Building the future

Strong pipeline and reduced regulatory uncertainty

- We initiate our Iberdrola’s coverage with a BUY rating. Currently trading at € 7.01, we believe the market is not satisfactorily valuing Iberdrola’s strategic plan (2018-2022) developments and the reduction of regulatory uncertainty in Spain.

- Reduction of regulatory uncertainty in the domestic market. Deriving from an expected change in the way regulated returns are calculated and recent developments regarding the price cap to be applied to hydro and nuclear energy production.

- Ambitious strategic plan being delivered on time. Recent updates indicate Iberdrola’s strategic plan for the upcoming 4 years (2018-2022) is going as planned, with several projects ahead of schedule.

- Multiple risks to be considered. Risks surrounding the valuation include exchange rates uncertainty, effects from political instability in the UK and possible regulatory adjustments.

- The valuation weighs a bull and a bear scenario. Our price target of € 7.31 considers a possible improvement of Brazil’s economic situation, as an upside, and the implementation of hydro and nuclear price caps, by the Spanish government, as a downside.

Company description

Iberdrola, based in Spain, is the second largest utility company in Europe. It operates in all stages of the energy sector. From generation, to transmission and distribution, to supplying the final consumer. It has a significant international exposure to the European, North American and Latin American markets.
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Executive summary

Iberdrola, based in Spain, is the second largest utility company in Europe by market capitalization, with a significant presence in Spain, USA, United Kingdom, Brazil and Mexico. Most of the value comes from the highly regulated Network business, although the Renewables segment has been growing in importance.

In our valuation, one factor we believe the market is not fully considering is the recent reduction of the regulatory uncertainty affecting the domestic market. Contributing to this, is the recent push from the Spanish Networks regulator (CNMC) to move the regulatory return from the existing bond-linked model to a WACC-based model. Although still pending approval from the Ecological Transition Ministry, we believe this to be very probable because Spanish 10Y bond yields have been decreasing over time, the new remuneration scheme is connected to the real cost of capital, and the new model is being followed successfully in other European countries. Coupled with this, we expect the price cap planned by the Spanish government on hydro and nuclear to be highly unlikely to move forward, as the PSOE party is a minority and the move would put at risk the system's ability to satisfy electricity demand.

Additionally, we believe that Iberdrola will be able to fully deliver its strategic plan for 2018 to 2022. The recent updates were very satisfactory, several projects are ahead of the initial schedule and the planned growth in RAV is being observed.

Although we acknowledge there are various risks to be considered. Namely, the acceptance of the WACC-based model, although with a lower allowed return than the figure proposed by CNMC. Also, the occurrence of a No-Deal Brexit that could cause a slowdown of the economy and the pound to depreciate. And, at last, an adverse movement of some other key currencies against the €, that would have a negative impact on cash flows.

Based on our view that the market is not statisfactorily considering the above information, we attribute a BUY recommendation to Iberdrola's stock with a target price of €7.31. To substantiate this, is the fact Iberdrola is trading with similar multiples to peers (P/E 14.0 vs 13.3 and EV/EBITDA 9.0 vs 7.8) despite providing much stronger earnings and EBITDA growth and still maintaining a 4.8% dividend yield.
Company description

Founded in 1992, Iberdrola is a Spanish multinational utilities company. It was created as a result of the merger between Hidroeléctrica Española and Iberduero that led Iberdrola to become Spain’s largest electricity company. Currently, with more than 33,000 employees, it is present in 4 continents, with a significant presence in Spain, USA, United Kingdom, Brazil and Mexico. As a result, it is the second largest utility company in Europe, by market capitalization.

Additionally, when comparing to its peers, Iberdrola possesses a better EBITDA margin which reveals a more efficient cost structure and it has a stronger international presence, which coupled with the regulated nature of the business allows for diversified and stable returns.

Iberdrola is divided in three different business segments. The Generation and Supply (G&S) business comprises the activities of producing energy through non-renewable resources (Gas, Coal and Nuclear), purchasing and sale of power on wholesale market, and responsible for supplying the end user with power and additional services and products. As of 9M18, this business unit generated an EBITDA of 1,326 million euros, representing 20% of the total EBITDA. Most of Iberdrola’s installed generation capacity is in Spain, Mexico and Brazil.

The Networks business unit includes the transportation of electricity from the generation plants to the end user. It is divided in two parts, transmission and distribution. Transmission deals with the initial of transportation of high-voltage energy which, afterwards, is transformed into medium/low-voltage energy that is handled by the distribution network. As of 9M18, this business unit generated an EBITDA of 3,642 million euros, representing 54% of the total EBITDA. The countries with the most relevance in this business unit are Spain, USA, Brazil and United Kingdom.

The Renewables business unit comprises the activities of producing energy through renewable resources (Wind Onshore, Wind Offshore, Hydro, Solar and...
Mini-Hydro), in which Iberdrola is among the top players. As of 9M18, this business unit generated an EBITDA 1,757 million euros, representing 26% of the total EBITDA. Most of Iberdrola’s facilities are in Spain, USA, United Kingdom and LATAM.

At last, the Others business unit, representing less than 1% of the total EBITDA, is mainly comprised of real estate activities.

Overall, the country with the largest EBITDA share is Spain. However, we expected its dominance to decrease given the company’s investment plan to increase production capacity and network presence in foreign markets, especially in the American continent.

Shareholder structure

According to CNMV, Iberdrola capital stock is divided into 6,397,629,000 shares outstanding. With 83.27% free float, it has currently one of the most diversified shareholder structures when compared with its peers, EDP (43.4%), ENEL (70%), EDF (4%) and Engie (68%). Its main shareholders are composed of Qatar Investment Authority, which bought its position in 2011 and has 8.57% of the total shareholder voting rights, BLACKROCK Group which increased its stake from 3% in February this year to 5.13% and Norges Bank with a participation of 3.03%. In total, these 3 entities own 16.73% of Iberdrola, which indicates a diluted ownership of the company. Furthermore, a large takeover is unlikely to happen as, according to the US law, where Iberdrola operates through its subsidiary Avangrid, any acquisition that gives rise to ownership higher than 10% must be approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the regulatory authorities of the states. Therefore, it’s unlikely the current structure will suffer significant changes in the near-term.

Leverage Analysis

Until 2015, Iberdrola’s leverage\(^1\) decreased mainly due to a reduction of long-term debt caused by the Spanish tariff deficit write-off. Afterwards, in 2015, a further reduction happened due to the formation of Avangrid (by acquiring UIL 79% financed by Avangrid shares) which led to a growth of non-controlling interests, coupled with a very reduced growth of debt. From that point onwards, Iberdrola’s leverage has been increasing mainly due to the integration of Neoenergia, in 2017, and the investments undertaken in that same year. Regarding the debt value per currency, its distribution enables Iberdrola to hedge some of the currency risk because when the foreign currency depreciates

\(^1\) Leverage = Net Debt / (Net Debt + Equity)
although the company’s local EBITDA decreases, the value of foreign debt decreases as well.

Another useful indicator is the Net Debt to EBITDA ratio which measures the company ability to pay back debt. In 2017, the ratio increased sharply leading Net Debt to become 4.59x the year’s EBITDA because of Neoenergia’s consolidation. In the future, after the consolidation is completed and recent investments start generating cash flows, we expect this ratio to decrease steadily to 3.4x in 2022.

In relation to the credit metrics, the 3 major rating agencies gave a rating of Baa1, BBB+ and BBB+ to Iberdrola’s debt which indicates it has an adequate capacity to meet its financial commitments. Recently, Iberdrola credit rating has deteriorated due to weaker profitability and increased leverage in 2017. Nonetheless, Iberdrola’s rating is attractive, when compared to the peers, given that better or similar rated peers are partially backed by governments.

**Strategic Outlook**

On February this year, Iberdrola held a Capital Markets day where it announced the goals for the upcoming 5 years period (2018-2022). Overall, an investment of €32 Bn is planned, of which roughly 74% (€23.5 Bn) is allocated to growth and, the remaining 26%, is assigned to maintenance. Compared to the previous plan (2016-2020) of investing €24 Bn (€16.8 Bn growth), this represents a €8 Bn (€6.7 Bn growth) investment increase.

This investment plan of Iberdrola focuses on regulated activities and long-term contracted activities2 (91% vs 88% in 2016-2020). Of the €32 Bn, 50% (vs 46% in 2016-2020) will be allocated to the networks business, 37% (vs 33%) will be allocated to the Renewables business and 13% (vs 21%) will be allocated to the G&S business. This demonstrates a clear bet on the network and renewable business and a slowdown of the G&S activity.

In terms of geographical allocation of investment, Iberdrola is highly committed to expand in Brazil by allocating 18% (vs 2% in 2016-2020) of the investment amount, reflecting a bet on the Brazilian network and renewables segment. Similarly, in Europe, an investment increase is planned (25% vs 20%). In contrast, investment in US & Mexico (38% vs 43%) and UK (19% vs 35%) is expected to decelerate.

