

January 2014

#### **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

Much of the information contained in this presentation is forward-looking information based upon management's current expectations and projections that involve risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking information includes, among other things, information concerning earnings per share, rate case activity, earnings per share growth, cash flow, dividend growth and dividend payout ratios, share repurchases, debt redemptions, construction costs and capital expenditures, investment opportunities, rate base, and future electric sales. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on this forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is not a guarantee of future performance and actual results may differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking information.

In addition to the assumptions and other factors referred to in connection with the forward-looking information, factors that could cause Wisconsin Energy's actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in any forward-looking information or otherwise affect our future results of operations and financial condition include, among others, the following: general economic conditions, including business and competitive conditions in the company's service territories; timing, resolution and impact of future rate cases and other regulatory decisions; availability of the company's generating facilities and/or distribution systems; unanticipated changes in fuel and purchased power costs; key personnel changes; varying weather conditions; continued industry consolidation; our ability to mitigate the impact of Michigan customers switching to an alternative electric supplier; cyber-security threats; construction risks; equity and bond market fluctuations; the impact of any legislative and regulatory changes; current and future litigation and regulatory investigations; changes in accounting standards; and other factors described under the heading "Factors Affecting Results, Liquidity and Capital Resources" in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and under the headings "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information" and "Risk Factors" contained in Wisconsin Energy's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and in subsequent reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

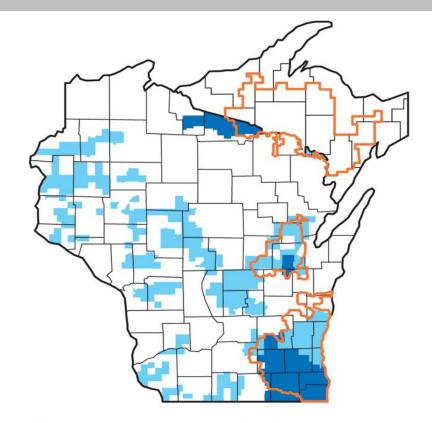
Wisconsin Energy expressly disclaims any obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking information.



### **Overview**

#### Retail Electric and Gas Utilities

- Largest electric and gas company in Wisconsin
  - 1.1 million electric customers
  - 1.1 million natural gas customers



- Wisconsin Electric Gas Service Area
- Wisconsin Electric Electric Service Area
- Wisconsin Gas Service Area



### **Investment Thesis**

### An "Earn and Return" Company with a Low Risk Profile

- Positive free cash flow
- Targeted <u>EPS growth</u> of 4%-6%
- Best in class <u>dividend growth</u> targeting a dividend payout ratio of 65%-70% of earnings in 2017
  - Implies 7%-8% dividend growth annually 2015-2017
  - In January, the board authorized an increase in the quarterly dividend to 39 cents a share
- \$300 million share buyback program authorized from 2014 through 2017
- Proven management team that has delivered strong financial results and operational excellence
- Constructive regulatory climate



### **Consistent Earnings and Dividend Growth**

Wisconsin Energy is the <u>only</u> company in the

- S&P Electric Index
- S&P Utilities Index
- Philadelphia Utility Index
- Dow Jones Utilities Average

