

# Company Report

Thursday, 13 February 2014

# Qatar Electricity & Water Company (QEWS)

| Recommendation | ACCUMULATE | Risk Rating  | ,<br>R-2 |
|----------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| Share Price    | QR183.70   | Target Price | QR206.41 |
| Implied Upside | 12.4%      |              |          |

## A Core Long-Term Play; Maintain Accumulate Rating

**QEWS is a low-risk play deeply linked to Qatar's growth story.** We continue to remain bullish longer term on QEWS. The company is Qatar's leading listed electricity/desalinated water producer and possesses a low-risk business model (minimal demand/cost risk), with secure and visible earnings and cash flows. We maintain our Accumulate rating on QEWS with a new price target of QR206.41.

#### **Highlights**

- In-line revenue but lowered profitability leads to 4Q2013 earnings miss. QEWS reported a 4Q2013 bottom-line of QR330mn (-21% QoQ, -28% YoY) versus our estimate of QR371mn. The company generated revenue of QR692mn (-14% QoQ, flattish YoY), which was only 3% shy of our estimate of QR717mn. Reported revenue was comprised of: (1) QR350mn in electricity revenue (-23% QoQ, -3% YoY), which was below our estimate moderately; (2) QR295mn in water desalination sales (-2% QoQ, +3% YoY) was ahead of our estimate; and (3) QR48mn in lease income (flattish QoQ and YoY) that was slightly ahead of our modeled expectation. Direct costs expanded during the quarter, lowering the gross margin to 59.4% vs. 61.6% in 3Q2013 and 67.6% in 4Q2012; EBITDA came in at QR368mn (-18% QoQ, -14% YoY) lowering the EBITDA margin to 53.1% vs. 55.4% in 3Q2013 and 61.7% in 4Q2012; according to management, 4Q2012 costs were affected by a reversal of QR59.3mn in EOS benefits, leading to an adjusted EBITDA margin of 53.2%. Finally, share of profits from JVs (Q Power, Mesaieed Power & RGPC) was QR100mn (-14% QoQ, +122% YoY) which was right in line with our estimate.
- Cash dividends come in line with our estimate. QEWS proposed a cash DPS of QR7.50 (DY: 4.1%) plus a 10% bonus share issue vs. our estimate of QR7.50 in cash DPS. We maintain our forecast for QR8.00 in DPS for 2014.

#### Catalysts

Significant catalysts abound longer term. QEWS should benefit from a new water plant, RAF A2 (36 MIGD), which we expect to begin significantly contributing from 2016. Further, Facility D (2,400 MW & 130 MIGD) should be commissioned around 2017. QEWS continues to seek regional expansion opportunities and has set up a \$1bn JV (60% stake) called Nebras Power with QPI and QH to achieve this goal. Potential announcements of successful regional bids could act as catalysts, while commencement of full production from RAF A2 in 2016 should reignite earnings growth.

#### **Recommendation, Valuation and Risks**

Source: Company data, QNBFS estimates; Note: \*IFRS 11

- Recommendation and valuation: We rate QEWS an Accumulate with a price target of QR206.41. Our price target, adjusted for the bonus shares, would be QR187.65. Valuation remains reasonable with the stock trading at a 2014 P/E of 12.7x. Our target price implies an upside of 12.4%.
- Risks: 1) EBITDA margin erosion and 2) International expansion risks.

#### Key Financial Data and Estimates

|                     | FY2012* | FY2013* | FY2014e* | FY2015e* |
|---------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Revenue (QR mn)     | 2,838   | 2,904   | 2,960    | 2,641    |
| Revenue Growth      | N/A     | 2.3%    | 1.9%     | (10.8%)  |
| EPS (QR)            | 14.32   | 13.84   | 14.52    | 12.56    |
| EPS Growth          | 10.2%   | (3.3%)  | 4.9%     | (13.5%)  |
| P/E (x)             | 12.8    | 13.3    | 12.7     | 14.6     |
| DPS (QR)            | 7.30    | 7.50    | 8.00     | 8.50     |
| Dividend Payout (%) | 51.0%   | 54.2%   | 55.1%    | 67.7%    |
| Dividend Yield      | 4.0%    | 4.1%    | 4.4%     | 4.6%     |
|                     |         |         |          |          |

#### Key Data

| Current Market Price (QR) | 183.70        |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Dividend Yield (%)        | 4.4           |
| Bloomberg Ticker          | QEWS QD       |
| ADR/GDR Ticker            | N/A           |
| Reuters Ticker            | QEWC.QA       |
| ISIN                      | QA0006929812  |
| Sector*                   | Industrials   |
| 52wk High/52wk Low (QR)   | 186.00/130.00 |
| 3-m Average Volume ('000) | 53.2          |
| Mkt. Cap. (\$ bn/QR bn)   | 5.0/18.2      |
| Shares Outstanding (mn)   | 100.0         |
| FO Limit* (%)             | 25.0          |
| Current FO* (%)           | 7.7           |
| 1-Year Total Return (%)   | 36.4          |
| Fiscal Year End           | December 31   |

