# LAS VEGAS INVESTOR MEETINGS

MARCH 2019

NW Natural HOLDINGS™

# INVESTOR INFORMATION

## COMPANY INFORMATION

NW Natural Holdings
220 NW Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97209
nwnaturalholdings.com

Nikki Sparley
Director, Investor Relations
(503) 721-2530
nikki.sparley@nwnatural.com

## FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This and other presentations made by NW Natural Holdings from time to time, may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which are subject to the safe harbors created by such Act. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “seeks,” “believes,” “estimates,” “expects” and similar references to future periods. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the following: plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, projections, expectations, acquisitions and integration thereof, corporate organization including conversion to a holding company structure, storage, pipeline and other infrastructure investments, commodity costs and sourcing, competitive advantage, marketing success, service territory, customer service, customer and business growth, weather, customer preference, conversion potential, multifamily development, business risk, efficiency of business operations, regulatory recovery, business development and new business initiatives, water industry and investments, environmental remediation recoveries, gas storage markets and business opportunities, gas storage development, costs, timing or returns related thereto, financial positions and performance, economic and housing market trends and performance shareholder return and value, capital expenditures, liquidity, strategic goals, carbon emissions and savings, workforce trends, hedge efficacy, cash flows and adequacy thereof, return on equity, capital structure, return on invested capital, revenues and earnings and timing thereof, margins, net income, operations and maintenance expense, dividends, credit ratings and profile, debt and equity issuances, the regulatory environment, effects of regulatory disallowance, timing or effects of future regulatory proceedings or future regulatory approvals, regulatory prudence reviews or deferrals, effects of regulatory dockets or mechanisms, including, but not limited to, the Company’s rate case, tax reform, SRRM and the Company’s infrastructure investments, effects of legislation, including but not limited to tax reform, PHMSA regulations and carbon regulations, and other statements that are other than statements of historical facts.

Forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and assumptions regarding our business, the economy and other future conditions. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, they are subject to inherent uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. Our actual results may differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements, so we caution you against relying on any of these forward-looking statements. They are neither statements of historical fact nor guarantees or assurances of future performance. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements are discussed by reference to the factors described in Part I, Item 1A “Risk Factors,” and Part II, Item 7 and Item 7A “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” and “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure about Market Risk” in the Company’s most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, and in Part I, Items 2 and 3 “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk”, and Part II, Item 1A, “Risk Factors”, in the Company’s quarterly reports filed thereafter.

All forward-looking statements made in this presentation and all subsequent forward-looking statements, whether written or oral and whether made by or on behalf of the Company, are expressly qualified by these cautionary statements. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which such statement is made, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as may be required by law.

# INTRODUCTION



# LEADERSHIP



**FRANK BURKHARTSMEYER • SVP and Chief Financial Officer**

Mr. Burkhartsmeyer is currently NW Holding's Senior Vice President and CFO effective October 2018 and NW Natural's Senior Vice President and CFO effective May 2017. Previously, Mr. Burkhartsmeyer served as President and CEO of Avangrid Renewables and Senior Vice President of Finance at Iberdrola Renewables Holdings US and also held various positions at PPM Energy, ScottishPower and PacificCorp. Mr. Burkhartsmeyer has an MBA from the University of Oregon and a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from the University of Montana.



**BRODY J. WILSON • Vice President, Treasurer, Chief Accounting Officer, and Controller**

Mr. Wilson is currently NW Holding's Vice President and Treasurer effective October 2018 and NW Natural's Vice President and Treasurer effective May 2017 in addition to his duties as Chief Accounting Officer (2016) and Controller (2013). Prior to joining the Company in 2012, he was a Senior Manager in the Energy & Utility Group at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Mr. Wilson holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from George Fox University and is a CPA in Oregon.

# KEY UPDATES

## 2018 Recap

- $2.24 consolidated earnings per share within guidance range of $2.10 - $2.30 per share
- Added more than 12,500 gas meters equating to 1.7% growth rate
- Invested about $215 million in the gas system and North Mist expansion
- Signed agreement to sell interest in the Gill Ranch gas storage facility
- Resolved majority of items in the Oregon general rate case
- Filed general rate case in Washington requesting $8.3 million increase in revenue requirement

## 2019 Updates

- Awaiting Oregon Commission's approval of all-party settlement regarding final two items in general rate case: tax reform and recovery of pension balancing account
- Committed nearly $70 million for pending and closed water acquisitions
- Completed majority of North Mist storage expansion project with in-service expected this spring

**Continuing to Execute on Strategy**

# INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS*

Growth targets and expectations over the next five years include:

**Financial Targets**

- EPS growth of 3% - 5%
- Strong and growing dividend

**Gas Utility Growth**

- Customer growth 1.7%+ per year
- $820 - $910 million five-year capital plan, resulting in expected rate base growth of 4% - 6%
- Additional regulated storage expansion – North Mist

**Water Growth**

- Long-term strategy to provide incremental earnings growth and diversity
- Deliberate and disciplined roll-up strategy
- $30 - $40 million five-year capital plan**

* Customer growth, capital investment, and rate base are forecasted over five year plan period from 2019 – 2023, earnings per share growth rate uses mid-point of 2018 guidance range

** Assumes successful closure of Sunriver transaction

## Stable and Growing Return Proposition

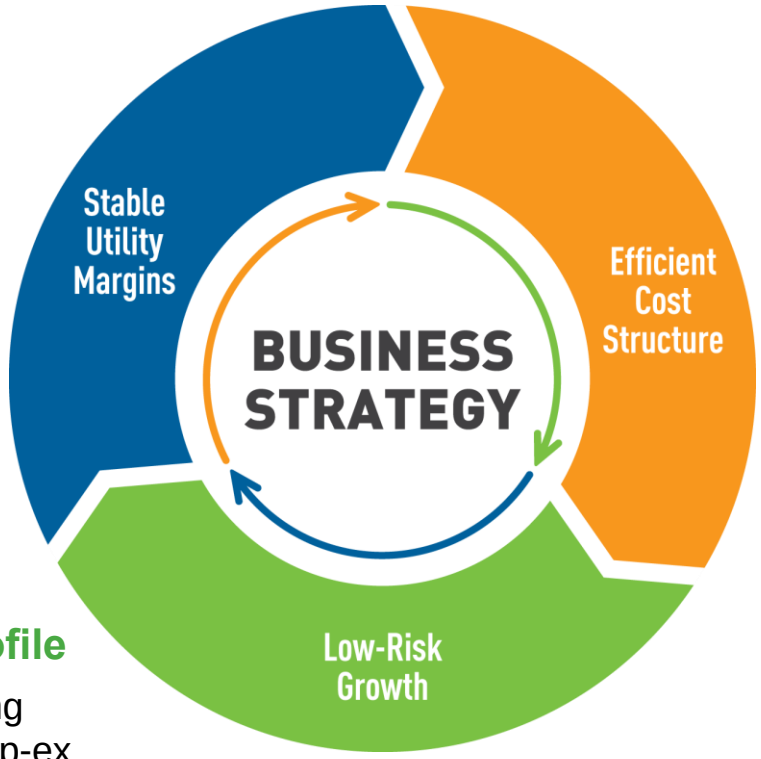
# CONSERVATIVE CORPORATE STRATEGY

## Stable gas and water utility margins through progressive regulation

- Gas utility: weather, decoupling, and environmental cost recovery mechanisms in Oregon
- Constructive relationships with regulators and customer groups benefits both gas and water utilities

## Excellent operations and efficient cost structure

- Commitment to safety, reliability, and high-quality service
- Continued focus on efficient business operations




## Long-term growth opportunities that fit NWN's profile

- **GAS UTILITY**: attractive and growing service territory driving above-average customer growth compared to peers and cap-ex
- **MIST FACILITY**: high-value long-term contracts, asset management revenues, North Mist expansion
- **WATER & WASTEWATER**: announced long-term, disciplined strategy to acquire water utilities and wastewater businesses in a highly fragmented industry with ample infrastructure investment opportunities

# STRATEGIES TO DRIVE SUCCESS




## Low-Carbon Pathway

Effectively position our Company for a low-carbon future

- Target: 30% carbon emissions savings associated with current and new customers by 2035, from a 2015 baseline
- Build public policy coalitions to support this goal



## Constructive Regulation

Further a successful regulatory agenda that serves the interests of customers, benefits the company, meets the duties of regulators and furthers stakeholders' missions



## Enable Growth

Channel our organizational energies around revenue growth so we can succeed in an increasingly competitive and complex marketplace

- Simplify processes and leverage technology
- Examine our tariffs to meet new market demands and a low-carbon business model



## Superior Customer Experience

Improve processes, deploy new technology and use metrics to continually improve and meet evolving customer expectations

Continue to drive operational priorities that ensure we are delivering safe, reliable and superior service



## Workforce of the Future

Foster a culture of accountability, creativity and collaboration that is inclusive and supports opportunities for cross-functional effectiveness


NATURAL GAS UTILITY

# GAS UTILITY AT A GLANCE

- 160 years of service in our communities
- Largest stand-alone local distribution company in the Pacific Northwest
- Serve 2 million people in more than 140 communities through more than 750,000 meters in Oregon and southwest Washington
- Consistently recognized for high-quality customer service by J.D. Power
- One of the safest, most modern distribution systems in the country
- $3 billion of assets at December 31, 2018



