

# Building your community energy company of the future

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# MGE Energy Investment Profile



#### **Financial Strength:**

Strong Asset Base
Strong Capital Structure
Strong Liquidity & Cash Flows
Cost Conscious Management

#### **High Credit Quality:**

S&P Rating AA- Stable Moody's A1 Stable

Highest Rated Combination Utility in the Nation

#### **Regulatory Support:**

Forward Looking Test Years
Fuel Recovery Mechanisms
Current Return on CWIP

#### **Dividend Achiever:**

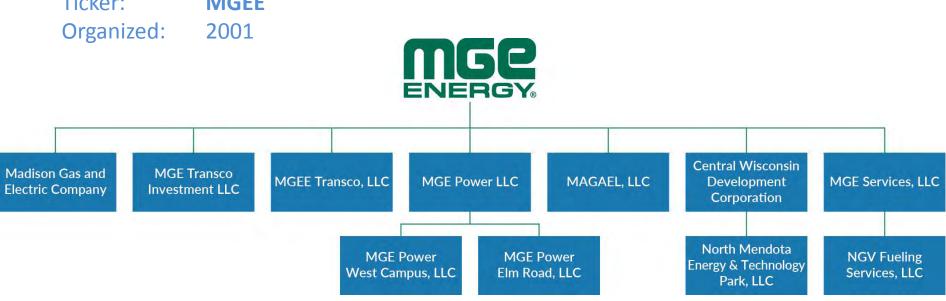
Strong 41 Year Dividend Growth Financial Flexibility for Further Growth

### Organizational Structure



Exchange: **NASDAQ** 

Ticker: **MGEE** 



# Service Territory



#### **Economic Outlook:**

#### **Madison**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> best place to live *Livability, 2016*
- Top 20 for economic strength for last 10 years

Policom, 2016

• Low unemployment: 2.7%

Bureau of Labor statistics, December 2016

#### **Dane County**

- Population growth through 2035 expected to be the highest of any county in Wisconsin
- Low Unemployment (December 2016)
   2.6% (WI 3.7%; US 4.5%)



### Public Utilities Fortnightly



FURLICUTILITIES	BEST ENERGY COMPANIES				
Company	2015 F40 Rank	4-Year Average Profit Margin	4-Year Average Margin Rank	4-Year Average Dividend Yield	4-Year Average Dividend Yield Rank
Questar	1	17.2%	- 3	3.1%	50
Public Service Enterprise Group	2	13.0%	10	4.2%	18
Wisconsin Energy	3	12.2%	13	3.2%	49
Cleco	4	15.2%	6	3.0%	52
NextEra Energy	5	13.3%	9	3.2%	46
Centerpoint Energy	6	8.0%	40	3.9%	28
MGE Energy	8	12.2%	14	2.4%	60
Williams Companies	8	16.6%	4	3.2%	47
Pinnacle West	10	12.1%	15	4.3%	15
PPL	10	12.3%	12	4.7%	7

- MGEE named 8th Best Energy Company by Public Utilities Fortnightly
- MGEE achieved Top 10
   honors for 3 consecutive
   years and was in the Top 40
   for 8 consecutive years
- Public Utilities Fortnightly describes MGEE as one of the "Old Reliables" companies with rankings that have shown remarkable consistency over the past several years

### Energy 2030 Framework



MGE has introduced Energy 2030 as a framework for its energy future. Energy 2030 advances a long-standing commitment to cleaner energy, innovative products and customer engagement.

#### Under the Energy 2030 framework, MGE proposes to:

- Transition toward supplying 30% of retail energy sales with renewable resources by 2030.
- Milestone goal is to supply 25% of retail energy sales with renewable resources by 2025.
- Work with customers to **reduce** carbon dioxide emissions **40**% by 2030.
- Increase engagement around <u>energy efficiency and conservation</u> to reduce our community's overall energy and peak electric use to reduce long-term costs for everyone.
- Create a more dynamic, integrated electric grid.
- Develop and test new products and services.
- Deepen our engagement with customers to chart our next steps.

