Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina Table of Contents to D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1

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Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Recommended Capital Structure and Cost Rates for Ratemaking Purposes at December 31, 2017

Type Of Capital	Ratios (1)	Cost Rate	Weighted Cost Rate
Long-Term Debt	47.11%	6.00% (1) 2.83%
Common Equity	52.89%	11.50% - 11.90% (2) 6.08% - 6.29%
Total	100.00%		8.91% 9.12%

Notes:

- (1) Company-Provided.
- (2) From page 2 of this Schedule.

<u>Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina</u> <u>Brief Summary of Common Equity Cost Rate</u>

Line No.	Principal Methods	Proxy Group of Six Water Companies
1.	Discounted Cash Flow Model (DCF) (1)	9.10%
2.	Risk Premium Model (RPM) (2)	12.12%
3.	Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) (3)	11.31%
4.	Market Models Applied to Comparable Risk, Non-Price Regulated Companies (4)	12.63%
5.	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate before Adjustment for Size Risk	11.50%
6.	Size Risk Adjustment (5)	0.40%
7.	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate	11.90%
8.	Range of Common Equity Cost Rates	11.50% - 11.90%

Notes: (1) From Schedule DWD-3.

- (2) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-4.
- (3) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-5.
- (4) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-7.
- (5) From Schedule DWD-8.

Proxy Group of Six Water Companies CAPITALIZATION AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS (1) 2012 - 2016, Inclusive

<u>CAPITALIZATION STATISTICS</u>	2017	<u>2016</u> (MIL	2015 LIONS OF DOLLARS	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	
AMOUNT OF CAPITAL EMPLOYED TOTAL PERMANENT CAPITAL SHORT-TERM DEBT TOTAL CAPITAL EMPLOYED	\$3,164.203 \$211.958 <u>\$3,376.161</u>	\$2,984.170 \$175.773 \$3,159.943	\$2,830.411 \$118.223 <u>\$2,948.634</u>	\$2,686.017 \$94.412 <u>\$2,780.429</u>	\$2,572.465 \$123.719 \$2,696.184	
INDICATED AVERAGE CAPITAL COST RATES (2) TOTAL DEBT PREFERRED STOCK CAPITAL STRUCTURE RATIOS	4.78 % 5.91 %	4.927 % 5.91 %	5.02 % 5.91 %	5.162 % 5.67 %	5.33 % 6.09 %	<u>5 YEAR</u> <u>AVERAGE</u>
BASED ON TOTAL PERMANENT CAPITAL: LONG-TERM DEBT PREFERRED STOCK COMMON EQUITY TOTAL	45.27 % 0.12 54.61 100.00 %	45.38 % 0.13 54.49 <u>100.00</u> %	45.90 % 0.13 53.97 100.00 %	44.69 % 0.14 55.17 <u>100.00</u> %	45.25 % 0.18 54.57 100.00 %	45.30 % 0.14 54.56 100.00 %
BASED ON TOTAL CAPITAL: TOTAL DEBT, INCLUDING SHORT-TERM PREFERRED STOCK COMMON EQUITY TOTAL	48.90 % 0.11 50.99 100.00 %	47.91 % 0.12 51.97 100.00 %	47.03 % 0.13 52.84 100.00 %	46.27 % 0.14 53.60 100.00 %	47.02 % 0.16 52.82 100.00 %	47.43 % 0.13 52.44 100.00 %
FINANCIAL STATISTICS						
FINANCIAL RATIOS - MARKET BASED EARNINGS / PRICE RATIO MARKET / AVERAGE BOOK RATIO DIVIDEND YIELD DIVIDEND PAYOUT RATIO	3.42 % 318.59 1.71 59.30	3.63 % 290.78 2.19 60.14	4.38 % 239.19 2.65 60.04	4.88 % 223.55 2.77 56.31	4.91 % 214.84 2.89 57.21	4.25 % 257.39 2.44 58.60
RATE OF RETURN ON AVERAGE BOOK COMMON EQUITY	10.89 %	10.57 %	10.43 %	10.90 %	10.61 %	10.68 %
TOTAL DEBT / EBITDA (3)	3.56 X	3.51 X	3.43 X	3.31 X	3.45 X	3.45 X
FUNDS FROM OPERATIONS / TOTAL DEBT (4)	22.69 %	22.50 %	26.10 %	26.48 %	24.11 %	24.38 %
TOTAL DEBT / TOTAL CAPITAL	48.90 %	47.91 %	47.03 %	46.27 %	47.02 %	47.42 %

- (1) All capitalization and financial statistics for the group are the arithmetic average of the achieved results for each individual company in the group, and are based upon financial statements as originally reported in each year.
- (2) Computed by relating actual total debt interest or preferred stock dividends booked to average of beginning and ending total debt or preferred stock reported to be outstanding.
 (3) Total debt relative to EBITDA (Earnings before Interest, Income Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization).
- (4) Funds from operations (sum of net income, depreciation, amortization, net deferred income tax and investment tax credits, less total AFUDC) plus interest charges as a percentage of total debt.

Source of Information: Company Annual Forms 10-K

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>5 YEAR</u> <u>AVERAGE</u>
American States Water Co.						
Long-Term Debt	37.75 %	39.40 %	41.15 %	39.15 %	40.30 %	39.55 %
Preferred Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Common Equity	62.25	60.60	58.85	60.85	59.70	60.45
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
American Water Works Company Inc						
Long-Term Debt	55.81 %	54.74 %	53.89 %	52.70 %	52.42 %	53.91 %
Preferred Stock	0.07	0.09	0.11	0.15	0.17	0.12
Common Equity	44.12	45.17	46.00	47.15	47.41	45.97
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
Aqua America Inc						
Long-Term Debt	52.26 %	50.81 %	50.76 %	49.45 %	50.32 %	50.72 %
Preferred Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Common Equity	47.74	49.19	49.24	50.55	49.67	49.28
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
California Water Service Group						
Long-Term Debt	44.12 %	45.83 %	44.69 %	40.46 %	42.03 %	43.43 %
Preferred Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Common Equity	55.88	54.17	55.31	59.54	57.97	56.57
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
Middlesex Water Co.						
Long-Term Debt	38.65 %	38.91 %	40.44 %	41.55 %	41.37 %	40.18 %
Preferred Stock	0.64	0.68	0.69	0.71	0.88	0.72
Common Equity	60.71	60.41	58.87	57.74	57.75	59.10
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
York Water Co.						
Long-Term Debt	43.02 %	42.60 %	44.46 %	44.81 %	45.07 %	43.99 %
Preferred Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Common Equity	56.98	57.40	55.54	55.19	54.93	56.01
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
Proxy Group of Six Water Companies						
Long-Term Debt	45.27 %	45.38 %	45.90 %	44.69 %	45.25 %	45.30 %
Preferred Stock	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.18	0.14
Common Equity	54.61	54.49	53.97	55.17	54.57	54.56
Total Capital	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %

Source of Information Annual Forms 10-K

Sep 04 2018

<u>Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina</u> Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Using the Discounted Cash Flow Model for Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

	ted non Cost (5)	\$ \$ \$ 3 8 8 9 19 9 3 8 8	% =
[8]	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate (5)	6.82 % 10.83 8.68 10.56 8.35 9.46 9.12 %	9.10 %
[7]	Adjusted Dividend Yield (4)	1.94 % 2.13 2.43 1.96 2.50 2.26 Average	Average of Mean and Median
[9]	Average Projected Five Year Growth in EPS (3)	4.88 % 8.70 6.25 8.60 5.85 7.20	Average of M
[2]	Yahoo! Finance Projected Five Year Growth in	4.00 % 8.20 5.00 9.80 2.70 4.90	
[4]	Zack's Five Year Projected Growth Rate in EPS	5.00 % 7.50 6.00 6.00 NA NA	
[3]	Reuters Mean Consensus Projected Five Year Growth Rate in EPS	4.00 % 10.60 7.00 NA NA NA	
[2]	Value Line Projected Five Year Growth in EPS (2)	6.50 % 8.50 7.00 10.00 9.50	
[1]	Average Dividend Yield (1)	1.89 % 2.04 2.36 1.88 2.43 2.18	
	Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	American States Water Co. American Water Works Company Inc Aqua America Inc California Water Service Group Middlesex Water Co. York Water Co.	

NA= Not Available

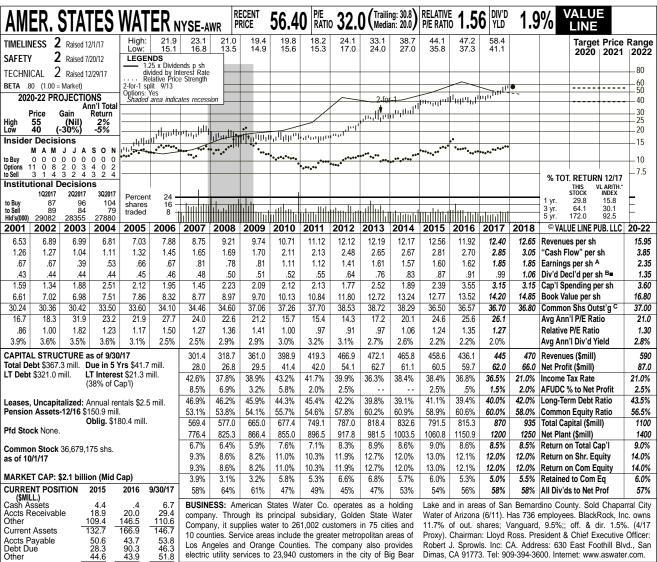
Notes:

- $(1)\ Indicated\ dividend\ at\ 03/29/2018\ divided\ by\ the\ average\ closing\ price\ of\ the\ last\ 60\ trading\ days\ ending\ ending\$
 - 03/29/2018 for each company.

- (2) From pages 2 through 7 of this Schedule.
 (3) Average of columns 2 through 5 excluding negative growth rates.
 (4) This reflects a growth rate component equal to one-half the conclusion of growth rate (from column 6) x column 1 to reflect the periodic payment of dividends (Gordon Model) as opposed to the continuous payment. Thus, for American States Water Co., 1.89% x (1+(1/2 x 4.88%)) = 1.94%.
 - (5) Column 6 + column 7.