# DIVERSE RESOURCE PORTFOLIO

## Gas Supply

- 60% supply from Canada
- 40% supply from the Rockies
- Natural gas serves territory through one bi-directional pipeline

## LNG Peaking Facilities

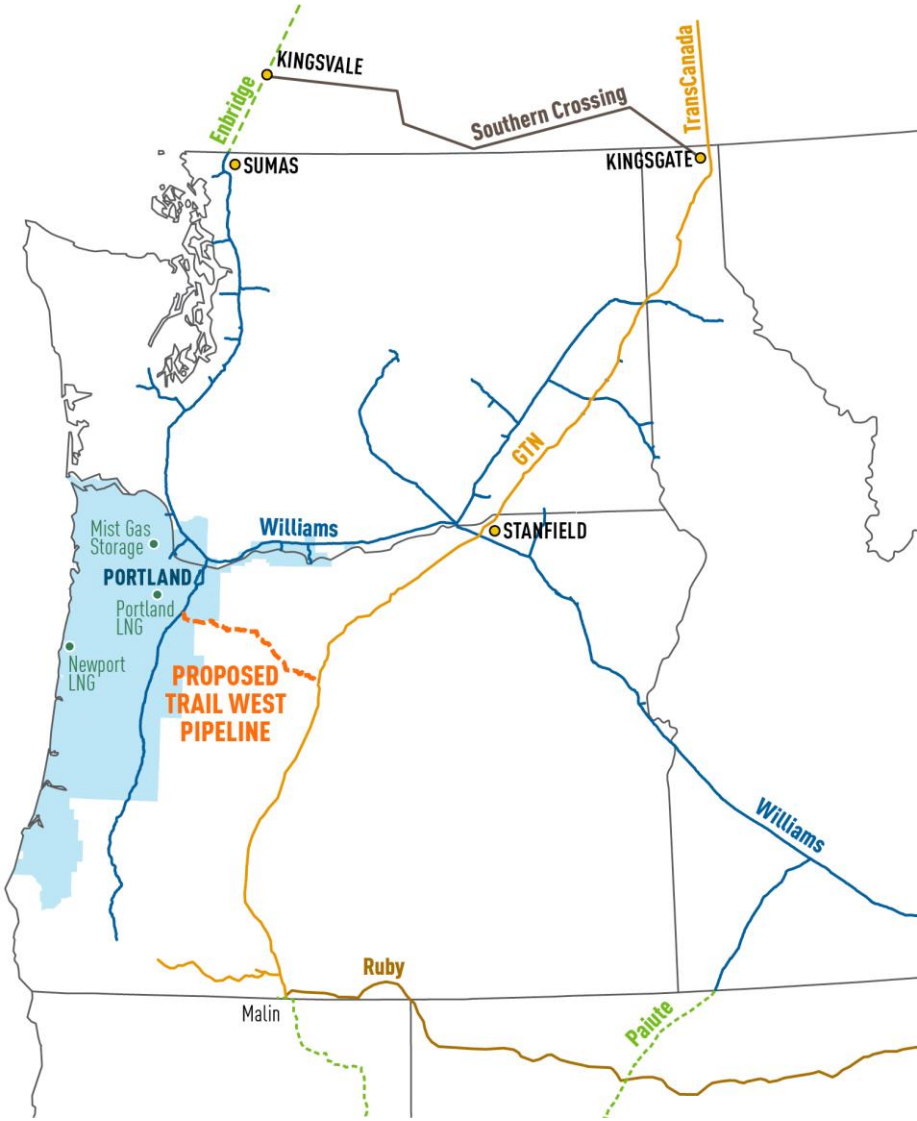
- Portland LNG – 0.6 Bcf
- Newport LNG – 1.0 Bcf

## Mist Gas Storage Facility

- Valuable asset – limited storage in the Pacific Northwest
- 16 Bcf facility with 11 Bcf serving utility customers and 5 Bcf under long-term contracts
- Utility can recall 5 Bcf to support customer demand

## North Mist Storage Expansion

- 2.5 Bcf expansion underway to serve a single customer under long-term contract



# ATTRACTIVE ECONOMY

## OREGON LEADS THE NATION

#2 Percentage of In-Bound Moves
#9 Nonfarm Payroll Growth Rate
#5 Real GDP Growth Rate

## GROWING BUSINESSES

adidas
Columbia Sportswear Company
NIKE
intel
FLIR
UNDER ARMOUR

## STABLE HOUSING MARKET

Housing Permits +3.5%
Average Price -0.2%



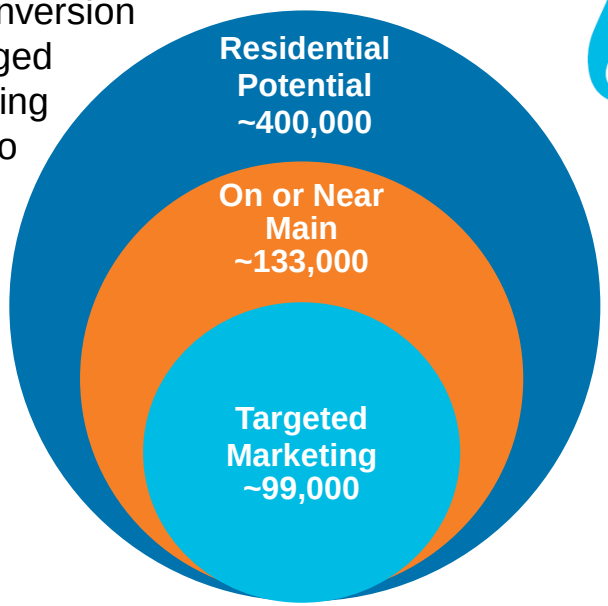
* Source: In-bound moves rate from 2018 United Van Lines Movers Study, Nonfarm payroll growth from US BLS for 12 months ended Nov. 2018, and GDP Growth Rate from US BEA by state growth rate for 12 months ended Sept. 2018. Permits for Oregon single-family homes for 12 months ended Nov. 2018 vs. prior period from U.S. Census Bureau Building Permits Survey. Average Price for last 12 months ended Dec. 2018 vs. prior from RMLS Market Action Reports

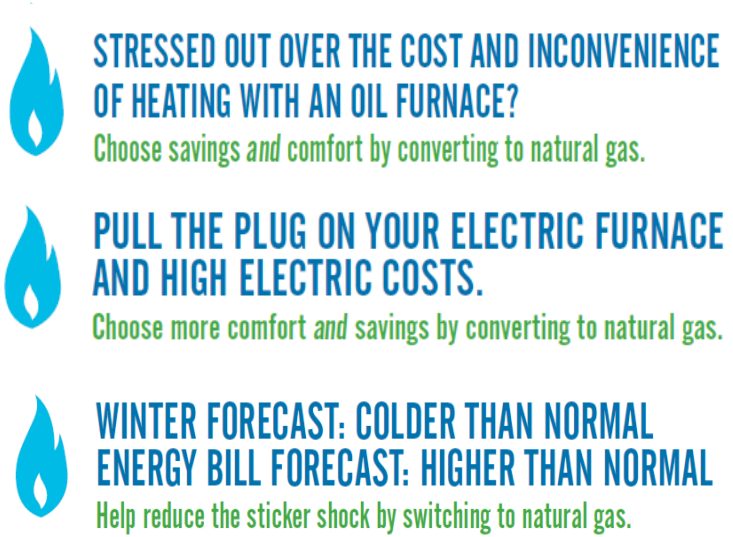
## Serving Growing Communities

# DATA-DRIVEN MARKETING

## Segmentation Strategy

- NW Natural works with a consulting firm to develop a qualitative propensity modeling approach
- Attributes from the past 10 years of converted customers are analyzed to determine premise and homeowner traits that correspond to the likelihood of conversion
- A segmented database is created and non-customer conversion prospects are messaged through direct-marketing campaigns using up to 7 unique segments