# The EPA's Clean Power Plan (CPP) IIII



- EPA published its CPP rules for states to use in developing plans to control GHG emissions in October of 2015
  - EPA's plan is to reduce GHG emissions by 32% of 2005 levels by the year 2030
- The State of Wisconsin was among several states that filed petitions asking for a stay from the US Court of Appeals
  - The US Supreme Court granted the stay on February 9, 2016
  - The nature and timing of any final requirements is subject to uncertainty given the pending legal proceedings
- In its present form the CPP rule would have a material impact on MG&E
  - MG&E has taken some steps to address the CPP with its *Energy 2030* Plan

# Investment Fundamentals – Growth through Utility Investments



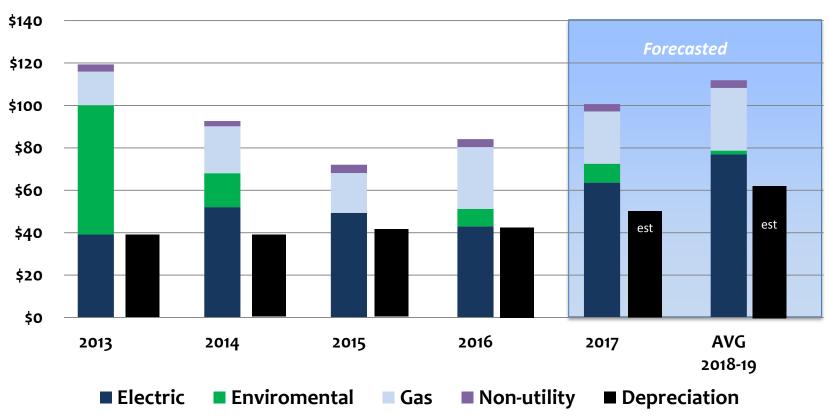
#### **Investing in Our Utility**

- Environmental Controls
  - Installing a selective catalytic reduction system (SCR) at the Columbia Energy Center
- Electric and Gas Maintenance CapEx
  - Gas Main Expansion
  - Electric Distribution and Metering
- Common CapEx
  - IT Infrastructure
- Transmission via equity contributions to American Transmission Company (ATC)

# Investment Fundamentals – Growth through Utility Investments



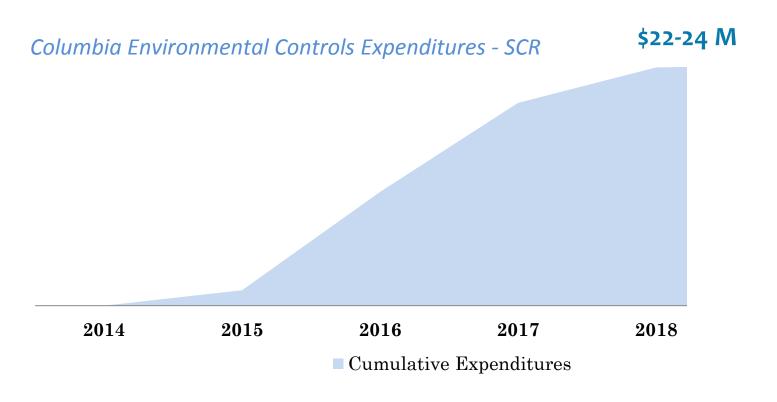
#### **Segment Capital Expenditure versus Depreciation**



Electric and Gas capex includes common, which has the IT infrastructure expenditures included

# Growth through Utility Investments - *Environmental*





PSCW approved a Certificate of Authority to install a SCR system at the Columbia Energy Center

# Growth through Utility Investments–*Gas Main Expansion*



- Customers seeking a cheaper and more reliable fuel option
- MGE extending natural gas infrastructure to meet growing demand
  - \$3 million / year of potential investment
  - High usage agricultural and commercial customers driving expansions to date
  - WI Commission very supportive of expansion program
- Potential customers are willing to pay a surcharge to bring natural gas service to their location
  - Surcharges avoid subsidization by existing customers



# Growth through Utility Investments – IT Infrastructure



MGE's Energy 2030 plan will create a more dynamic, integrated electric grid that supports and integrates new technology.