Source of Information:

www.reuters.com Downloaded on 03/29/2018 www.zacks.com Downloaded on 03/29/2018 www.yahoo.com Downloaded on 03/29/2018 Value Line Investment Survey



10 counties. Service areas include the greater metropolitan areas of Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The company also provides electric utility services to 23,940 customers in the city of Big Bear

Proxy). Chairman: Lloyd Ross. President & Chief Executive Officer: Robert J. Sprowls. Inc: CA. Address: 630 East Foothill Blvd., San Dimas, CA 91773. Tel: 909-394-3600. Internet: www.aswater.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '14-'16 5 Yrs. 3.0% 6.5% 9.5% 10.5% 10 Yrs. 5.5% 7.5% to '20-'22 4.5% 6.0% of change (per sh) Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends 10.0% **Book Value** 5.0%

123.5

Current Liab.

177.9

151.9

Cal-	QUAR	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2014	102.0	115.6	138.3	109.9	465.8
2015	100.9	114.6	133.0	110.1	458.6
2016	93.5	112.0	123.8	106.8	436.1
2017	98.8	113.2	124.4	108.6	445
2018	102	118	135	115	470
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARE	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2014	.28	.39	.54	.36	1.57
2015	.32	.41	.56	.31	1.60
2016	.28	.45	.59	.30	1.62
2017	.34	.62	.57	.32	1.85
2018	.39	.48	.60	.38	1.85
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P.	AID B=	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.2025	.2025	.213	.213	.83
2015	.213	.213	.224	.224	.87
2016	.224	.224	.224	.242	.91
2017	.242	.242	.255	.255	.99
2018					

American States Water has solid earnings prospects. We estimate that the water utility earned \$1.85 per share in 2017, thanks, in part, to an unusual gain resulting from the sale of certain assets. Even without this windfall, however, the company would still have likely recorded a 6% increase in its share net. The positive momentum from its core water operations should enable the company's share net to reach \$1.85 once again in 2018.

Our earnings forecasts are upon constructive regulatory treatment. As is the protocol in California, a utility petitions state authorities for rate relief every three years. The company's Golden Gate Water subsidiary filed a general case in July of last year. The application is for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021. A final decision is expected by the end of 2018. The California Public Utility Commission has been reasonable in the past, as it has worked with utilities that have had to spend heavily to upgrade antiquated pipeline systems as well as successfully get customers to reduce consumption because of droughts.

The nonregulated business provides

opportunity for growth. No matter how efficiently a utility is run, its profitability is limited to what state regulators allow. its ASUS Through business, which represents about 20% of net income, the company has been involved in taking over the management of water systems of major U.S. military installation. ASUS has already signed several 50-year contracts, and we expect to see more agreements reached in the coming years as privatization in this sector increases.

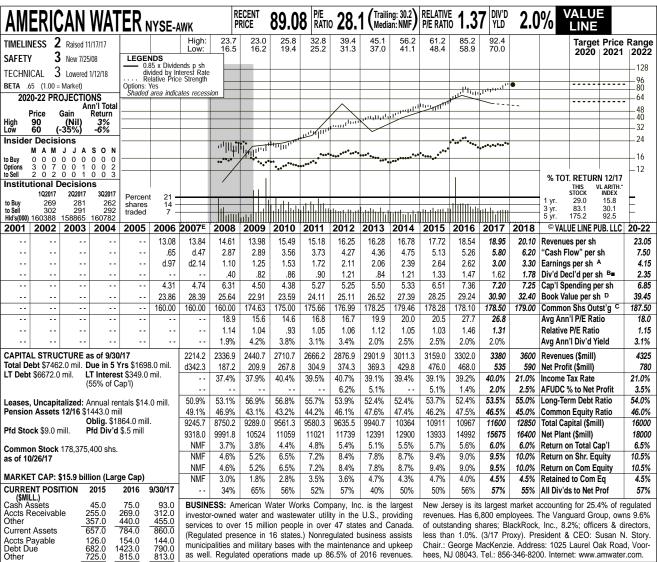
Timely shares of American States have been doing well, of late. Since our last report three months ago, AWR has increased over 10%. By comparison, the S&P 500 has risen only about 6%. Typically, water stocks have been defensive investments for those seeking income. This pattern has changed, possibly due to the limited amount of shares available in the large-cap sector of the water industry. Indeed, AWR is now trading above our projected 2020-2022 Target Price Range. Also, potential interest rates hikes by the Federal Reserve may now make this group less suitable for conservative accounts.

James A. Flood January 12, 2018

(A) Primary earnings. Excludes nonrecurring gains/(losses): '04, 7¢; '05, 13¢; '06, 3¢; '08, (14¢); '10, (23¢); '11, 10¢. Next earnings report due early February.

(B) Dividends historically paid in early March, June, September, and December. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence 75 **Earnings Predictability**



(Regulated presence in 16 states.) Nonregulated business assists municipalities and military bases with the maintenance and upkeep as well. Regulated operations made up 86.5% of 2016 revenues.

less than 1.0%. (3/17 Proxy). President & CEO: Susan N. Story. Chair.: George MacKenzie. Address: 1025 Laurel Oak Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043. Tel.: 856-346-8200. Internet: www.amwater.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '14-'16 **Past** 10 Yrs. 3.0% 5 Yrs. 3.5% 8.5% of change (per sh) to '20-'22 Revenues "Cash Flow" 4.5% 6.5% 23.0% Earnings Dividends 11.0% Book Value 1.5% 4.0% 5.5%

1533.0

2392.0

1747.0

Current Liab.

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) Mar.31 Jun. 30 Sep. 30 Dec. 31 endar Year 2014 754.8 3011.3 679.0 846.1 731.4 2015 698.0 782.0 896.0 783.0 3159.0 2016 743 0 827 0 930.0 802 0 3302.0 844.0 936.0 844 2017 756.0 3380 2018 770 895 1040 895 3600 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun. 30 Sep. 30 Dec. 31 endar Year 2014 .39 2.39 .62 .86 .68 2015 .44 .56 2016 .46 .83 .57 2017 .52 .73 1.13 .62 3.00 2018 84 1.19 .69 3.30 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B= Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2014 1.21 2015 .31 .34 .34 .34 1.33 2016 .34 375 .375 .375 1.47 .375 415 415 415 1.62 2017 2018

American Water Works' prospects are bright. In a December investor presentation, management stated once again that the in-house target for annual growth over the next five-year period for both earnings and dividends is at the high end of the 7% to 10% range. This is well above the projected industry average.

Acquisitions and cost controls will likely remain the twin pillars of the utility's operating strategy. The water industry in the United States is very fragmented and inefficient. As a result, there are many small and midsize authorities that do not have the funds required to make the necessary upgrades to their aging water facilities. Hence, Amer-ican Water has a continual pipeline of purchases in the works. The company is able to integrate these new additions into its asset base while achieving substantial cost savings. Moreover, regulators are happy (more below) when utilities can provide better service at a lower price.

Regulators will probably have a major say in the company's future performance. As the utility continues to expand, its relationship with different state water

authorities should become even more important as it will have to file more rate cases. On the positive side of the ledger, American Water's internal (non-GAAP) operating expense margin continues to decline. Indeed, the ratio has decreased from 44% in 2010 to about 34% this year. The goal is 32.5% by 2020-2022. In any case, being able to quantify savings keeps a utility in the good graces of those ruling on rate filings.

The capital budget has been raised substantially. Even though the company is already in the midst of a major construction program, management just increased the estimated outlays by about \$1 billion to bring the new expected five-year total to somewhere between \$8.0 billion and \$8.6 billion. American Water's finances are average, and probably will remain so for the next several years.

These timely shares will most likely not interest long-term investors. AWK has outperformed the broader market averages, of late. Indeed, the stock recently traded above our projected 2020-2022 Ťarget Price Range.

January 12, 2018

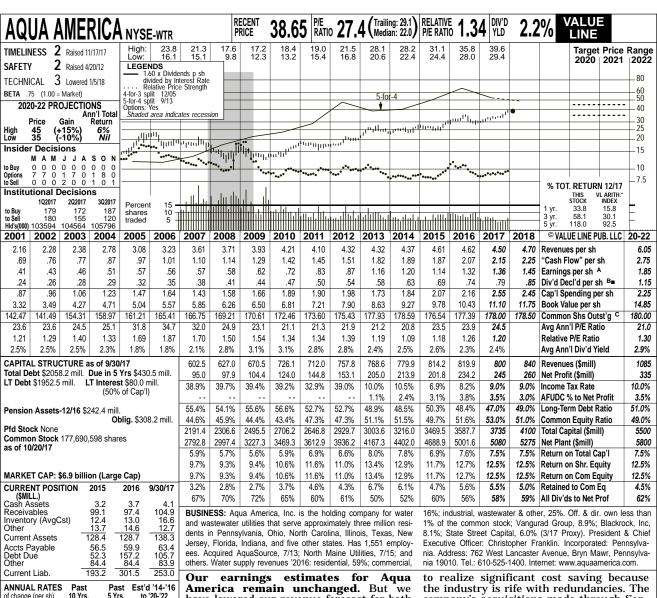
(A) Diluted earnings. Excludes nonrecurring losses: '08, \$4.62; '09, \$2.63; '11, \$0.07. Discontinued operations: '06, (\$0.04); '11, \$0.03; '12, (\$0.10); '13,(\$0.01). GAAP used as of

2014. Next earnings report due mid-February.

Quarterly earnings do not sum in '16 due to rounding. (B) Dividends paid in March, June, September, and December. ■ Div. reinvest- | 07.