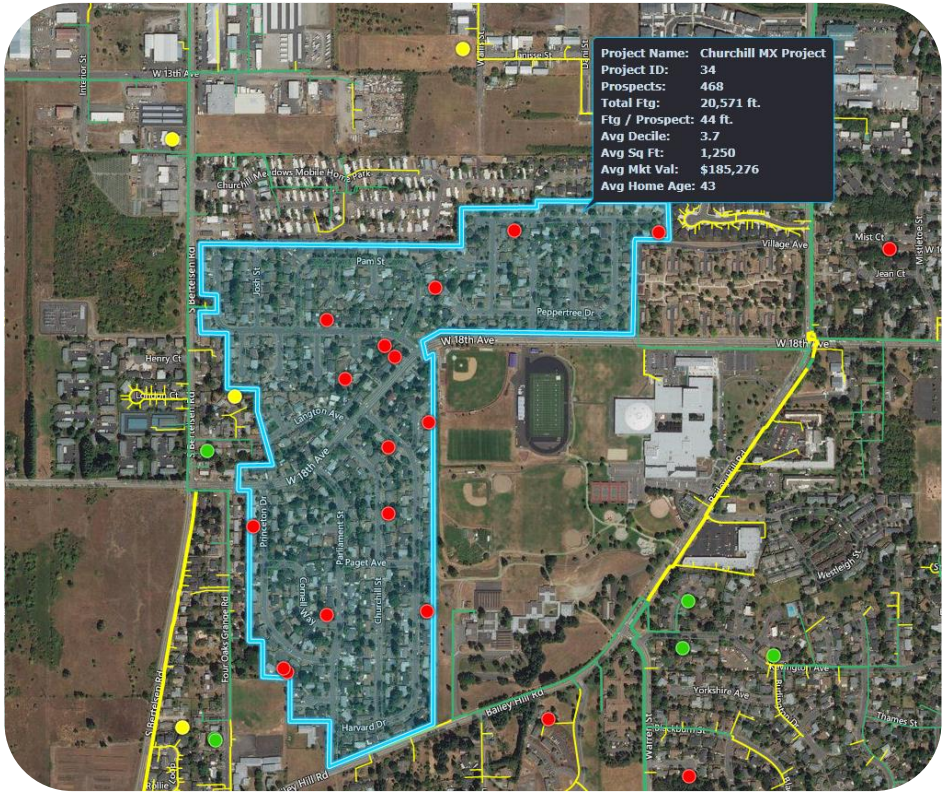

# INNOVATIVE MARKETING TOOL

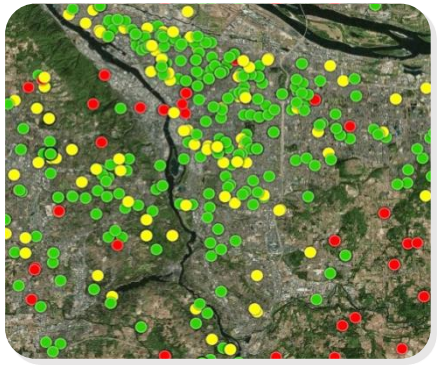
## Competitive Advantage

- Low-cost, reliable, clean energy choice
  - Up to 70% cost advantage
- Preferred by 9 out of 10 homeowners
  - Comprehensive research quantifies preference and value of gas
- Strong trade ally network
  - Rate NWN 9 out of 10 for satisfaction
- Leverage preference and robust analytics
  - Data driven, proven methodology
- Serve approximately 63% of single-family homes

## Technology Differentiation

- Cutting edge web-based tool for targeted conversions, validates customer interest
- Enhanced web services for trade allies
- Ability to proactively identify targets and analyze cost profiles
- Ability to identify potential main extensions



Gas Available
Gas Not Currently Available
Gas Likely Available

# FOCUSING ON MULTIFAMILY

## Market Activity

- Increase in multifamily construction, especially mixed-use developments in urban areas
- Tight rental market, in-migration, and positive economic trends have led to segment growth
- See apartments as a previously untapped growth opportunity and new priority segment

## Executing on the Opportunity

- Utilized upstream intelligence to engage developers early about building design and equipment scenarios
- Analyzed renter preferences and natural gas availability, showing a competitive opportunity
- Created comprehensive marketing program (streamlined piping and meter room design, technical support and financial incentives)
- Gained approval of new multifamily tariff in July 2017 – provides developers more options



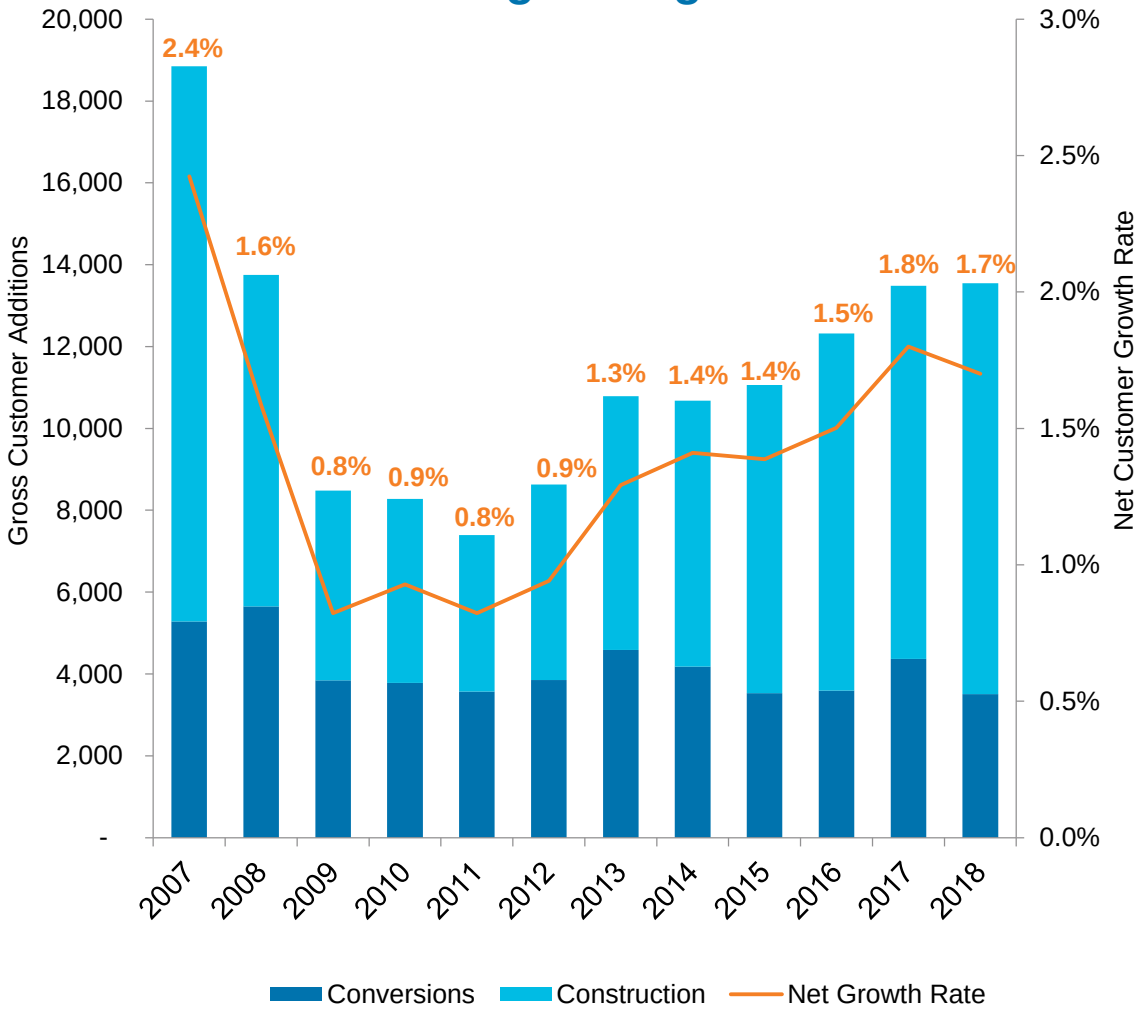
**Goose Hollow Lofts – completed in 2018 – 61 units**