MGE will invest a significant amount of capital over the next 5 years in IT Infrastructure, to enhance the electric grid and provide customers with more information on their energy usage. Some of the larger IT Projects are:

Customer information billing system (CIS)

Installation of smart meters

Geographic Information system (GIS)

Advanced Meter Interface (AMI)

**System Security Improvements** 

# Growth through Transmission Investments







- Approximately 6.8% of MGE Energy's earnings come from its \$72 million transmission investment in ATC
- ATC forecasted CapEx of \$3.6 to \$4.4 billion over the next 10 years, this excludes potential transmission investments outside its traditional footprint
- ATC average rate base at year end 2016:\$3.3 billion
- Alaskan municipal transmission opportunity

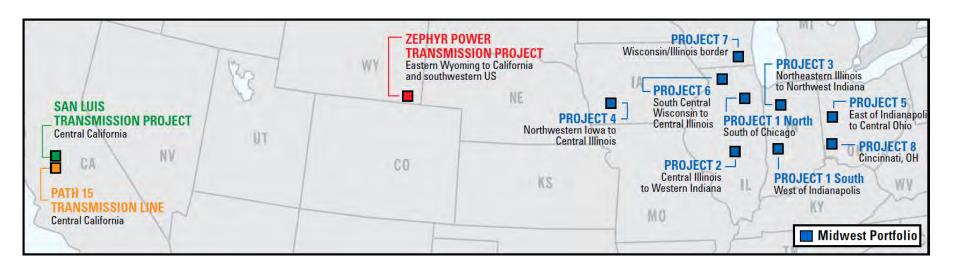
# Growth through Transmission Investments







- Zephyr Power Transmission Project
- San Luis Transmission Project
- Other transmission projects throughout the US



# Investment Fundamentals – *Dividend Governance*

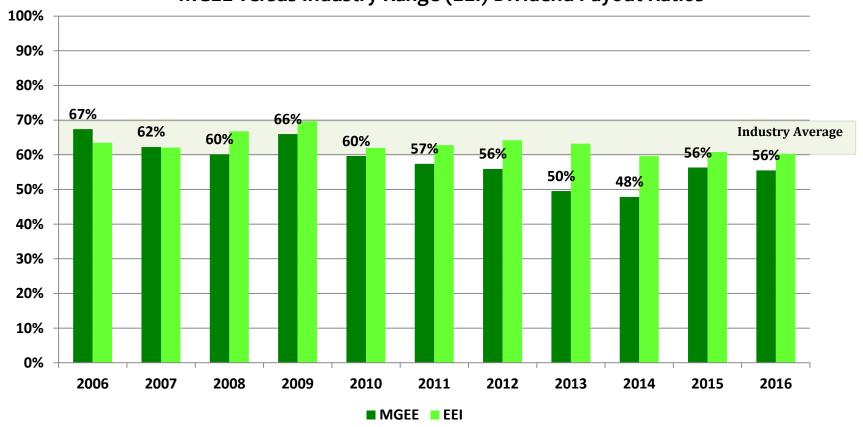


- Dividend Growth has been around 4%
  - Recent dividend payout ratio has been around 50-60%
  - No dividend payout range targeted
  - Flexibility with dividend
- Dividend Considerations
  - Capital investment growth opportunities
  - Balance sheet and credit ratings
  - Projected cash generation and requirements
  - Dividend payout ratio / yield consistent with industry and peers
- Dividend decisions made by Board of Directors