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2 Excludes liberalized Generation & Supply, meaning all European G&S.
Network

Iberdrola announced an investment of €15.5 Bn, from which €10.2 Bn is allocated to growth. This growth comprises network expansion plus an investment of €3.9 Bn in network digitalization, for smart meters implementation and other digitalization projects. This commitment is due to a stable long term regulatory framework and reasonable rates of return across countries.

Iberdrola’s strategy for next 5 years is to increase the Regulatory Asset Value (RAV) in most countries. Namely, there is a strong focus in Brazil and US. In Brazil this is due to opportunities arising from a growing market (from 2000 to 2015, electricity consumption grew on average 3.2%) that Neoenergia is positioned to take advantage of. In the US, it is due to the network development efforts mentioned before (€1.7 Bn). Thus, based on our model, Brazil’s RAV weight is expected to increase from 16% (2017) to 17% (2022) and US is expected to increase from 29% to 36%. Conversely, Spain’s weight is expected to decrease from 32% to 26% and UK’s is expected to decrease from 23% to 21%.

Renewables

Iberdrola announced an investment of €11.5 Bn, from which €10.2 Bn is allocated to growth. In 2017, the installed capacity was 29 GW consisting of 54% onshore wind, 43% hydro, 2% offshore wind and 1% of solar (PV) and mini-hydro.

Additional installed capacity is planned in Mexico (1.2 GW), in Brazil (1.2 GW), in Portugal (1.16 GW), in USA (0.86 GW), in UK (0.71 GW), in Spain (0.47 GW) and others (1.5 GW). The main projects are the Alto Tâmega hydro in Portugal (1.16 GW), the East Anglia ONE offshore windfarm (0.71 GW) and the Santiago Solar PV plant in Mexico (0.23 GW).

3 Statista, “Electricity consumption in Brazil from 2000 to 2015”
Taking into account the multiple projects, in 2022, the planned installed capacity is expected to increase to 34.6 GW. The incremental capacity is expected to be 42% from onshore wind, 27% from offshore wind, 17% from Solar (PV) and 14% from hydro. Such bet on renewables is explained by its cost reduction in the last years, coupled with a beneficial policy framework in place.

**G&S**

Iberdrola announced an investment of €4.2 Bn, from which €3.1 Bn is allocated to growth in Mexican production capacity and supply activities in the UK and Spain, mainly related with smart meters. Iberdrola doesn’t plan to increase production capacity in any other country. In 2017, the total installed capacity was comprised of 77% of Gas (CCGT), 18% Nuclear and 5% Coal.

In the next 5 years, Iberdrola is expected to commission 4.8 GW of CCGT in Mexico, consequently becoming the country with the most conventional capacity installed and to abandon Coal production by 2020. Furthermore, in October 2018, Iberdrola sold all its generation assets in the UK, becoming the first 100% clean energy vertically integrated player in the country.

Overall, all business units combined, Iberdrola informed investors that 69% of the investment was guaranteed. As of the 3rd quarter of 2018, Iberdrola is on track to deliver the full investment plan, having started almost 90% of the projects’ construction. Regarding the 2016-2020 plan, according to the 2017 update, no significant delays occurred.

Under the current investment plan, Iberdrola is aiming to reach an EBITDA of €11.75 Bn by 2022. Although, this exceeds our estimates by 9% which we consider to be due different assumptions regarding currency, load factors, macro conditions, among others. This plan establishes even further Iberdrola’s position among the cleanest utility companies. Its share of regulated business, by 2022, is estimated to represent 84% of total EBITDA.

**Macroeconomic Environment**

**Economic Profile**

According to IMF, the world economy is expected to grow (Real GDP) at roughly 3.6% per year until 2023. Furthermore, in this period, advanced economies are expected to grow at roughly 1.9% and emerging economies at roughly 4.8%.

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4 José Ignacio Sánchez Galán (CEO), Q3 2018 Earnings Call

5 Based on analyst estimates
Thus, in this period, the positive outlook of the economy combined with Iberdrola’s international profile fosters a favourable environment for the company’s growth. Particularly, Mexico and Brazil are expected to grow on average 2.7% and 2.1% per year until 2023, respectively. This is one of the reasons justifying Iberdrola’s increasing commitment in these two regions, as seen before. On the other hand, Spain, USA and UK, the company’s more mature markets, are expected to have a more cautious growth (average of 2%, 2% and 1.5%).

In the upcoming years, Iberdrola is expected to face high levels of inflation in Mexico and Brazil. The effect of this is the investors requiring a higher remuneration in these countries which has a negative impact on profits. However, in Mexico, Iberdrola operates under long-term contracts which are annually updated by the inflation rate and the activity in Mexico is entirely denominated in USD. Furthermore, in Brazil, the contracts are updated monthly according with the IPCA index. Nonetheless, the forex risk still exists, and, as a matter of fact, the forex impact on 9M18 EBITDA was -€ 312M. On the more developed markets, according to OECD data, and has part of the central banks’ monetary policy the inflation rate is expected to be around 2%.

Political Situation

The most relevant political situation impacting Iberdrola is the Brexit. The uncertainty that arises from the situation, that has been dragging since 2016, has caused Iberdrola to be more cautious with the investments in the UK. According to the IMF, a No-Deal Brexit could cause the GDP to fall by as much as 5%, affecting negatively the demand for electricity, and the Pound to depreciate roughly 8% against the USD⁶. As a result, as mentioned before, the planned investment for the next 5 years was reduced by €6 Bn, when compared to the previous investment plan. Furthermore, Iberdrola decreased its UK’s EBITDA exposure, namely through selling its conventional generation assets there. By 2022, we expect it to remain at 19% due to the commissioning of the East Anglia ONE offshore wind farm in 2019/2020, with 714 MW.

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⁶ “What to expect from a no-deal Brexit”, The Economist, November 24th, 2018
Energy Sector

Electricity Demand

Electricity demand in the world has been increasing at 2.5% p.a., on average, since 2007. A contributing factor is the growing economic activity, as real GDP grew on average 3.6% in this period. In Iberdrola’s most developed countries (USA, Spain and UK), the average annual electricity demand growth, since 2007, was -0.3%, -0.6% and -1.3%, respectively. Contributing to this was the 2008 financial crisis given that the stagnation of economic growth affected total electricity demand. In more recent years, concerns regarding the environment have led developed countries to establish energy efficiency policies, such as the EU’s Energy Efficiency Directive, with binding measures to help countries reach the established energy efficiency goals. This trend has mitigated the impact of growing economic activity in developed countries, in more recent years. More specifically, in the UK, waning industrial activity has also been a contributing factor.

On the other hand, emerging countries such as Brazil and Mexico have been experiencing an average electricity demand growth of 2.6%, since 2007. In both countries this has been mostly due to increasing population coupled with increasing economic activity that contributes to an expansion of the electricity system. Additionally, in these countries, efficiency improvements have not been so meaningful.

For the foreseeable future, we expect electricity demand to keep on growing at a lower rate than the expected GDP growth rate, in the more developed countries, and remaining flat in case of UK. In Mexico and Brazil, the electricity demand should keep on growing at the GDP growth rate, whilst following the development of the economy and electrification systems.

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7 Global Energy Statistical Yearbook 2018, Enerdata
8 International Monetary Fund (IMF)
9 “UK electricity use falls – as rest of EU rises”, The Guardian, January 30th 2018
Power Prices in Iberia

In Iberia, electricity is sold on MIBEL (Iberian Market of Electricity). It is traded under two regimes: Ordinary, under which conventional electricity (hydro, gas, nuclear, oil and coal) is sold to clients, using bilateral contracts, or directly to the organized market. Ordinary regime producers may also supply ancillary services, to ensure the system’s operability. Electricity is also sold through a special regime, for wind and solar energy, which was established to encourage the production of renewable electricity. Iberdrola operates under both regimes and supplies the system with ancillary services.

Under the Ordinary Regime, producers supply electricity to the market, according to the corresponding marginal cost of the technology and the price received is the marginal cost of the last technology closing the demand (Appendix 1). As expected, Renewables are the cheapest technologies as they are not dependent on a commodity, followed by nuclear which also has low dependence of commodities. Whereas, in 2016, Coal has become the most expensive source\(^\text{10}\), following a contraction of supply and increasing demand from the Asian Markets.

The marginal cost of the technologies is also affected by levies and CO2 permits.

On July 2013, the Spanish Government decided to introduce measures to eliminate the tariff deficit\(^\text{11}\) owed by energy firms that had been raised since 2001. These measures involved securitization of the debt, renewables’ subsidies cuts and imposed levies on generation. The levies were a generation tax of 7% for both Ordinary and Special production regimes, a nuclear tax equivalent to €2,190/kg of nuclear waste, a 22% tax rate on Hydro production (which was increased to 25.5% in 2017), and a tax called “Green Cent” on gas (€0.03/m\(^3\), equivalent to €4.93/MW\(h\)) and coal (€14.97/ton, equivalent to €5.38/MW\(h\)). Additionally, nuclear producers must pay €7/MW\(h\) to finance the future decommissioning of nuclear plants.