**The Carson – completed in 2018 – 385 units**

# LEADING IN CUSTOMER GROWTH

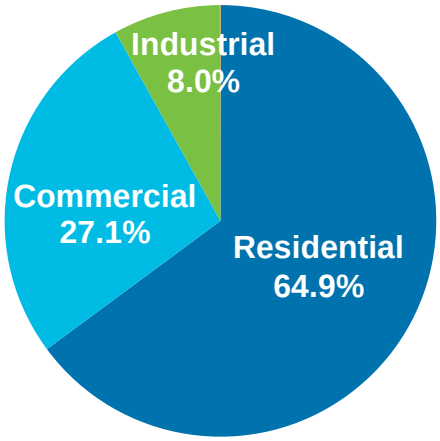
## Maintaining Strong Growth




## Growth by Sector - 2018

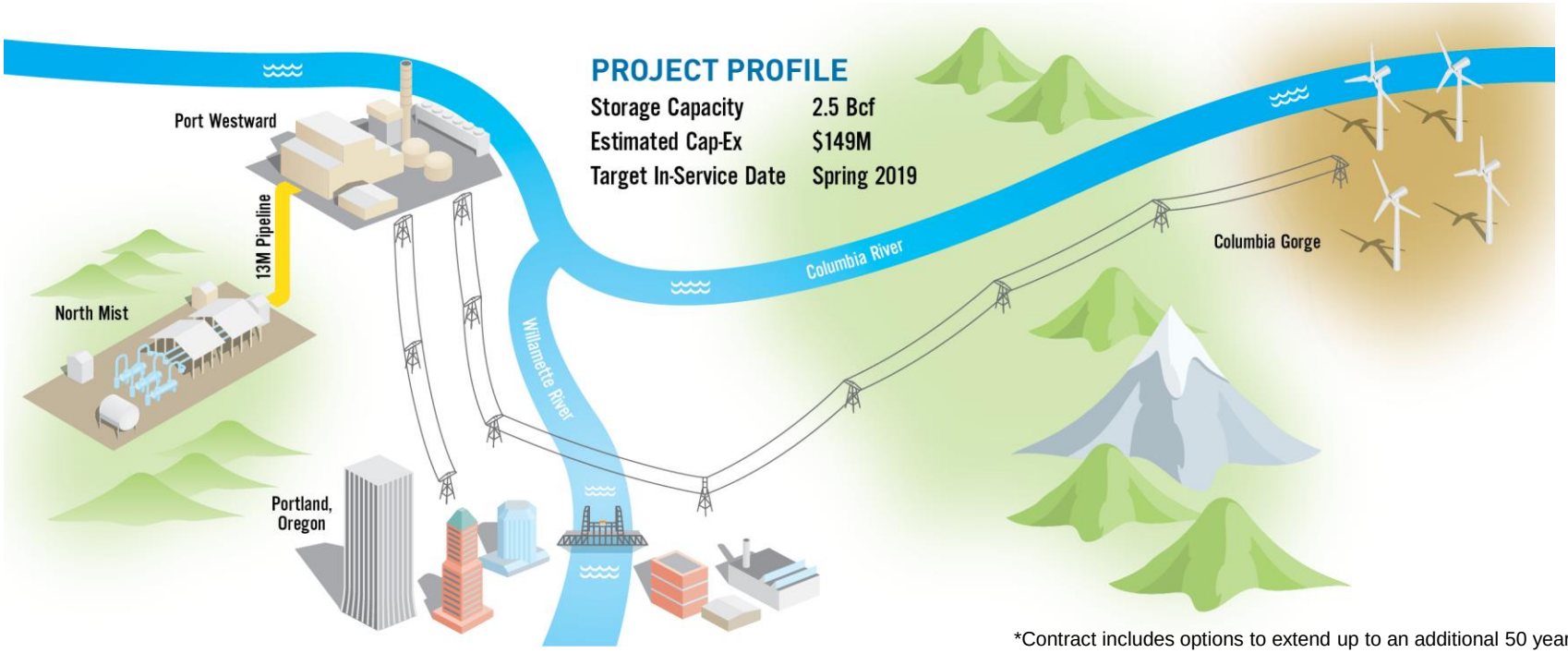
| | |
|---|---|
| Residential | 1.7% |
| Commercial | 1.8% |
| Industrial | 0.7% |
| **TOTAL** | **1.7%** |

## Utility Margin - 2018



# INVESTING IN INNOVATION

- Unique no-notice 24/7 storage service supporting gas-fired electric generating facilities that are integrating wind into energy generation mix
- $149 million investment with ~$18 million of cap-ex in 2019
- Contracted under 30-year agreement with single-customer (Portland General Electric)*
- Included in rate base under established tariff schedule when placed into service




*Contract includes options to extend up to an additional 50 years

## North Mist Expansion Supports Renewables Integration

# INVESTING IN OUR SYSTEM

## Customer growth

- New construction & conversions
- Main extensions

## Safety & Reliability

- Recurring replacements
- Enhanced system reliability to support customer growth

## Technology & Facilities

- Efficiencies & cybersecurity
- Resource center renovations and headquarters

## Potential Future Opportunities

- PHMSA & seismic projects, not included in current 5-year range

## System Capital Expenditures*

(In millions)

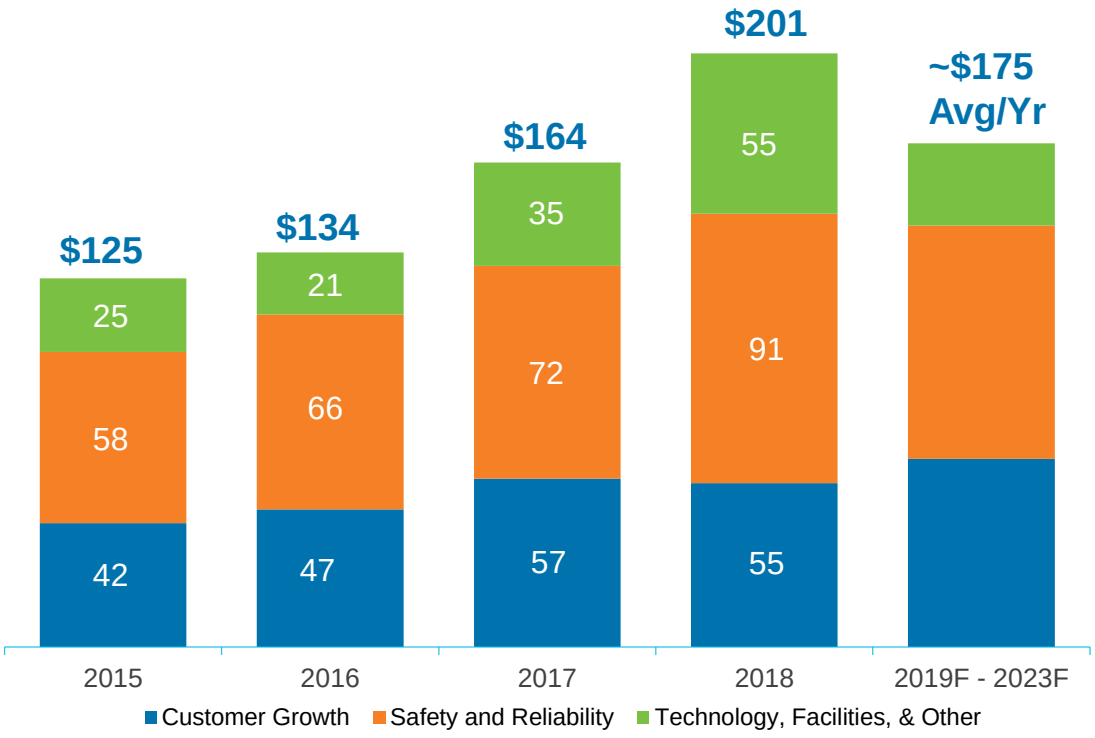



*Chart is based on accrual cap-ex figures and excludes North Mist Project

## Five-Year Cap-Ex Approximately $875 Million

# PROGRESSIVE REGULATION

| | OREGON | WASHINGTON |
|---|---|---|
| **KEY MECHANISMS:** | | |
| Decoupling/WARM | ✓ | |
| Purchased Gas Adjustment | ✓ | ✓ |
| Environmental Cost | Recovery | Deferral(1) |
| Pension Balancing | ✓(2) | |
| Incentive Sharing(3) | ✓ | ✓ |
| **RATE CASE TEST YEAR** | Forward | Historic |
| **RATE STRUCTURES:** | | |
| ROE | 9.4% | 10.1% |
| ROR | 7.317% | 8.4% |
| Equity Ratio | 50% | 51% |
| 2018 Rate Base(4) | $1.2B | $0.2B |

(1) Washington allows deferral of environmental costs, but a cost recovery mechanism or methodology has not yet been established by the Washington Commission. A carrying charge related to deferred amounts will be determined in a future proceeding. General rate case filed in Dec. 2018 includes these requests.

(2) 2018 Oregon general rate case order froze pension balancing account with recovery of the balance outlined in all-party settlement that is awaiting Commission decision. NW Natural was authorized to recover test year pension expense in base rates. See also Oregon Rate Case Update.

(3) In Oregon, NW Natural shares PGA gains and losses. In both Oregon and Washington, NW Natural shares revenues with customers from interstate storage and asset management activities.

(4) Oregon rate base includes gas reserves.

# OREGON 2018 RATE CASE

- **Oct. 2018 Order Resolved Majority of Items –** Revenue requirement and sharing allocations for utility asset management revenue with customers resolved
- **Rates Effective Nov. 1, 2018 –** Oregon rate case effective on Nov. 1, 2018 along with annual Purchase Gas Adjustment (PGA). The combined effect on Oregon customer rates was a decline of 2.1%
- **Feb. 2019 All-Party Settlement –** Awaiting Commission review, which is expected in March 2019 with rates effective Apr. 1, 2019. Addresses returning tax reform savings of $202 million to customers and recovery of the pension balancing account, which are primarily cash flow related matters

| | 2012 Rate Case | 2018 Rate Case Order |
|---|---|---|
| ROE | 9.5% | 9.4% |
| ROR | 7.78% | 7.317% |
| Equity/Debt Ratio | 50 / 50 | 50 / 50 |
| Rev. Requirement | | +$23.4M |
| Net Income | | +$10.4M |
| Cash Flows | | +$15.0M |
| Rate Base | $886M | $1,186M |

| Feb. 2019 All-Party Settlement (Pending OPUC Approval) | |
|---|---|
| Net Income | +$1.0M |
| Cash Flows | +$6.3M |
| Rate Base | +15.4M |
| Expected Non-Cash Charge (After-tax) | -$6.7M |

# WASHINGTON 2019 RATE CASE

- **Filed in December 2018 –** Filed first general rate case in a decade on Dec. 31, 2018. Requesting a $8.3 million increase in revenue requirement with requested effective date of Dec. 1, 2019
- **Request Based on Investments –** Filed to recover system investments and costs for our fastest growing service territory
- **Resolve Tax Reform –** Filing outlines calculations for tax deferrals and proposes tax reform benefits be used to the benefit of customers. In addition, reset tax expense in rates to incorporate lower federal income tax rate
- **Requesting Mechanisms –** Requesting environmental cost recovery mechanism and full decoupling mechanism

| | 2009 Rate Case | 2019 Rate Case Request |
|---|---|---|
| ROE | 10.1% | 10.3% |
| ROR | 8.4% | 7.63% |
| Equity/LT Debt/ST Debt Ratio | 51 / 44 / 5 | 49.5 / 49.5 / 1 |
| Rev. Requirement | | +$8.3M |
| Rate Base | $127.8M | $186.5M |


WATER

# STRATEGIC RATIONALE

The water and wastewater sector aligns well with NWN's conservative risk profile and offers diversification, stable cash flows and substantial long-term investment opportunities