# Investment Fundamentals – Dividend Growth Flexibility



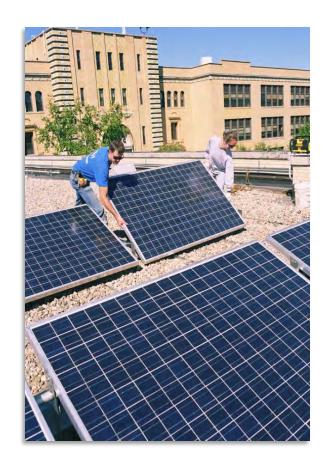
#### MGEE versus Industry Range (EEI) Dividend Payout Ratios



# Investment Opportunities – *MGE's Shared Solar Program*



- The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) approved MG&E's application for a community solar pilot project on March 11, 2016.
- MG&E's Shared Solar project is now generating electricity
  - 500-kilowatt (kW) solar array in Middleton expected to generate 650,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year
  - The project is fully subscribed, interested customers invited to join the waiting list
- MG&E has also partnered with the City on a **100-kW solar array** on the roof of the Middleton Police department.
  - Operation is underway
  - It will provide about 25% of electricity used by that building annually



### Investment Opportunities



#### **Riverside Energy Agreement**

- MGE reached an agreement with Alliant Energy for an option to acquire ownership interest in the Riverside Energy Center
  - MGE may acquire up to 50 megawatts of the 700 MW Riverside Energy Center modernization
  - Start of construction is planned for early 2017
  - Project completion expected by early 2020

#### **Columbia Collaboration Agreement**

- MGE and Alliant have negotiated a second agreement under which MGE will reduce its obligation to pay certain expenditures (other than SCR-related expenditures) at Columbia in exchange for a proportional reduction in ownership
  - In January 2017, MGE reduced its ownership from 22% to 20.4% through the partial sale of plant assets to WPL
  - By June 2020, MGE's ownership in Columbia is forecasted to be approximately 19%

### Investment Opportunities



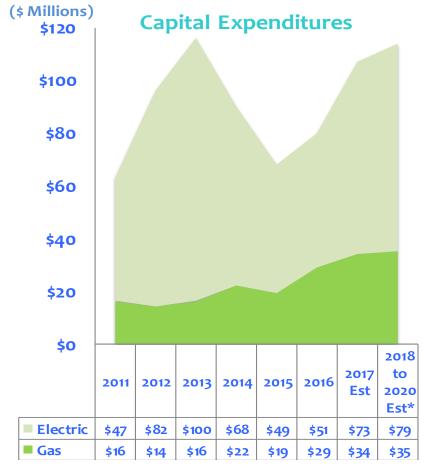
#### **Saratoga Wind Farm**

- On February 21, 2017, MGE filed with the PSCW a letter with intent to seek approval to construct, own and operate a wind farm
  - Located in Saratoga, Iowa
  - 66MW consisting of 33 turbines
  - MGE anticipates filing its formal application with the PSCW in March 2017
- If approved, the project will become operational in 2018, with an estimated capital cost of \$107 million

