Utilities

EDF

Price EUR9.76

Bloomberg FDF FP EDF.PA Reuters 12-month High / Low (EUR) 13.7 / 9.2 20,585 Market Cap (EUR) Ev (BG Estimates) (EUR) 82.708 Avg. 6m daily volume (000) 1 948 3y EPS CAGR -25.8% 1 M 3 M 6 M 31/12/15 -28.1% Absolute perf. -0.4% -10.7% -12.7% -10.2% Utilities 6.9% -4.4% -4.0% -1.7% DJ Stoxx 600 6.0% 5.4% 10.4% YEnd Dec. (EURm) 2015 2016e 2017e 2018e Sales 75,006 74,664 72,961 73,843 -0.5% -2.3% % change 1.2% **EBITDA** 17,601 16,009 14,062 15,632 **EBIT** 4,280 6,979 4,581 5,677 -34.4% 23.9% % change 63.1% 4.231 2.924 1.230 1.864 Net income -57.9% % change -30.9% 51.5% 2015 **2016**e 2017e 2018e Operating margin 5.7 9.3 6.3 7.7 25 Net margin 5.6 39 17 ROE 10.5 5.6 1.5 3.1 ROCE 2.0 2.8 2.0 2.4 Gearing 167.6 165.5 162.8 164.0 (EUR) 2015 2016e 2017e 2018e **EPS** 2.27 1.46 0.61 0.93 % change -36.0% -57.9% 51.6% P/E 4.3x 6.7x 15.9x 10.5x FCF yield (%) NM NM NM 8.8% Dividends (EUR) 1.10 0.87 0.37 0.56 Div yield (%) 11.3% 9.0% 3.8% 5.7% EV/Sales 1.1x 1.1x 1.1x 1.1x EV/EBITDA 4.6x 5.2x 5.9x 5.4x EV/EBIT 18.7x 11.9x 14.8x 18.1x



Downgrade to neutral due to ongoing low earnings visibility

Fair Value EUR10,4 vs. EUR14,6 (+7%)

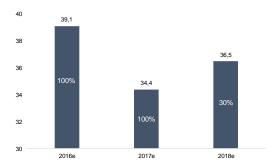
NEUTRAL vs. BUY

Following last week's unveiling of very disappointing 2017 EBITDA guidance (EUR13.7-14.3bn), we have completely rebuilt our power price model for France and the UK. Our 2017e/2018e estimates are significantly revised downward, so is our FV, now standing at EUR10.4 per share. We downgrade EDF to neutral due to the ongoing low visibility we have on the company's earnings, the upcoming capital increase, which should negatively weigh on the stock and the risks we see in nuclear provisions. In all, we would favour Engie over EDF due to the recently increased visibility on the stock notably following recent nuclear provisions announcement and upcoming disposals likely to act as positive catalysts.

ANALYSIS

- Last week, EDF unveiled its 2017e EBITDA guidance (between EUR13.7bn and EUR14.3bn), which was 9% to 13% below consensus expectations and which implies a 11% to 16% yoy decrease vs. the 2016e unchanged company EBITDA guidance (EUR16.0-16.3bn). The main reasons for this decrease were the expected decrease in French and UK power prices as well as higher ARENH volumes subscriptions for 2017. Since this announcement, the stock has clearly been under pressure (-12.9% vs. +1.2% for the Stoxx 600 Utilities).
- We have completely rebuilt our power price model and slashed our estimates for both the French and UK business divisions. EDF does not disclose its hedging policy, but we estimate a standard 3-year rolling policy would imply a c. EUR4.5/MWh decrease in the company's achieved French and UK power prices in 2017 vs. 2016. We additionally assume that ARENH volume subscriptions will have a c. EUR300m negative impact on the company's 2017e EBITDA, based on a 50TWh subscribed volumes' assumption for 2017. In all, we now expect 2016e/2017e/2018e EBITDA to reach EUR16.0bn/EUR14.1bn/EUR15.6bn respectively. After a significant drop in 2017, we expect a substantial rebound in 2018 notably given the current level of forward prices.

Table 1: BG assumptions for French power prices (2016e-2018e) - EUR/MWh



• We have also integrated the expected disposal of a 49.9% stake in grid operator RTE which should bring up to EUR4.2bn cash-in for EDF in 2017. This is the only expected disposal we have integrated in our model. All in all, our FV – based on an equally weighted valuation of three methods (SOTP, P/E ratio, Div. yield) – now stands at EUR10.4 per share, implying therefore a limited 7% theoretical upside vs. current company's share price.