**Conservative Business Profile**

- Demand for water and wastewater is relatively inelastic
- Stable, predictable cash flows

**Aligns with Core Competencies**

- Aligns with our core competencies including:
  - Customer service
  - Developing and managing critical distribution infrastructure safely and reliably
  - Environmental stewardship
  - Constructive regulatory engagement

**Supportive Regulatory Environment**

- Existing constructive relationships with regulators that can be leveraged in water sector
- Federal and state agencies driving upgrades to water and wastewater infrastructure

**Need for Substantial Investment**

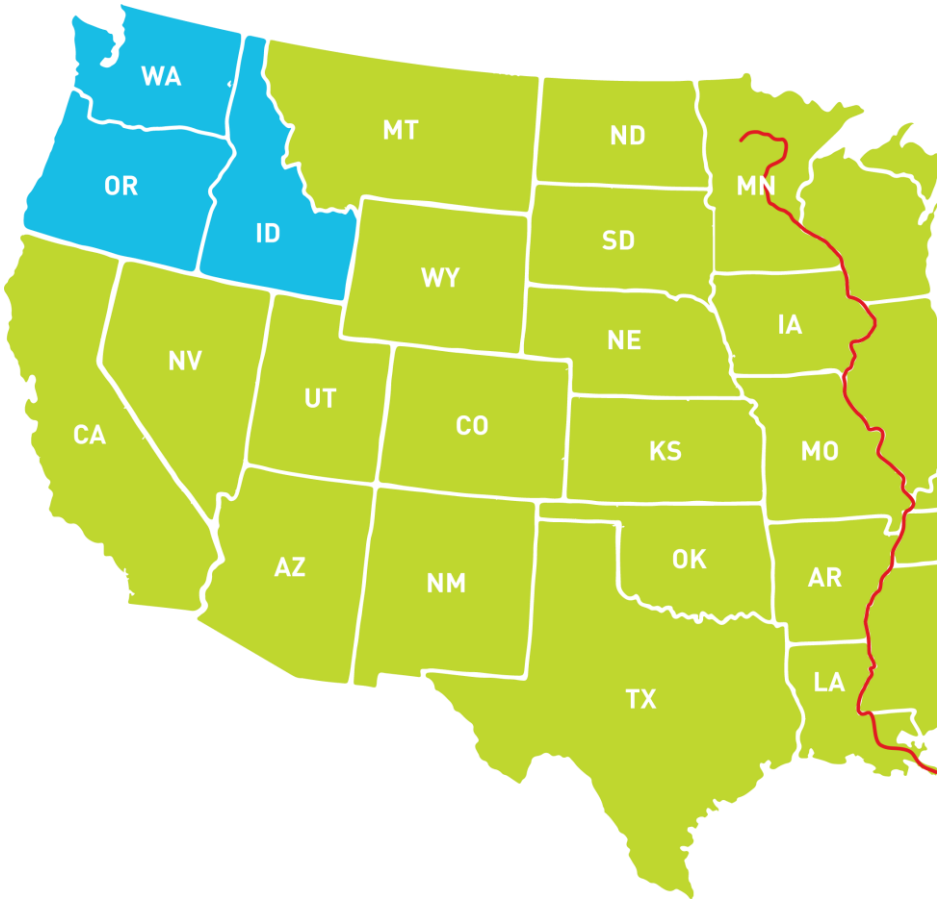
- EPA estimates over $775 billion in water and wastewater capital needs nationally through 2040
- Over long term, growing water business targeted to be an earnings driver and opportunity to deploy capital at attractive rates of return for infrastructure needs

## Deliberate and Disciplined Roll-Up Strategy

# WATER & WASTEWATER OPPORTUNITIES

| | All Water and Wastewater Systems | | Privately Owned Systems | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Systems | Connections | Systems | Connections |
| **Pacific Northwest** | 4,700 | 5.6M | **2,760** | **511,000** |
| West of Mississippi | 36,500 | 77.3M | 16,700 | 9.1M |
| United States | 77,000 | 188.6M | 30,160 | 20.5M |

Numbers in table above represent permanent community water and wastewater systems
Source: Bluefield




## Opportunities for Acquisitions in the West

# PENDING & CLOSED TRANSACTIONS




| | Closed | Pending(2) | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| People served(1) | 22,000 | 22,150 | 44,150 |
| Connections | 7,400 | 10,300 | 17,700 |

(1) People served is based on estimated average household size for service territory
(2) Pending transactions are expected to close in mid-2019

## Growing Our Pacific Northwest Footprint

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

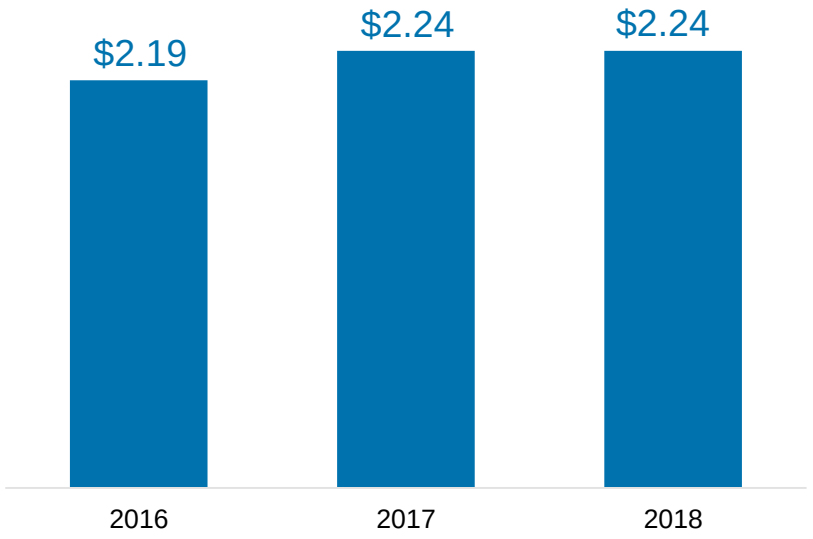


# EARNINGS HISTORY

## Growth from Regulated Gas Utility Earnings

- Strong customer growth
- Innovative North Mist expansion
- Oregon general rate case
- Investments in system resiliency
- Continued operational efficiency

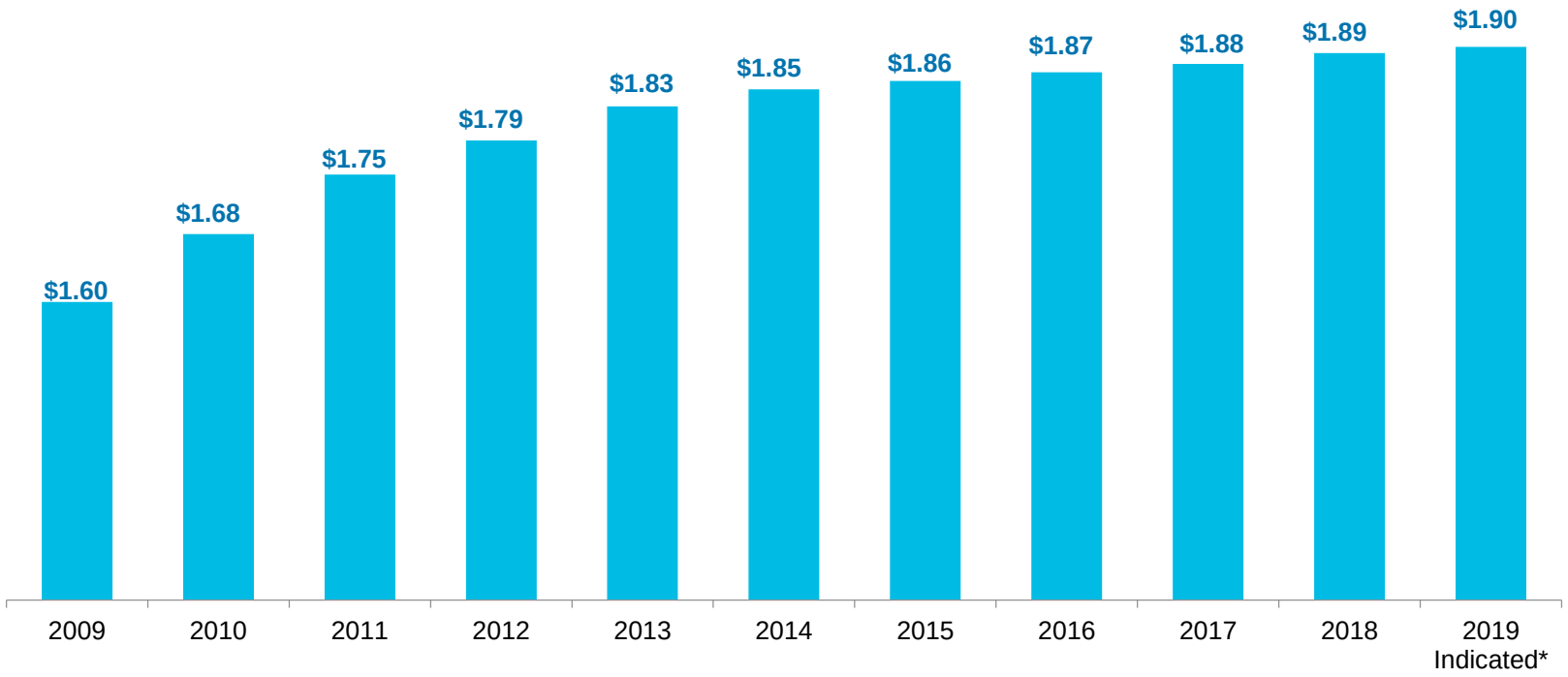
## Adjusted Consolidated EPS*




*Adjusted 2017 consolidated EPS excludes Gill Ranch impairment of $192.5 million pre-tax ($141.5 million after-tax or $4.92 per share) and tax reform benefits of $21.4 million or $0.75 per share from GAAP consolidated net loss of $55.6 million or $1.93 per share. Adjusted consolidated 2016 EPS excludes regulatory disallowance of $3.3 million pre-tax ($2.0 million after-tax or $0.07 per share) from GAAP consolidated net income of $58.9 million or $2.12 per share. See appendix for non-GAAP reconciliation