# Financial Strength – Investing in our Core Utility



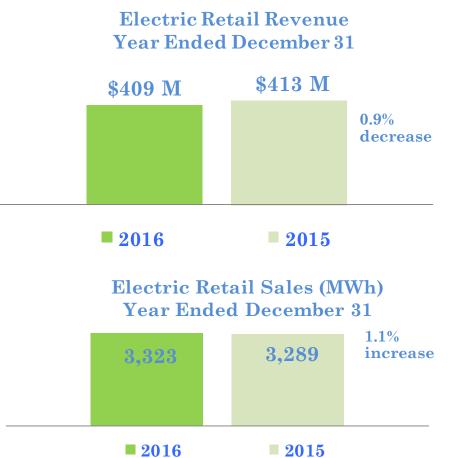


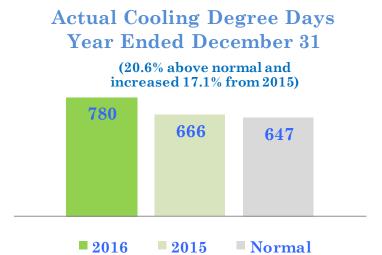


<sup>\*</sup>Annual Average

### Financial Strength





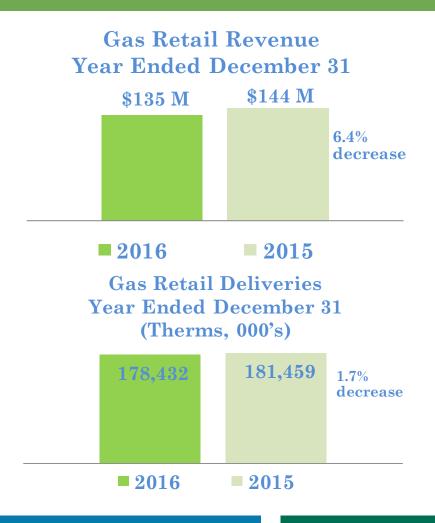


#### Electric retail sales increased due to:

 Favorable weather conditions, evidenced by the higher number of cooling degree days

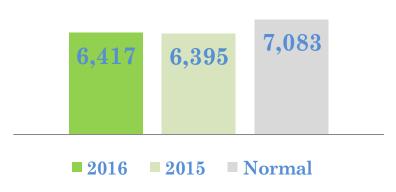
### Financial Strength





#### Actual Heating Degree Days Year Ended December 31

(9.4% below normal and increased 0.3% from 2015)

