338,200,000	50.5%	38,331,197,732
	6	0 75										

Say 0.75

Capital Structure at Book Value

SUPPORT FOR CAPITAL STRUCTURE MARKET VALUE

Washington State Department of Revenue

2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Company	Ticker	Stock Price	Common Shares	Common Stock	%	Preferred Stock	%	Long Term Debt	%	Total Debt & Equity
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.150	105,175,480	7,798,761,842	73.3%			2,844,990,000	26.7%	10,643,751,842
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.950	16,301,161	1,091,362,729	86.9%			164,971,000	13.1%	1,256,333,729
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.500	86,313,212	3,064,119,026	73.0%			1,131,077,000	27.0%	4,195,196,026
Nisource Inc	ni	22.140	323,445,821	7,161,090,477	50.3%			7,064,100,000	49.7%	14,225,190,477
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.800	27,557,756	1,647,953,809	67.5%			793,339,000	32.5%	2,441,292,809
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.690	79,477,822	2,677,607,823	71.2%			1,080,800,000	28.8%	3,758,407,823
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.620	47,482,068	3,638,076,050	67.8%			1,729,906,000	32.2%	5,367,982,050
Spire Inc	sr	64.550	45,738,897	2,952,445,801	56.7%			2,257,100,000	43.3%	5,209,545,801
UGI Corp	ugi	46.080	172,931,104	7,968,665,272	66.3%			4,052,300,000	33.7%	12,020,965,272
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.280	51,219,000	3,906,985,320	70.1%	28,200,000	0.5%	1,641,900,000	29.4%	5,577,085,320
		Coeff	Mean Harmonic Mean Median Weighted Mean Std Dev icient of Variation	41,907,068,150	68.3% 67.0% 68.9% 64.8% 9.8% 14.4%	28,200,000	0.5% 0.5% 0.5% 0.0%	22,760,483,000	31.6% 28.2% 30.8% 35.2% 9.8% 31.0%	64,695,751,150
			Say		70%				30%	100%

Capital Structure at Market Value

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL

Washington State Department of Revenue

2016 Assessment Year - Natural Gas Distribution

Ke =	Cost of Equity						6.949
		Rm =	rate of return		8.25%		to page
		Rf =	risk free rate		3.00%		
		Rp =	risk premium		5.25%		
		B =	Beta		0.75		page
	<u></u>						
Rp =	Risk Premium						5.259 to abov
	Shannon Pratt and F	Roger Grab	owski			3.50%-6.00%	10 2001
		-		nd Examples, 3rd I	-d 2008	0.0070 0.0070	
	Dr. Aswath Damoda				,	5.69%	chart page 14
			.stern.nyu.edu/~ad	lamodar/		5.14%	adjusted for Rf
		2016 Implie	-			0.1170	
	John Graham and Ca	ampholl Ha	rvov			5.70%	10 year expected real retu
	Duke CFO magazine	-	-			2.23%	Rf rate used in survey
	-	4th Qtr 2016		ii vey - 0.3.		4.93%	adjusted for Rf
D 4		411 Q1 2010	5			4.93%	·
Rf =	Risk Free Rate						3.009
	2016 Valuation Hand	dbook					to abov
			(20 years) US Trea	asury Bond Yield		2.79%	
	Value Line Investme				ige 3197		
	as of 12-28-16	US Treasury	y Securities year e			0.000/	
				5 year		2.00%	
				10 year		2.51%	
				-			
				30 year 30 year Zero		3.09% 3.17%	
	Federal Reserve Sta	tistical Rele	ease (http://www.	30 year 30 year Zero	ov/Releases/I	3.17%	
	Federal Reserve Stat as of 12-30-16	itistical Rele		30 year 30 year Zero	ov/Releases/I	3.17%	
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		tistical Rele		30 year 30 year Zero federalreserve.go stant Maturities 5 year 10 year 20 year 30 year 20 year TIPS		3.17% H15/Current/) 1.93% 2.45% 2.79% 3.06% <u>0.82%</u>	1.97%
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Inflatio	as of 12-30-16 on Value Line Investme	ent Survey, I	Treasury Cons	30 year 30 year Zero federalreserve.go stant Maturities 5 year 10 year 20 year 30 year 20 year TIPS 30 year TIPS	page 1500	3.17% H15/Current/) 1.93% 2.45% 2.79% 3.06% <u>0.82%</u>	2.07% TIPS inflation indication
Inflatio	as of 12-30-16 Dn Value Line Investme Federal Reserve Bar	ent Survey, Consumer F nk of Philad	Treasury Cons Economic Series Price Index Annual elphia	30 year 30 year Zero federalreserve.gc stant Maturities 5 year 10 year 20 year 20 year 30 year 20 year TIPS 30 year TIPS January 6, 2017, 1 Rate of Change 20	page 1500	3.17% H15/Current/) 1.93% 2.45% 2.79% 3.06% <u>0.82%</u>	2.07% TIPS inflation indication 2.009 2.50%
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Ex Ante