Another important factor affecting the price is the CO2 permits pollutant technologies must pay. The European Union’s Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) charges power plants and factories for every tonne of CO2 emitted, with the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 43% in 2030, compared to 1990. CO2 permits price remained cheap in the years after the financial crisis because the lower economic activity caused an oversupply of them, hence the systems was not functioning properly. To patch the system’s malfunction, the EU

\(^{10}\)Excluding levies and CO2 permits.

\(^{11}\) The Spanish Tariff Deficit is the accumulated difference between the cost of generating, distributing and supplying electricity for regulated markets and the final consumer price fixed by the government, since 2001. The deficit covers unprofitable business areas such as supplying islands with electricity and Spain’s renewable energy development.
agreed on reforms, in 2017, to reduce the number of permits available. Consequently, the price of CO2 had a 274% increase in 2018, this rise translated into an increase from €2.9/MWh to €7.3/MWh on CCGT production and from €6.1/MWh to €15.6/MWh on Coal Production.

Despite the efforts to fix the CO2 markets, we believe CO2 permits price will peak in 2021, at 30€, but will be lower onwards, to a level of 10€. This is because increased renewable capacity installation, increased energy efficiency and the UK leaving the EU ETS should contribute to a lower demand of CO2 permits.

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Business Forecast

Network Business

As seen before, the network business deals with the transportation of electricity from the source to the end user. It is the most relevant business unit of the company, responsible for driving 58% of the EBITDA as of 2017. Its main markets were in Spain (36%), USA (32%), UK (21%) and Brazil (11%), as a percentage of EBITDA, in the same year.

Subdivided in transmission and distribution, this business currently distributes around 290,000 GWh of energy per year, through 31.3 million supply points (90% of which are residential users). This is done by using roughly 50,000 km of transmission lines and 1,106,000 km of distribution lines (overhead and underground).

In Spain, regulatory oversight is handled by CNE (Comisión Nacional de Energía) which establishes how operators should be remunerated. The remuneration is determined by six-year regulatory periods (most recently in 2013) that, previously, defined a remuneration rate based on a ten-year government bonds plus an appropriate spread for a low risk activity. Additionally, operators are compensated for their operational and depreciation costs, and rewarded based on their performance over multiple metrics such as quality and losses reduction.

\[\text{According to IHS Markit study – “EU ETS: Carbon Price Increase: Will it Last?”}\]
From these factors, the regulatory return and the RAV are the most impactful components on valuation. Regulatory return will be fixed until 2019 on 6.4% (10-year bond yield of 4.4% plus a 2% spread) although, due to recent regulatory events, will start following a WACC-based model which puts it fixed at 5.6% from 2020 to 2025. Since that yields on the government debt have fallen significantly over the period, and the remuneration scheme is not connected to the real cost of capital, the system may become unsustainable. On the other hand, taking into consideration Iberdrola’s investment plan (2018-2022) and Spain’s electricity demand trend the RAV will decrease slightly in that period and, from 2022 forward, was estimated to decrease at -0.7%/year. Overall, returns above the cost of capital are being achieved, although the gap is decreasing over the years.

Figure 24 - Networks Spain remuneration data (in €Mn)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory Revenue</td>
<td>1,909</td>
<td>1,886</td>
<td>1,880</td>
<td>1,863</td>
<td>1,766</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,736</td>
<td>1,721</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAV</td>
<td>9500</td>
<td>9500</td>
<td>9681</td>
<td>9591</td>
<td>9504</td>
<td>9421</td>
<td>9341</td>
<td>9264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory Return</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized Return</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WACC</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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</table>

Source: Company data, analyst’s estimates

In the USA, Iberdrola is present through Avangrid Networks (81.5% ownership), a company with eight distinct subsidiaries. From these, the main companies are New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG), Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E), Central Maine Power (CMP) and United Illuminating Company (UI). Revenues are regulated by different entities, depending on the jurisdiction of each subsidiary. Nevertheless, a common revenue model is established. Operators, such as Iberdrola, are rewarded based on the RAV value (adjusted by the company's equity ratio) and a stipulated return on equity (ROE).

Currently, the regulatory environment is very stable. The regulatory ROE has been set to around 9/10% in all jurisdictions and is expected to continue at that level in the future. This creates a favourable situation, leading Iberdrola to invest significantly in this country. Hence, the RAV is expected grow at 8.1% per year, on average, from 2017 to 2022. As for the equity ratio limit imposed by regulators, it is predicted to be the same as of now.

Overall, a stable regulatory framework and realized returns above the cost of capital contribute to the growth of Iberdrola’s network presence in the USA.

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13 Spanish 10-year bond yield return as of 2013, defined at the start of the regulatory period
14 “Spain's energy regulator pushes for WACC-based model”, S&P Global, November 2nd, 2018
15 Still pending approval of the Ecological Transition Ministry. Extremely likely to be accepted given that yields on the government debt have fallen significantly and a remuneration scheme with no reference to the real cost of capital discourages investments
The third most relevant regulated market is the UK, in which Iberdrola operates through Scottish Power Energy Networks (SP). The subsidiaries SP Transmission and SP Distribution handle transmission and distribution in Scotland, respectively, whereas SP Manweb handles distribution in England and Wales. Here, the regulator is OFGEM (Office of Gas and Electricity Markets) which defines the regulation companies are obliged to abide. The current regulation is RIIO-T1 (for transmission) and RIIO-ED1 (for distribution), which will be replaced by RIIO-2 starting in 2021 (transmission) and 2023 (distribution). Under these rules, companies are compensated by OFGEM’s estimate of a “fair” return over the RAV adjusted by CAPEX/OPEX spending, incentives and RPI-based inflation.

Under this framework, Iberdrola plans to invest €2.17 Bn from 2018 to 2022 which still represents a deacceleration when compared to the previous 5 years (€3.35 Bn). This might be caused by the uncertainty related with the Brexit deal that increases the risk of investing in the country.

Although Brazil is the least relevant market now, a significant flow of investment planned by Iberdrola might change this. Currently, the presence is made through a 52.45% stake in Neoenegia, which increased from 39% after Iberdrola’s Elektro was acquired by Neoenergia in late 2017. In total, Neoenegia comprises seven subsidiaries, four in the distribution business and three in the transmission business. Nowadays, through this expansion, Iberdrola is the company with the most amount of Brazilian distribution customers. Hence, Brazil is becoming a key market as well.

The distribution of electricity is based on 30-year concessions with tariffs (price the end customer pays) updates along the way. Tariffs revisions are done in 4/5-
year periods, independently for each operator, with yearly tariff adjustments also occurring to account for market and inflation variability. The transmission business works in a very similar way with 30-year concessions. Most of the Iberdrola’s companies will the start the 4th tariff revision period soon in which a WACC of 12.5% (nominal, post-tax) is expected to be applied for the investment remuneration calculation.

In this market, operators are compensated by the regulator for operational and maintenance costs, remuneration of investments, regulatory losses & default rate and depreciation of investments. Normally, this represents 30% of the price (tariff) the end customer pays. For valuation, the operational costs and investment remuneration have the most impact. The operational costs, limited by a benchmarking analysis, were set at the lower end and estimated to follow the evolution of RAV. On the other hand, the investment remuneration (WACC * RAV) as calculated based on the current and forecasted regulatory WACC.

As a conclusion, Iberdrola’s investments in Brazil will foment a significant short-term RAV growth (roughly 6% year) to take advantage of the growing opportunities of the economy.

**Figure 30 - Networks Brazil remuneration data (in €Mn)**

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<td>RAV</td>
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<td>4768</td>
<td>4404</td>
<td>4867</td>
<td>5328</td>
<td>5787</td>
<td>6243</td>
<td>7296</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avg. Reg. WACC</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized Return</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WACC</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Company data, analyst’s research

**Generation and Supply Business**

Iberdrola’s Generation and Supply activities represented 22% of the firm’s 2017 total EBITDA. Its main markets were Spain, Mexico, UK and Brazil. At the end of 2017, total installed capacity amounted to 17.7GW. Total production amounted to 88GWh.

In October 2018, Iberdrola sold all its CCGT and Hydro (566 MW) installed capacity in the UK, for €800 Mn, which implies an EV/KW of €313, a c.40% discount when compared to that of Spain’s G&S (including Hydro). With this transaction, Iberdrola disposed older generation assets, reduced its exposure to fully liberalized markets (nowadays, Generation in Spain is the only fully liberalized business segment), protected itself from possible headwinds coming from Brexit and reduced its Net Debt. This justifies, in part, the discount verified in the sale.

In its domestic market, Iberdrola is currently facing strong regulatory risks and environmental concerns are likely to change the energy production sources in the...
foreseeable future. According to 2010/75 directive of industrial emissions, all coal plants within the EU zone, between 2016 and June 2020, had to go through investments to reduce the emission of pollutant gases (NOx, SO2 and dust emissions). Given this, unlike its peers, Iberdrola decided not to continue its activity because these assets are not as strategic as they are to some peers.