James A. Flood

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B+ Price Growth Persistence 85 **Earnings Predictability**



 ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)
 Past 10 Yrs.
 Past 10 Yrs.
 Est' d'14-'16
 '1-'16
 '20-'22

 Revenues
 4.0%
 2.0%
 5.0%
 5.0%

 "Cash Flow"
 7.5%
 7.0%
 6.0%

 Earnings
 8.5%
 11.0%
 7.0%

 Dividends
 8.0%
 8.0%
 9.0%

 Book Value
 7.0%
 7.5%
 6.5%

Cal- QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	182.7	195.3	210.5	191.4	779.9
2015	190.3	205.8	221.0	197.1	814.2
2016	192.6	203.9	226.6	196.8	819.9
2017	187.8	203.4	215.0	193.8	800
2018	195	215	225	205	840
Cal-	EA	RNINGS F	ER SHARI	ΕA	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.24	.31	.38	.27	1.20
2015	.27	.32	.38	.17	1.14
2016	.29	.34	.41	.28	1.32
2017	.28	.34	.43	.31	1.36
2018	.30	.37	.46	.32	1.45
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS P	AID B =	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.152	.152	.165	.165	.63
2015	.165	.165	.178	.178	.69
2016	.178	.178	.1913	.1913	.74
2017	.1913	.1913	.2047	.2047	.79

Our earnings estimates for Aqua America remain unchanged. But we have lowered our revenue forecast for both last year's fourth quarter and 2018 as water sales have been declining. On the positive side, the water utility's operating expenses have been decreasing at a higher rate thanks to lower power and chemical costs. Indeed, we think Aqua's 2017 share net came in at \$1.36, versus 2016's tough \$1.32 comparison. Rate relief granted by several states over the past 12 months will be in effect all of this year. This, plus expected new hikes in Virginia and Indiana, should enable Aqua's share earning to climb a healthy 7%, to \$1.45.

Acquisitions are being made at a modest pace. Due to the fragmentation in the market (there are over 100,000 separate water districts in the U.S.), large-cap water utilities such as Aqua are continuously buying small water entities. Also, most of these authorities do not have the funds required to replace and upgrade their aging network of pipes and waste systems. Not only do the bigger water entities have the funds available for the needed capital outlays, they are also able

to realize significant cost saving because the industry is rife with redundancies. The company's acquisitions made through September of last year combined with organic growth, led to only a 0.8% increase in the customer base. Management has targeted annual growth to be approximately 1.5%-2.0%, so we expect the pace to possible accelerate here.

Aqua has a healthy balance sheet. Of the nine members in this group, only two merit an "A" Financial Strength rating. This leaves the company with the capacity to borrow to buy more water assets. In addition, Aqua's policy of hardly issuing any new equity is a real positive. With the stock near its all-time high, a new equity offering would probably be well received, as institutional demand for large-cap water utilities stock remains strong.

These shares are timely. Also, even though WTR's long-term total return potential isn't great, it is more attractive than most other mid- and large-cap stocks in this group. So, investors that must own a water utility equity may find WTR of interest.

James A. Flood

January 12, 2018

(A) Diluted egs. Excl. nonrec. gains: '01, 2¢; '02, 4¢; '03, 3¢; '12, 18¢. Excl. gain from disc. operations: '12, 7¢; '13, 9¢; '14, 11¢. May not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due

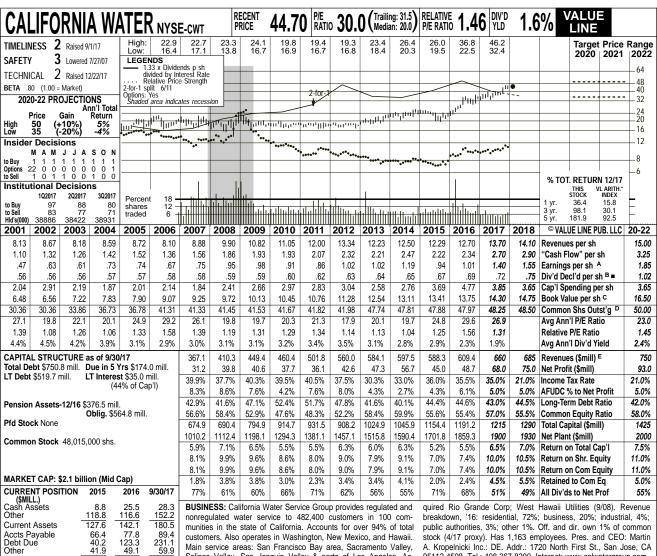
2018

mid-February.

(B) Dividends historically paid in early March, June, Sept. & Dec. ■ Div'd. reinvestment plan available (5% discount).

(${\bf C}$) In millions, adjusted for stock splits.

Company's Financial Strength A Stock's Price Stability 95 Price Growth Persistence 65 Earnings Predictability 90



ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '14-'16 to '20-'22 3.0% 5.5% of change (per sh) Revenues "Cash Flow" 10 Yrs. 4.0% 5 Yrs. 2.0% 5.0% 4.0% 1.5% Earnings Dividends 3.0% 2.0% 10.0% 7.5% **Book Value** 5.0% 5.0% 3.5%

148.5

250.2

380.4

Current Liab.

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.) Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar Year 2014 158.4 191.2 597.5 110.5 2015 122.0 144.4 183.5 138.4 588.3 152.4 2016 121.7 184.3 151.0 609 4 211.7 171.1 155.2 2017 660 122.0 2018 130 175 215 165 685 EARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar 2014 1.19 d.11 .24 .21 2015 .18 2016 d.02 .48 .31 1.01 2017 .02 .39 .70 .29 1.40 2018 N8 .42 .72 .33 1.55 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B = Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 2014 .1625 .1625 .1625 .1625 2015 .1675 .1675 .1675 .1675 .67 2016 .1725 .1725 .1725 .1725 .69 2017 .18 .18 .18 .18 2018

Main service areas: San Francisco Bay area, Sacramento Valley, Salinas Valley, San Joaquin Valley & parts of Los Angeles. Ac-

California Water Service Group stock is trading around recently established all-time highs. The regulated water utility wrapped up 2017 by surging through the \$45-per-share price threshold on more than one occasion, with shares rising 33% on the year. Since our previous review, the equity is up more than 10% in value. In-deed, the investment community has handsomely rewarded the company for delivering consistent top- and bottom-line growth, quarter to quarter. However, fourth-quarter share-net may slip by two cents. For 2018, our ranking system suggests another strong performance may be in store, as CWT shares are poised to outpace the year-ahead broader market averages (Timeliness: 2).

We think the positives will continue to outweigh the negatives here. California Water Service is enjoying the fruits of recent rate increases by the California regulatory authority. In fact, the decision has added more than \$30 million in incremental revenues so far. In addition, favorable changes to the corporate tax rate should help lift profits this year. To address the latter, the company's operating

stock (4/17 proxy). Has 1,163 employees. Pres. and CEO: Martin A. Kropelnicki Inc.: DE. Addr.: 1720 North First St., San Jose, CA 95112-4598. Tel.: 408-367-8200. Internet: www.calwatergroup.com.

expenses are still on the rise, despite some progress in the second quarter. Water costs (only investment upgrades can be recouped) from greater customer usage, as well as periodic increases in wholesale supplier rates, are pushing expenses higher. Overall, we are adding \$10 million and \$0.10 to our 2018 revenue and earnings estimates, to \$685 million and \$1.55 a share, respectively.

Aggressive infrastructure remains on tap through next decade. previously noted, California has close \$500 million left on its investment budget, and has earmarked the funds for upgrades to its aging infrastructure and water systems. On top of that, these improvements are likely to be accompanied by bolt-on acquisitions.

This issue is best suited for short-term accounts. On the other hand, CWT shares have been on a multiyear price ascent and, as a result, total return potential 3 to 5 years out is unappealing. Thus, we think investors with a longer-term holding period can find more-attractive options elsewhere, at this time.

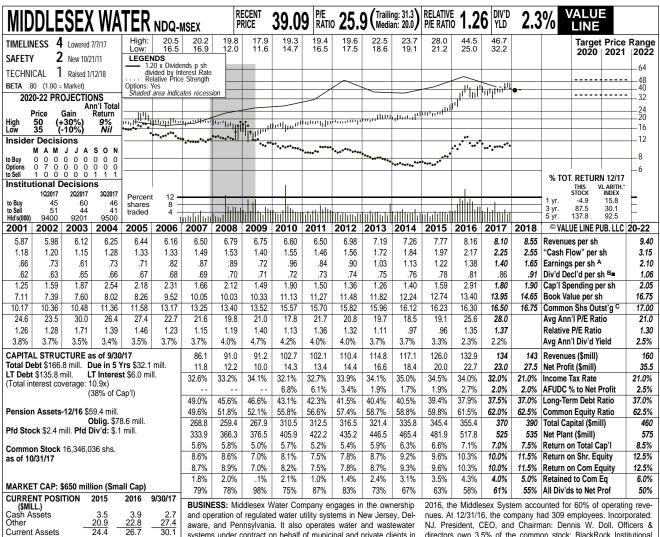
Nicholas P. Patrikis January 12, 2018

(A) Basic EPS. Excl. nonrecurring gain (loss): '01, 2¢; '02, 4¢; '11, 4¢. Next earnings report due late February. (B) Dividends historically paid in late Feb.,

May, Aug., and Nov. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan (D) In millions, adjusted for splits. (E) Excludes non-reg. rev.

