

CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORP

Form 10-Q

November 09, 2018

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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
 1934

For the quarterly period ended: September 30, 2018

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 001-11590

CHESAPEAKE
UTILITIES
CORPORATION
(Exact name of
registrant as
specified in its
charter)

Delaware 51-0064146
(State or other jurisdiction (I.R.S. Employer
of incorporation or organization) Identification No.)
909 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware 19904
(Address of principal executive offices, including Zip Code)
(302) 734-6799
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer " Smaller reporting company "

Emerging growth company "

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If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

..

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

Common Stock, par value \$0.4867 — 16,378,545 shares outstanding as of October 31, 2018.

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GLOSSARY OF DEFINITIONS

ARM: ARM Energy Management, LLC, a natural gas supply and supply management company servicing commercial and industrial customers in Western Pennsylvania, which sold certain natural gas marketing assets to PESCO in August 2017

ASC: Accounting Standards Codification issued by the FASB

Aspire Energy: Aspire Energy of Ohio, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities

ASU: Accounting Standards Update issued by the FASB

AutoGas: Alliance AutoGas, a national consortium of companies, of which Sharp is a member, providing an industry-leading complete program for fleets interested in shifting from gasoline to clean-burning propane

CDD: Cooling degree-day, which is a measure of the variation in weather based on the extent to which the daily average temperature (from 10:00 am to 10:00 am) is above 65 degrees Fahrenheit

Central Gas: Central Gas Company of Okeechobee, Incorporated, a propane distribution provider in Southeast Florida, which sold certain assets to Flo-gas in December 2017

CGC: Consumer Gas Cooperative, an Ohio natural gas cooperative

CGS: Community Gas Systems

Chesapeake or Chesapeake Utilities: Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, as appropriate in the context of the disclosure

Chesapeake Pension Plan: A defined benefit pension plan sponsored by Chesapeake Utilities

Chesapeake Postretirement Plan: An unfunded postretirement health care and life insurance plan sponsored by Chesapeake Utilities

Chesapeake SERP: An unfunded supplemental executive retirement pension plan sponsored by Chesapeake Utilities

Chipola: Chipola Propane Gas Company, Inc., a propane distribution service provider in Northwest Florida, which sold certain assets to Flo-gas in August 2017

CHP: Combined heat and power plant

Columbia Gas: Columbia Gas of Ohio, an unaffiliated local distribution company based in Ohio

Company: Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, as appropriate in the context of the disclosure

CP: Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Credit Agreement: The Credit Agreement dated October 8, 2015, among Chesapeake Utilities and the Lenders related to the Revolver

Deferred Compensation Plan: A non-qualified, deferred compensation arrangement under which certain of our executives and members of the Board of Directors are able to defer payment of all or a part of certain specified types of compensation, including executive salaries and cash bonuses, executive performance shares, and directors' retainers

Degree-Day: A degree-day is the measure of the variation in the weather based on the extent to which the average daily temperature (from 10:00 am to 10:00 am) falls above or below 65 degrees Fahrenheit

Delaware Division: Chesapeake Utilities' natural gas distribution operation serving customers in Delaware

Del-Mar Energy Pathway Project - A project for the construction of pipeline looping in Kent County, Delaware, and additional mainline extension in Sussex County, Delaware. The project also upgrades an existing pressure control facility, which includes a portion of mainline extension in Sussex County, Delaware, as well as in Somerset County, Maryland.

Delmarva Peninsula: A peninsula on the east coast of the United States of America occupied by Delaware and portions of Maryland and Virginia

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DNREC: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

Dt(s): Dekatherm(s), which is a natural gas unit of measurement that includes a standard measure for heating value

Dts/d: Dekatherms per day

Eastern Shore: Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company, a wholly-owned natural gas transmission subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities

EGWIC: Eastern Gas & Water Investment Company, LLC, an affiliate of ESG

Eight Flags: Eight Flags Energy, LLC, a subsidiary of Chesapeake OnSight Services, LLC, which owns and operates a CHP plant on Amelia Island, Florida, that supplies electricity to FPU and industrial steam to Rayonier

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency

ESG: Eastern Shore Gas Company and its affiliates

FASB: Financial Accounting Standards Board

FDEP: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

FERC: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, an independent agency of the United States government that regulates the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and oil

FGT: Florida Gas Transmission Company

Flo-gas: Flo-gas Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of FPU

FPL: Florida Power & Light Company, an unaffiliated electric company that supplies electricity to FPU

FPU: Florida Public Utilities Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities

FPU Medical Plan: A separate unfunded postretirement medical plan for FPU sponsored by Chesapeake Utilities

FPU Pension Plan: A separate defined benefit pension plan for FPU sponsored by Chesapeake Utilities

GAAP: Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America

GRIP: The Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program, a natural gas pipeline replacement program in Florida pursuant to which we collect a surcharge from certain of our customers to recover capital and other program-related costs associated with the replacement of qualifying distribution mains and services

Gulf Power: Gulf Power Company, an unaffiliated electric company that supplies electricity to FPU

Gulfstream: Gulfstream Natural Gas System, LLC, an unaffiliated pipeline network that supplies natural gas to FPU

HDD: Heating degree-day, which is a measure of the variation in weather based on the extent to which the daily average temperature (from 10:00 am to 10:00 am) is below 65 degrees Fahrenheit

Lenders: PNC, Bank of America N.A., Citizens Bank N.A., Royal Bank of Canada, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, which are collectively the lenders that entered into the Credit Agreement with Chesapeake Utilities

MDE: Maryland Department of Environment

MetLife: MetLife Investment Advisors, an institutional debt investment management firm, with which we entered into the MetLife Shelf Agreement

MetLife Shelf Agreement: An agreement entered into by Chesapeake Utilities and MetLife in March 2017 pursuant to which Chesapeake Utilities may request that MetLife purchase, through March 2, 2020, up to \$150.0 million of unsecured senior debt at a fixed interest rate and with a maturity date not to exceed 20 years from the date of issuance

MetLife Shelf Notes: Unsecured senior promissory notes issuable under the MetLife Shelf Agreement

MGP: Manufactured gas plant, which is a site where coal was previously used to manufacture gaseous fuel for industrial, commercial and residential use

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MTM: Fair value (mark-to-market) accounting required for derivatives in accordance with ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging

NOPR: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

NYL: New York Life Investors LLC, an institutional debt investment management firm, with which we entered into the NYL Shelf Agreement

NYL Shelf Agreement: An agreement entered into by Chesapeake Utilities and NYL in March 2017 pursuant to which Chesapeake Utilities may request that NYL purchase, through March 2, 2020, up to \$100.0 million of unsecured senior debt at a fixed interest rate and with a maturity date not to exceed 20 years from the date of issuance