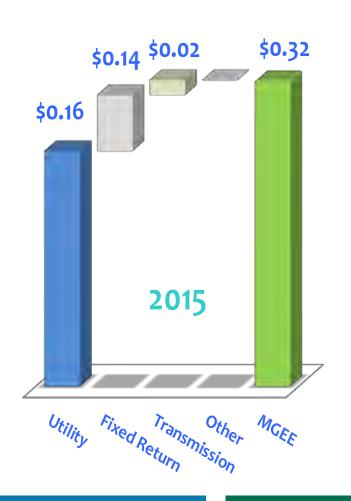


#### Gas revenue decreased due to:

Lower gas costs

# Segment Earnings Per Share Three Months Ended December 31



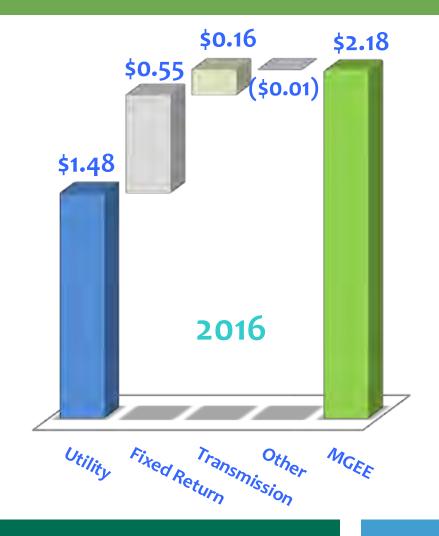




# Segment Earnings Per Share Year Ended December 31

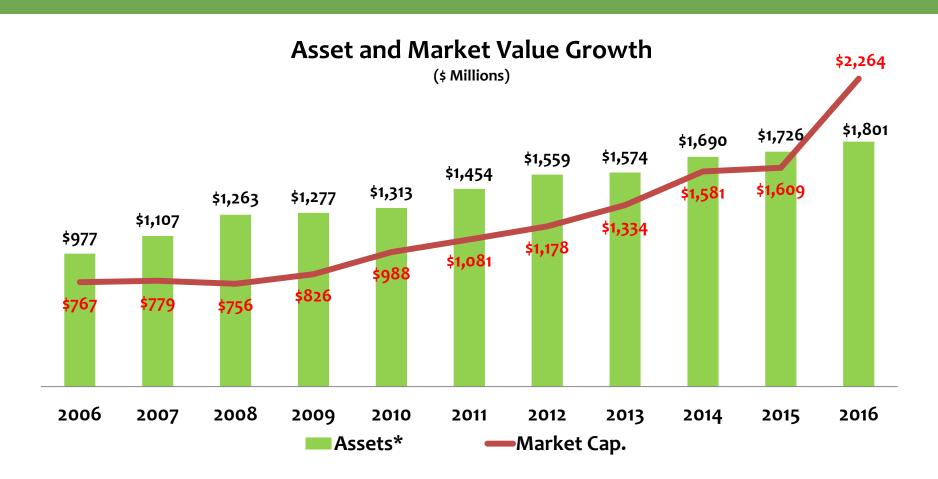






# Strong Asset Base

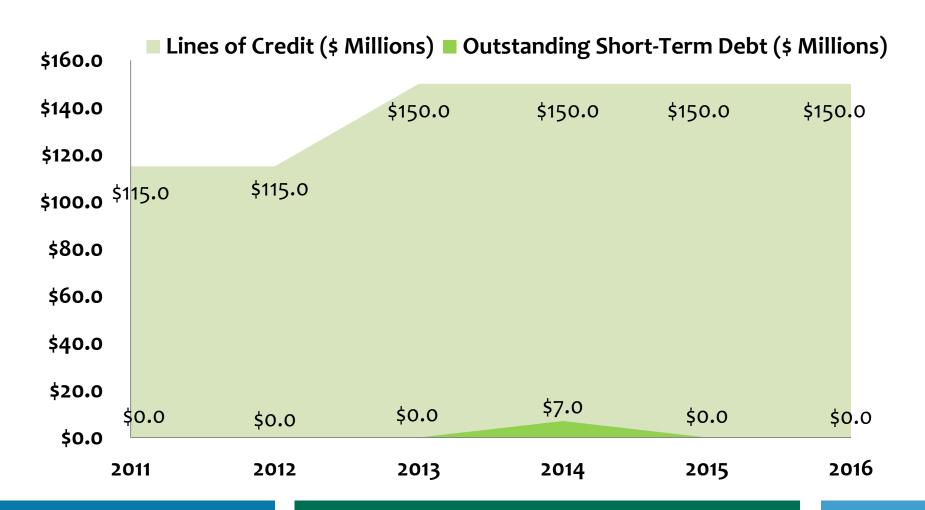




<sup>\*</sup>Assets have been adjusted with new accounting pronouncement – Debt issuance costs are now netted against long-term debt

# Strong Liquidity

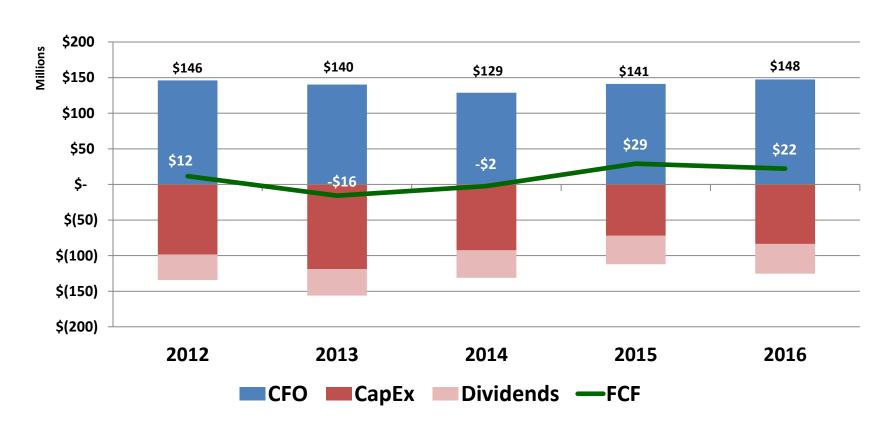




# Strong Cash Flows



#### Cash from Operations (CFO) and Free Cash Flow (FCF)



# **Strong Capital Structure**





# Strong Credit Rating



#### **Highest Rated Investor-Owned Electric and Gas Utility**

#### **S&P** (Utility Ratings)

Corporate credit AA-

Business risk Excellent

Commercial paper A-1+

Outlook Stable

- ✓ Effective management of regulatory risk
- ✓ Strong regulatory environment
- Focus on regulated vertically integrated electric and natural gas distribution operations
- ✓ Conservative financial policies that ensure strong credit quality