that has grown earnings per share and dividends per share every year since 2003



### **Industry Leading Total Shareholder Returns**

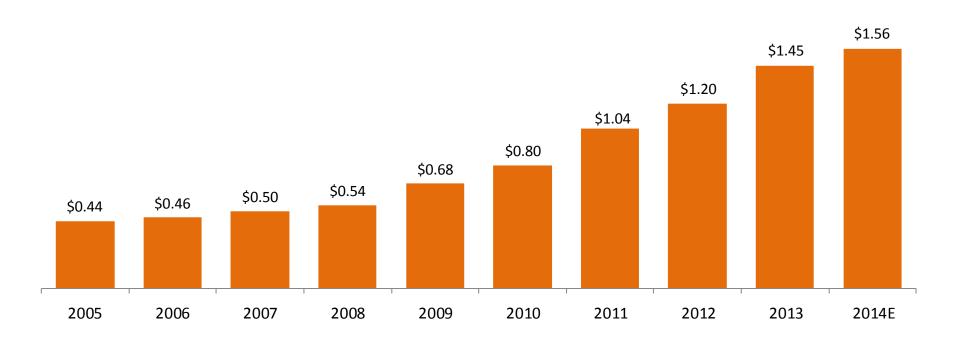
|                             | One<br>Year | Three<br>Year | Five<br>Year | Ten<br>Year |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>Wisconsin Energy</b>     | 16.1%       | 55.5%         | 131.8%       | 227.1%      |
| S&P Utilities Index         | 13.2%       | 37.5%         | 62.3%        | 141.8%      |
| S&P Electric Index          | 7.8%        | 29.7%         | 38.7%        | 132.4%      |
| Philadelphia Utility Index  | 11.0%       | 31.6%         | 53.0%        | 137.1%      |
| Dow Jones Utilities Average | 12.7%       | 37.1%         | 64.2%        | 170.5%      |

Annualized returns for periods ending 12/31/2013

Source: Bloomberg data, assumes all dividends were reinvested and returns were compounded daily



## **Industry Leading Dividend Growth**



Targeting dividend payout ratio of 65 - 70 percent of earnings in 2017



### **Leading Reliability and Customer Satisfaction**



- Named the most reliable utility ...
  - In the U.S. in 2013
  - In the Midwest nine of the past 12 years

 During 2012, achieved highest customer satisfaction ratings in past decade ... likely best ever



### Power the Future Investments – Natural Gas

### Meeting the Region's Energy Needs

Capacity 1,090 MW

**Investment** \$664 million

**ROE** 12.7%

Equity 53%

**In Service Dates** 

Unit 1 – July 2005

Unit 2 – May 2008



**Cost Per Unit of Capacity** \$609/kW



### Power the Future Investments — Coal

Meeting the Region's Energy Needs

Capacity 1,030 MW<sup>1</sup>

**Investment** \$2 billion<sup>1</sup>

**ROE** 12.7%

**Equity** 55%

**In Service Dates** 



Unit 1 — February 2010, Unit 2 — January 2011

**Cost Per Unit** Approximately **of Capacity** \$1,950/kW



<sup>1</sup> All capacity and investment amounts reflect WEC ownership only.

Demonstrated capacity for the coal units is 1,057 MW – value shown in table is amount guaranteed in lease agreement.

### **Dramatic Change in Environmental Performance**

- From 2000 to 2013...
  - Power plant capacity
  - **■** Emissions of

nitrogen oxide
sulfur dioxide
mercury
particulate matter

up 50%

down 80%

## Strong Financial Foundation

#### Positive Cash Flow ...

- Project \$500 million of free cash flow from 2014-2018
- Expect to generate free cash flow each year after reaching target dividend payout ratio in 2017

### Solid credit ratings ...

|     | Moody's | S&P | Fitch |
|-----|---------|-----|-------|
| WEC | A3      | A-  | A-    |
| WE  | A2      | A-  | А     |
| WG  | A2      | Α   | A-    |