NYL Shelf Notes: Unsecured senior promissory notes issuable under the NYL Shelf Agreement

OPT Service: Off Peak ≤ 30 or ≤ 90 Firm Transportation Service, a tariff associated with Eastern Shore's firm transportation service that allows Eastern Shore to not schedule service for up to 30 or 90 days during the peak months of November through April each year

OTC: Over-the-counter

Peninsula Pipeline: Peninsula Pipeline Company, Inc., Chesapeake Utilities' wholly-owned Florida intrastate pipeline subsidiary

PESCO: Peninsula Energy Services Company, Inc., Chesapeake Utilities' wholly-owned natural gas marketing subsidiary

PNC: PNC Bank, National Association, the administrative agent and primary lender for our Revolver

Prudential: PGIM, Inc., formerly known as Prudential Investment Management Inc., an institutional investment management firm, with which we have entered into the Prudential Shelf Agreement

Prudential Shelf Agreement: An agreement entered into by Chesapeake Utilities and Prudential in October 2015 pursuant to which Chesapeake Utilities could request that Prudential purchase, through October 7, 2018, up to \$150.0 million of Prudential Shelf Notes at a fixed interest rate and with a maturity date not to exceed 20 years from the date of issuance, as subsequently amended in September 2018, pursuant to which we may request that Prudential purchase up to \$150.0 million of our unsecured debt over a three-year period, expiring in August 2021

Prudential Shelf Notes: Unsecured senior promissory notes issuable under the Prudential Shelf Agreement

PSC: Public Service Commission, which is the state agency that regulates the rates and services provided by Chesapeake Utilities' natural gas and electric distribution operations in Delaware, Maryland and Florida and Peninsula Pipeline in Florida

Rayonier: Rayonier Performance Fibers, LLC, the company that owns the property on which Eight Flags' CHP plant is located, and a customer of the steam generated by the CHP plant

Retirement Savings Plan: A qualified 401(k) retirement savings plan sponsored by Chesapeake Utilities

Revolver: Our unsecured revolving credit facility with the Lenders

ROU: Right of use

Sandpiper: Sandpiper Energy, Inc., Chesapeake Utilities' wholly-owned subsidiary, which provides a tariff-based distribution service to customers in Worcester County, Maryland

Sanford Group: FPU and other responsible parties involved with the Sanford MGP site

SEC: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

Senior Notes: Our unsecured long-term debt issued primarily to insurance companies on various dates

Sharp: Sharp Energy, Inc., Chesapeake Utilities' wholly-owned propane distribution subsidiary

SICP: Chesapeake Utilities' 2013 Stock and Incentive Compensation Plan

TCJA: The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which is legislation passed by Congress and signed into law by the President on December 22, 2017, and which, among other things, reduced the corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, effective January 1, 2018

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TETLP: Texas Eastern Transmission, LP, an interstate pipeline interconnected with Eastern Shore's pipeline

Xeron: Xeron, Inc., an inactive subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities, which previously engaged in propane and crude oil trading

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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation and Subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
(in thousands, except shares and per share data)				
Operating Revenues				
Regulated Energy	\$72,770	\$ 69,703	\$252,667	\$ 238,353
Unregulated Energy and other	67,509	57,233	263,632	198,827
Total Operating Revenues	140,279	126,936	516,299	437,180
Operating Expenses				
Regulated Energy cost of sales	21,501	22,794	89,741	87,206
Unregulated Energy and other cost of sales	55,660	44,066	204,880	145,325
Operations	32,821	29,274	101,804	91,778
Maintenance	3,208	2,737	10,419	9,370
Gain from a settlement	—	—	(130	) (130
Depreciation and amortization	10,633	9,362	30,176	27,267
Other taxes	4,420	4,071	13,719	12,572
Total Operating Expenses	128,243	112,304	450,609	373,388
Operating Income	12,036	14,632	65,690	63,792
Other expense, net	(11	) (154	) (204	) (1,855
Interest charges	4,430	3,321	11,976	9,133
Income Before Income Taxes	7,595	11,157	53,510	52,804
Income taxes	2,057	4,324	14,731	20,781
Net Income	\$5,538	\$ 6,833	\$38,779	\$ 32,023
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding:				
Basic	16,378,545	16,344,442	16,366,608	16,334,210
Diluted	16,428,439	16,389,635	16,416,255	16,378,633
Earnings Per Share of Common Stock:				
Basic	\$0.34	\$ 0.42	\$2.37	\$ 1.96
Diluted	\$0.34	\$ 0.42	\$2.36	\$ 1.96
Cash Dividends Declared Per Share of Common Stock	\$0.3700	\$ 0.3250	\$1.0650	\$ 0.9550

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of ContentsChesapeake Utilities Corporation and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2018		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
(in thousands)				
Net Income	\$5,538	\$6,833	\$38,779	\$32,023
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), net of tax:				
Employee Benefits, net of tax:				
Amortization of prior service cost, net of tax of \$(5), \$(8), \$(16) and \$(23), respectively	(14	) (11	) (42	) (35
Net gain, net of tax of \$38, \$69, \$118 and \$212, respectively	100	102	317	297
Cash Flow Hedges, net of tax:				
Unrealized gain (loss) on commodity contract cash flow hedges, net of tax of \$257, \$(15), \$(70) and \$(376), respectively	644	(104	) (83	) (643
Total Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), net of tax	730	(13	) 192	(381
Comprehensive Income	\$6,268	\$6,820	\$38,971	\$31,642

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of ContentsChesapeake Utilities Corporation and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

Assets	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
(in thousands, except shares and per share data)		
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Regulated Energy	\$ 1,242,840	\$ 1,073,736
Unregulated Energy	220,721	210,682
Other businesses and eliminations	34,975	27,699
Total property, plant and equipment	1,498,536	1,312,117
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(295,449)	(270,599)
Plus: Construction work in progress	60,243	84,509
Net property, plant and equipment	1,263,330	1,126,027
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	6,215	5,614
Trade and other receivables (less allowance for uncollectible accounts of \$987 and \$936, respectively)	52,660	77,223
Accrued revenue	12,352	22,279
Propane inventory, at average cost	7,444	8,324
Other inventory, at average cost	4,786	12,022
Regulatory assets	6,891	10,930
Storage gas prepayments	6,989	5,250
Income taxes receivable	8,725	14,778
Prepaid expenses	9,775	13,621
Derivative assets, at fair value	10,568	1,286
Other current assets	2,557	7,260
Total current assets	128,962	178,587
Deferred Charges and Other Assets		
Goodwill	19,604	19,604
Other intangible assets, net	4,073	4,686
Investments, at fair value	7,951	6,756
Regulatory assets	76,343	75,575
Other assets	5,293	3,699
Total deferred charges and other assets	113,264	110,320
Total Assets	\$ 1,505,556	\$ 1,414,934