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT DIVIDEND GROWTH MODEL

Washington State Department of Revenue

2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Based on Dividend Growth

Ke = (D1 / Po) + G

- Ke = Cost of Equity
- D1 = Expected Dividends
- Po = Current Price
- G = Sustainable Growth

Company	Ticker	Stock Price (Po)	Expected Dividend (D1)	Dividend Yield (D1/Po)	Dividend Short Term Growth (G)	K _e Short Term Growth	K _e with Multi Stage Growth Adj
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.15	1.80	2.43%	6.50%	8.93%	8.51%
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.95	1.26	1.88%	5.50%	7.38%	6.97%
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.50	1.02	2.87%	3.50%	6.37%	6.45%
Nisource Inc	ni	22.14	0.70	3.16%	1.00%	4.16%	NMF
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.80	1.88	3.14%	1.50%	4.64%	NMF
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.69	1.10	3.27%	4.50%	7.77%	7.70%
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.62	1.90	2.48%	8.00%	10.48%	9.62%
Spire Inc	sr	64.55	2.10	3.25%	5.00%	8.25%	7.98%
UGI Corp	ugi	46.08	0.95	2.06%	3.00%	5.06%	5.26%
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.28	2.02	2.65%	3.00%	5.65%	6.01%
					Mean	6.87%	7.31%
					Harmonic Mean	6.33%	7.07%
					Median	6.88%	7.34%
					Max	10.48%	9.62%
					Min	4.16%	5.26%
					Std Dev	2.04%	1.42%
				Coeff	icient of Variation	29.73%	19.44%
						Say	7.00%

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT **DIVIDEND GROWTH MODEL**

Washington State Department of Revenue

2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Based on Earnings Growth

$$Ke = (D1 / Po) + G$$

Ke	=	Cost	of	Equity
ILC.	_	COSC	UI.	Lyuity

- Expected Earnings D1 =
- Current Price Po =
- G = Sustainable Growth

Company	Ticker	Stock Price (Po)	Expected Earnings (D1)	Yield (D1/Po)	Earnings Short Term Growth (G)	K _e Short Term Growth	K _e with Multi Stage FCFE Adj
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.15	1.80	2.43%	6.0%	8.43%	8.67%
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.95	1.26	1.88%	8.0%	9.88%	8.59%
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.50	1.02	2.87%	2.5%	5.37%	8.29%
Nisource Inc	ni	22.14	0.70	3.16%	2.0%	5.16%	9.84%
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.80	1.88	3.14%	6.0%	9.14%	6.84%
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.69	1.10	3.27%	3.0%	6.27%	7.50%
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.62	1.90	2.48%	6.5%	8.98%	8.64%
Spire Inc	sr	64.55	2.10	3.25%	8.0%	11.25%	10.47%
UGI Corp	ugi	46.08	0.95	2.06%	6.5%	8.56%	9.32%
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.28	2.02	2.65%	3.5%	6.15%	6.78%
					Mean	7.92%	8.49%
				н	armonic Mean	7.42%	8.34%
					Median	8.49%	8.62%
					Max	11.25%	10.47%
					Min	5.16%	6.78%
					Std Dev	2.06%	1.21%
				Coefficien	t of Variation	26.02%	14.24%
						Say	8.40%

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT DIVIDEND GROWTH MODEL

Washington State Department of Revenue

2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Based on Return on Equity

Ke = (D1 / Po) + G

- **Ke =** Cost of Equity
- **D1** = Expected Dividends
- **E1** = Expected Earnings
- **Po =** Current Price
- **G** = Sustainable Growth
- **b** = Retained Earnings % = (1 Payout Ratio)
- **ROE =** Return on Equity = (E1 / Po)