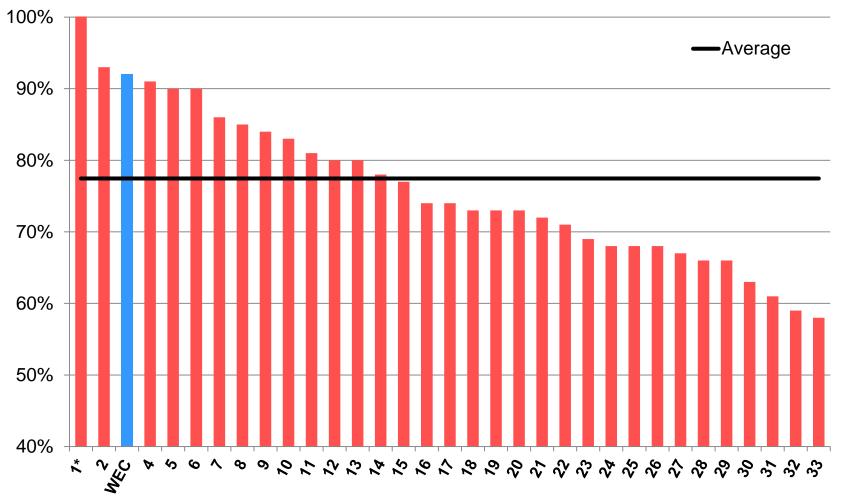
### **Well Funded Pension ...**

- More than 99% funded at year end 2012
- More than \$330 million in contributions in 2011 and 2012



## **Pension Funding Status**

Percentage Funded through 2012



**Major US Utilities** 

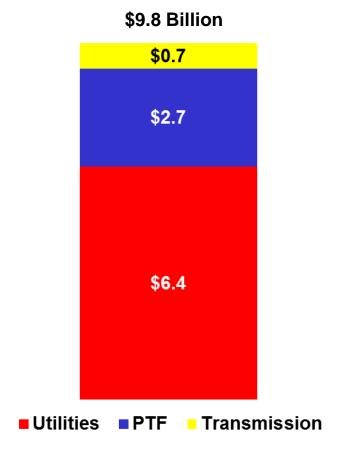
\*Company 1 is more than 100% funded

Source: Wolfe Research and company filings



### **Summary of our Core Business**

Rate Base and Power the Future Investment at 12/31/12



#### Retail Electric and Gas Utilities

- Wisconsin, Michigan, and FERC jurisdictions
- 48.5% to 53.5% equity for Wisconsin Electric
  - 10.4% allowed ROE
- 45% to 50% equity for Wisconsin Gas
  - 10.5% allowed ROE

#### Power the Future

- 53% to 55% equity levels in lease agreements
- 12.7% ROE fixed in lease agreements

#### Wholesale Electric Transmission

- FERC jurisdictional
- 50% equity level for rates
- 12.2% ROE with true-up

Note: Value for retail electric and gas utilities represents rate base. Power the Future value is book value of investment.

Wholesale electric transmission is 26.2% of ATC's rate base.



### **Major Segment Earnings for 2011 – 2013**

Projecting earnings per share growth of 4-6% annually from the 2011 base

|                                      | <u>2011A</u> | <u>2012A</u> | <u>2013</u>           |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Electric and Gas Utilities           | \$1.44       | \$1.55       | Taba                  |
| Power the Future (1)                 | \$0.66       | \$0.69       | To be released        |
| Wholesale Electric Transmission (2)  | \$0.16       | \$0.17       | February<br>6th, 2014 |
| Unallocated holding company debt (3) | (\$0.08)     | (\$0.06)     |                       |
|                                      | \$2.18       | \$2.35       |                       |

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes unallocated holding company debt and other miscellaneous corporate costs



<sup>(1)</sup>Includes allocation of approximately \$375 million of 6.25% rate holding company debt