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of ContentsChesapeake Utilities Corporation and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Capitalization and Liabilities		
(in thousands, except shares and per share data)		
Capitalization		
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share (authorized 2,000,000 shares), no shares issued and outstanding	\$ —	\$ —
Common stock, par value \$0.4867 per share (authorized 50,000,000 shares)	7,971	7,955
Additional paid-in capital	255,509	253,470
Retained earnings	249,805	229,141
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(4,987	) (4,272
Deferred compensation obligation	3,818	3,395
Treasury stock	(3,818	) (3,395
Total stockholders' equity	508,298	486,294
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	241,597	197,395
Total capitalization	749,895	683,689
Current Liabilities		
Current portion of long-term debt	9,613	9,421
Short-term borrowing	268,293	250,969
Accounts payable	60,228	74,688
Customer deposits and refunds	34,887	34,751
Accrued interest	3,969	1,742
Dividends payable	6,060	5,312
Accrued compensation	10,396	13,112
Regulatory liabilities	9,099	6,485
Derivative liabilities, at fair value	9,774	6,247
Other accrued liabilities	14,819	10,273
Total current liabilities	427,138	413,000
Deferred Credits and Other Liabilities		
Deferred income taxes	146,814	135,850
Regulatory liabilities	141,840	140,978
Environmental liabilities	7,941	8,263
Other pension and benefit costs	28,839	29,699
Deferred investment tax credits and other liabilities	3,089	3,455
Total deferred credits and other liabilities	328,523	318,245
Environmental and other commitments and contingencies (Notes 5 and 6)		
Total Capitalization and Liabilities	\$ 1,505,556	\$ 1,414,934
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.		

Table of ContentsChesapeake Utilities Corporation and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2018	2017
(in thousands)		
Operating Activities		
Net income	\$38,779	\$32,023
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	30,176	27,267
Depreciation and accretion included in other costs	6,464	5,989
Deferred income taxes	11,047	29,520
Realized loss (gain) on commodity contracts/sale of assets/investments	4,015	(2,817)
Unrealized gain on investments/commodity contracts	(427)	(695)
Employee benefits and compensation	456	1,212
Share-based compensation	2,535	1,608
Other, net	(35)	(39)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable and accrued revenue	32,988	12,912
Propane inventory, storage gas and other inventory	6,379	(8,256)
Regulatory assets/liabilities, net	3,899	927
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(1,533)	(2,860)
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	(9,590)	4,515
Income taxes receivable	6,053	(3,810)
Customer deposits and refunds	136	3,255
Accrued compensation	(2,804)	(2,030)
Other assets and liabilities, net	(542)	(349)
Net cash provided by operating activities	127,996	98,372
Investing Activities		
Property, plant and equipment expenditures	(171,410)	(130,137)
Proceeds from sales of assets	565	601
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	—	(11,707)
Environmental expenditures	(322)	(210)
Net cash used in investing activities	(171,167)	(141,453)
Financing Activities		
Common stock dividends	(16,171)	(14,780)
(Purchase) issuance of stock under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan	(518)	254
Stock issuance	—	(10)
Tax withholding payments related to net settled stock compensation	(1,210)	(692)
Change in cash overdrafts due to outstanding checks	712	(3,013)
Net borrowing (repayment) under line of credit agreements and short-term borrowing under the Revolver	16,612	(3,760)
Proceeds from long-term debt and long-term borrowing under the Revolver	74,901	69,800
Repayment of long-term debt, long-term borrowing under the Revolver and capital lease obligation	(30,554)	(5,510)
Net cash provided in financing activities	43,772	42,289
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	601	(792)
Cash and Cash Equivalents—Beginning of Period	5,614	4,178

Cash and Cash Equivalents—End of Period

\$6,215 \$3,386

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Table of ContentsChesapeake Utilities Corporation and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Unaudited)

(in thousands, except shares and per share data)	Common Stock ⁽¹⁾			Retained Earnings	Accumulated		Treasury Stock	Total
	Number of Shares ⁽²⁾	Par Value	Additional Paid-In Capital		Other Comprehensive Loss	Deferred Compensation		
Balance at December 31, 2016	16,303,499	\$7,935	\$250,967	\$192,062	\$ (4,878)	\$ 2,416	\$(2,416)	\$446,086
Net income	—	—	—	58,124	—	—	—	58,124
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	606	—	—	606
Dividend declared (\$1.28 per share)	—	—	—	(21,045)	—	—	—	(21,045)
Dividend reinvestment plan	10,771	5	730	—	—	—	—	735
Stock issuance	—	—	(10)	—	—	—	—	(10)
Share-based compensation and tax benefit ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾	30,172	15	1,783	—	—	—	—	1,798
Treasury stock activities	—	—	—	—	—	979	(979)	—
Balance at December 31, 2017	16,344,442	7,955	253,470	229,141	(4,272)	3,395	(3,395)	486,294
Net income	—	—	—	38,779	—	—	—	38,779
Cumulative effect of the adoption of ASU 2014-09	—	—	—	(1,498)	—	—	—	(1,498)
Reclassification upon the adoption of ASU 2018-02	—	—	—	907	(907)	—	—	—
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	192	—	—	192
Dividend declared (\$1.065 per share)	—	—	—	(17,524)	—	—	—	(17,524)
Dividend reinvestment plan	—	—	(2)	—	—	—	—	(2)
Share-based compensation and tax benefit ^{(3) (4)}	34,103	16	2,041	—	—	—	—	2,057
Treasury stock activities	—	—	—	—	—	423	(423)	—
Balance at September 30, 2018	16,378,545	\$7,971	\$255,509	\$249,805	\$ (4,987)	\$ 3,818	\$(3,818)	\$508,298

(1) 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock at \$0.01 par value have been authorized. None has been issued or is outstanding; accordingly, no information has been included in the statements of stockholders' equity.

(2) Includes 96,622 and 90,961 shares at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively, held in a Rabbi Trust related to our Deferred Compensation Plan.

(3) Includes amounts for shares issued for directors' compensation.