Company	Ticker	Stock Price (Po)	Expected Dividend (D1)	Expected Earnings (E1)	Dividend Yield (D1/Po)	Retained Earnings (b)	ROE (E1/Po)	Growth (b*ROE)	K _e Dividends	K _e Earnings
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.150	1.80	3.55	2.4%	50.0%	4.79%	2.39%	4.82%	7.18%
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.950	1.26	2.95	1.9%	54.0%	4.41%	2.38%	4.26%	6.79%
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.500	1.02	1.55	2.9%	40.0%	4.37%	1.75%	4.62%	6.11%
Nisource Inc	ni	22.140	0.70	1.15	3.2%	37.0%	5.19%	1.92%	5.08%	7.12%
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.800	1.88	2.35	3.1%	13.0%	3.93%	0.51%	3.65%	4.44%
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.690	1.10	1.50	3.3%	18.0%	4.45%	0.80%	4.07%	5.25%
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.620	1.90	3.50	2.5%	18.0%	4.57%	0.82%	3.30%	5.39%
Spire Inc	sr	64.550	2.10	3.50	3.3%	45.0%	5.42%	2.44%	5.69%	7.86%
UGI Corp	ugi	46.080	0.95	2.40	2.1%	55.0%	5.21%	2.86%	4.93%	8.07%
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.280	2.02	3.45	2.6%	45.0%	4.52%	2.04%	4.68%	6.56%
								Mean	4.51%	6.48%
							Ha	armonic Mean	4.41%	6.27%
								Median	4.65%	6.67%
								Max	5.69%	8.07%
								Min	3.30%	4.44%
								Std Dev	0.71%	1.18%
							Coefficien	t of Variation	15.66%	18.14%
									6014	6 500/

say 6.50%

SUPPORT FOR DEBT RATING AND DEBT YIELD RATE

Washington State Department of Revenue 2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Company	Ticker	Mergent's Ratings	S&P Ratings
Atmos Energy Corp	ato		Α
Chesapeake Util	cpk		B-
New Jersey Resources	njr		Α
Nisource Inc	ni		BBB+
NW Natural Gas	nwn		A+
South Jersey Industries	sji		BBB+
Southwest Gas	SWX	A3	BBB+
Spire Inc	sr		A-
UGI Corp	ugi		
WGL Holdings	wgl		A+
Overall Average Debt Rating	·	A3	A-

Mergent's Bond Record Jan	uary 2017	7, page 201		
Corporate	Aaa	Aa	Α	Baa
October	3.51%	3.61%	3.78%	4.38%
November	3.86%	3.94%	4.11%	4.71%
December	4.06%	4.12%	4.28%	4.83%
4th Qtr Average	3.81%	3.89%	4.06%	4.64%
Public Utilities	Aaa	Aa	Α	Baa
October		3.59%	3.77%	4.34%
November		3.91%	4.08%	4.64%
December		4.11%	4.27%	4.79%
4th Qtr Average		3.87%	4.04%	4.59%
Industrials	Aaa	Aa	Α	Baa
October	3.51%	3.63%	3.79%	4.40%
November	3.86%	3.97%	4.14%	4.77%
December	4.06%	4.13%	4.29%	4.85%
4th Otr Average	3.81%	3.91%	4.07%	4.67%

Debt Yield Rate	4.40%
	to page 1

SUPPORT FOR DIRECT CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT

Washington State Department of Revenue 2017 Assessment Year Natural Gas Distribution

			20	016	20	17	20	16	20	17
Company	Ticker	Stock Price		Earnings EPS/P)	Earning	ected Js Ratio S/P)		ow Ratio ⁽ /P)	Project Flow	ed Cash Ratio
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.15	3.38	4.6%	3.55	4.8%	6.19	8.3%	6.45	8.7%
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.95	2.75	4.1%	2.95	4.4%	4.95	7.4%	5.40	8.1%
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.50	1.61	4.5%	1.55	4.4%	2.46	6.9%	2.30	6.5%
Nisource Inc	ni	22.14	1.01	4.6%	1.15	5.2%	2.71	12.2%	2.95	13.3%
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.80	2.15	3.6%	2.35	3.9%	4.50	7.5%	4.85	8.1%
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.69	1.34	4.0%	1.50	4.5%	2.35	7.0%	2.55	7.6%
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.69	1.34	4.0%	3.50	10.4%	2.35	7.0%	10.10	30.0%
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.62	3.20	4.2%	3.50	4.6%	9.25	12.1%	6.55	8.5%
Spire Inc	sr	64.55	3.24	5.0%	2.40	3.7%	6.16	9.5%	4.80	7.4%
UGI Corp	ugi	46.08	2.05	4.4%	2.40	5.2%	4.39	9.5%	4.80	10.4%
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.28	3.27	4.3%	3.45	4.5%	5.89	7.7%	5.85	7.7%
		Mean		4.3%		5.0%		8.7%		10.6%
	Harmo	nic Mean		4.3%		4.7%		8.3%		8.9%
		Median		4.3%		4.5%		7.7%		8.1%
		Max		5.0%		10.4%		12.2%		30.0%
		Min		3.6%		3.7%		6.9%		6.5%
		Std Dev		0.4%		1.8%		2.0%		6.7%
Coe	fficient of	Variation		9.0%		36.2%		22.7%		63.3%
Source:		Say		4.3%		4.7%		8.3%		9.0%