Apart from coal plants closure, all nuclear production plants are also expected to be closed after the 40-year concessions come to an end, between 2023 and 2028. This has been generating controversy among the main nuclear players in Spain, Iberdrola and Endesa, because Endesa is expecting to extend the useful lives of these plants by 10 years, whereas Iberdrola doesn't, because, according to the CEO, the costs associated with the extension outweigh the benefits.

At last, the current governing party, PSOE, had agreed in October on a number of decisions with the extreme left party, Podemos, in exchange for support to approve 2019 Spanish Budget. Among the measures was a proposal for a €2-€3Bn remuneration cap on nuclear and hydro generation, which have been the most benefitted from the current wholesale prices. Last year, Iberdrola was responsible for the production of c.42% of the total system's hydro and nuclear generation, therefore the impact on its activity would be at least €840Mn. However, we don't believe the measure will go through as nuclear and hydro, together, represented 31% of the total system's generation, in 2017, hence we believe the energy supply would be at danger. Additionally, both parties account for 151 out of the 350 Parliament seats.

As a result of these factors, Iberdrola's only source of conventional generation will be CCGT, after 2027. CCGT's are crucial to avoid power outages during peak-load hours, as its production output can be managed. Spain has been known for the excess capacity of this technology, therefore the load factors are too low, and the plants rely on capacity payments to support fixed costs. From 2022 onwards, as coal and nuclear plants phase out, we expect CCGT’s load factor to increase slightly to 10% (vs 8% now). Furthermore, the wholesale electricity price is expected to increase by €2.5-€3.2/MWh due to more expensive technologies having to close the demand more often. All in all, we expect the Spain's G&S EBITDA to reduce by 43% in the next 6 years.

In Europe, the energy retail activity has been becoming liberalized in the recent years. The reduction of legal entry barriers, coupled with the little capital required

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16 On 9M18 results call
17 Capacity payments are a fixed amount per MW given to electricity producers to ensure enough reliable capacity is available. The payments are used to encourage investment in new capacity or for existing capacity to remain open. Current capacity payment is estimated to be €7250 for CCGT, €2250 for Coal and €600 for Hydro.
18 According to Comisión de Expertos de Transición Energética: Análisis y propuestas para la descarbonización
to start supplying energy\textsuperscript{19} have brought in many small players with more competitive cost structures, which have deteriorated the margins. Nonetheless, we believe the small players are not the biggest threat, as they are more vulnerable to unexpected electricity wholesale price swings that may cause them to operate with negative margins until the regulator adjusts the retail tariffs. The biggest threat, we believe, comes from Big Oil companies with ambitious objectives in the retail segment. In Spain, Repsol recently acquired Viesgo and plans to reach 2.5m customers, CEPSA has defined the objective to capture 10% market share and GALP has also acquired a stake in an independent supplier. In the UK, Shell has also acquired the biggest retail company after the so-called “big six”. Overall, we believe the retail business will have its margin compressed due to the intensification of competition and the volume sold should decrease, in the UK, also because of the Brexit and the energy efficiency trend.

On the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, in Mexico, Iberdrola is expected to add 4.8 GW of capacity until 2022, as mentioned in the Strategic Outlook. In 2013, the Mexican government created an energy reform with the objective of 1) increasing the economy’s competitiveness, by decreasing electricity rates 2) reduce pollutant gases emissions by 22-36%, until 2026 3) Reduce transmission and distribution losses. In order to solve the first two aspects, the government decided to allow private investment on the generation, specifically for gas production as it 4 times cheaper than oil-fuel and emits 40% less CO2. To avoid shortage of gas, Mexico has been implementing supplementary energy supply measures, such as liquefied natural gas purchases, a gas pipeline expansion plan and liberalization of oil and gas upstream activities. Furthermore, activity is entirely done in USD, and energy is sold directly to the state-owned Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE), through 15-year PPA’s, or to Industrial and Commercial firms, through 25-year PPA’s, which eliminates uncertainty inherent to liberalized activities as those carried on in Spain. Given the stable outlook, we expect total production in Mexico, assuming CCGT’s load factors remain high (above 80%), to reach 73GWh by 2023.

Iberdrola’s presence in Brazil’s conventional generation is rather residual, as it only operates 533MW of CCGT. In Brazil, thermal production\textsuperscript{20} is remunerated under a regulated scheme, established by the ONS (Operador Nacional do Sistema do Brasil). Thermal operators receive a fixed monthly payment, determined the MW’s installed, which is updated by IPCA, independent of whether the plant is producing or not, and a variable payment (when the plant is operating) to cover the costs of raw materials and transportation. Additionally, the

\textsuperscript{19} Less than €1Mn to entry a country, according to Iberdrola’s Capital Market Day

\textsuperscript{20} Thermal production includes CCGT, coal and oil.
The regulator sets up a target Load Factor (Garantía Física), which must be achieved, in the case of CCGT it is around 85%, otherwise there is a penalty on the amount of variable remuneration the operator receives. In our analysis, we assumed that the target load factor would be met and hence, no penalty would be incurred. This is because Iberdrola has been experiencing above 85% load factors in the past.

All in all, by 2023, we expect total G&S EBITDA to decrease by 11%, as a consequence of the facilities closure in Spain and the supply headwinds in Europe. These effects will be mitigated by the increase in Mexico’s capacity, which is expected to increase its EBITDA by 50%.

Renewable Business

Renewables (excluding Hydro) has been the generation source experiencing the biggest growth, in terms of installed capacity. As of 2012, it represented 5% of total capacity worldwide and, according to IEA, it is expected to represent 10% by 2020. This trend is expected to continue and reach 17% by 2040, at the expense of Coal phase-out.

Over the last decade, the large deployment of renewable facilities went together with a clear cost reduction of these technologies (Appendix 2). Solar PV was the technology to experience the biggest cost cut, since 2010 it fell by 72% and it is now almost at the same level as more mature clean sources. Onshore and Offshore Wind also saw a cost decrease. Onshore Wind is now almost at the same cost as Hydro and consequently, among the most mature and competitive sources. The cost reduction has been driven mainly by technologic improvements, which allow for bigger and more productive generators, augmented competition among generators’ manufacturers, economies of scale and optimized O&M processes. Also, low barriers to entry, which allow for large-

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21 Levelized cost of electricity (LCOE). Measure of the total average cost to build and operate a power-generating asset over its useful lifetime, divided by the total production.
scale developers competing to develop projects all over the world and low cost of capital, driven by supportive policy frameworks.

In the developed countries, concerns about the climate change has long started to lead politicians to create more environmentally friendly policies. In Europe, the EU’s Renewable Energy Directive aims at having at least 32% of the energy demand supplied by renewable sources by 2030. In order to do so it set guidance on support schemes national governments should use to incentivize renewables production and not undermine the electricity market. The US doesn’t have a directive on renewable energy, however almost all the states have at least some targets and Iberdrola managed to take advantage of it by investing in states with high established targets, such as California or New York which have a target of 50% by 2030. To achieve these targets, countries have developed regulations to incentivize the installation of renewable facilities, hence, Iberdrola sells most of its renewable energy through Feed-in Tariffs or Power Purchase Agreements, with private entities, which buy the electricity for a given time frame, usually 20 to 25 years, for a fixed price per MWh. Furthermore, electricity producers might be subsidized for the construction at a fixed rate per MW. The structure of these subsidies is different in the US. There is a federal incentive called Production Tax Credit (PTC) to support the development of renewable energy, namely energy from wind that reduces the taxable income by $2.3 cents-KWh for the first 10 years of the facility’s operations. PTC’s program is expected to end for projects to go under development after 2020. However, we don’t expect the profitability of renewable projects in the US to be jeopardized, given the federal tax reduction, in 2018, from 35% to 21%.

Spain has abandoned these incentives to renewables because such renewable policies were creating a heavy burden on the electricity system, as mentioned before. Instead, its model, established in 2013, was designed to guarantee the renewable operators a return of 7.4% (Spanish 10-year average bond yield (2003-2013) plus 300bps spread). To do so all facilities (established after 2004) are entitled to receive the wholesale market price, under a Caps and Floor system and, in the case the Market Remuneration is not enough to reach the target remuneration, the operator is also entitled to a “specific remuneration” based on a fixed rate per MW. The government projections for the wholesale price is reviewed every 3 years, whereas the whole remuneration is reviewed every 6 years. For the next regulatory period, starting in 2020, CNMC has decided to change the remuneration to 7.1% and to take an approach based on the WACC, similar to the Networks segment. We believe the outlook is rather favorable as if CNMC was to apply the former formula, renewables’ profitability would be jeopardized.
Currently, Iberdrola has 29.2 GW of renewable installed capacity spread through its main markets, Spain, US, UK, Latam and RoW. Its capacity is mainly composed of onshore wind and hydro, but solar and offshore are also expected to increase its share.