The shares issued under the SICP are net of shares withheld for employee taxes. For the nine months ended

(4) September 30, 2018, and for the year ended December 31, 2017, we withheld 16,918 and 10,269 shares, respectively, for taxes.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

1. Summary of Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

References in this document to the “Company,” “Chesapeake Utilities,” “we,” “us” and “our” are intended to mean Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, its divisions and/or its subsidiaries, as appropriate in the context of the disclosure.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the rules and regulations of the SEC and GAAP. In accordance with these rules and regulations, certain information and disclosures normally required for audited financial statements have been condensed or omitted. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, included in our latest Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017. In the opinion of management, these financial statements reflect normal recurring adjustments that are necessary for a fair presentation of our results of operations, financial position and cash flows for the interim periods presented.

Due to the seasonality of our business, results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the entire fiscal year. Revenue and earnings are typically greater during the first and fourth quarters, when consumption of energy is highest due to colder temperatures.

ARM, Chipola and Central Gas Asset Acquisitions

In August 2017, PESCO acquired certain natural gas marketing assets of ARM. The acquired assets complemented PESCO’s existing asset portfolio and expanded our regional footprint and retail demand in a market where we had existing pipeline capacity and wholesale liquidity. We accounted for the purchase of these assets as a business combination and initially recorded goodwill of \$6.8 million within our Unregulated Energy segment. In connection with the acquisition, we initially recorded a contingent consideration liability of \$2.5 million, based on our preliminary analysis projecting that the acquired business would achieve at least a certain gross margin target in 2018. During the second quarter of 2018, we identified certain known information as of the acquisition date that was not considered in our original analysis and would have resulted in no contingent consideration liability being initially recorded. Therefore, we reversed the originally-recorded contingent liability and reduced goodwill by \$2.5 million. We similarly revised the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2017. These revisions are considered immaterial to our condensed consolidated financial statements. The need for a contingent consideration liability will be re-evaluated in the final reporting period in 2018. However, our current assessment is that no contingent consideration will be paid.

In August 2017, Flo-gas acquired certain operating assets of Chipola, which provided propane distribution service to approximately 800 residential and commercial customers in Bay, Calhoun, Gadsden, Jackson, Liberty, and Washington Counties, Florida.

In December 2017, Flo-gas acquired certain operating assets of Central Gas, which provides propane distribution service to approximately 325 residential and commercial customers in Glades, Highlands, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties, Florida.

The revenue and net income from these acquisitions, which were included in our condensed consolidated statements of income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, were not material. The acquisition accounting amounts recorded in conjunction with the ARM and Chipola acquisitions are now final although the amounts associated with the Central Gas acquisition are preliminary and subject to adjustment based on additional valuations performed during the measurement period.

FASB Statements and Other Authoritative Pronouncements

Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

Revenue from Contracts with Customers (ASC 606) - On January 1, 2018, we adopted ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, and all the related amendments using the modified retrospective method. We recognized the cumulative effect of initially applying the new revenue standard to all of our contracts as an adjustment to the beginning balance of retained earnings. The comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under the accounting standards in effect for those periods. The impact of adoption of the new revenue standard was immaterial to our net income.

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This standard requires entities to recognize revenue when control of the promised goods or services is transferred to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration that the entity expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. The guidance also requires a number of disclosures regarding the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue and the related cash flows. See Note 3, Revenue Recognition, for additional information.

The following highlights the impact of the adoption of ASC 606 on our condensed consolidated income statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2018:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2018			Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018		
	As Reported	Without Adoption of ASC 606	Effect of Change Higher (Lower)	As Reported	Without Adoption of ASC 606	Effect of Change Higher (Lower)
Income statement						
(in thousands)						
Regulated Energy operating revenues	\$72,770	\$72,879	\$(109)	\$252,667	\$253,659	\$(992)
Regulated Energy cost of sales	21,501	21,512	(11)	89,741	90,454	(713)
Depreciation and amortization	10,633	10,629	4	30,176	30,150	26
Income before income taxes	7,595	7,697	(102)	53,510	53,815	(305)
Income taxes	2,057	2,086	(29)	14,731	14,819	(88)
Net income	5,538	5,611	(73)	38,779	38,996	(217)
	As of September 30, 2018					
Balance sheet	As Reported	Without Adoption of ASC 606	Effect of Change Higher (Lower)			
(in thousands)						
Assets						
Accrued revenues	\$12,352	\$13,658	\$(1,306)			
Other assets	\$5,293	\$5,702	\$(409)			
Capitalization						
Retained earnings	\$249,805	\$251,520	\$(1,715)			

The primary impact of the adoption of ASC 606 on our income statement was the delayed recognition of approximately \$305,000 in revenue in the first nine months of 2018 to future years and a cumulative adjustment that decreased retained earnings and other assets by \$1.7 million at September 30, 2018, associated with a long-term firm transmission contract with an industrial customer.

Compensation-Retirement Benefits (ASC 715) - In March 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-07, Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Post Retirement Benefit Cost. Under this guidance, employers are required to report the service cost component in the same line item or items as other compensation costs arising from services rendered by the pertinent employees during the period. The other components of net benefit costs are required to be presented in the income statement separately from the service cost component and should not be included operating expenses. The update allows for capitalization of the service cost component when applicable. We adopted ASU 2017-07 on January 1, 2018 and applied the changes in the presentation of the service cost and other components of net benefit costs, retrospectively. Aside from changes in presentation, implementation of this standard did not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

Statement of Cash Flows (ASC 230) - In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments, which clarifies how certain transactions are classified in the statement of cash flows. We

adopted ASU 2016-15 on January 1, 2018. Implementation of this new standard did not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated statement of cash flows.

Compensation - Stock Compensation (ASC 718) - In May 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-09, Scope of Modification Accounting, to clarify when to account for a change in the terms or conditions of a share-based payment award as a modification. Under this guidance, modification accounting is required only if the fair value, the vesting conditions or the award classification (equity or liability) change because of a change in the terms or conditions of the award. We adopted

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ASU 2017-09, prospectively, on January 1, 2018. Implementation of this new standard did not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

Income Statement - Reporting Comprehensive Income (ASC 220) - In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-02, Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income, which allows a reclassification from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings for stranded tax effects resulting from the TCJA. We adopted ASU 2018-02 on January 1, 2018, and reclassified stranded tax effects from accumulated other comprehensive loss related to our employee benefit plans and commodity contract cash flows hedges. Implementation of this new standard did not have a material impact on our financial position and results of operations. See Note 8, Stockholders' Equity, for additional information.