Source: S&P, October 2016

#### **Moody's (Utility Ratings)**

Secured Aa2

Unsecured A1

Commercial paper P-1

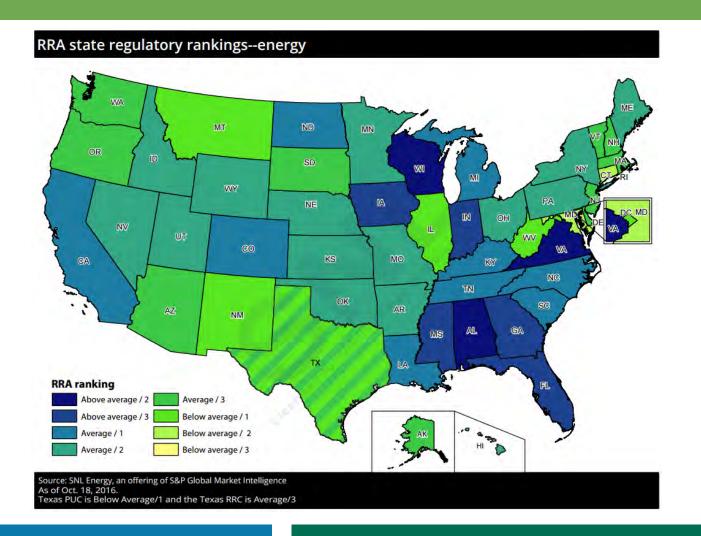
Outlook
 Stable

- ✓ Rating reflects supportive regulatory environment that provides revenue and cash flow
- ✓ Stable and healthy credit metrics
- ✓ Stable rating outlook assumes future prudently incurred investments will be recovered
- ✓ Funding will replicate authorized capital structure

Source: Moody's, February 2017

# Investment Profile – Supportive Regulation





Wisconsin's regulatory ranking is Regulatory Research Association's (RRA's) highest

### Rate Proceedings



- On December 15, 2016, the PSCW authorized MGE to decrease 2017 rates for retail electric customers by 0.8% or \$3.3 million and to increase rates for retail gas customers by 1.9% or \$3.1 million
  - The decrease in retail electric rates is attributable to declining fuel and purchased power costs
  - The increase in retail gas rates covers costs associated with MGE's natural gas system infrastructure improvements
- In July 2016, the PSCW issued a final order stating that MGE shall refund the additional fuel savings during 2015 and 2016 for a total of \$15.7 million
  - The fuel credit established a mechanism to return fuel savings to electric customers as a bill credit
  - In September 2016, MGE returned \$15.5 million to customers through bill credits
- In July 2015, the PSCW extended MGE's current transmission cost accounting into 2016, and allowed cost differentials in the next rate case, as a condition of not seeking a base rate case in 2016

### **Environmental Steward**





A DNR Program for Superior Environmental Performance

- 1<sup>st</sup> utility in Wisconsin to participate in the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) highest level (Tier 2), Green Tier environmental leadership program
- 5<sup>th</sup> company in Wisconsin to achieve Tier 2 status
- Voluntarily committed to continuously improve environmental performance by developing management strategies and adopting new technologies and practices

### **Environmental Steward**





- Attained the highest level of the Wisconsin Sustainable Business Council's Green Masters Program
- The only utility in Wisconsin to be recognized as a Green Master
- MGE's steps to use less energy, cut waste and become generally more sustainable in operations and supply chain placed the company in the highest level of the Green Master Program

### Questions



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