Source: Bloomberg (as of Feb. 13, 2014), \*Qatar Exchange (as of Feb. 13, 2014); Note: FO is foreign ownership

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# **Detailed Financial Statements**

| Income Statement (In QR mn)                                      | FY2012* | FY2013* | FY2014e* | FY2015e* |
|--|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Revenue  | 2,838   | 2,904   | 2,960    | 2,641    |
| Cost of Sales, Excluding Depreciation                            | (1,079) | (1,146) | (1,168)  | (1,056)  |
| Gross Profit   | 1,759   | 1,757   | 1,792    | 1,585    |
| General & Administrative Expenses                                | (179)   | (218)   | (222)    | (198)    |
| EBITDA   | 1,580   | 1,540   | 1,570    | 1,387    |
| Deferred Income  | 7       | 7       | 7        | 7        |
| Depreciation & Amortization                                      | (473)   | (458)   | (495)    | (548)    |
| EBIT   | 1,114   | 1,089   | 1,082    | 846      |
| Finance Costs  | (193)   | (178)   | (125)    | (102)    |
| Interest Income, Dividend Income & Gain on Sale of AFS           | 65      | 92      | 42       | 36       |
| Other & Miscellaneous Income/Expense & Share of Profits from JVs | 465     | 389     | 462      | 482      |
| Share of Associates  | 5       | 19      | 19       | 19       |
| Profit Before Tax  | 1,457   | 1,412   | 1,481    | 1,281    |
| Income Tax Expense   | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0        |
| Profit After Tax   | 1,457   | 1,412   | 1,481    | 1,281    |
| Minority Interest  | (25)    | (27)    | (29)     | (25)     |
| Profit for Shareholders  | 1,432   | 1,384   | 1,452    | 1,256    |
| EPS (QR)   | 14.32   | 13.84   | 14.52    | 12.56    |

Source: Company data, QNBFS estimates; Note: \*IFRS 11

| Balance Sheet (In QR mn)           | FY2012* | FY2013* | FY2014e* | FY2015e* |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Non-Current Assets                 |         |         |          |          |
| Property, Plant and Equipment      | 4,748   | 5,055   | 5,580    | 6,027    |
| Available-for-Sale Investments     | 424     | 454     | 454      | 454      |
| Finance Lease Receivables          | 1,913   | 1,775   | 1,641    | 1,508    |
| JV Loans and Investments in JVs    | 446     | 721     | 834      | 957      |
| Other Non-Current assets           | 263     | 267     | 280      | 293      |
| Total Non-Current Assets           | 7,794   | 8,272   | 8,790    | 9,239    |
| Current Assets                     |         |         |          |          |
| Finance Lease Receivables & Others | 126     | 168     | 168      | 168      |
| Inventories                        | 369     | 276     | 281      | 254      |
| Accounts Receivables & Prepayments | 572     | 585     | 597      | 532      |
| Cash and Short-Term Deposits       | 2,690   | 1,726   | 1,234    | 727      |
| Total Current Assets               | 3,757   | 2,754   | 2,280    | 1,681    |
| Total Assets                       | 11,551  | 11,026  | 11,069   | 10,920   |
| Equity                             |         |         |          |          |
| Equity to the Parent               | 5,167   | 6,111   | 6,813    | 7,268    |
| Minority Interest                  | 215     | 230     | 234      | 238      |
| Total Equity                       | 5,382   | 6,341   | 7,047    | 7,506    |
| Non-Current Liabilities            |         |         |          |          |
| Loans and Borrowings               | 3,494   | 3,361   | 2,689    | 2,151    |
| Deferred Income                    | 20      | 14      | 7        | 0        |
| Employees' End of Service Benefits | 35      | 39      | 42       | 46       |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities      | 3,550   | 3,414   | 2,738    | 2,197    |
| Current Liabilities                |         |         |          |          |
| Accounts Payables & Others         | 874     | 689     | 703      | 636      |
| Loans and Borrowings               | 1,455   | 413     | 413      | 413      |
| Derivatives                        | 289     | 169     | 169      | 169      |
| Total Current Liabilities          | 2,619   | 1,272   | 1,285    | 1,218    |
| Equity and Liabilities             | 11,551  | 11,026  | 11,069   | 10,920   |

Source: Company data, QNBFS estimates; Note: \*IFRS 11

#### Recommendations

Based on the range for the upside / downside offered by the 12month target price of a stock versus the current market price

| OUTPERFORM     | Greater than +20%    |
|----------------|----------------------|
| ACCUMULATE     | Between +10% to +20% |
| MARKET PERFORM | Between -10% to +10% |
| REDUCE         | Between -10% to -20% |
| UNDERPERFORM   | Lower than -20%      |

| Ris | k Rat | ings |
|-----|-------|------|
|-----|-------|------|

Reflecting historic and expected price volatility versus the local market average and qualitative risk analysis of fundamentals

| R-1 | Significantly lower than average  |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| R-2 | Lower than average                |
| R-3 | Medium / In-line with the average |
| R-4 | Above average                     |
| R-5 | Significantly above average       |

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