Derivatives and Hedging (ASC 815) - In August 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-12, Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities, to better align an entity's risk management activities and financial reporting for hedging relationships through changes to both the designation and measurement guidance for qualifying hedging relationships and the presentation of hedge results. ASU 2017-12 expands the risks that can be designated as hedged risks in cash flow hedges to include cash flow variability from contractually specified components of forecasted purchases or sales of non-financial assets. ASU 2017-12 requires the entire change in fair value of a hedging instrument that is included in the assessment of hedge effectiveness to be presented in the same income statement line that is used to present the earnings effects of the hedged item for fair value hedges and in other comprehensive income for cash flow hedges. ASU 2017-12 requires a tabular presentation of the income statement effect of fair value and cash flow hedges and eliminates the requirement to disclose the ineffective portion of the change in fair value of hedging instruments. ASU 2017-12 will be effective for our annual and interim financial statements beginning January 1, 2019, although early adoption is permitted. We adopted ASU 2017-12 effective July 1, 2018, with no material impact on our financial statements. See Note 12, Derivative Instruments, for additional information with respect to the disclosures required by ASU 2017-12.

Recent Accounting Standards Yet to be Adopted

Leases (ASC 842) - In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases, which requires lessees to recognize leases on the balance sheet and disclose key information about leasing arrangements. The standard establishes a ROU model that requires a lessee to recognize a ROU asset and lease liability for all leases with a term greater than 12 months. The update also expands the required quantitative and qualitative disclosures surrounding leases. ASC 842 was subsequently amended by ASU No. 2018-01, Land Easement Practical Expedient for Transition to Topic 842; ASU No. 2018-10, Codification Improvements to Topic 842, Leases; and ASU No. 2018-11, Targeted Improvements. ASU 2016-02 will be effective for our annual and interim financial statements, beginning January 1, 2019, although early adoption is permitted. We expect to adopt ASU 2016-02 effective January 1, 2019 and use the modified retrospective transition approach to all existing leases.

The new standard permits companies to elect several practical expedients. We expect to elect: (1) the 'package of practical expedients,' pursuant to which we do not need to reassess our prior conclusions about lease identification, lease classification and initial direct costs and (2) the 'use-of-hindsight' practical expedient, which allows us to use hindsight in assessing impairment of our existing land easements. We also intend to aggregate all non-lease components with the lease components to which they relate.

The most significant effect of ASC 842 will be recognition of ROU assets and lease liabilities on our balance sheet for our operating leases and providing significant new disclosures about our leasing activities. We currently expect that upon adoption, we will recognize lease liabilities ranging from \$4.0 million to \$5.0 million, with corresponding ROU of the same amount based on the present value of the remaining minimum rental payments for existing operating leases.

Intangibles-Goodwill (ASC 350) - In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-04, Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment, which simplifies how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment by eliminating Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. ASU 2017-04 will be effective for our annual and interim financial statements beginning January 1, 2020, although early adoption is permitted. The amendments included in this ASU are to be applied prospectively. We believe that implementation of this new standard will not have a material impact on our

financial position or results of operations.

Compensation - Stock Compensation (ASC 718) - In June 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-07, Improvements to Nonemployee Share-Based Payment Accounting, which expands the scope of Topic 718 to include share-based payment transactions for acquiring goods and services from nonemployees. ASU 2018-07 will be effective for our annual and interim financial statements beginning January 1, 2019, although early adoption is permitted. We believe that implementation of this new standard will not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

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Fair Value Measurement (ASC 820) - In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-13, Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement, which removes, modifies and adds certain disclosure requirements on fair value measurements in ASC 820. ASU 2018-13 will be effective for our annual and interim financial statements beginning January 1, 2020 and, since the changes only impact disclosures, will not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

Compensation - Retirement Benefits - Defined Benefit Plans - General (ASC 715-20) - In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-14, Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans, which removes, clarifies and adds certain disclosure requirements in ASC 715-20 related to defined benefit pension and other postretirement plans. ASU 2018-14 will be effective for our annual and interim financial statements, on a retrospective basis, beginning January 1, 2021 and, since the changes only impact disclosures, will not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

2. Calculation of Earnings Per Share

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
(in thousands, except shares and per share data)				
Calculation of Basic Earnings Per Share:				
Net Income	\$5,538	\$ 6,833	\$38,779	\$ 32,023
Weighted average shares outstanding	16,378,545	16,344,442	16,366,608	16,334,210
Basic Earnings Per Share	\$0.34	\$ 0.42	\$2.37	\$ 1.96
Calculation of Diluted Earnings Per Share:				
Reconciliation of Numerator:				
Net Income	\$5,538	\$ 6,833	\$38,779	\$ 32,023
Reconciliation of Denominator:				
Weighted shares outstanding—Basic	16,378,545	16,344,442	16,366,608	16,334,210
Effect of dilutive securities—Share-based compensation	49,894	45,193	49,647	44,423
Adjusted denominator—Diluted	16,428,439	16,389,635	16,416,255	16,378,633
Diluted Earnings Per Share	\$0.34	\$ 0.42	\$2.36	\$ 1.96

3. Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when our performance obligations under contracts with customers have been satisfied, which generally occurs when our businesses have delivered or transported natural gas, electricity or propane to customers. We exclude sales taxes and other similar taxes from the transaction price. Typically, our customers pay for the goods and/or services we provide in the month following the satisfaction of our performance obligation.

The following table displays our revenue by major source based on product and service type for the three months ended September 30, 2018:

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(in thousands)	Regulated Energy	Unregulated Energy	Other and Eliminations	Total
Energy distribution				
Florida natural gas division	\$ 6,282	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 6,282
Delaware natural gas division	7,010	—	—	7,010
FPU electric distribution	23,830	—	—	23,830
FPU natural gas distribution	17,390	—	—	17,390
Maryland natural gas division	2,463	—	—	2,463
Sandpiper	3,561	—	—	3,561
Total energy distribution	60,536	—	—	60,536
Energy transmission				
Aspire Energy	—	5,750	—	5,750
Eastern Shore	16,189	—	—	16,189
Peninsula Pipeline	3,404	—	—	3,404
Total energy transmission	19,593	5,750	—	25,343
Energy generation				
Eight Flags	—	4,044	—	4,044
Propane delivery				
Delmarva Peninsula propane delivery	—	13,172	—	13,172
Florida propane delivery	—	4,166	—	4,166
Total propane delivery	—	17,338	—	17,338
Energy services				
PESCO	—	51,619	—	51,619
Other and eliminations				
Eliminations	(7,359)	(3,185)	(8,668)	(19,212)
Other	—	476	135	611
Total other and eliminations	(7,359)	(2,709)	(8,533)	(18,601)
Total operating revenues ⁽¹⁾	\$ 72,770	\$ 76,042	\$ (8,533)	\$ 140,279

⁽¹⁾ Includes other revenue (revenues from sources other than contracts with customers) of \$546,000 and \$91,000 for our Regulated and Unregulated Energy segments, respectively. The sources of other revenues include revenue from alternative revenue programs related to revenue normalization for Maryland division and Sandpiper and late fees.