Until 2023, Iberdrola's renewable capacity is expected to grow by 22% and most of the capacity is to be installed away from its domestic market. Iberdrola is exploring opportunities in the American Continent, where there is a better cashflow stability, as there is less exposure to merchant prices and the Load Factors tend to be higher than those in Spain. In Mexico, renewable energy is sold to CFE, under 25-year PPA's, there Iberdrola is expected to add 444MW of onshore wind energy and 620MW of solar PV. In Brazil, renewable energy is also sold under long-term PPA’s, Iberdrola is expected to deploy 472 MW of wind capacity in the country. In the USA, Iberdrola's main wind market, Iberdrola will deploy 1.3 GW of onshore wind capacity and 800MW of offshore wind, which will also be sold under long-term contracts. We expect the renewables’ EBITDA in these regions to increase by 47%, until 2024 (€911Mn vs €1335.6Mn).

As mentioned before, solar PV experienced the biggest cost reduction among all sources, as a consequence of the technology improvement, such as new materials used and different designs which allow for better load factors, additionally in 2015, 7 out of the 10 largest solar PV manufacturers were from Asia and in September 2018, EU decided to lift the anti-dumping fees on Solar PV’s from China, hence its cost is expected to decline even further. These factors together with the Iberdrola’s worldwide presence will allow for the installation of 1GW of Solar PV, in areas where the average yearly hours of sunshine are over 2600\(^2\) (391 MW in Region of Badajoz, Spain and 660 MW in Santiago, Mexico). Consequently, we expect the load factor of solar PV to achieve 20% (vs the average 17% with the current capacity) with the installation of the new facilities.

Iberdrola is expected to add 2.5GW of Offshore wind (spread throughout the USA, the UK and the Baltic Sea), in the next 5 years. Currently it is still the most expensive technology, as the installation and maintenance are very high\(^2\). However, load factors can go up to 50% and turbines can have twice as much capacity (Offshore turbines vary between 7-12 MW, whereas Onshore turbines are limited to 4MW). Offshore capacity is awarded under long contracts, attributed through competitive bidding. We believe Iberdrola’s early bet in this market was beneficial because competition is getting fierce and the PPA’s values are not as high as before (Wikinger offshore (350 MW, Germany), PPA under

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\(^2\) Source: AEMET and weatherspark.com

\(^2\) Onshore Installation cost per MW c.€1.4Mn; Offshore Installation cost per MW c. €3.7Mn – €4Mn (Analyst’s Estimates)
compress model includes €190/MWh for the first 8 years, then €150/MWh for the next 5 years and the last 8 years are €35/MWh\(^{24}\), whereas Vineyard Wind (800MW, US) is expected to have a PPA of $65/MWh for 20 years).

Lastly, this year Iberdrola decided to move Hydro generation from G&S to Renewable, a strategic move to better highlight its commitment to renewable generation. Until 2023, Iberdrola is expected to increase its hydro capacity in Portugal by 1.2GW (998MW, in 2021 and 160MW, in 2023). In Iberia, hydro production is exposed to merchant prices and it is among the cheapest technologies to bid, hence it will be directly benefited from the nuclear and coal plants phase-out. Due to the expected wholesale price increase, we estimate its EBITDA to increase by 5.13%, from 2023 onwards, as a consequence of the nuclear and coal closure mentioned in the “Generation and Supply” Chapter.

![Figure 43 - Hydro installed capacity (MW)](image)

Source: Company data 9M18

![Figure 44 - Nuclear closure impact on Hydro Spain EBITDA (2023 onwards)](image)

Source: Analyst estimates

### Valuation

#### Cost of Capital

As each of the businesses carried on by Iberdrola varies significantly in terms of nature and risk, we estimated a separate cost of capital for each business unit. (Appendix 4)

In order to determine the cost of equity, the CAPM was used with a Market Risk Premium of 6%\(^{25}\), across all the business units. For the risk-free rate, we used the German’s 10-year government bond yield, 0.54%, for the European businesses, the US 10-year government bond yield, 3.20%, for Avangrid and Mexico (as the activity in Mexico is carried on entirely in US Dollars) and 7.36% as a proxy for the risk free in Brazil\(^{26}\).

\(^{24}\) Germany Trade and Invest and Analyst’s estimates

\(^{25}\) According to Prof. Pablo Fernandez’s market survey, the average market risk premium in mature markets used by scholars and analysts varies between 5% to 6%. Source: IESE Business School, 2016.

\(^{26}\) 10y USD Yield in BRL = ((1+10y USD Yield in USD)\(^{10}\) × (1+Inflation BRL)\(^{10}\)) / (1+Inflation USD)\(^{10}\) - 1; inflation in Brazil 2017 (6%), inflation in US 2017 (1.9%)
To estimate the betas of each business line we defined comparable companies (i.e. companies that have at least 75% of their revenues derived from that activity) and we regressed the returns of those stocks against broadly diversified indexes. We used the EuroStoxx600 for the European companies and the S&P500 for the American companies (Appendix 3). As expected, the regulated segment, Renewable and Networks, are the ones with the lowest Unlevered Beta, whereas the liberalized activities are more exposed to market cycles. We assumed the Neoenenergia and Mexico to have the same unlevered beta as the networks segment because they are also fully regulated. Additionally, due to the lack of reliable information on public firms fully exposed to the retail of energy we assumed the Supply UK to have a beta of 0.8\(^{27}\) and for Other Businesses we set the beta as the average. Furthermore, we have considered the risks of carrying businesses in different geographical locations by adding a country risk premium (CRP)\(^{28}\). According to Prof. Damodaran, Brazil yields the biggest CRP, 4.24%, followed by Spain, 2.26%, Mexico, 1.7% and the UK, 0.70%.

The cost of debt was determined by adding a credit spread, according to Prof. Damodaran, over the risk-free rate. According to Fitch, Moody’s and S&P, Iberdrola’s credit rating is BBB+, which yields a spread of 1.27% over the risk-free. On the other hand, Neoenenergia, was rated BB- by S&P, corresponding to a 2.38% spread. To estimate the target D/E we used the Net Debt, in the balance sheet, in the end of 2019 divided by the market cap, as of October 2018, yielding a D/E of 0.87 which we expect to remain stable given the nature of the industry.

Regarding the Terminal Value, we assumed the business to be constant after our explicit analysis timeframe because in the most developed countries where Iberdrola operates electrification is already very developed and there are not many growing opportunities. In Brazil, where the national electricity system is still at an early stage of development, when compared with the most developed countries, we have assumed a 2% growth rate, in line with the OECD long-term Brazilian GDP forecast.

**Sum-of-the-parts**

To estimate Iberdrola’s business units’ value a DCF analysis was performed. Additionally, we valued the Adjustments at the average EV/EBITDA 2019 of the business units. Regarding the Financial Assets, the book value was used for all

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\(^{27}\) CMA – Energy Market Investigation: Analysis of cost of capital of energy firms

\(^{28}\) \(R_c = R_f + \beta_L \times (MRP + CRP)\)
elements, as we believe it was correctly priced, including the 8% participation on Siemens Gamesa.

The net debt in our SOTP analysis is the balance sheet value at the end of 2019 plus the value of the hybrid debt, included in the equity, plus the net value of the financial derivatives\(^\text{29}\). Additionally, the provisions related with pension obligations and facilities closure were subtracted. On our DCF analysis Iberdrola yields a share value to be 7.32€, although we acknowledge there might be some risks inherent to the valuation methodology, namely FX, commodities prices, load factors and regulatory assumptions.

**Figure 47 - Sum-of-the-parts (€)**

![Graph showing financial components of Iberdrola]

Source: Analyst's estimates

**Figure 48 – Average daily capital float (2018)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Iberdrola</th>
<th>0.30%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDF</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturgy</td>
<td>0.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enel</td>
<td>0.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endesa</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGIE</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDP</td>
<td>0.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>average</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.22%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bloomberg

**Iberdrola’s superior EBITDA and EPS growth not correctly priced in**

**Multiples Comparison**

We believe our investment thesis is supported by looking at the comparables. From this analysis we decided to exclude EDF given that its 2017 was results were polluted by the uncommon amount of times the French utility had to restart its nuclear reactors and delays experienced on the process. Additionally, given the fact that EDF is 83.7% owned by the French government, the stock is not very liquid.

Currently, Iberdrola trades at 14x the P/E ratio, which is very close to the average of the peers (5% premium). However, we have good prospects for Iberdrola’s EPS CAGR 2017-22 is 4.2%. The average EPS CAGR is 3.1%, hence its earnings are growing 35% more than its peers. The EV/EBITDA is trading at a 15% premium when comparing to its peers (9x vs 7.8x), which is supported by Iberdrola’s strong commitment to renewable energy, reducing exposure to older and more conventional forms of energy, however its EBITDA is growing more than two times faster than its peers. Lastly, the dividend yield is still in line with its peers despite the ambitious strategy that takes advantage of multiple growth opportunities.