(C) Incl. intangible assets. In '16: \$21.9 mill., \$0.46/sh.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence B++ 35 **Earnings Predictability**



12.3 18.2 12.1 31.0 Accts Payable Debt Due 6.5 8.7 16.6 15.9 59.0 Current Liab 28.3

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '14-'16 Past 10 Yrs. to '20-'22 of change (per sh) Revenues 5 Yrs. 2.0% 4.5% 5.0% 1.5% 4.0% 3.0% 6.5% 8.0% 1.5% 3.0% 3.5% 8.0% 9.0% 5.0% 4.5% "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value

Cal-	QUAR	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2014	27.1	29.2	32.7	28.1	117.
2015	28.8	31.7	34.7	30.8	126.
2016	30.6	32.7	37.8	31.8	132.
2017	30.1	33.0	36.2	34.7	134
2018	33.0	37.0	38.0	35.0	143
Cal-	EA	RNINGS P	ER SHARE	Α	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2014	.20	.29	.42	.22	1.13
2015	.22	.31	.41	.28	1.22
2016	.29	.36	.54	.19	1.38
2017	.27	.33	.46	.34	1.40
2018	.33	.38	.60	.34	1.65
Cal-	QUAR	TERLY DIV	IDENDS PA	AID B=	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.19	.19	.19	.1925	.76
2015	.1925	.1925	.1925	.19875	.78
2016	.19875	.19875	.19875	.21125	.81
2017	.21125	.21125	.21125	.22375	.86
2018					
1					

systems under contract on behalf of municipal and private clients in NJ and DE. Its Middlesex System provides water services to 61,000 retail customers, primarily in Middlesex County, New Jersey. In

Middlesex Water Company's battle with mother nature has yet to subside. The story hasn't changed much over the past three months, as weather-related disruptions took a toll on its top line once again. Operating in the Northeast region of the U.S. leaves MSEX vulnerable to extremely volatile weather conditions, which can noticeably impact customer water consumption. Specifically, its Middlesex New Jersey operations saw revenues contract \$1.8 million, year over year, due to softer consumption, while its Delaware utility system was essentially flat, thanks to contributions from added residential customers during the period. Overall, Middlesex generated \$36.2 million in revenues for the September period, \$1.6 million less than last year's haul. This has spurred us that the \$2.0 million effects 2017 too line. to trim \$3.0 million off our 2017 top-line forecast, to \$134 million.

The outlook for profit growth in 2018 is good. Operating margins ought to remain relatively steady, with few changes to the cost structure expected. Meantime, a reduced income tax rate (new tax act and various investment spending deductions) is the main driver behind our imdirectors own 3.5% of the common stock: BlackRock Institutional Trust Co., 7.2% (4/17 proxy). Add.: 1500 Ronson Road, Iselin, NJ 08830. Tel.: 732-634-1500. Internet: www.middlesexwater.com.

proved perspective. All told, we look for earnings to expand 18% this year, to \$1.65 a share (+0.05), on revenues of \$143 million (-\$2.0 million).

Long-term, infrastructure upgrades ought to bear fruit. Approximately \$12 million per year (for the next three years) is earmarked for the replacement of aging water mains, valves, and other infrastructure upgrades.

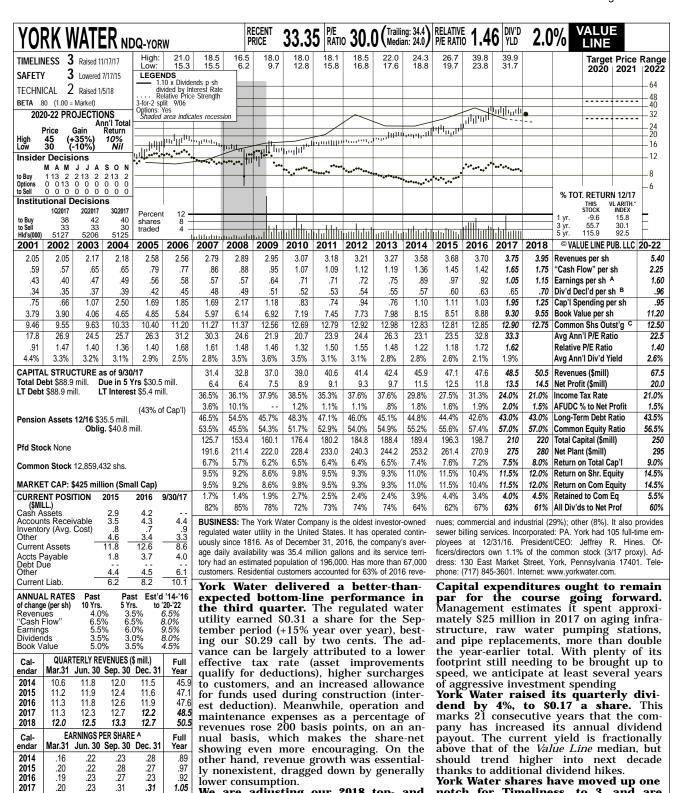
The company boosted its quarterly dividend payout by about 6%, to \$0.224 per share. Shareholders have enjoyed 45 years of consecutive dividend increases, and we don't think this streak will be broken anytime soon. At present, MSEX shares offer a yield that fractionally outpaces the average of all dividend paying stocks in *The Value Line Invest*měnt Survey.

This issue is still a subpar selection for relative year-ahead price performance (Timeliness: 4). What's more, total return potential over the pull to 2020-2022 is nothing to write home about. Thus, we think investors can find better options elsewhere, at this juncture. Nicholas P. Patrikis January 12, 2018

(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due

(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-Feb., | (C) In millions, adjusted for split. May, Aug., and November.■ Div'd reinvestment | plan available.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 70 Price Growth Persistence 40 **Earnings Predictability**



(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due

.25

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30

.1431

.1495

.1555

.1602

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B

.28

.31

.34

.1431

.1495

.1555

.1602

.27

.31

.32

Dec.31

.1431

1555

.1602

.1666

.97 .92

1.05

1.15

Full

.572

.647

2015 2016

2017

2018

Cal-

endar

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

.20

.20

.1431

.1495

.1555

.1602

(B) Dividends historically paid in late February, June, September, and December.

(C) In millions, adjusted for split.

estimate, to \$1.15.

lower consumption.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence B+

Nicholas P. Patrikis

thanks to additional dividend hikes.

York Water shares have moved up one

notch for Timeliness, to 3, and are

now pegged to track the year-ahead broader market averages. Prospects out

to the 2020-2022 time frame are bright,

though most of the benefits we envision

appear to already be baked into the stock

price. Capital appreciation potential does not stand out at the recent quotation.

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ly nonexistent, dragged down by generally

We are adjusting our 2018 top- and

bottom-line estimates. Despite an ex-

panding customer base (acquisition-driven), York's top line is under some pres-

sure. We now look for revenues of \$50.5

million in 2018, down from our prior fore-

cast of \$52.0 million. Conversely, we are

adding a dime to our earnings-per-share

(acquisition-

55 **Earnings Predictability**

January 12, 2018

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Docket No. W-354 Sub 360
D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1
Schedule DWD-4
Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina
Page 1 of 12

Summary of Risk Premium Models for the Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

		Proxy Group of S Water Companie	
Predictive Risk Premium Model (PRPM) (1)		13.43	%
Risk Premium Using an Adjusted Total Market			
Approach (2)		10.80	_%
	Average	12.12	%

Notes:

- (1) From page 2 of this Schedule.
- (2) From page 3 of this Schedule.

Sep 04 2018

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Indicated ROE

Derived by the Predictive Risk Premium Model (1)

[2]	Indicated ROE (4)	11.65% NMF 14.83% 12.31% 13.33% 15.48% 13.52%
[9]	Risk-Free Rate (3)	3.69% 3.69% 3.69% 3.69% 3.69% Average
[2]	Predicted Risk Premium (2)	7.96% NMF 11.14% 8.62% 9.64% 11.79%
[4]	GARCH Coefficient	1.77802 4.90988 2.26697 1.86909 1.87709 1.98492
[3]	Average Predicted Variance	0.36% NMF 0.39% 0.37% 0.41%
[2]	Spot Predicted Variance	0.33% NMF 0.32% 0.42% 0.52%
[1]	LT Average Predicted Variance	0.38% NMF 0.45% 0.32% 0.30%
	Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	American States Water Co. American Water Works Company Inc Aqua America Inc California Water Service Group Middlesex Water Co. York Water Co.

NMF = Not Meaningful Figure

13.43%

Average of Mean and Median

Notes:

coefficient. The historical data used are the equity risk premiums for the first available trading month as The Predictive Risk Premium Model uses historical data to generate a predicted variance and a GARCH reported by Bloomberg Professional Service. (1)

- $(1+(\text{Column }[3] * \text{Column }[4])^{^{^{1}2}})$ 1. From note 2 on page 2 of Schedule DWD-5.
- Column [5] + Column [6]. 2 8 4

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use of a Risk Premium Model Using an Adjusted Total Market Approach

<u>Line No.</u>			Proxy Group of Six Water Companies
1.		Prospective Yield on Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds (1)	4.66 %
2.		Adjustment to Reflect Yield Spread Between Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds and A Rated Public Utility Bonds	0.28 (2)
3.		Adjusted Prospective Yield on A Rated Public Utility Bonds	4.94 %
4.		Adjustment to Reflect Bond Rating Difference of Proxy Group	0.06 (3)
5.		Adjusted Prospective Bond Yield	5.00 %
6.		Equity Risk Premium (4)	5.80
7.		Risk Premium Derived Common Equity Cost Rate	10.80 %
Notes:	(1)	Consensus forecast of Moody's Aaa Rated Corpora Chip Financial Forecasts (see pages 10-11 of this S	
	(2)	The average yield spread of A rated public utility rated corporate bonds of 0.28% from page 4 of th	
	(3)	Adjustment to reflect the A2 / A3 Moody's LT issurproxy group of eight water companies as shown of Schedule. The 0.06% upward adjustment is derive the spread between A2 and A3 Public Utility Bond	er rating of the n page 5 of this ed by taking 1/6 of

0.06%) as derived from page 4 of this Schedule.

(4) From page 7 of this Schedule.

Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1 Schedule DWD-4 lina Page 4 of 12

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Interest Rates and Bond Spreads for Moody's Corporate and Public Utility Bonds

Selected Bond Yields

[1]	[2]	[3]
-----	-----	-----

	Aaa Rated Corporate Bond	A Rated Public Utility Bond	Baa Rated Public Utility Bond
Feb-2018 Jan-2018	3.87 % 3.82	4.13 % 4.09	4.52 % 4.42
Dec-2017	3.55	3.86	4.18
Average	3.75_%	4.03 %	4.37_%

Selected Bond Spreads

0.28 % (1)

Baa Rated Public Utility Bonds Over A Rated Public Utility Bonds:

0.34 % (2)

Notes:

- (1) Column [2] Column [1].
- (2) Column [3] Column [2].