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The following table displays our revenue by major source based on product and service type for the nine months ended September 30, 2018:

(in thousands)	Regulated Energy	Unregulated Energy	Other and Eliminations	Total
Energy distribution				
Florida natural gas division	\$18,462	\$—	\$—	\$18,462
Delaware natural gas division	50,963	—	—	50,963
FPU electric distribution	60,933	—	—	60,933
FPU natural gas distribution	58,885	—	—	58,885
Maryland natural gas division	17,136	—	—	17,136
Sandpiper	16,892	—	—	16,892
Total energy distribution	223,271	—	—	223,271
Energy transmission				
Aspire Energy	—	23,682	—	23,682
Eastern Shore	46,289	—	—	46,289
Peninsula Pipeline	8,469	—	—	8,469
Total energy transmission	54,758	23,682	—	78,440
Energy generation				
Eight Flags	—	12,652	—	12,652
Propane delivery				
Delmarva Peninsula propane delivery	—	73,907	—	73,907
Florida propane delivery	—	15,741	—	15,741
Total propane delivery	—	89,648	—	89,648
Energy services				
PESCO	—	181,976	—	181,976
Other and eliminations				
Eliminations	(25,362)	(11,679)	(34,643)	(71,684)
Other	—	1,475	521	1,996
Total other and eliminations	(25,362)	(10,204)	(34,122)	(69,688)
Total operating revenues ⁽¹⁾	\$252,667	\$297,754	\$(34,122)	\$516,299

⁽¹⁾ Includes other revenue (revenues from sources other than contracts with customers) of \$(399,000) and \$246,000 for our Regulated and Unregulated Energy segments, respectively. The sources of other revenues include revenue from alternative revenue programs related to revenue normalization for Maryland division and Sandpiper and late fees.

Regulated Energy segment

The businesses within our Regulated Energy segment are regulated utilities whose operations and customer contracts are subject to rates approved by the respective state PSC or the FERC.

Our energy distribution operations deliver natural gas or electricity to customers and we bill the customers for both the delivery of natural gas or electricity and the related commodity, where applicable. In most jurisdictions, our customers are also required to purchase the commodity from us, although certain customers in some jurisdictions may purchase the commodity from a third-party retailer (in which case we provide delivery service only). We consider the delivery of natural gas or electricity and/or the related commodity sale as one performance obligation because the commodity and its delivery are highly interrelated with two-way dependency on one another. Our performance obligation is

satisfied over time as natural gas or electricity is delivered and consumed by the customer. We recognize revenues based on monthly

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meter readings, which are based on the quantity of natural gas or electricity used and the approved rates. We accrue unbilled revenues for natural gas and electricity that have been delivered, but not yet billed, at the end of an accounting period to the extent that billing and delivery do not coincide.

Revenues for Eastern Shore are based on rates approved by the FERC. The FERC has also authorized Eastern Shore to negotiate rates above or below the FERC-approved maximum rates, which customers can elect as an alternative to the FERC-approved maximum rates. Eastern Shore's services can be firm or interruptible. Firm services are offered on a guaranteed basis and are available at all times unless prevented by force majeure or other permitted curtailments. Interruptible customers receive service only when there is available capacity or supply. Our performance obligation is satisfied over time as we deliver natural gas to the customers' locations. We recognize revenues based on capacity used or reserved and the fixed monthly charge.

Peninsula Pipeline is engaged in natural gas intrastate transmission to third-party customers and certain affiliates in the State of Florida. Our performance obligation is satisfied over time as the natural gas is transported to customers. We recognize revenue based on rates approved by the Florida PSC and the capacity used or reserved. We accrue unbilled revenues for transportation services provided and not yet billed at the end of an accounting period.

Unregulated Energy segment

Revenues generated from the Unregulated Energy segment are not subject to any federal, state, or local pricing regulations. Aspire Energy primarily sources gas from hundreds of conventional producers and performs gathering and processing functions to maintain the quality and reliability of its gas for its wholesale customers. Aspire Energy's performance obligation is satisfied over time as natural gas is delivered to its customers. Aspire Energy recognizes revenue based on the deliveries of natural gas at contractually agreed upon rates (which are based upon an established monthly index price and a monthly operating fee, as applicable). For natural gas customers, we accrue unbilled revenues for natural gas that has been delivered, but not yet billed, at the end of an accounting period to the extent that billing and delivery do not coincide with the end of the accounting period.

Eight Flags' CHP plant, which is located on land leased from Rayonier, produces three sources of energy: electricity, steam and heated water. Rayonier purchases the steam (unfired and fired) and heated water, which is used in Rayonier's production facility. Our electric distribution operation purchases the electricity generated by the CHP plant for distribution to its customers. Eight Flags' performance obligation is satisfied over time as deliveries of heated water, steam and electricity occur. Eight Flags recognizes revenues over time based on the amount of heated water, steam and electricity generated and delivered to its customers.

For our propane delivery operations, we recognize revenue based upon customer type and service offered. Generally, for propane bulk delivery customers (customers without meters) and wholesale sales, our performance obligation is satisfied when we deliver propane to the customers' locations (point-in-time basis). We recognize revenue from these customers based on the number of gallons delivered and the price per gallon at the point-in-time of delivery. For our propane delivery customers with meters, we satisfy our performance obligation over time when we deliver propane to customers. We recognize revenue over time based on the amount of propane consumed and the applicable price per unit. For propane delivery metered customers, we accrue unbilled revenues for propane that has been delivered, but not yet billed, at the end of an accounting period to the extent that billing and delivery do not coincide with the end of the accounting period.

PESCO provides natural gas supply and asset management services to customers (including affiliates of Chesapeake Utilities) located primarily in Florida, the Delmarva Peninsula, and the Appalachian Basin. PESCO's performance obligation is satisfied over time as natural gas is delivered to its customers. PESCO recognizes revenue over time based on customer meter readings, on a monthly basis. We accrue unbilled revenues for natural gas that has been delivered, but not yet billed, at the end of an accounting period to the extent that billing and delivery do not coincide with the end of the accounting period.

Contract balances

The timing of revenue recognition, customer billings and cash collections results in trade receivables, unbilled receivables (contract assets), and customer advances (contract liabilities) in our consolidated balance sheets. The balances of our trade receivables, contract assets, and contract liabilities as of December 31, 2017 and September 30, 2018 were as follows:

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	Trade Receivables	Contract Assets (Non-current)	Contract Liabilities (Current)
(in thousands)			
Balance at 12/31/2017	\$ 74,962	\$ 1,270	\$ 407
Balance at 9/30/2018	50,937	2,331	583
Increase (decrease)	\$ (24,025)	\$ 1,061	\$ 176

Our trade receivables are included in trade and other receivables in the condensed consolidated balance sheets. Our non-current contract assets are included in other assets in the condensed consolidated balance sheet and relate to operations and maintenance costs incurred by Eight Flags that have not yet been recovered through rates for the sale of electricity to our electric distribution operation pursuant to a long-term service agreement.