## Continued Investment Fueling EPS Growth

# 63 YEARS OF GROWING DIVIDENDS




*Future dividends are subject to Board of Director discretion and approval

## 1 of only 3 Companies on NYSE with 63-year Legacy of Increasing Annual Dividends

# STRONG CASH FLOWS & LIQUIDITY

## NW Holdings

- $100 million credit facility. Expires in 2023 with $50 million accordion and extension for two additional one-year periods
- Access to capital markets

## NW Natural

- $300 million credit facility. Expires in 2023 with $150 million accordion and extension for two additional one-year periods
- Access to capital markets
- Solid credit ratings(1)

### NW Natural Credit Ratings*

| | S&P | Moody's |
|---|---|---|
| Secured Debt | AA- | A1 |
| Commercial Paper | A-1 | P-2 |
| Outlook | Stable | Negative |

- The above credit ratings are dependent upon a number of factors, both qualitative and quantitative, and are subject to change at any time. The disclosure of these credit ratings is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold NW Holdings securities

# CONCLUSION



# INVESTMENT THESIS

**Stable and growing utility margins driven by targets and expectations over the next five years including:**

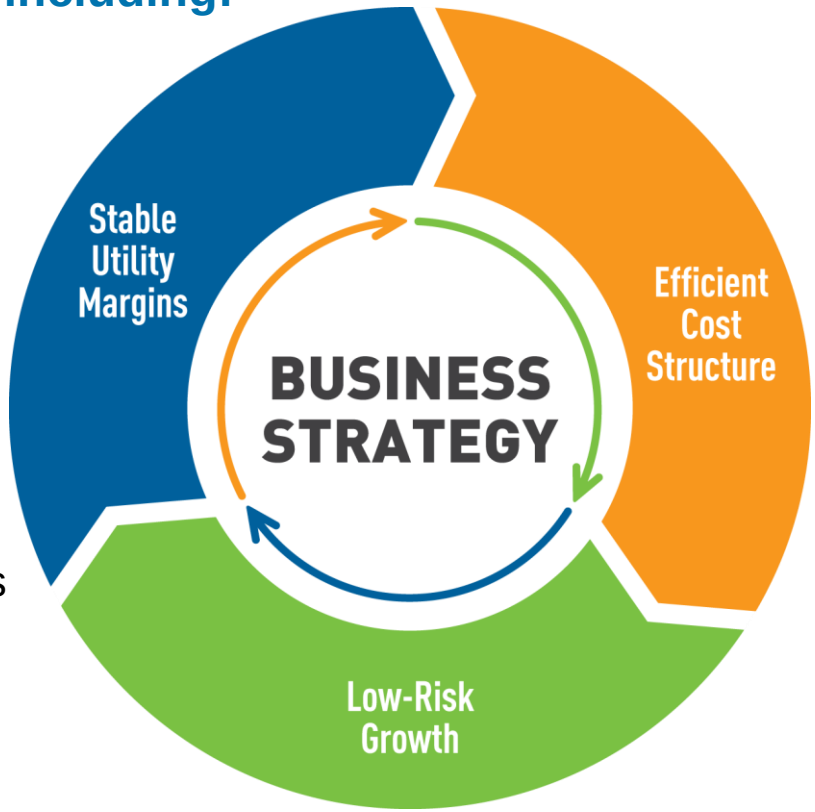
- EPS growth of 3% – 5%
- Gas utility customer growth 1.7%+
- Gas utility $820 - $910 million five-year capital plan, resulting in targeted rate base growth of 4% – 6%

**Excellent operations and efficient cost structure**

- Commitment to safety, reliability, and high-quality service
- Continued focus on efficient business operations

**Low-Risk Growth**

- North Mist in gas utility segment provides additional regulated storage expansion
- Water strategy provides earnings diversity




## Stable and Growing Return Proposition

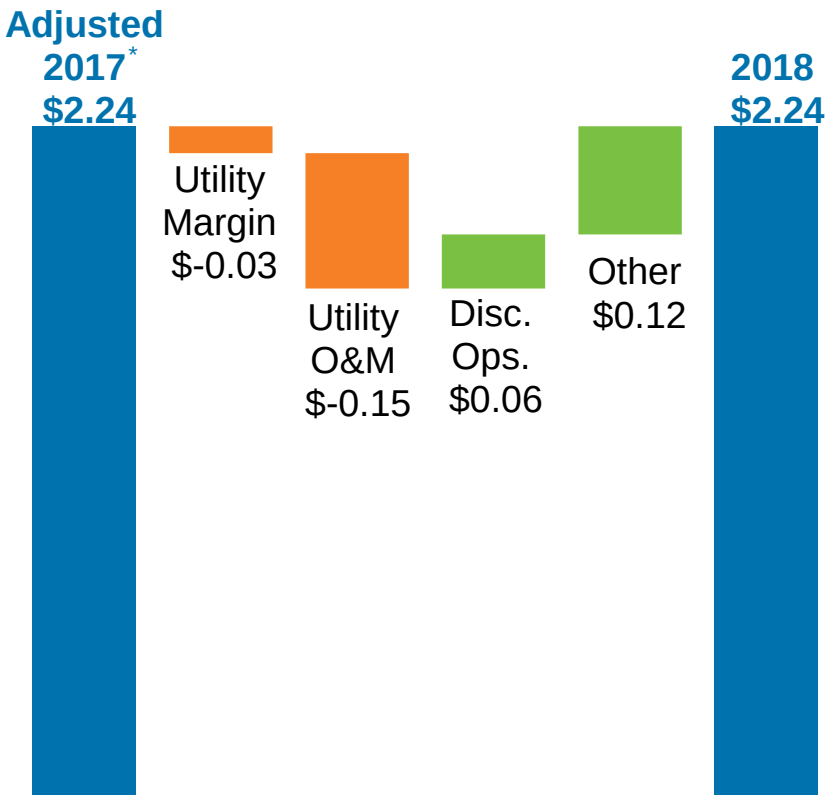

APPENDIX

# CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

## Stable Results

- Utility margin lower
  - Weather mild in 2018 vs. very cold 2017
  - Strong customer growth of 1.7%
- O&M increased related to payroll & benefits as invested in operations
- Other results improve
  - Higher asset management revenues at non-utility Mist gas storage
  - Discontinued operations benefits from lower depreciation expense at Gill Ranch facility from Q4 2017 non-cash impairment

## Utility Affected by Weather & O&M




* The 2017 adjusted consolidated net income is non-GAAP and excludes the non-cash effects of a Gill Ranch impairment of $141.5 million after-tax (or $192.5 million pre-tax), and the non-cash effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of $21.4 million from all businesses. See “Non-GAAP Reconciliation" in appendix for additional information

## Stable Gas Utility Performance

# NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION

| | 2018 | | 2017 | | 2016 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount | Per Share | Amount | Per Share | Amount | Per Share |
| (In millions) | | | | | | |
| Consolidated net income (loss) | $64.6 | $2.24 | $(55.6) | $(1.93) | $58.9 | $2.12 |
| Gill Ranch impairment[1] | - | - | 192.5 | 6.68 | - | - |
| Income tax effect of impairment[1] | - | - | (51.0) | (1.77) | - | - |
| Tax reform benefit[2] | - | - | (21.4) | (0.74) | - | - |
| Regulatory environmental disallowance[3] | - | - | - | - | 3.3 | 0.12 |
| Income tax effect of disallowance[3] | - | - | - | - | (1.3) | (0.05) |
| **Consolidated adjusted net income** | $64.6 | $2.24 | $64.5 | $2.24 | $60.9 | $2.19 |
| Net income from continuing operations | $67.3 | $2.33 | $72.1 | $2.51 | $62.4 | $2.25 |
| Tax reform benefit[2] | - | - | (3.4) | (0.12) | - | - |
| Regulatory environmental disallowance[3] | - | - | - | - | 3.3 | 0.12 |
| Income tax effect of disallowance[3] | - | - | - | - | (1.3) | (0.05) |
| **Adjusted net income from continuing operations** | $67.3 | $2.33 | $68.7 | $2.39 | $64.4 | $2.32 |
| Diluted Shares | | 28.9 | | 28.8 | | 27.8 |