Source of Information:

Bloomberg Professional Service

Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1 Schedule DWD-4 Comparison of Long-Term Issuer Ratings for Proxy Group of Six Water Companies Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1 Schedule DWD-4 Page 5 of 12

Moody's	Standard & Poor's
Long-Term Issuer Rating	Long-Term Issuer Rating
March 2018	March 2018

Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	Long-Term Issuer Rating	Numerical Weighting(1)	Long-Term Issuer Rating	Numerical Weighting(1)
American States Water Co. (2)	A2	6.0	A+	5.0
American Water Works Company Inc (3)	A3	7.0	A	6.0
Aqua America Inc (4)	NR		A+	5.0
California Water Service Group (5)	NR		A+	5.0
Middlesex Water Co.	NR		Α	6.0
York Water Co.	NR		A-	7.0
Average	A2/A3	6.5	A	5.7

Notes:

- (1) From page 6 of this Schedule.
- (2) Ratings that of Golden State Water Company.
- (3) Ratings that of New Jersey and Pennsylvania American Water Companies.
- (4) Ratings that of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.
- (5) Ratings that of California Water Service Company.

Source Information: Moody's Investors Service

Standard & Poor's Global Utilities Rating Service

Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1 Schedule DWD-4 Page 6 of 12

Numerical Assignment for Moody's and Standard & Poor's Bond Ratings

Moody's Bond Rating	Numerical Bond Weighting	Standard & Poor's Bond Rating
Aaa	1	AAA
Aa1	2	AA+
Aa2	3	AA
Aa3	4	AA-
A1	5	A+
A2	6	A
А3	7	A-
Baa1	8	BBB+
Baa2	9	BBB
Baa3	10	BBB-
Ba1	11	BB+
Ba2	12	BB
Ba3	13	BB-
B1	14	B+
B2	15	В
В3	16	B-

Page 7 of 12

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Judgment of Equity Risk Premium for Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

Line No.		Proxy Group of Six Water Companies
1.	Calculated equity risk premium based on the total market using the beta approach (1)	6.64 %
2.	Mean equity risk premium based on a study using the holding period returns of public utilities with A rated bonds (2)	4.95
3.	Average equity risk premium	5.80 %

Notes: (1) From page 8 of this Schedule.

(2) From page 12 of this Schedule.

Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1 Schedule DWD-4

Page 8 of 12

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach Using the Beta for the

Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

Line No.	Equity Risk Premium Measure	Proxy Group of Six Water Companies
	<u>Ibbotson-Based Equity Risk Premiums:</u>	
1.	Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium (1)	5.56 %
2.	Regression on Ibbotson Risk Premium Data (2)	7.31
3.	Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium based on PRPM (3)	6.66
4.	Average Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium	6.51
	Value Line-Based Equity Risk Premiums:	
5.	Equity Risk Premium Based on Value Line Summary and Index (4)	4.68
6.	Equity Risk Premium Based on Value Line S&P 500 Companies (5)	11.07
7.	Average Value Line Equity Risk Premium	7.87
	Bloomberg-Based Equity Risk Premium:	
8.	Equity Risk Premium Based on Bloomberg S&P 500 Companies (6)	9.93
9.	Conclusion of Equity Risk Premium (7)	8.10 %
10.	Adjusted Beta (8)	0.82
11.	Forecasted Equity Risk Premium	6.64 %

Notes provided on page 9 of this Schedule.

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina

Schedule DWD-4 Page 9 of 12

Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1

Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach
Using the Beta for the

Using the Beta for the Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

Notes:

- (1) Based on the arithmetic mean historical monthly returns on large company common stocks from Ibbotson® SBBI® 2017 Market Report minus the arithmetic mean monthly yield of Moody's average Aaa and Aa corporate bonds from 1926-2016.
- (2) This equity risk premium is based on a regression of the monthly equity risk premiums of large company common stocks relative to Moody's average Aaa and Aa rated corporate bond yields from 1928-2017 referenced in Note 1 above.
- (3) The Predictive Risk Premium Model (PRPM) is discussed in the accompanying direct testimony. The Ibbotson equity risk premium based on the PRPM is derived by applying the PRPM to the monthly risk premiums between Ibbotson large company common stock monthly returns and average Aaa and Aa corporate monthly bond yields, from January 1928 through March 2018.
- (4) The equity risk premium based on the Value Line Summary and Index is derived by subtracting the average consensus forecast of Aaa corporate bonds of 4.66% (from page 3 of this Schedule) from the projected 3-5 year total annual market return of 9.34% (described fully in note 1 on page 2 of Schedule DWD-5).
- (5) Using data from Value Line for the S&P 500, an expected total return of 15.73% was derived based upon expected dividend yields and long-term earnings growth estimates as a proxy for capital appreciation. Subtracting the average consensus forecast of Aaa corporate bonds of 4.66% results in an expected equity risk premium of 11.07%.
- (6) Using data from the Bloomberg Professional Service for the S&P 500, an expected total return of 14.59% was derived based upon expected dividend yields and long-term earnings growth estimates as a proxy for capital appreciation. Subtracting the average consensus forecast of Aaa corporate bonds of 4.66% results in an expected equity risk premium of 9.93%.
- (7) Average of lines 4, 7, and 8.
- (8) Average of mean and median beta from Schedule DWD-5.

Sources of Information:

Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation - 2017~SBBI~Yearbook, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Industrial Manual and Mergent Bond Record Monthly Update.

Value Line Summary and Index

Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, December 1, 2017 and April 1, 2018

Bloomberg Professional Service

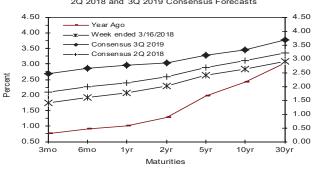
2 ■ BLUE CHIP FINANCIAL FORECASTS ■ APRIL 1, 2018

Consensus Forecasts Of U.S. Interest Rates And Key Assumptions¹

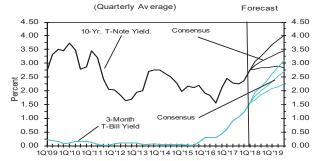
				History	/				Cons	ensus l	Foreca	sts-Qua	arterly	Avg.
			Week End					Latest Qtr	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q
Interest Rates	Mar. 16	Mar. 9	Mar. 2	Feb. 23	<u>Feb</u>	Jan	Dec	<u>10 2018</u> *	2018	2018	2018	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
Federal Funds Rate	1.42	1.42	1.41	1.42	1.42	1.41	1.29	1.42	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.7
Prime Rate	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.38	4.50	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.8
LIBOR, 3-mo.	2.15	2.06	2.01	1.92	1.84	1.73	1.59	1.88	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1
Commercial Paper, 1-mo.	1.79	1.68	1.64	1.56	1.52	1.50	1.38	1.57	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9
Treasury bill, 3-mo.	1.75	1.68	1.65	1.64	1.56	1.43	1.33	1.56	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.7
Treasury bill, 6-mo.	1.93	1.88	1.86	1.85	1.76	1.62	1.49	1.76	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9
Treasury bill, 1 yr.	2.06	2.05	2.06	2.02	1.94	1.80	1.69	1.93	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0
Treasury note, 2 yr.	2.28	2.25	2.24	2.25	2.16	2.02	1.83	2.15	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0
Treasury note, 5 yr.	2.63	2.65	2.63	2.66	2.59	2.36	2.17	2.53	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.3
Treasury note, 10 yr.	2.84	2.88	2.86	2.91	2.84	2.56	2.40	2.75	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4
Treasury note, 30 yr.	3.08	3.15	3.14	3.19	3.11	2.86	2.77	3.03	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8
Corporate Aaa bond	3.97	4.00	3.97	3.99	3.91	3.68	3.63	3.86	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.8
Corporate Baa bond	4.58	4.61	4.56	4.56	4.47	4.24	4.21	4.43	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.5
State & Local bonds	3.61	3.60	3.60	3.59	3.57	3.42	3.46	3.53	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4
Home mortgage rate	4.44	4.46	4.43	4.40	4.33	4.03	3.95	4.27	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.2
				Histor	y				Co	nsensı	ıs Fore	casts-Q)uarte	rly
	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q*	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q
Key Assumptions	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	<u>2019</u>
Major Currency Index	89.6	90.3	93.7	94.4	93.0	88.3	88.9	86.3	86.4	86.4	86.5	86.5	86.6	86.7
Real GDP	2.2	2.8	1.8	1.2	3.1	3.2	2.6	2.2	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.1
GDP Price Index	2.4	1.4	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.2
Consumer Price Index	2.3	1.8	3.0	3.1	-0.3	2.0	3.7	3.3	1.9	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3

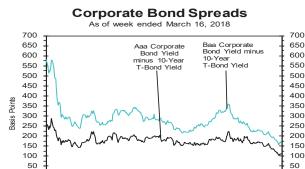
Forecasts for interest rates and the Federal Reserve's Major Currency Index represent averages for the quarter. Forecasts for Real GDP, GDP Price Index and Consumer Price Index are seasonally-adjusted annual rates of change (saar). Individual panel members' forecasts are on pages 4 through 9. Historical data: Treasury rates from the Federal Reserve Board's H.15; AAA-AA and A-BBB corporate bond yields from Bank of America-Merrill Lynch and are 15+ years, yield to maturity; State and local bond yields from Bank of America-Merrill Lynch, A-rated, yield to maturity, Mortgage rates from Freddie Mac, 30-year, fixed; LIBOR quotes from Intercontinental Exchange. All interest rate data is sourced from Haver Analytics. Historical data for Fed's Major Currency Index is from FRSR H.10. Historical data for Real GDP and GDP Chained Price Index are from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). Consumer Price Index (CPI) history is from the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). **Interest rate data for 1Q 2018 based on historical data through the week ended March 16th.** *Data for 1Q 2018 Major Currency Index is based on data through week ended March 16th.* Figures for 1Q 2018 Real GDP, GDP Chained Price Index and Consumer Price Index are consensus forecasts based on a special question asked of the panelists' this month.