At times, we receive advances or deposits from our customers before we satisfy our performance obligation, resulting in contract liabilities. At September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, we had a contract liability of \$583,000 and \$407,000, respectively, which was included in other accrued liabilities in the condensed consolidated balance sheet, and which relates to non-refundable prepaid fixed fees for our Delmarva Peninsula propane delivery operation's retail offerings. Our performance obligation is satisfied over the term of the respective retail offering plan on a ratable basis. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, we recognized revenue of \$48,000 and \$384,000, respectively.

Practical expedients

For our businesses with agreements that contain variable consideration, we use the invoice practical expedient method. We determined that the amounts invoiced to customers correspond directly with the value to our customers and our performance to date.

For our long-term contracts, the revenue we recognize corresponds directly to the amount we have the right to invoice, which corresponds directly to our performance obligation. Our performance obligations under our long-term contracts are satisfied over time. As a practical expedient, we do not disclose information about remaining, or unsatisfied, performance obligations for these long-term contracts since the revenue recognized corresponds to the amount we have the right to invoice.

4. Rates and Other Regulatory Activities

Our natural gas and electric distribution operations in Delaware, Maryland and Florida are subject to regulation by their respective PSC; Eastern Shore, our natural gas transmission subsidiary, is subject to regulation by the FERC; and Peninsula Pipeline, our intrastate pipeline subsidiary, is subject to regulation by the Florida PSC. Chesapeake Utilities' Florida natural gas distribution division and FPU's natural gas and electric distribution operations continue to be subject to regulation, as separate entities, by the Florida PSC.

Delaware

Effect of the TCJA on customers: The Delaware PSC issued an order requiring all rate-regulated utilities to file estimates of the impact of the TCJA on their cost of service for the most recent test year available (including new rate schedules). The order also required utilities to propose procedures for changing rates to reflect those impacts on or before March 31, 2018. Our Delaware Division filed the requisite reports with the Delaware PSC on March 30, 2018. Subsequently, the Delaware Division filed an updated report reflecting the impact of the TCJA on May 31, 2018. If, after reviewing the required filing, the Delaware PSC determines to reduce our rates, it will open a new docket and establish a procedural schedule for conducting an evidentiary hearing regarding the impacts of the TCJA on our operations and existing rates.

In addition, on February 1, 2018, the Delaware PSC issued an order requiring Delaware rate-regulated public utilities to accrue regulatory liabilities reflecting the impacts of changes in the federal corporate income tax laws. In compliance with the Delaware PSC order, we have established a regulatory liability to reflect the estimated impacts of the changes in the federal corporate income tax rate. We believe that the reduction in rates charged by our Delaware Division because of the lower federal income taxes resulting from the TCJA will not have a material effect on our financial position or results of operations, because the reduction will be offset by an equal reduction in income tax expense.

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Underserved Area Rates: In December 2017, we filed an application requesting authorization to utilize existing expansion area tariff rates to serve customers located outside of the current Sussex County, Delaware expansion area boundaries that cannot be economically served under the regular tariff rates. In June 2018, we reached a settlement agreement with the relevant parties, which allows us to utilize higher rates for areas outside of our existing expansion area. The Delaware PSC unanimously approved the settlement at its public meeting on July 10, 2018. The new rate schedule became effective on August 1, 2018.

CGS: In June 2018, we filed with the Delaware PSC an application requesting approval of the acquisition and subsequent conversion of propane to natural gas for certain CGS located within our territory. We requested the establishment of regulatory accounting treatment and valuation of the acquisition of certain CGS, approval of a methodology to set new distribution rates for CGS customers and approval of a new system-wide tariff rate that will recover CGS conversion costs. The Delaware PSC has not reached a decision as of the date of this filing.

Maryland Division and Sandpiper

Effect of the TCJA on customers: The Maryland PSC issued an order requiring all Maryland public utilities with rates explicitly grossed-up for income taxes to track the impacts of the TCJA, beginning January 1, 2018. The order required utilities to: (a) apply regulatory accounting treatment, which includes the use of regulatory assets and liabilities, for all impacts of the TCJA; (b) file an explanation of the expected effects of the TCJA on their expenses and revenues; and (c) explain when and how they expect to pass on to their customers the net results of those effects. We established a regulatory liability to reflect the impacts of the changes in the federal corporate income tax rate in compliance with the Maryland PSC's order and made compliance filings that included preliminary estimates of the annual impact of the change in the statutory federal income tax rate. In April 2018, the Maryland PSC ordered both the Maryland Division and Sandpiper to implement reduced rates effective May 1, 2018, reflecting the impact of the TCJA. We implemented a one-time bill credit for the regulatory liability established for the refunds and issued the refunds to customers in July 2018. We submitted an informational filing to the Maryland PSC within the requisite 60 days of completing the refund payments. Additionally, if in the future the Maryland Division or Sandpiper identify any additional tax savings, we must submit an additional filing to the Maryland PSC in order to return those savings to customers as soon as possible. We believe that the reduction in rates charged by our Maryland Division and Sandpiper because of the lower federal income taxes resulting from the TCJA will not have a material effect on our financial position or results of operations, because the reduction is offset by an equal reduction in income tax expense.

Florida

Florida Electric Reliability/Modernization Pilot Program: In July 2017, our Florida electric operations filed a petition with the Florida PSC requesting approval to include \$15.2 million of certain capital project expenditures in its rate base and to adjust its base rates accordingly. These expenditures are designed to improve the stability and safety of the electric system, while enhancing the capability of our electrical grid. An interconnection project with FPL, which enables us to mitigate fuel costs for our electric customers, was included in the \$15.2 million capital project expenditures. In December 2017, the Florida PSC approved this petition, effective January 1, 2018. The settlement agreement prescribed the methodology for adjusting the new rates based on the lower federal income tax rate and the process and methodology regarding the refund of deferred income taxes, reclassified as a regulatory liability, as a result of the TCJA. We have established a regulatory liability to reflect the impacts of the changes in the federal corporate income tax rate in compliance with the settlement agreement.