(1) Gill Ranch non-cash impairment recognized as of Dec. 31, 2017. Tax effect of adjustment is calculated using a combined federal and state statutory rate of 26.5%
(2) Tax reform non-cash (benefit) expense recognized in income tax expense as a result of federal tax rate changing from 35% to 21% effective Dec. 22, 2017
(3) Regulatory environmental disallowance recognized in 2016. Tax effect of adjustment is calculated using a combined federal and state statutory rate of 39.5%

# SUPPORTIVE MECHANISMS

**OREGON**
**Decoupling**

- Breaks link between earnings and consumption by removing incentive to increase usage
- Employs use-per-customer decoupling calculation, which adjusts margin revenues to account for the difference between actual and expected customer volumes

**OREGON**
**Weather Normalization** (WARM)

- Stabilizes collection of fixed costs for residential and commercial customers
- Adjusts billings based on temperature variances compared to average weather
- Applied from December through May of each heating season

**OREGON • WASHINGTON**
**Purchased Gas Adjustment** (PGA)

- Adjusts annual rates to reflect changes in expected cost of gas commodity purchases
- Includes spot purchases, contract supplies, derivatives, storage inventories, and OR gas reserves
- Includes temporary rate adjustments amortizing deferred regulatory account balances

**OREGON • WASHINGTON**
**Environmental Cost Deferral**

- Allows for deferral of environmental costs and in OR the accrual of carrying costs
- Recovers environmental costs allocated to OR through a site remediation recovery mechanism (SRRM), subject to an annual prudence review and earnings test(1)
- Defer costs in WA, recovery & carrying charge to be determined in future proceeding

**OREGON**
**Pension Balancing(2)**

- Prior to Nov. 1, 2018, deferred annual pension expenses above the amount set in rates was included in the balancing account. All-party settlement that outlines amount and recovery of account balance is currently awaiting Commission decision
- Beginning Nov. 1, 2018, pension expense recovery in base rates

(1) To the extent the utility earns more than its authorized ROE in a year, the utility is required to cover environmental expenses and interest on expenses greater than $10 million (plus interest from insurance proceeds) with those earnings that exceed its authorized ROE.

(2) 2018 Oregon general rate case order froze pension balancing account with recovery of the balance outlined in all-party settlement that is awaiting Commission decision. NW Natural was authorized to recover test year pension expense in base rates. See also Oregon Rate Case Update.

# CURRENT UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

## OREGON COMMISSION (OPUC)



**Megan Walseth Decker, Chair (D)**

- Appointed April 2017
- Term ends March 2021
- Appointed Chair May 23, 2018



**Stephen Bloom, Commissioner (R)**

- Originally appointed December 2011
- Current term ends November 2019



**Letha Tawney, Commissioner (D)**

- Appointed May 2018
- Term ends May 2020

## WASHINGTON COMMISSION (WUTC)



**David Danner, Chair (D)**

- Appointed chair February 2013
- Current term ends January 2025



**Ann Rendahl, Commissioner (D)**

- Appointed December 2014
- Current term ends November 2020



**Jay Balasbas, Commissioner (R)**

- Appointed May 2017
- Term ends January 2023

## IDAHO COMMISSION (IUTC)



**Paul Kjellander, President (NP)**

- Originally appointed February 2017
- Current term ends January 2023



**Kristine Raper, Commissioner (NP)**

- Appointed February 2015
- Current term ends January 2021



**Eric Anderson, Commissioner (NP)**

- Originally appointed December 2015
- Term ends January 2025

NP = Nonpartisan

# MIST STORAGE FACILITY

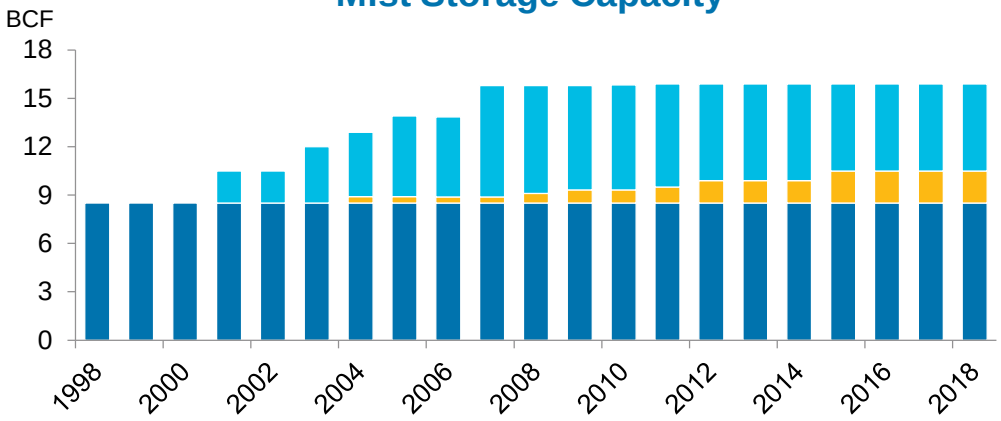
## Overview

- In operation since 1989
- Storage capacity at Mist 16 Bcf
  - 11 Bcf Core Utility
  - 5 Bcf Interstate Storage Services (included in other activities beginning in Q2 2018; previously in gas storage segment)

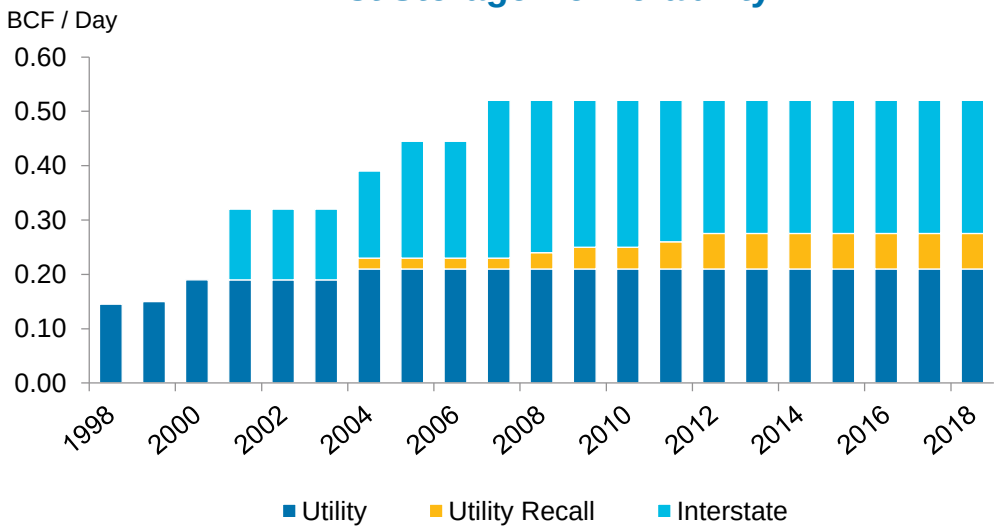
## Unique, Valuable Asset

- Limited storage options in Pacific Northwest
- Part of utility's diverse, reliable gas supply strategy
- Utility can recall Interstate portion for Core Utility demand
- Optimize non-utility portion and share revenues with utility customers
- 5 Bcf under long-term high-value contracts