U.S. Treasury Yield Curve Week ended March 16, 2018 and Year Ago vs. 2Q 2018 and 3Q 2019 Consensus Forecasts



U.S. 3-Mo. T-Bills & 10-Yr. T-Note Yield





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

14 ■ BLUE CHIP FINANCIAL FORECASTS ■ DECEMBER 1, 2017

Long-Range Survey:

The table below contains the results of our twice-annual long-range CONSENSUS survey. There are also Top 10 and Bottom 10 averages for each variable. Shown are consensus estimates for the years 2019 through 2023 and averages for the five-year periods 2019-2023 and 2024-2028. Apply these projections cautiously. Few if any economic, demographic and political forces can be evaluated accurately over such long time spans.

				age For Th				Averages
Interest Rates		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2019-2023	2024-2028
1. Federal Funds Rate	CONSENSUS	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.0
	Top 10 Average	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5
	Bottom 10 Average	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.4
2. Prime Rate	CONSENSUS	5.5	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9
	Top 10 Average	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.5
4 YPOP 4 Y	Bottom 10 Average	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.3
3. LIBOR, 3-Mo.	CONSENSUS	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2
	Top 10 Average	3.2	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.8
4.6 :15 114	Bottom 10 Average	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6
4. Commercial Paper, 1-Mo.	CONSENSUS	2.6	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.1
	Top 10 Average	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.8
5 T	Bottom 10 Average	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6
5. Treasury Bill Yield, 3-Mo.	CONSENSUS	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9
	Top 10 Average	2.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5
(T	Bottom 10 Average	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4
6. Treasury Bill Yield, 6-Mo.	CONSENSUS	2.6	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.1
	Top 10 Average	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.7
7 T	Bottom 10 Average	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5
7. Treasury Bill Yield, 1-Yr.	CONSENSUS	2.7	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2
	Top 10 Average	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.9
0 T	Bottom 10 Average	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5 3.1	2.6
8. Treasury Note Yield, 2-Yr.	CONSENSUS	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.3		3.3
	Top 10 Average	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.0
10 Tours - N. A. Well 5 Va	Bottom 10 Average	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7
10. Treasury Note Yield, 5-Yr.	CONSENSUS	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6
	Top 10 Average	3.6	3.9	4.1 2.9	4.1 2.9	4.1 2.9	3.9	4.3
11 Transport Nata Viold 10 Va	Bottom 10 Average	3.3	2.8 3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	2.8 3.6	3.0
11. Treasury Note Yield, 10-Yr.	CONSENSUS							
	Top 10 Average	3.9	4.2 2.9	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2 3.0	4.5 3.2
12 T Pand Viold 20 Va	Bottom 10 Average CONSENSUS	2.8 3.8	4.1	3.1 4.2	3.1 4.2	3.1 4.2	4.1	4.3
12. Treasury Bond Yield, 30-Yr.			4.1 4.7	4.2	4.2 4.7	4.2	4.1 4.7	4.3 5.0
	Top 10 Average Bottom 10 Average	4.4 3.3	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.7
12 Corporate Ass Pand Viold	CONSENSUS	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.1	5.4
13. Corporate Aaa Bond Yield		5.5	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.2
	Top 10 Average Bottom 10 Average	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.7
12 Corporate Pee Pend Vield	CONSENSUS	5.7	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.2
13. Corporate Baa Bond Yield	Top 10 Average	6.4	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.8	7.0
	Bottom 10 Average	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.4
14. State & Local Bonds Yield	CONSENSUS	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.8
14. State & Escar Bolius Tield	Top 10 Average	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.5
	Bottom 10 Average	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.1
15. Home Mortgage Rate	CONSENSUS	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.5
15. Home Wordage Rate	Top 10 Average	5.5	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.8	6.1
	Bottom 10 Average	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.9
A. FRB - Major Currency Index	CONSENSUS	90.4	90.0	89.9	89.9	90.0	90.0	90.4
71.11db Wajor Carrency macx	Top 10 Average	94.7	94.8	95.0	95.1	95.3	95.0	95.4
	Bottom 10 Average	86.9	85.8	85.4	85.5	85.6	85.8	86.1
	Bettem 1011. Grage	00.5						
		Year-Over-Year, % Change						Averages
D. D. al CDD	CONCENCUE	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2019-2023	2024-2028
B. Real GDP	CONSENSUS	2.2	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Top 10 Average	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4
C CDP CI : 1P: Y	Bottom 10 Average	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7
C. GDP Chained Price Index	CONSENSUS	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
	Top 10 Average	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
D. Communication Indian	Bottom 10 Average	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
D. Consumer Price Index	CONSENSUS	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.2
	Top 10 Average	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4
	Bottom 10 Average	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Derivation of Mean Equity Risk Premium Based Studies Using Holding Period Returns and Projected Market Appreciation of the S&P Utility Index

Line No.		Implied Equity Risk Premium
	Equity Risk Premium based on S&P Utility Index Holding Period Returns (1):	
1.	Historical Equity Risk Premium	4.04 %
2.	Regression of Historical Equity Risk Premium (2)	5.61
3.	Forecasted Equity Risk Premium Based on PRPM (3)	4.18
4.	Average Equity Risk Premium Using S&P Holding Period Returns	4.61 %
	Equity Risk Premium based on Projected Market Appreciation of the S&P Utility Index	
5.	Forecasted Equity Risk Premium based on Projected Total Return on the S&P Utilities Index (Value Line Data) (4)	4.86
6.	Forecasted Equity Risk Premium based on Projected Total Return on the S&P Utilities Index (Bloomberg Data) (5)	5.37
7.	Average Equity Risk Premium (6)	4.95 %

- Notes: (1) Based on S&P Public Utility Index monthly total returns and Moody's Public Utility Bond average monthly yields from 1928-2017. Holding period returns are calculated based upon income received (dividends and interest) plus the relative change in the market value of a security over a one-year holding period.
 - (2) This equity risk premium is based on a regression of the monthly equity risk premiums of the S&P Utility Index relative to Moody's A rated public utility bond yields from 1928 2017 referenced in note 1 above.
 - (3) The Predictive Risk Premium Model (PRPM) is applied to the risk premium of the monthly total returns of the S&P Utility Index and the monthly yields on Moody's A rated public utility bonds from January 1928 March 2018.
 - (4) Using data from Value Line for the S&P Utilities Index, an expected return of 9.80% was derived based on expected dividend yields and long-term growth estimates as a proxy for market appreciation. Subtracting the expected A rated public utility bond yield of 4.94%, calculated on line 3 of page 3 of this Schedule results in an equity risk premium of 4.86%. (9.80% 4.94% = 4.86%)
 - (5) Using data from Bloomberg Professional Service for the S&P Utilities Index, an expected return of 10.31% was derived based on expected dividend yields and long-term growth estimates as a proxy for market appreciation. Subtracting the expected A rated public utility bond yield of 4.94%, calculated on line 3 of page 3 of this Schedule results in an equity risk premium of 5.37%. (10.31% 4.94% = 5.37%)
 - (6) Average of lines 4 through 6.

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of the Traditional Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) and Empirical Capital Asset Pricing Model (ECAPM) Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina

[8]	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate (3)	11.21 % 10.26 10.97 11.53 11.77 11.77	11.25 %	11.37 %	11.31 %
[2]	ECAPM Cost Rate	11.44 % 10.62 11.24 11.72 11.92 11.92	11.48 %	11.58 %	11.53
[9]	Traditional CAPM Cost Rate	10.99 % 9.89 10.71 11.35 11.62	11.03 %	11.17 %	11.10
[5]	Risk-Free Rate (2)	3.69 % 3.69 3.69 3.69 3.69			
[4]	Market Risk Premium (1)	9.12 % 9.12 9.12 9.12 9.12			
[3]	Average Beta	0.80 0.68 0.77 0.84 0.87	0.81	0.82	0.82
[2]	Bloomberg Adjusted Beta	0.79 0.71 0.79 0.88 0.93			
[1]	Value Line Adjusted Beta	0.80 0.65 0.75 0.80 0.80 0.80			
	Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	American States Water Co. American Water Works Company Inc Aqua America Inc California Water Service Group Middlesex Water Co.	Mean	Median	Average of Mean and Median

Notes on page 2 of this Schedule.

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9.12 %

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina

Notes to Accompany the Application of the CAPM and ECAPM

Notes:

(1) The market risk premium (MRP) is derived by using six different measures from three sources: Ibbotson, Value Line, and Bloomberg as illustrated below:

Historical Data MRP Estimates:

Measure 1: Ibbotson Arithmetic Mean M	IRP (1926-2016)

Measure 1: Ibbotson Arithmetic Mean MRP (1926-2016)	
Arithmetic Mean Monthly Returns for Large Stocks 1926-2016: Arithmetic Mean Income Returns on Long-Term Government Bonds: MRP based on Ibbotson Historical Data:	11.97 % 5.17 6.80 %
Measure 2: Application of a Regression Analysis to Ibbotson Historical Data (1926-2016)	<u>8.49</u> %
Measure 3: Application of the PRPM to Ibbotson Historical Data: (January 1926 - March 2018)	<u>7.55</u> %
Average Historical Data MRP	7.61 %
Value Line MRP Estimates:	
Measure 4: Value Line Projected MRP (Thirteen weeks ending March 30, 2018)	
Total projected return on the market 3-5 years hence*: Projected Risk-Free Rate (see note 2): MRP based on Value Line Summary & Index: *Forcasted 3-5 year capital appreciation plus expected dividend yield	9.34 % 3.69 5.65 %
Measure 5: Value Line Projected Return on the Market based on the S&P 500	
Total return on the Market based on the S&P 500: Projected Risk-Free Rate (see note 2): MRP based on Value Line data	15.73 % 3.69 12.04 %
Average Value Line MRP:	8.84 %
Measure 6: Bloomberg Projected MRP	
Total return on the Market based on the S&P 500: Projected Risk-Free Rate (see note 2): MRP based on Bloomberg data	14.59 % 3.69 10.90 %

(2) For reasons explained in the direct testimony, the appropriate risk-free rate for cost of capital purposes is the average forecast of 30 year Treasury Bonds per the consensus of nearly 50 economists reported in Blue Chip Financial Forecasts. (See pages 10-11 of Schedule DWD-4.) The projection of the risk-free rate is illustrated below:

Average of Value Line, Ibbotson, and Bloomberg MRP:

Second Quarter 2018	3.20	%
Third Quarter 2018	3.30	
Fourth Quarter 2018	3.50	
First Quarter 2019	3.60	
Second Quarter 2019	3.70	
Third Quarter 2019	3.80	
2019-2023	4.10	
2024-2028	4.30	_
	3.69	%

(3) Average of Column 6 and Column 7.