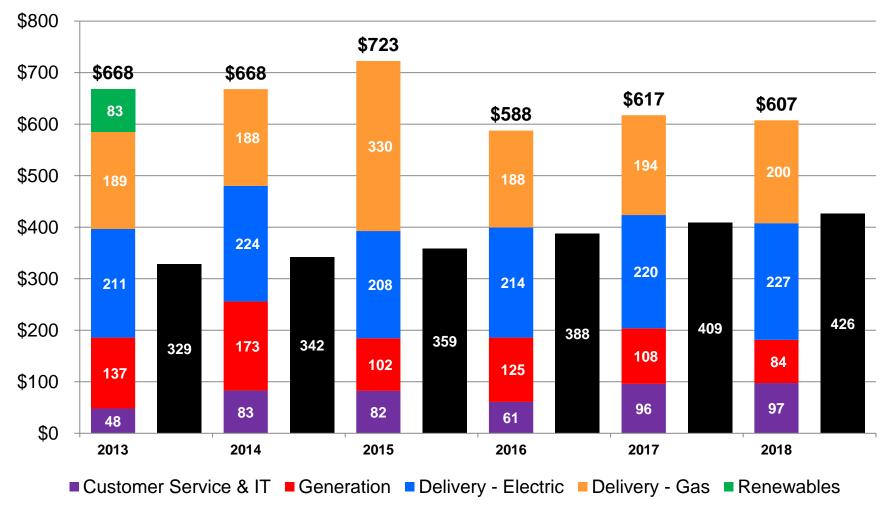
<sup>(2)26.2%</sup> investment in ATC

## **Delivering the Future**

- From 2014 through 2018, our plan is to <u>invest</u> \$3.2 to \$3.5 billion in needed infrastructure projects that will:
  - Renew and modernize our grid
  - Meet new environmental standards
  - Reduce our operating costs for customers

# **Solid Capital Investment in our Core Business**

(In millions)

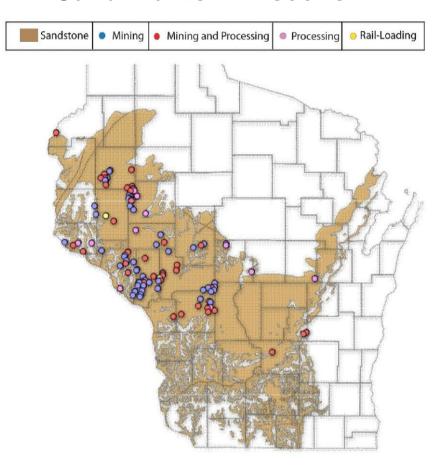




## Western Wisconsin Gas Expansion

- Additional natural gas distribution capacity needed to address reliability and to meet growth in customer demand
  - Propane conversion eight municipalities have passed franchise resolutions to receive natural gas service
  - Frac sand mining increase from 10 to 115 licensed sand mining operations since 2010
- Seeking approval from the Wisconsin Commission
  - Environmental surveys complete
- Expected initial investment for the 85-mile lateral: \$150-\$170 million

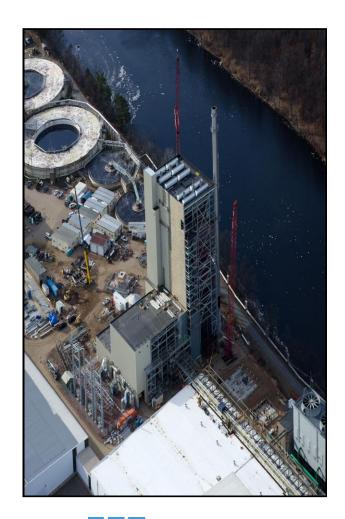
#### Sand Plants - Wisconsin





## Renewable Energy Investments

- Biomass Plant
  - 50MW
  - Investment of approximately \$269 million
  - Commercial operation began in November of 2013
- Montfort Wind Energy Center
  - 30MW
  - Purchased from a subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc.
  - Purchase price of \$27 million
  - Approved by Wisconsin Commission and completed in December 2012
- We expect to be in compliance with the Wisconsin renewable portfolio standard through 2023



## **Valley Power Plant**

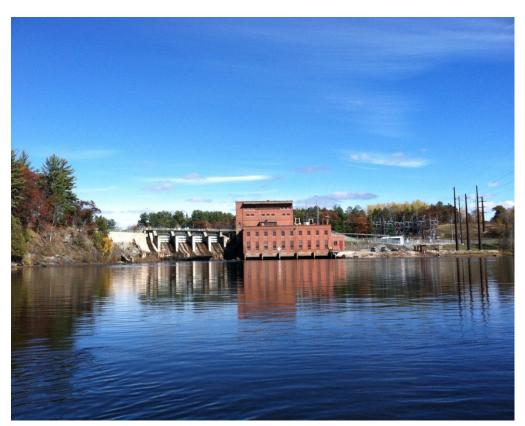
- In 2012 announced plans to convert Valley from coal to natural gas
- Targeting completion of the conversion for late 2015 or early 2016
  - Follows completion of a \$26 million gas pipeline upgrade with expected completion in 2014
- Currently seeking
- regulatory approvals