Actual earnings: Value Line / Q4 average stock price

Estimated Earnings: Value Line / Q4 average stock price

Actual Cash Flow: Value Line / Q4 average stock price

Estimated Cash Flow: Value Line / Q4 average stock price

SUPPORT FO	R DIR	ECT CA	PITALIZATIO	DN EQUIT	сомро	NENT		
Washington State De	epartmen	t of Reven	ue					
2017 Assessment Year								
Natural Gas Distribution								
Company	Ticker Stock Price		Enterprise Value	EBITDA Historical	Annual Change VL	EBITDA Forecast	EV / EBITDA Forecast	
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.15	10,643,751,842	961,114,000	4.20%	1,001,483,893	10.63	
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.95	1,256,333,729	123,589,000	9.09%	134,824,364	9.32	
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.50	4,159,540,026	240,283,000	-6.50%	224,654,837	18.52	
Nisource Inc	ni	22.14	14,225,190,477	1,405,300,000	8.86%	1,529,754,613	9.30	
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.80	2,427,756,809	221,569,000	7.78%	238,802,144	10.17	
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.69	3,758,407,823	299,094,000	8.51%	324,548,809	11.58	
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.62	5,209,545,801	419,800,000	9.19%	458,376,216	11.37	
Spire Inc	sr	64.55	12,020,965,272	1,388,900,000	6.33%	1,476,833,604	8.14	
UGI Corp	ugi	46.08	12,020,965,272	1,388,900,000	9.34%	1,518,615,034	7.92	
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.28	5,577,085,320	432,862,000	-0.68%	429,922,360	12.97	
		Mean					10.99	
	Harmonic Mean						10.40	
		Median					10.40	
		Std Dev					3.07	
Coefficient of Variation							0.28	
		Say					8.70	

DATA INPUT

Washington State Department of Revenue

2017 Assessment Year

Natural Gas Distribution

Guideline Companies		Stock Price	Beta Levered	Financial Strength	Revenues	Cash Flow	Earnings	Dividends	Bk Value	Common	LTD (BV)
Name	Ticker	Yahoo	VL	VL	Per Share	Per Share	Per Share	Per Share	Stock	Shares	VL
Atmos Energy Corp	ato	74.150	0.70	А	32.23	6.19	3.38	1.68	33.32	105,175,480	2,314,200,000
Chesapeake Util	cpk	66.950	0.70	B++	28.80	4.95	2.75	1.19	27.50	16,301,161	143,500,000
New Jersey Resources	njr	35.500	0.80	A+	21.90	2.46	1.61	0.98	13.58	86,313,212	1,026,700,000
Nisource Inc	ni	22.140	nmf	B+	13.91	2.71	1.01	0.64	12.60	323,445,821	6,058,200,000
NW Natural Gas	nwn	59.800	0.65	А	23.45	4.50	2.15	1.87	29.00	27,557,756	530,200,000
South Jersey Industries	sji	33.690	0.80	А	12.95	2.35	1.34	1.06	16.25	79,477,822	808,700,000
Southwest Gas	SWX	76.620	0.75	B++	52.60	9.25	3.20	1.76	34.90	47,482,068	1,592,900,000
Spire Inc	sr	64.550	0.70	B++	33.68	6.16	3.24	1.96	38.73	45,738,897	1,821,300,000
UGI Corp	ugi	46.080	0.90	B++	32.84	4.39	2.05	0.94	16.46	172,931,104	3,994,200,000
WGL Holdings	wgl	76.280	0.80	А	46.65	5.89	3.27	1.93	27.31	51,219,000	1,435,300,000

Instructions: Data entered on this page will flow to the applicable worksheets.

Value Line Mar 3, 2017