\(^{29}\) Financial derivates liabilities – Financial derivatives assets
Alternative Scenarios

To complement our DCF analysis, a set of alternative scenarios was included in order to obtain a more realistic valuation price. For this, each of those scenarios was weighted based on the estimated probability of their occurrence, with the base scenario having the remaining weight.

For the bull scenario, an improvement of the Brazilian economic situation, with a probability of 15%, was assumed. Contributing to this is the recovery from the severe economic crisis that occurred from 2014 to 2016, that led to the impeachment of Dilma Rousseff. The recent change in leadership, with the introduction of Jair Bolsonaro, is also expected to promote economic stability. We assumed the EUR/BRL would recover to the pre-crisis level of 3.12 (2013) and the reduction of Brazil’s WACC by 90 bps, reflecting a renewed assessment of risk. Under this scenario, an upside of 5.1% would occur translating into a target price of €7.69.

For the bear scenario, we analyzed the impact of a possible windfall taxation, on nuclear and hydro production. This tax of €2bn, to be imposed by the Spanish government, would have an incremental cost for Iberdrola of €26.24 per MWh of hydro and nuclear production. This value was obtained by dividing the total tax by the total Spanish hydro and nuclear production, in 2017. The consequence of this would be a final target price of €6.07, implying a downside of 17% over the base case price.

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30 “Brazil’s worst-ever recession unexpectedly deepens in late 2016”, Reuters, March 7th, 2017
Sensitivity Analysis

The model was built based on a set of assumptions which we acknowledge that are susceptible to change and, consequently, to have significant impact on the value of Iberdrola. Therefore, it is important to revisit some of the most relevant assumptions and study their impact.

Given Iberdrola’s international presence, it is exposed to GBP, USD and BRL exchange rate fluctuations. In this regard, USD is the currency with the greatest impact followed by GBP and BRL. Additionally, these currencies have different levels of historic variability, hence the different ranges considered.

Something to highlight is the current Brexit situation, it is expected that the British economy slows down, and the Pound to devaluate against the Euro. According to the Bank of England, under a “no deal” Brexit the Sterling could fall as much as 25%. Furthermore, there’s little upside potential in the case the deal would be passed into law.

For the next Spanish regulatory period starting in 2020, CNMC proposed a change in the regulatory return that is still pending final approval by the Ecological Transition Ministry. Given this, and due to the relevance of the business unit, a variability of 0.4 p.p, of the regulatory return was estimated and the impact on the share was between 7.21€ and 7.43€.

Lastly, the country risk premium used for every country was analyzed. This premium can change over the time in accordance with investors’ perception of risk and have a significant impact in the value of the firm. In this regard, Spain is the country where a shift of perception can have the most impact. A reduction of 20% would increase the final price to 7.62€.
Appendix

Appendix 1 - Merit Order Curve

Source: Next Kraftwerke Belgium

Appendix 2 - Renewable levelized cost of electricity evolution ($/KWh)

Source: IRENA, "Renewable power generation costs in 2017"
Appendix 3 - WACC calculation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business unit</th>
<th>Firms</th>
<th>BL</th>
<th>Confidence Interval 95%</th>
<th>Bu</th>
<th>Index Used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G&amp;S Spain</td>
<td>Engie</td>
<td>1.033</td>
<td>[0.974 ; 1.091]</td>
<td>0.718</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drax</td>
<td>0.901</td>
<td>[0.78 ; 1.022]</td>
<td>0.721</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fortum</td>
<td>0.791</td>
<td>[0.717 ; 0.864]</td>
<td>0.766</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networks</td>
<td>REE</td>
<td>0.630</td>
<td>[0.574 ; 0.686]</td>
<td>0.447</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TERNA</td>
<td>0.796</td>
<td>[0.741 ; 0.851]</td>
<td>0.505</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewables</td>
<td>Orsted</td>
<td>0.592</td>
<td>[0.462 ; 0.722]</td>
<td>0.519</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDPR</td>
<td>0.760</td>
<td>[0.697 ; 0.824]</td>
<td>0.555</td>
<td>Eurostoxx 600</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>Avangrid</td>
<td>0.331</td>
<td>[0.303 ; 0.359]</td>
<td>0.253</td>
<td>S&amp;P500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Business Firms BL Confidence Interval 95% Bu Index Used
Engie 1.033 [0,974 ; 1,091] 0.718 Eurostoxx 600
Drax 0.901 [0,78 ; 1,022] 0.721 Eurostoxx 600
Fortum 0.791 [0.717 ; 0.864] 0.766 Eurostoxx 600
REE 0.630 [0.574 ; 0.686] 0.447 Eurostoxx 600
TERNA 0.796 [0.741 ; 0.851] 0.505 Eurostoxx 600
Orsted 0.592 [0.462 ; 0.722] 0.519 Eurostoxx 600
EDPR 0.760 [0.697 ; 0.824] 0.555 Eurostoxx 600
Avangrid 0.331 [0.303 ; 0.359] 0.253 S&P500

Source: Analyst's estimates

Appendix 4 - Sum-of-the-parts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sum-of-parts Iberdrola</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>€/Share</th>
<th>EV/EBITDA 19E</th>
<th>Methodology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G&amp;S Spain</td>
<td>5148</td>
<td>€ 0.82</td>
<td>5.32 DCF; Wacc @ 6.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Spain</td>
<td>18029</td>
<td>€ 2.89</td>
<td>11.13 DCF; Wacc @ 4.42%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydro Spain</td>
<td>6293</td>
<td>€ 1.01</td>
<td>10.44 DCF; Wacc @ 6.3%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewables</td>
<td>17774</td>
<td>€ 2.55</td>
<td>9.66 DCF; Wacc @ 4.8%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Renewables</td>
<td>24056</td>
<td>€ 3.86</td>
<td>8.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network UK</td>
<td>9115</td>
<td>€ 1.46</td>
<td>9.82 DCF; Wacc @ 3.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>6039</td>
<td>€ 1.11</td>
<td>6.50 DCF; Wacc @ 11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>19547</td>
<td>€ 3.15</td>
<td>10.14 DCF; Wacc @ 4.74%</td>
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<tr>
<td>G&amp;S UK</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>€ 0.13</td>
<td>3.08 DCF; Wacc @ 6.51%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>5821</td>
<td>€ 0.93</td>
<td>9.31 DCF; Wacc @ 6.34%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Energy</td>
<td>-247</td>
<td>(0.04)</td>
<td>DCF; Wacc @ 5.33%</td>
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<td>Financial Assets</td>
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<td>-1,268</td>
<td>(0.20)</td>
<td>EBITDA 19 Multiple</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enterprise Value</td>
<td>92,179</td>
<td>€ 14.77</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net debt adjusted for hybrid</td>
<td></td>
<td>(6.83)</td>
<td>DCF; Wacc @ 5.33%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension Provisions</td>
<td>-2,533</td>
<td>(0.41)</td>
<td>Book Value 2019F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other provisions</td>
<td>-2,976</td>
<td>(0.48)</td>
<td>Book Value 2019F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Avangrid Minorities</td>
<td>-2,786</td>
<td>(0.45)</td>
<td>Book Value 2019F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NeoEnergía Minorities</td>
<td>-1,809</td>
<td>(0.29)</td>
<td>Book Value 2019F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Equity Value</td>
<td>45,665</td>
<td>€ 7.32</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shares outstanding (in millions)</td>
<td>6240</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Target Price per share</td>
<td>€ 7.32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last price</td>
<td>€ 7.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital gain</td>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Source: Analyst's estimates
## Financial Statements