Projected conversion cost for Valley: \$65 to \$70 million

## Twin Falls Hydroelectric Powerhouse

- In 2012 announced plans to build a new powerhouse at Twin Falls
  - Existing powerhouse is in need of repair
- All major permits have been obtained
- Construction began in the fall of 2013 with scheduled completion in 2016
- Expected cost: \$60 to \$65 million



### **Michigan Retail Choice**

Two iron ore mines in Michigan's Upper Peninsula switched to an alternate energy supplier effective September 1, 2013

- In response, the company:
  - Dissolved the joint venture agreement with Wolverine Power Cooperative for environmental upgrades and partial ownership of the Presque Isle Power Plant
  - Is now finalizing terms of a 'System Support Resource' agreement with MISO for continued operation of the plant

### **Growth at American Transmission Company**

- ATC projects a need for \$3.0-\$3.6 billion of transmission investments in its footprint from 2013-2022
  - ATC's prior plan called for \$3.9-\$4.8 billion of infootprint investments from 2012-2021
- Excludes potential transmission projects outside ATC's traditional footprint
- No significant impact on Wisconsin Energy's near-term earnings forecast



### **Multiple Opportunities Being Evaluated**

- Additional capital for fuel blending at the Oak Creek Expansion units
- Divestiture of energy assets by the State of Wisconsin
- New transmission projects outside of Wisconsin and Michigan through our 26.2 percent ownership of American Transmission Company
- Investment required to meet future EPA rules

### **Industry Leading Dividend Growth**

- The board of directors raised the quarterly dividend in January to 39 cents a share – equivalent to an annual rate of \$1.56 a share
  - Represents a 30% increase over the rate in effect during 2012
- The board of directors also affirmed a target payout ratio of 65-70 percent of earnings in 2017
  - Supports 7-8 percent dividend increases from 2015-2017

### **Financial Flexibility for Share Repurchases**

- The board of directors has authorized management to purchase up to \$300 million of Wisconsin Energy common stock from 2014 – 2017
- Original share buyback program authorized management to purchase up to \$300 million of Wisconsin Energy common stock from 2011 – 2013
- At the end of September 2013
  - Repurchased 7.12 million shares at an average price of \$35.78 a share
  - Invested \$254.8 million



### Where we go from here

## **Holding Company Debt Retirement**

 Our free cash position enables us to consider the early retirement of holding company obligations

- Two major debt instruments at the holding company
  - \$200 million bond with a 6.2% coupon expiring in 2033
  - \$500 million hybrid security with a 6.25% coupon converting to a floating rate in 2017

 Timing and magnitude of retirement depends on several factors including interest rates and our potential capital investments

## **Key Takeaways on Wisconsin Energy**

An "Earn and Return" Company with a Low Risk Profile

- Power the Future program now complete
  - Highly visible earnings and strong cash flow
  - Final regulatory approvals in place
- Well managed utility franchises with rate base growth
- Investment in American Transmission Company provides an additional regulated growth opportunity
- Positioned to deliver among the best risk-adjusted returns in the industry
  - Positive free cash flow
  - Best in class dividend growth story