Table 2: BG key estimates (2016e-2018e)

	2016e	2017e	2018e
EBITDA	16,009	14,062	15,632
o/w France	11,063	9,027	10,383
o/w UK	1,665	1,568	1,583
EBIT	6,979	4,581	5,677
Net income	2,924	1,230	1,864
EPS	1.46	0.61	0.93
DPS	0.87	0.37	0.56

Source: Bryan Garnier & Co. ests.

Downgrade to neutral: despite the recent strong derating (-12.9% performance since the profit

warning), we downgrade EDF to Neutral due to the high earnings volatility and the ongoing low visibility we have on the company's earnings (nuclear outages, hedge policy not disclosed by the company), as shown by the three profit warnings over the last five months. In addition, momentum appears rather poor in our view with the upcoming EUR4bn capital increase (scheduled for March 2017) likely to negatively weigh on the stock on top of the uncertainty related to 2017 French presidential elections. Finally, we see risks that nuclear provisions may be increased as EDF's used discount rate (4.4%) still appears uncorrelated to the market environment. The company's reference document unveiled that a 20bps decrease in the discount rate would imply a c. EUR1.2bn increase in provisions as well as a c. EUR600m headwind at the pre-tax income level. As a reminder, last week, the discount rate used by Engie for its Belgian nuclear provisions has been revised downward by 130bps from 4.8% to 3.5%.

Table 3: Nuclear provisions – sensitivity to discount rate

Nuclear provisions France - sensitivity to discount rate							
		Amount in the balance sheet	Balance sheet Pre-tax income provisions		income		
			+ 0,20%	-0,20%	+ 0,20%	-0,20%	
Bac	ck-end nuclear cycle expenses						
⇒	Spent fuel management	10,391	(168)	177	140	(149)	
⇔	Long-term radioactive waste management	8,254	(400)	448	337	(376)	
Dec	commissioning and last cores				 		
⇒	Decommissioning of nuclear power plants	14,930	(496)	522	122	(131)	
⇒	Last cores	2,555	-62	65	-	-	
Total		36,130	(1,126)	1,212	599	(656)	

Source: Company – 2015 Reference Document

- As for the dividend, our 2017e EPS estimate and our unchanged 60% payout ratio imply a mere
 3.7% yield, well below sector standards. As a reminder, EDF'd dividend policy implies a 55-65% payout ratio for 2016 and an option for scrip dividends for both FY16 and FY17. This would imply further dilution at the EPS level.
- In all, we would favour Engie (Buy, FV @ EUR14.8) over EDF (Neutral, FV @ EUR10.4). We believe Engie's visibility has clearly been improved over the past few weeks following the company's recent announcement over Belgian nuclear provisions. The "no-growth" scenario for 2016-2018 has been priced-in by the market and the consensus has already started to revise downward its initial estimates. We now expect Engie to keep delivering its transformation plan with the awaited E&P assets' disposal still remaining the main short-term positive catalyst on the stock.

VALUATION

- At the current share price, the stock trades at **5.2x** its 2016e EV/EBITDA multiple.
- Neutral, FV @ EUR10.4 per share

NEXT CATALYSTS

• 14th February 2017: FY-16 results

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Stock rating

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Positive opinion for a stock where we expect a favourable performance in absolute terms over a period of 6 months from the publication of a recommendation. This opinion is based not only on the FV (the potential upside based on valuation), but also takes into account a number of elements that could include a SWOT analysis, momentum, technical aspects or the sector backdrop. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

NEUTRAL

Opinion recommending not to trade in a stock short-term, neither as a BUYER or a SELLER, due to a specific set of factors. This view is intended to be temporary. It may reflect different situations, but in particular those where a fair value shows no significant potential or where an upcoming binary event constitutes a high-risk that is difficult to quantify. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

SELL

Negative opinion for a stock where we expect an unfavourable performance in absolute terms over a period of 6 months from the publication of a recommendation. This opinion is based not only on the FV (the potential downside based on valuation), but also takes into account a number of elements that could include a SWOT analysis, momentum, technical aspects or the sector backdrop. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

Distribution of stock ratings

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NEUTRAL ratings 35,2%

SELL ratings 9,9%

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