Sources of Information:

Value Line Summary and Index

Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, December 1, 2017 and April 1, 2018

Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation - 2017 SBBI Yearbook, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Bloomberg Professional Services

Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina Basis of Selection of the Group of Non-Price Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Utility Proxy Group

The criteria for selection of the Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group was that the non-price regulated companies be domestic and reported in <u>Value Line Investment Survey</u> (Standard Edition).

The Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group was then selected based on the unadjusted beta range of 0.38 - 0.78 and residual standard error of the regression range of 2.4465 - 2.9177 of the Utility Proxy Group.

These ranges are based upon plus or minus two standard deviations of the unadjusted beta and standard error of the regression. Plus or minus two standard deviations captures 95.50% of the distribution of unadjusted betas and residual standard errors of the regression.

The standard deviation of the Utility Proxy Group's residual standard error of the regression is 0.1178. The standard deviation of the standard error of the regression is calculated as follows:

Standard Deviation of the Std. Err. of the Regr. = Standard Error of the Regression $\sqrt{2N}$

where: N = number of observations. Since Value Line betas are derived from weekly price change observations over a period of five years, N = 259

Thus,
$$0.1178 = \frac{2.6821}{\sqrt{518}} = \frac{2.6821}{22.7596}$$

Source of Information: Value Line, Inc., March 2018

Value Line Investment Survey (Standard Edition)

D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit No. 1 Schedule DWD-6 Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Basis of Selection of Comparable Risk Domestic Non-Price Regulated Companies

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	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	Value Line Adjusted Beta	Unadjusted Beta	Residual Standard Error of the Regression	Standard Deviation of Beta
Froxy Group of Six Water Companies	Deta	Deta	Regression	UI Deta
American States Water Co. American Water Works Company Inc Aqua America Inc California Water Service Group Middlesex Water Co. York Water Co. Average	0.75 0.65 0.70 0.75 0.80 0.80	0.62 0.42 0.54 0.62 0.63 0.67	2.7925 2.0354 2.1992 2.6641 3.1066 3.2949	0.1058 0.0771 0.0833 0.1010 0.1177 0.1249
Beta Range (+/- 2 std. Devs. of Beta) 2 std. Devs. of Beta	0.38 0.20	0.78		
Residual Std. Err. Range (+/- 2 std. Devs. of the Residual Std. Err.)	2.4465	2.9177		
Std. dev. of the Res. Std. Err.	0.1178			
2 std. devs. of the Res. Std. Err.	0.2356			

Source of Information: Valueline Proprietary Database, March 2018

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Proxy Group of Non-Price Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
-----	-----	-----	-----

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	[+]	[-]	[0]	ſ. <u>+</u>]
Proxy Group of Seventeen Non-Price Regulated Companies	VL Adjusted Beta	Unadjusted Beta	Residual Standard Error of the Regression	Standard Deviation of Beta
ABM Industries Inc.	0.80	0.67	2.5536	0.0968
AutoZone Inc.	0.80	0.69	2.6223	0.0994
Cheesecake Factory	0.75	0.55	2.7238	0.1032
CBOE Holdings	0.70	0.49	2.5467	0.0965
Chemed Corp.	0.80	0.63	2.9158	0.1105
C.H. Robinson	0.85	0.71	2.6970	0.1022
Cigna Corp.	0.85	0.76	2.7306	0.1035
Darden Restaurants	0.85	0.74	2.7669	0.1049
DaVita Inc.	0.85	0.77	2.7539	0.1044
Forrester Research	0.70	0.48	2.6673	0.1011
Hormel Foods	0.75	0.56	2.5540	0.0968
IQVIA Holdings	0.85	0.75	2.5724	0.0989
Mercury General	0.80	0.62	2.4507	0.0929
Vail Resorts	0.80	0.69	2.5050	0.0949
Pinnacle Foods	0.80	0.66	2.5411	0.0973
Spectrum Brands	0.85	0.70	2.8926	0.1096
West Pharmac. Svcs.	0.85	0.74	2.6305	0.0997
Average	0.80	0.66	2.6500	0.1000
Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	0.74	0.58	2.6821	0.1016

Source of Information:

Valueline Proprietary Database, March 2018

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Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Summary of Cost of Equity Models Applied to Proxy Group of Seventeen Non-Price Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

Principal Methods		Proxy Group of Seventeen Non- Price Regulated Companies	-
Discounted Cash Flow Model (DCF) (1)		14.15	%
Risk Premium Model (RPM) (2)		12.46	
Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) (3)		11.78	
	Mean	12.80	%
	Median	12.46	%
	Average of Mean and Median	12.63	%

Notes:

- (1) From page 2 of this Schedule.
- (2) From page 3 of this Schedule.
- (3) From page 6 of this Schedule.

DCF Results for the Proxy Group of Non-Price-Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

[8]	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate (1)	17.73 % NA	13.34 18.45	11.32 11.66	13.33	15.57	NA	12.98	80.6	NA	28.32	24.77	11.79	10.81	12.67	15.13 %	13.16 %	14.15 %
[2]	Adjusted Dividend Yield	2.06 %	2.55	0.44	0.02	2.83	•	1.98	2.30	·	5.84	2.97	2.36	1.63	0.64	Mean	Median	n and Median
[9]	Average Projected Five Year Growth Rate in EPS	15.67 %	10.79 17.48	10.88 9.56	13.31	12.74	18.32	11.00	6.78	15.28	22.48	21.80	9.43	9.18	12.03			Average of Mean and Median
[2]	Yahoo! Finance Projected Five Year Growth in EPS	16.00 %	10.88 17.90	10.00	13.92	13.53	23.74	12.00	0.53	16.15	25.30	23.70	09.6	5.05	10.20			
[4]	Zack's Five Year Projected Growth Rate in EPS	NA % 12.70	14.40 17.60	10.00	12.90	10.90	16.80	12.00	9.30	13.80	25.30	NA	8.00	14.60	13.70			
[3]	Reuters Mean Consensus Projected Five Year Growth Rate in EPS	16.00 %	10.88 17.90	10.00	13.92	13.52	23.74	12.00	NA	16.65	25.30	23.70	09.6	5.05	10.20			
[2]	Value Line Projected Five Year Growth in EPS	15.00 %	7.00 16.50	13.50 9.50	12.50	13.00	9.00	8.00	10.50	14.50	14.00	18.00	10.50	12.00	14.00			
豆	Average Dividend Yield	1.91 %	2.42 0.89	0.42	0.02	2.66		1.88	2.22		5.25	2.68	2.25	1.56	09.0			
	Proxy Group of Seventeen Non-Price Regulated Companies	ABM Industries Inc. AutoZone Inc.	Cheesecake Factory CBOE Holdings	Chemed Corp. C.H. Robinson	Cigna Corp.	Darden Restaurants	DaVita Inc.	Forrester Research	Hormel Foods	IQVIA Holdings	Mercury General	Vail Resorts	Pinnacle Foods	Spectrum Brands	West Pharmac. Svcs.			

NMF= Not Meaningful Figure NA= Not Available

The application of the DCF model to the domestic, non-price regluated comparable risk companies is identical to the application of the DCF to the utility proxy group. The dividend yield is derived by using the 60 day average price and the spot indicated dividend as of March 30, 2018. The dividend yield is then adjusted by 1/2 the average projected growth rate in EPS, which is calculated by averaging the 5 year projected growth in EPS provided by Value Line, www.reuters.com, www.zacks.com, and www.yahoo.com (excluding any negative growth rates) and then adding that growth rate to the adjusted dividend yield. (1)

Source of Information:

 $www.reuters.com\ Downloaded\ on\ 03/29/2018$ www.zacks.com Downloaded on 03/29/2018 www.yahoo.com Downloaded on 03/29/2018 Value Line Investment Survey

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Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use of a Risk Premium Model Using an Adjusted Total Market Approach

Line No.			Proxy Group of Seventeen Nor Price Regulate Companies	1-
1.		Prospective Yield on Baa Rated Corporate Bonds (1)	5.41	%
2.		Equity Risk Premium (2)	7.05	_
3.		Risk Premium Derived Common Equity Cost Rate	12.46	- %
Notes:	(1)	Average forecast of Baa corporate bonds based upon nearly 50 economists reported in Blue Chip Financial December 1, 2017 and April 1, 2018 (see pages 10 and DWD-4). The estimates are detailed below.	Forecasts dated	
		Second Quarter 2018 Third Quarter 2018 Fourth Quarter 2018 First Quarter 2019 Second Quarter 2019 Third Quarter 2019 2019-2023 2024-2028	4.80 5.00 5.10 5.30 5.40 5.50 6.00 6.20	%
		Average	5.41	- %

(2) From page 5 of this Schedule.