# **Appendix**

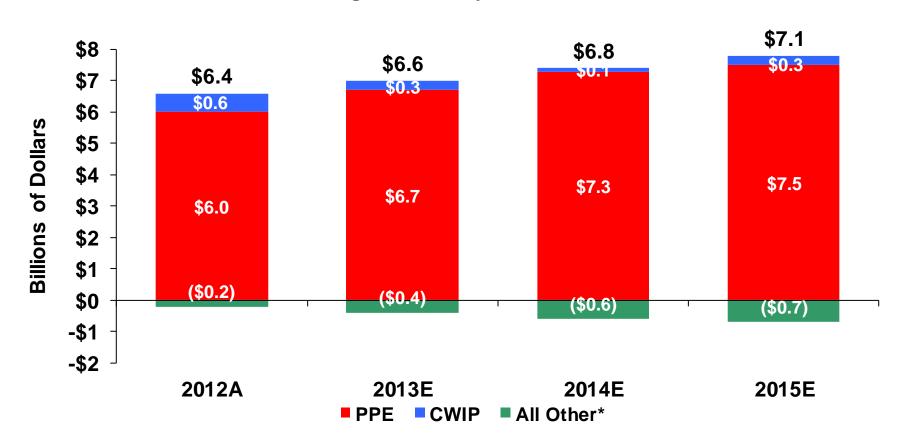
### **Wisconsin Jurisdiction Rate Case Summary**

- Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW)
   authorized 2.6% increase in net customer bills in 2013
   and 2014 (after applying expected proceeds from a
   renewable energy tax grant)
  - Non-fuel rate increase prior to credits:
    - 4.8% or \$133 million in 2013 and 1.0% or \$28 million in 2014
- Final costs approved for Oak Creek Expansion
  - Over 99.5% of total actual project costs recovered
  - \$24 million for fuel flexibility deferred
- 2014 fuel cost plan approved
- Next Case: 2015 base rate case



## **Projected Rate Base**

#### **Average Total Utility Rate Base**



<sup>\*</sup>All other is comprised of customer advances, def. taxes, inventory and implied working capital.



### **DATC**

- Non-exclusive joint venture between Duke Energy and ATC (DATC) announced in April 2011
  - Adds potential investment opportunities outside ATC's current footprint
  - Ownership is split 50/50 between Duke and ATC
- DATC has proposed transmission projects for MISO's Midwest Transmission Expansion Plan
  - Seven new transmission lines, located in five Midwestern states
  - Total cost of approximately \$4 billion
  - Phased in over the next 10 years
  - FERC has approved an ROE at the MISO rate of 12.38%
  - Projects are subject to MISO and regulatory approval
- DATC acquired interest in California's Path 15 transmission line
  - An existing 84-mile, 500-kilovolt transmission line in central California
  - 72 percent interest for approximately \$56 million
  - Small earnings uplift starting in 2013
- Overall DATC impact on WEC
  - No significant capital deployment expected until 2015



### **Forecast of Electric Sales**

|                       | 2013 Forecast vs.<br>2012 Actual | 2013 Forecast vs.<br>2012 Normalized |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Residential           | -2.3%                            | 0.1%                                 |
| Small C&I             | 0.2%                             | 0.3%                                 |
| Large C&I (ex. Mines) | -0.9%                            | 0.2%                                 |
| Total Large C&I       | -3.2%                            | -2.4%                                |
| Total Retail          | -1.8%                            | -0.7%                                |

Based on our customer demand for distribution services

## **Regulatory Environment**

- Wisconsin Commission
  - 3 Commissioners
  - Gubernatorial appointment, Senate confirmation
  - Chairman: Gubernatorial appointment
  - Terms
    - 6 year—staggered terms

| Wisconsin Commissioners        |       |                  |              |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|--------------|
| Name                           | Party | Began<br>Serving | Term<br>Ends |
| Phil<br>Montgomery<br>Chairman | R     | 03/2011          | 03/2017      |
| Eric Callisto                  | D     | 05/2008          | 03/2015      |
| Ellen Nowak                    | R     | 07/2011          | 03/2019      |

- Michigan Commission
  - 3 Commissioners
  - Gubernatorial appointment, Senate confirmation
  - Chairman: Gubernatorial appointment
  - Terms
    - 6 year—staggered terms

| Michigan Commissioners             |       |                  |              |
|------------------------------------|-------|------------------|--------------|
| Name                               | Party | Began<br>Serving | Term<br>Ends |
| John D.<br>Quackenbush<br>Chairman | R     | 10/2011          | 07/2017      |
| Greg R. White                      | I     | 12/2009          | 07/2015      |
| Sally Talberg                      | I     | 07/2013          | 07/2019      |