### Mist Storage Capacity

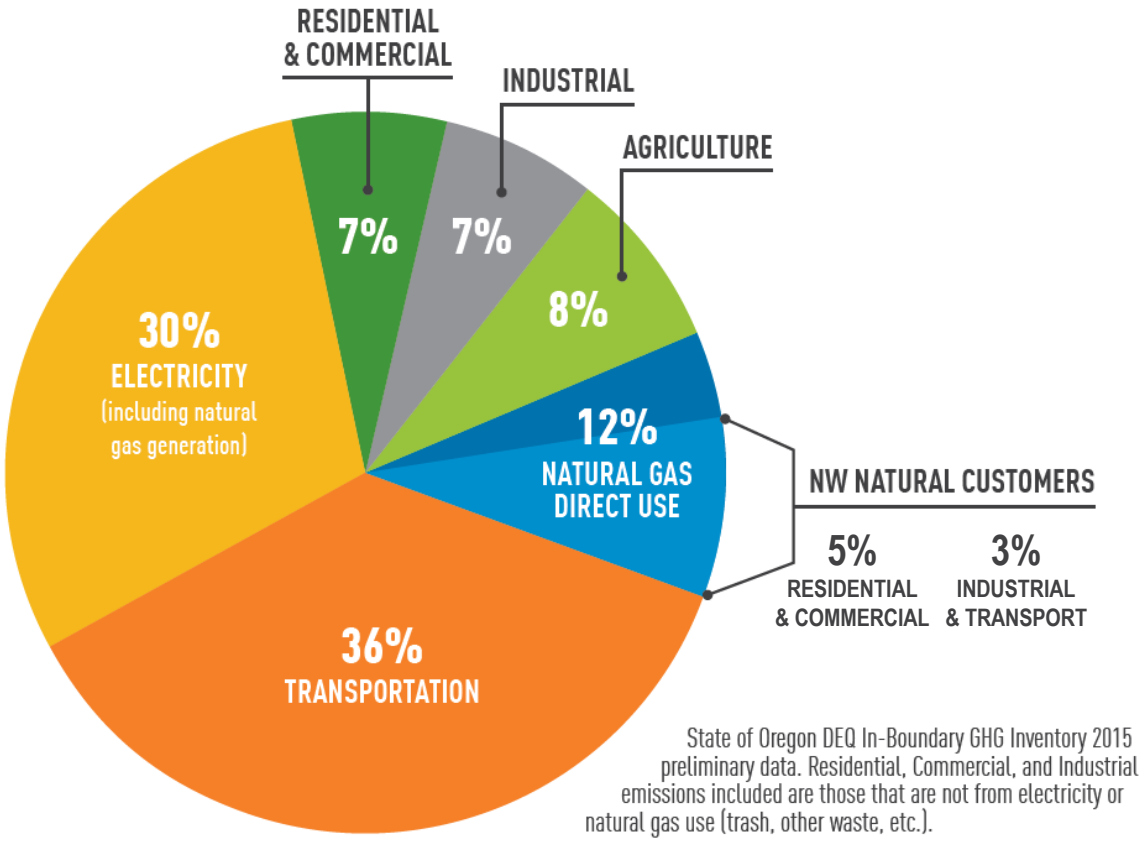



### Mist Storage Deliverability



# NWN SYSTEM HIGHLY EFFICIENT

## Oregon's GHG Emissions



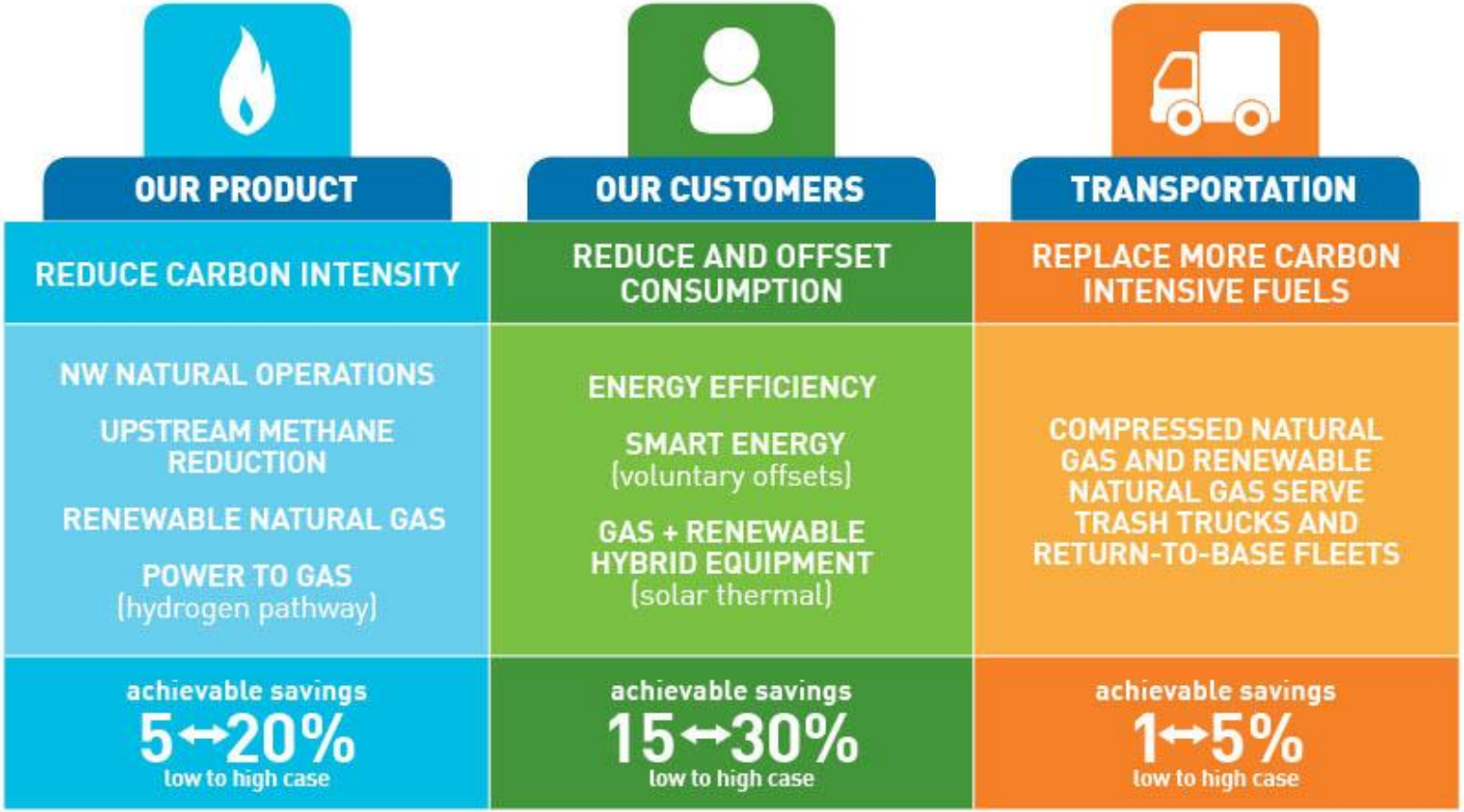

State of Oregon DEQ In-Boundary GHG Inventory 2015 preliminary data. Residential, Commercial, and Industrial emissions included are those that are not from electricity or natural gas use (trash, other waste, etc.).

## NW Natural's System

- **Heats 74%** of residential square footage in the areas we serve
- **Provides 90%** of peak day energy needs for our residential space and water heat customers
- Our customers' emissions **account for just 8%** of Oregon's total carbon emissions

# OUR LOW-CARBON PATHWAY

## VOLUNTARY GOAL: 30% CARBON SAVINGS BY 2035




**Baseline: 2015 emissions associated with customer use**

# DEEP DECARBONIZATION




**How does the Pacific Northwest achieve an 80% reduction in economy-wide GHG emissions by 2050 from a 1990's baseline? What pathways are possible and what are the trade offs?**

## Natural gas will be critical to achieving deep decarbonization

- All four separately commissioned Northwest studies show natural gas is pivotal to achieving deep decarbonization most affordably and reliably
- NW Natural commissioned a study by premier environmental consultant, E3, to analyze how to achieve the goal while also serving peak energy needs on the coldest winter days

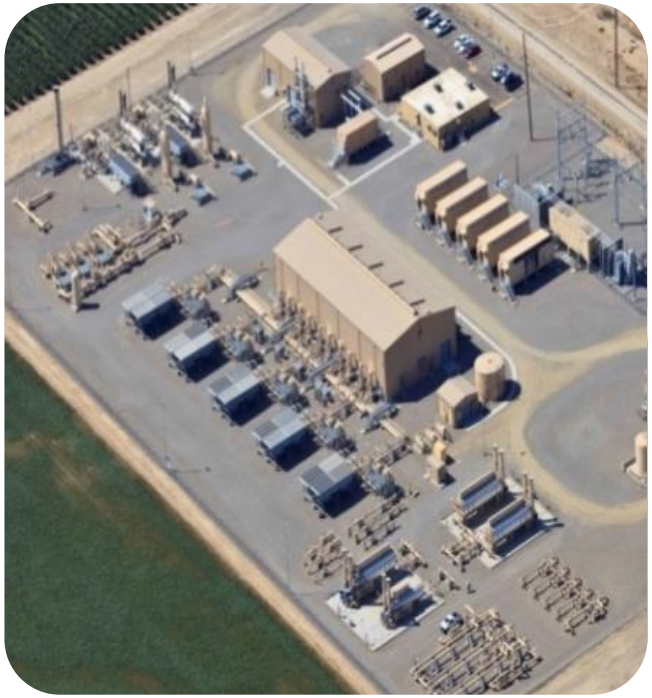
## E3 study shows direct use of gas offers a viable, pragmatic path toward 2050 targets

- Study showed that with a 25% blend of renewable natural gas, the region can achieve deep decarbonization more affordably by using the existing gas system already in place
  - Recent Oregon Department of Energy study identified nearly 50 Bcf of RNG technical potential
  - Assumes commercialization of gas heat pumps
- Full electrification of heating would require:
  - Perfect adoption and proper installation of "cold climate" heat pumps in 2 million existing homes and businesses
  - The equivalent energy of 38 new large gas-fired peaker plants to serve 17 Gigawatts of new electric winter load
  - At an estimated incremental cost that grows to $3 billion more annually by 2050
  - Other electric scenario with more typical heat pump installations had an estimated incremental cost of $9.5 billion annually

# GILL RANCH STORAGE

## Update

- Determined Gill Ranch is no longer central to our long-term regulated growth strategy
- At Dec. 31, 2017 recognized non-cash impairment of $192.5 million pre-tax ($141.5 million after-tax)
- On June 20, 2018 signed a purchase and sale agreement to sell Gill Ranch
- Working toward closing transaction in mid-2019
- Gill Ranch presented in discontinued operations in financial statements beginning Q2 2018



## Background

- NW Natural owns 15 Bcf or 75% of the 20 Bcf Gill Ranch storage facility near Fresno, CA. PG&E owns the remaining 5 Bcf or 25% of the Gill Ranch facility
- California storage challenged by low market prices and low price volatility due to abundant supply of natural gas and storage facilities in region

# POTENTIAL REGIONAL PIPELINE EXPANSION

- Regional pipeline expansion opportunities
- NWN and TransCanada each own 50% of Trail West Holdings (TWH)
- TWH continues to evaluate the need for Trail West pipeline
- NWN's investment in TWH was $13.4 million at Dec. 31, 2018



# GROWTH
# SUSTAINABILITY
# INNOVATION

NW Natural HOLDINGS™