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<u>Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina</u> Comparison of Long-Term Issuer Ratings for the

Proxy Group of Seventeen Non-Price Regulated Companies of Comparable risk to the <u>Proxy Group of Six Water Companies</u>

	Long-Ter	Moody's m Issuer Rating urch 2018	Long-Ter	ard & Poor's m Issuer Rating rch 2018
Proxy Group of Seventeen Non- Price Regulated Companies	Long- Term Issuer Rating	Numerical Weighting (1)	Long- Term Issuer Rating	Numerical Weighting (1)
ABM Industries Inc.	NR		NR	
AutoZone Inc.	Baa1	8.0	BBB	9.0
Cheesecake Factory	NR		NR	
CBOE Holdings	Baa1	8.0	BBB+	8.0
Chemed Corp.	WR		NR	
C.H. Robinson	NR		BBB+	8.0
Cigna Corp.	Baa1	8.0	A	
Darden Restaurants	Baa2	9.0	BBB	9.0
DaVita Inc.	Ba3	13.0	BB	12.0
Forrester Research	NR		NR	
Hormel Foods	A1	5.0	A	6.0
IQVIA Holdings	NR		BBB-	10.0
Mercury General	Baa2	9.0	NR	
Vail Resorts	NR		NR	
Pinnacle Foods	NR		BB-	13.0
Spectrum Brands	NR		NR	
West Pharmac. Svcs.	NR		NR	
Average	Baa2	8.6	BBB	9.4

Notes:

(1) From page 6 of Schedule DWD-4.

Source of Information:

Bloomberg Professional Services

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Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina

Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach Using the Beta for

Proxy Group of Seventeen Non-Price Regulated Companies of Comparable risk to the Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

Line No.	Equity Risk Premium Measure	Proxy Group of Seventeen Nor Price Regulate Companies	1-
	<u>Ibbotson-Based Equity Risk Premiums:</u>		
1.	Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium (1)	5.56	%
2.	Regression on Ibbotson Risk Premium Data (2)	7.31	
3.	Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium based on PRPM (3)	6.66	_
4.	Average Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium	6.51	=
	Value Line-Based Equity Risk Premiums:		
5.	Equity Risk Premium Based on <u>Value Line</u> Summary and Index (4)	4.68	
6.	Equity Risk Premium Based on <u>Value Line</u> S&P 500 Companies (5)	11.07	_
7.	Average <u>Value Line</u> Equity Risk Premium	7.87	=
	Bloomberg-Based Equity Risk Premium:		
8.	Equity Risk Premium Based on Bloomberg S&P 500 Companies (6)	9.93	=
9.	Conclusion of Equity Risk Premium (7)	8.10	%
10.	Adjusted Beta (8)	0.87	_
11.	Forecasted Equity Risk Premium	7.05	%
Notes:	 From note 1 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-4. From note 2 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-4. From note 3 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-4. From note 4 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-4. From note 5 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-4. From note 6 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-4. Average of lines 4, 7, and 8. 		
	(0) Average of mean and median beta from page 6 of this Schodule		

Sources of Information:

Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation - 2017 SBBI Yearbook, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. **Value Line** Summary and Index Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, December 1, 2017 and April 1, 2018 **Bloomberg Professional Services**

(8) Average of mean and median beta from page 6 of this Schedule.

Traditional CAPM and ECAPM Results for the Proxy Group of Non-Price-Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[2]	[9]	[2]	[8]
Proxy Group of Seventeen Non-Price Regulated Companies	Value Line Adjusted Beta	Bloomberg Beta	Average Beta	Market Risk Premium (1)	Risk-Free Rate (2)	Traditional CAPM Cost Rate	ECAPM Cost Rate	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate (3)
ABM Industries Inc. AutoZone Inc. Cheesecake Factory CBOE Holdings Chemed Corp. C.H. Robinson Cigna Corp. Darden Restaurants DaVita Inc. Forrester Research Hormel Foods IQVIA Holdings Mercury General Vail Resorts Pinnacle Foods Spectrum Brands West Pharmac. Svcs. Median Average of Mean and Median [11]	0.80 1.17 0.80 0.83 0.75 0.96 0.70 0.87 0.85 0.90 0.85 0.91 0.85 0.91 0.85 0.91 0.85 0.91 0.85 0.91 0.85 0.93 0.80 0.71 0.85 0.93 0.80 0.71 0.85 0.70 0.80 0.93 0.80 0.71 0.85 0.70 0.80 0.71 0.85 0.70 0.85 0.70 0.85 0.70	1.17 0.83 0.96 1.11 0.97 0.90 0.91 0.93 0.93 0.93 0.93 0.93 0.93	0.98 0.81 0.86 0.91 0.89 0.88 0.88 0.88 0.88 0.78 0.78 0.78 0.78 0.78	9.12 9.12 9.12 9.12 9.12 9.12 9.12 9.12	3.69 3.69 3.69 3.69 3.69 3.69 3.69 3.69	12.63 % 11.08 11.53 11.99 11.81 11.62 11.72 11.72 9.89 12.45 11.62 10.80 11.72 11.62 11.62 11.63 11.63 %	12.67 % 11.51 11.85 12.19 12.06 11.92 11.99 10.62 11.92 11.92 11.92 11.92 11.92 11.93 11.99 %	Docket No. W-354 St D'Ascendis Direct Exhibit Schedule D Page 8 8 2 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	(2) From Schedule DWD-5, note 2.(3) Average of CAPM and ECAPM cost rates.	DWD-5, note 2. M and ECAPM cost	rates.					t No. 1

⁽¹⁾ From Schedule DWD-5, note 1.(2) From Schedule DWD-5, note 2.(3) Average of CAPM and ECAPM cost rates.

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Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina
Derivation of Investment Risk Adjustment Based upon
states Give Premia for the Dacile Portfolice of the NVSF/AMFX/NASDAO

Line No.

<u>Ibbotson /</u>	Associates' Size Premia l	for the Decile Portfolios o	Ibbotson Associates' Size Premia for the Decile Portfolios of the NYSE/AMEX/NASDAQ)	
		[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
	Market Capitaliza 201 (millions)	Market Capitalization on March 29, 2018 (1) (millions) (times larger)	Applicable Decile of the NYSE/AMEX/ NASDAQ (2)	Applicable Size Premium (3)	Spread from Applicable Size Premium (4)
Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina	\$ 182.481		10	5.59%	
Proxy Group of Six Water Companies	\$ 4,240.418	23.2 x	4	0.98%	4.61%
	[A]	[B]	[c]	[D]	(E)
				Recent Average	Size Premium (Return in
	Decile	Number of Companies	Recent Total Market Capitalization	Market Capitalization	Excess of CAPM)
			(millions)	(millions)	
Largest	t 1	191	\$15,290,475.30	\$80,054.84	-0.35%
	2	200	\$3,010,671.02	\$15,053.36	0.61%
	3	202	\$1,609,575.62	\$7,968.20	0.89%
	4	221	\$1,010,851.81	\$4,573.99	0.98%
	22	227	\$677,120.07	\$2,982.91	1.51%
	9	259	\$541,038.00	\$2,088.95	1.66%
	7	283	\$384,129.20	\$1,357.35	1.72%
	8	361	\$297,164.94	\$823.17	7.08%
		487	\$212,609.64	\$436.57	7.68%
Smallest	t 10	270	\$92,882.17	\$117.57	2.59%
SOT ON		*Froi	*From 2017 Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (SBBI) Yearbook	s, and Inflation (SBBI) Yea	rbook

Notes:

- From page 2 of this Schedule.
 Gleaned from Column (D) on the bottom of this page. The appropriate decile (Column (A)) corresponds to the market capitalization of the proxy group, which is found in Column 1.
- (3) Corresponding risk premium to the decile is provided on Column (E) on the bottom of this page.
 (4) Line No. 1 Column 3 Line No. 2 Column 3. For example, the 4.61% in Column 4, Line No. 2 is derived as follows 4.61% = 5.59% 0.98%.

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Market Capitalization of Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina and Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina Proxy Group of Six Water Companies

		[1]	2	[2]		[3]		[4]	[2]		[9]
Company	Exchange	Common Stock Shares Outstanding at Fiscal Year End 2017 (millions)	Book Va Share a Year En (1	Book Value per Share at Fiscal Year End 2017 (1)	Total Cor at Fiscs	Total Common Equity at Fiscal Year End 2017 (millions)	Closii Markei <u>March</u>	Closing Stock Market Price on March 29, 2018	Market-to- Book Ratio on March 29, 2018 (2)	Cap on	Market Capitalization on March 29, 2018 (3)
Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina		NA		NA	€9	60.726 (4)		NA			
Based upon Proxy Group of Six Water Companies								Ü	300.5 (5)	↔	182.481 (6)
Proxy Group of Six Water Companies											
American States Water Co.	NYSE	36.681	•	14.447	6 €	529.945	↔	53.060	367.3 %	↔	1,946.283
American Water Works Company Inc	NYSE	178.445		30.177	÷• €	5,385.000		82.130	272.2		14,655.651
Aqua America Inc	NYSE	1///14		11.016	A 6	1,957.621		34.060	309.2		6,052.937
California Water Service Group	NYSE	48.012		14.443	A	693.462		37.250	6.752		1,788.463
Middlesex Water Co.	NASDAQ	16.352		14.015	↔	229.175		36.700	261.9		600.118
York Water Co.	NASDAQ	12.873		9.276	\$	119.405		31.000	334.2		399.055
Average		78.346	↔	15.562	↔	1,485.768	∨	45.700	300.5 %	↔	4,240.418
•											

NA= Not Available

Notes: (1) Column 3 / Column 1.

(2) Column 4 / Column 4.

(3) Column 1 * Column 4.

(4) Equals Company-requested rate base multiplied by the Company-requested equity ratio. (5) The market-to-book ratio of Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina on March 20.

The market-to-book ratio of Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina on March 29, 2018 is assumed to be equal to the market-tobook ratio of Proxy Group of Six Water Companies on March 29, 2018. (6) Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina's common stock, if traded, would trade at a market-to-book ratio equal to the average market-to-book ratio at March 29, 2018 of the Proxy Group of Six Water Companies, 300.5%, and Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina's market capitalization on March 29, 2018 would therefore have been \$182.48 million.

Bloomberg Financial Services Source of Information: 2017 Annual Forms 10K