### Balance Sheet (In Million €)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intangible Assets</td>
<td>20,760</td>
<td>19,934</td>
<td>21,148</td>
<td>21,056</td>
<td>21,805</td>
<td>22,083</td>
<td>22,327</td>
<td>23,169</td>
<td>23,416</td>
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<td>Real Estate Properties</td>
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<td>462</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>424</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property, Plant And Equipment</td>
<td>61,789</td>
<td>63,834</td>
<td>64,082</td>
<td>64,000</td>
<td>66,592</td>
<td>68,792</td>
<td>69,383</td>
<td>69,391</td>
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<td>Non Current Financial Investments</td>
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<td>3,904</td>
<td>5,014</td>
<td>4,360</td>
<td>4,609</td>
<td>4,701</td>
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<td>Non-Current Receivables</td>
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<td>887</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>746</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Tax Assets</td>
<td>6,630</td>
<td>6,958</td>
<td>5,382</td>
<td>5,380</td>
<td>5,379</td>
<td>5,377</td>
<td>5,375</td>
<td>5,373</td>
<td>5,372</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,679</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,726</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,800</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,092</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,493</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,298</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,624</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,335</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,327</strong></td>
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### Equity And Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equity</th>
<th>40,956</th>
<th>40,687</th>
<th>42,733</th>
<th>44,297</th>
<th>44,791</th>
<th>45,322</th>
<th>45,808</th>
<th>46,694</th>
<th>48,209</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of Shareholders Of The Parent</td>
<td>37,159</td>
<td>36,691</td>
<td>35,509</td>
<td>36,723</td>
<td>37,217</td>
<td>37,748</td>
<td>38,234</td>
<td>39,120</td>
<td>40,635</td>
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<td>Hybrid Capital</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>1,553</td>
<td>1,903</td>
<td>1,903</td>
<td>1,903</td>
<td>1,903</td>
<td>1,903</td>
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<td>Of Minority Interests</td>
<td>3,246</td>
<td>3,446</td>
<td>5,671</td>
<td>5,671</td>
<td>5,671</td>
<td>5,671</td>
<td>5,671</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>49,069</strong></td>
<td><strong>51,842</strong></td>
<td><strong>50,799</strong></td>
<td><strong>50,534</strong></td>
<td><strong>51,403</strong></td>
<td><strong>51,952</strong></td>
<td><strong>52,447</strong></td>
<td><strong>53,639</strong></td>
<td><strong>54,809</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Income</td>
<td>6,511</td>
<td>6,590</td>
<td>6,379</td>
<td>6,377</td>
<td>6,741</td>
<td>6,876</td>
<td>6,995</td>
<td>7,404</td>
<td>7,524</td>
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<td>Provisions</td>
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<td>4,905</td>
<td>5,487</td>
<td>5,349</td>
<td>5,509</td>
<td>5,569</td>
<td>5,621</td>
<td>5,802</td>
<td>5,855</td>
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<td>Other Non-Current Payables</td>
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<td>680</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>590</td>
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<td>590</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Tax Liabilities</td>
<td>11,896</td>
<td>12,741</td>
<td>8,558</td>
<td>8,558</td>
<td>8,558</td>
<td>8,558</td>
<td>8,558</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,490</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,982</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,693</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,656</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,264</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,547</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,800</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,538</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,966</strong></td>
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</table>

Source: Analyst's estimates

### Income Statement (in Million €)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>31,419</td>
<td>28,759</td>
<td>31,263</td>
<td>31,044</td>
<td>32,818</td>
<td>33,474</td>
<td>34,052</td>
<td>36,043</td>
<td>36,627</td>
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<tr>
<td>Procurements</td>
<td>-18,576</td>
<td>-15,824</td>
<td>-17,899</td>
<td>-16,315</td>
<td>-16,731</td>
<td>-18,196</td>
<td>-18,471</td>
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<td>Gross Margin</td>
<td>12,843</td>
<td>12,935</td>
<td>13,364</td>
<td>14,730</td>
<td>15,187</td>
<td>15,278</td>
<td>15,580</td>
<td>16,548</td>
<td>17,622</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Operating Expenses</td>
<td>-3,739</td>
<td>-3,466</td>
<td>-4,171</td>
<td>-3,541</td>
<td>-3,758</td>
<td>-3,919</td>
<td>-4,020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Levis</td>
<td>-1,706</td>
<td>-1,536</td>
<td>-1,875</td>
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<td>-1,609</td>
<td>-1,669</td>
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<td>EBITDA</td>
<td>7,397</td>
<td>7,934</td>
<td>7,319</td>
<td>9,693</td>
<td>9,882</td>
<td>9,750</td>
<td>9,891</td>
<td>10,674</td>
<td>11,684</td>
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<td>EBIT / Operating Profit</td>
<td>3,829</td>
<td>4,686</td>
<td>3,273</td>
<td>5,672</td>
<td>5,754</td>
<td>5,458</td>
<td>5,457</td>
<td>6,072</td>
<td>6,974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Results</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>296</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBT</td>
<td>2,987</td>
<td>3,778</td>
<td>1,773</td>
<td>5,106</td>
<td>5,052</td>
<td>4,791</td>
<td>4,796</td>
<td>5,375</td>
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<td>Corporate Tax</td>
<td>-527</td>
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<td>1,397</td>
<td>-1,420</td>
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<td>Net Profit</td>
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<td>2,705</td>
<td>2,804</td>
<td>3,417</td>
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<td>3,023</td>
<td>2,978</td>
<td>3,378</td>
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Source: Analyst's estimates
### Cash Flow Statement (in Million €)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOPAT</td>
<td>3,178</td>
<td>3,422</td>
<td>2,749</td>
<td>4,181</td>
<td>4,270</td>
<td>4,227</td>
<td>4,211</td>
<td>4,390</td>
<td>4,957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross Operating Cash Flow</td>
<td>6,746</td>
<td>6,670</td>
<td>7,355</td>
<td>8,190</td>
<td>8,386</td>
<td>8,509</td>
<td>8,634</td>
<td>8,981</td>
<td>9,656</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Capex</td>
<td>3,223</td>
<td>4,265</td>
<td>5,893</td>
<td>4,148</td>
<td>6,819</td>
<td>6,594</td>
<td>5,129</td>
<td>4,716</td>
<td>3,620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changes in Working Capital</td>
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<td>555</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>2,123</td>
<td>-2,301</td>
<td>-1,577</td>
<td>-27</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>3,460</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Cash Flows</td>
<td>2,789</td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>2,316</td>
<td>-1,440</td>
<td>2,764</td>
<td>2,238</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>-163</td>
<td>-3,201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Cash Flow</td>
<td>2,298</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>-1,215</td>
<td>3,358</td>
<td>1,103</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>2,744</td>
<td>3,555</td>
<td>5,777</td>
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<td>Financial Debt</td>
<td>2,212</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>4,964</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1,273</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax Shields</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>-1,465</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>589</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dividends Paid</td>
<td>1,731</td>
<td>1,792</td>
<td>1,985</td>
<td>2,060</td>
<td>2,204</td>
<td>2,329</td>
<td>2,492</td>
<td>2,492</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash to Reserves</td>
<td>2,039</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>-639</td>
<td>1,452</td>
<td>-1,065</td>
<td>-997</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>1,452</td>
<td>4,167</td>
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</table>

Source: Analyst's research
Disclosures and Disclaimers

Report Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buy</th>
<th>Expected total return (including expected capital gains and expected dividend yield) of more than 10% over a 12-month period.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hold</td>
<td>Expected total return (including expected capital gains and expected dividend yield) between 0% and 10% over a 12-month period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>Expected negative total return (including expected capital gains and expected dividend yield) over a 12-month period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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As mentioned in our report, under the “Generation and Supply” Chapter, currently there is an ongoing debate, in Spain, on how to proceed as the nuclear facilities reach their 40-year concession periods. The main nuclear operators, in Iberia, Endesa and Iberdrola, can’t seem to reach an agreement on whether to extend the useful life of these plants for an extra 10-year period, or not. Iberdrola prefers to shut down the plants as they reach 40-years, arguing that the CAPEX investment to extend its useful life would not be compensated, whereas Endesa believes otherwise. For a useful life of a nuclear plant to be extended, 100% of the shareholders must agree with it, the problem is that in Spain all the nuclear plants’ ownership are mostly split among different players (Fig. 1).

Endesa’s point of view is that nuclear power is essential to ensure the security of supply, avoid an increase in electricity prices and help the government meet the goal of having less 26% CO2 emissions by 2030, when compared with those in 2005.
In the last 5 years, nuclear energy generation represented on average 21% of total energy generation in Spain (Fig. 2), hence the security of supply is a critical issue to be analyzed. Furthermore, as part of 550 EPS EU’s ruling¹ and the EU 2010/75 directive of industrial emissions, by 2020 Endesa, Iberdrola and Naturgy are expected to close roughly 5GW of installed capacity of coal, which represents a production of 22.4 GWh², yearly. However, we believe the closure of these thermal facilities won’t jeopardize the systems’ reliability, as 1) as part of the energy transaction plan, in Spain, PSOE plans to auction 4GW of renewable capacity (solar and wind), every year, which represents a c.7GWh³ increase in production; 2) there’s enough spare capacity in the CCGT’s facilities to accommodate for the other thermal production phase-out because CCGT’s, as a consequence of excess capacity installed, have been running at load factors close to 15%; 3) The development of transmission lines across the borders, as part of the EU’s plan to better integrate electricity markets. Currently, there are two projects being developed between the Spanish and French border, one between the Basque Country and Aquitaine (Bay of Biscay Project), which is expected to be completed between 2024-2025 and will allow for the two countries to exchange 5000MW. And another across the central Pyrenees (PCI projects 2.27.1 and 2.27.2), which will allow for the exchange of up to 8000MW. Additionally, there is also another project between Portugal and Spain being developed, with capacity for 3200MW, which will allow for a better integration of the Iberian

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¹ Emission performance standard, imposed by the European Commission on coal plants, where coal plants must emit less than 550g CO2/kWh to be eligible to receive capacity payments.
² Assuming 2017’s average coal load factor. Source: REE
³ Assuming a conservative Load factor of 20%
Market. All in all, we believe the system will still be able to preserve the security of supply, even though there might be an upward pressure on the wholesale market price.

The liberalized pool price in Spain is determined by a marginalist system, where the most expensive technology to satisfy the electricity’s demand defines the market price (Fig. 3). Nuclear plants are unvarying power plants, meaning that they can’t control their production level, unlike CCGT’s, furthermore its production costs are cheaper than those plants that rely on commodities. Hence, nuclear plants usually bid at a very low price, close to the renewables.

According to Comisión de Expertos de Transición Energética\(^4\), in a scenario without nuclear plants, the market price would increase by 2,5-3,2€/Mwh, reflecting a shift in the supply curve (Fig. 3) because the most expensive technologies would have to close the demand more often. This increase in the wholesale market prices would imply, at least, an increase of 1.55€/Mwh\(^5\) and 0.9€/MWh, in the final bill, of Industrial Consumers and Residential Consumers, respectively.

One of the most sensible topics nowadays is the CO2 emissions. In 2017, Spain emitted 301.9 Million tons of CO2 (20% below 2005) and electricity generation accounted for 22%\(^6\) of total CO2 emissions. Under a no-extension scenario, and assuming all Coal and Nuclear production to be replaced by CCGT, we estimate emissions would increase by 2,3 Million tons, this increase would be mitigated by the installation of new renewable capacity. Furthermore, measures in the other sectors, such as Transportation, Agriculture

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\(^4\) Comisión de Expertos de Transición Energética - Análisis y propuestas para la descarbonización

\(^5\) According to the European Energy Market Reform – Country profile: Spain, realized by Deloitte, in 2012 energy costs represented 62% and 36% of the total electricity bill, respectively.

\(^6\) Analyst estimates; Using Coal CO2 intensity = 1.02 and Gas CO2 intensity = 0.48
and Industry, which account for the majority of the CO2 emissions, need to take place, if the 2030 goal is to be reached.

We believe that what is causing this disagreement is the difference in production mixes. Endesa is a subsidiary of Enel and is only present in Iberia. Its production mix is mainly composed of conventional technology, with only 17% renewables (including hydro). This mix puts Endesa at a disadvantage because all coal plants, as mentioned before are expected to be phased-out until 2030 and so might nuclear plants be, forcing Endesa to expand its renewable capacity. According to Endesa’s 2018 Capital Markets Day, their renewable installed capacity is expected to increase by 2GW until 2021 (equivalent to 8% of 2017’s installed capacity). On the other hand, Iberdrola has long started to invest in international markets (Currently, Iberdrola’s domestic production represent 40% of its total production). Regarding the domestic production, 48% of Iberdrola’s domestic production is Renewable, additionally Hydro production and Wind Capacity installed prior to 2005 is fully exposed to merchant price (Iberdrola has 2891MW of wind capacity installed prior or 2005, equivalent to 50% of total installed capacity), hence benefiting directly from an increase in the wholesale price.

Due to the lack of public information on past nuclear reactors life extension, we based our analysis on the announced cost of extension of the Beznau reactor in Switzerland, in 2010, which at the time was estimated at around €0.916mn/MW⁷, additionally we assumed the cost of the extension to be equal for both PWR and BWR reactors and Mibel.

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⁷ Updated to €, 2018 values.
to increase by 2.5€/MWh, from 2023 onwards. The outcome, to Iberdrola, was a negative impact on EV of €873.6M, reflecting a decrease of €0.14 on the price per share.

We believe there are further risks associated with the extension of nuclear reactors, namely the lack of support on behalf of the political parties and public in general, which may deteriorate the returns of the investment even further. People’s Party (PP) is the only Spanish party that defended nuclear energy, in public, by having conceded green light for Santa Maria de Garoña’s life extension plan, in 2012. Nonetheless, in 2013, the PP’s Government approved the generation and nuclear tax, which led Garoña’s plant operator to cancel the investment, as it wasn’t profitable anymore. We believe a similar risk must also be taken into account, especially given the current hovering possibility of an imposition of a €2bn-€3bn windfall taxation on hydro and nuclear. Additionally, in a poll realized in 2015, only 28%8 of the Spanish are in favour of nuclear energy.

To conclude, at this point there’s still little visibility on the future of nuclear energy production in Spain, however under the current political and plants’ organizational scenario there seems to be little room for nuclear extension.

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8 Nuclear Energy Agency - Public Attitudes to Nuclear Power 2015
This individual part focuses on the Spanish political situation and how it can affect Iberdrola’s domestic business, the most significant part of the company’s valuation. It will delve into two of the current pressing matters affecting Iberdrola’s future: the windfall profits’ driven price cap and the transition of regulatory remuneration to a WACC-based model. Here, we will discover the windfall price cap to have a potential impact of €1.25 and the remuneration change, in case it’s accepted with a 0.4% lower return, to have an impact of €0.11.

Windfall profits arise due to the marginalist nature of the pricing system, in which the marginal cost of the technology closing the demand sets the price (Appendix 1). Whenever a surge in power prices occurs, technologies like hydro and nuclear, due to their lower variable costs, are increasingly more profitable. The discussion intensified lately because these assets, namely nuclear plants, are now closer than before to the end of their accounting lives. Thus, in October, an agreement between the Socialist Party (PSOE) and Podemos targeted the introduction of a price cap on the remuneration of hydro and nuclear technologies.

Based on the latest Iberdrola report (9M18), it currently has 3.18 GW of nuclear and 9.72 GW of hydro installed capacity in Spain, which translates into roughly 50% of the Iberdrola’s total installed capacity in the country. Furthermore, as seen before, only last year, Iberdrola was responsible for the production of c.42% of the total system’s hydro and nuclear generation. Hence, Iberdrola would be highly impacted by this proposal due

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9 As of 9M2018, Spain generated 40% of Iberdrola’s total EBITDA. The second highest contribution was of 24%.
10 “The Spanish Electricity System” Report, RED Eléctrica de España, 2017
to the significance of hydro and nuclear in its operations and due to its relevance in the Spanish generation market.

Although, its our belief, such change is highly unlikely to happen. The facts substantiating this are that its hard for this proposal to obtain enough political support to be approved and that the strong criticism from Spanish utilities\textsuperscript{11} may act as a deterrent. Currently, the proposal is defended by the Socialist party and Unidos Podemos, which together secure 155 of the votes, with 176 needed to reach majority in the Parliament. Although the number of votes is significant, support from Catalan and other smaller parties is lacking to proceed. Coupled with that, Spain’s largest utilities (such as Iberdrola, Endesa, EDP) have strongly criticized Spain’s Socialist party argument that nuclear and hydropower plants “were built decades ago and have long recovered their costs”\textsuperscript{3}. In Iberdrola’s case, nuclear and hydro generation assets are not fully amortized yet and have been driving annual losses to the company, due to a combination of taxes and low load factors.

Base on this analysis, a probability of 5\% was attributed to this event with a potential negative impact of €1.25 estimated\textsuperscript{12}. Thus, if the hydro and nuclear price cap is approved, we estimate a very negative impact to Iberdrola.

Another situation affecting Iberdrola’s business in Spain is the possible change in the methodology used to remunerate regulated activities such as electricity networks and renewable energies, in the next regulatory period (2020 to 2025). The new methodology, introduced by the market’s regulator (CNMC/CNE), plans to change the remuneration from the existing bond-linked model (Spanish 10Y bond yield) to a WACC-based model.

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\textsuperscript{11} “Spanish utilities slam government plans for nuclear, hydro profit cap”, S&P Global, Nov 13\textsuperscript{th}, 2018

\textsuperscript{12} This was one of the scenarios considered in the “Alternative Scenarios” section.
Currently, the proposal is pending final approval from the Ecological Transition Ministry\textsuperscript{13}.

The existing model, valid until 2019, provides a remuneration of 6.4%/7.4% over the RAV (Regulatory Asset Value), in which 4.4% is associated with the bond yield (2013) and the remaining 2%/3% is an additional fixed premium. The new model proposes a remuneration of 5.6%/7.1%, to be adjusted based on the weighted average cost of capital, for electricity networks and renewable energies, respectively.

In our model, we assumed the proposal would be accepted based on several reasons. Firstly, the current yield of the Spanish 10Y bond is around 1.5%, meaning that an update based on the current model would not provide enough return to cover companies’ cost of capital. Additionally, a model connected with the cost of capital provides reduced uncertainty to companies’ compensation and attracts more investment due to increased regulatory stability. At last, because it is the model adopted by most European regulators.

Although, there is an additional risk. The Spanish government may accept the CNMC proposal with a different (lower) remuneration. Recent reports indicate it can be closer to 5% (instead of 5.6%) to electricity networks. Considering this, during the report, a sensitivity analysis was performed where a 5.2% return for the electricity networks was assumed instead.

Overall, based on this analysis, we believe the change in the Spanish regulatory remuneration methodology will happen and, in case it is accepted with a lower return, to have an impact of €0.11 on Iberdrola’s stock price.

\textsuperscript{13}“Spain’s energy regulator pushes for WACC-based model for renewables market”, S&P Global, Nov 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2018