Electric Limited Proceeding-Storm Recovery: In February 2018, our Florida electric operations filed a petition with the Florida PSC, requesting recovery of incremental storm restoration costs related to several hurricanes and tropical storms, along with the replenishment of storm reserve to its pre-storm level of \$1.5 million. As a result of these hurricanes and tropical storms, our Florida electric operation's storm reserve was depleted and is currently at a deficit of \$779,000. We have requested approval of a surcharge of \$1.82 per kilowatt per hour for two years to recover and replenish storm-related costs. This matter is scheduled for review at the Florida PSC's meeting in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Effect of the TCJA on customers: The Office of Public Counsel filed a petition requesting that the Florida PSC establish a general docket to investigate and adjust rates for all investor-owned utilities related to the passage of the TCJA. The Florida PSC issued a Memorandum with a recommendation that, if utilities do not agree to a January 1,

2018 effective date, then the effective date should be February 6, 2018. On January 30, 2018, the Florida PSC scheduled informal meetings between its staff and interested persons to discuss the impact of the TCJA. Hearings for Florida's electric utilities are tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2019, and hearings for the natural gas utilities are tentatively scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2018.

In December 2017, the Florida PSC issued an order regarding the limited proceeding for our Florida electric operations, which prescribes the applicability, timing and treatment of the impacts of the TCJA, as discussed above. In June, our

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Florida natural gas operations filed petitions and testimony in support of the disposition of the impacts created by the TCJA. We believe that the reduction in rates charged by our Florida electric and natural gas operations because of the lower federal income taxes resulting from the TCJA will not have a material effect on our financial position or results of operations, because the reduction is offset by an equal reduction in income tax expense.

In October 18, 2018, our electric distribution operation reached a settlement agreement with the Office of Public Counsel. This settlement agreement was filed for approval with the Florida PSC on October 19, 2018 and hearing in this action is expected to be held in December 2018. This agreement proposes that our electric distribution operation will flow benefit associated with the TCJA back to its customers through a combination of reductions to the fuel cost recovery rate, base rates, as well as application to the storm reserve over the next several years.

Eastern Shore

2017 Expansion Project: In May 2016, the FERC approved Eastern Shore's request to initiate the pre-filing review process for its 2017 Expansion Project. The 2017 Expansion Project's facilities include approximately 23 miles of pipeline looping in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware; upgrades to existing metering facilities in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; installation of an additional compressor unit at Eastern Shore's existing Daleville compressor station in Chester County, Pennsylvania; and approximately 17 miles of new mainline extension and two pressure control stations in Sussex County, Delaware. Eastern Shore entered into precedent agreements with seven existing customers, including three affiliates of Chesapeake Utilities, for a total of 61,162 Dts/d of additional firm natural gas transportation service on Eastern Shore's pipeline system with an additional 52,500 Dts/d of firm transportation service at certain Eastern Shore receipt facilities.

In October 2017, the FERC issued a CP authorizing Eastern Shore to construct the expansion facilities. The estimated cost of the 2017 Expansion Project is approximately \$117.0 million. Eastern Shore submitted its Implementation Plan in October 2017, addressing the actions Eastern Shore will undertake to meet the environmental conditions set forth in the FERC's order.

In December 2017, the TETLP interconnect upgrade was placed into service. In June 2018, the Fair Hill Loop in Chester County, Pennsylvania and Cecil County, Maryland was placed into service. With the exception of some minor facilities, the remaining segments of the 2017 Expansion Project are expected to be placed into service in various phases during the fourth quarter of 2018.

2017 Rate Case Filing: In January 2017, Eastern Shore filed a base rate proceeding with the FERC, as required by the terms of its 2012 rate case settlement agreement. Eastern Shore based its proposed rates on the mainline cost of service of approximately \$60.0 million resulting in an overall requested annual revenue increase of approximately \$18.9 million and a requested rate of return on common equity of 13.75 percent. In March 2017, the FERC issued an order suspending the tariff rates for the usual five-month period.

In August 2017, Eastern Shore implemented new rates, subject to refund, based on the outcome of the rate proceeding. Eastern Shore recorded incremental revenue of approximately \$3.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017, and established a regulatory liability to reserve a portion of the total incremental revenues generated by the new rates pending FERC approval of the settlement and refunds to customers according to the terms of the settlement agreement. The FERC approved the settlement agreement in February 2018, and it became final in March 2018.

Exclusive of the TCJA impact, base rates would have increased, on an annual basis, by approximately \$9.8 million.

Effect of the TCJA on customers: In March 2018, Eastern Shore filed with the FERC its revised base rates, reflecting the change in its federal corporate income tax rate. These adjusted base rates became effective April 1, 2018 and will generate approximately \$6.6 million in incremental margin, on an annual basis. Any excess accumulated deferred income tax balances will flow back to customers over the period determined in the next rate case, absent any transition rule included in the TCJA or other statutes or rules that would govern the flow-back period. In April 2018, Eastern Shore refunded to its customers, with interest, the difference between the proposed rates and the settlement rates. The refund to customers also reflected the difference in rates due to the impact of the TCJA.

In March 2018, the FERC issued a NOPR that proposed a process to determine which natural gas pipelines may be collecting unjust and unreasonable rates in light of the recent reduction in the corporate income tax rate in the TCJA

and changes to the FERC's income tax allowance policies following the *United Airlines, Inc. v. FERC* decision. The NOPR proposed requiring interstate natural gas pipelines to provide an informational filing to allow the FERC to evaluate the impact of the TCJA on the pipelines' revenue requirement. In April 2018, Eastern Shore filed comments in this proceeding requesting confirmation that Eastern Shore is not required to provide an informational filing because it has already implemented lower rates in accordance with the settlement agreement in its 2017 rate case approved by the FERC. In July 2018, the FERC issued a final rule, which largely adopted the process proposed in the NOPR, requiring all interstate natural gas companies to file an informational filing for the purpose of evaluating the impact of the TCJA and the United

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Airlines, Inc. v. FERC decision on interstate natural gas pipelines' revenue requirements. The final rule provides that an individual pipeline has the option to request a waiver if the pre-March 2018 settlement justifies not adjusting its rates at this time. In September 2018, Eastern Shore requested that the FERC grant it a waiver of the requirement. In October 2018, the FERC issued an order granting the waiver.

Del-Mar Energy Pathway Project: In September 2018, Eastern Shore filed a Certificate Application for the Del-Mar Energy Pathway project with the FERC. The proposed project would provide an additional 14,300 Dts/d of capacity to four customers. Facilities to be constructed include six miles of pipeline looping in Delaware, 13 miles of new mainline extension in Sussex County, Delaware and Somerset County, Maryland as well as new pressure control and delivery stations in these counties. The benefits of this project include (i) further natural gas transmission pipeline infrastructure in eastern Sussex County, Delaware and (ii) first extension of Eastern Shore's pipeline system into Somerset County, Maryland.

5. Environmental Commitments and Contingencies

We are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations governing environmental quality and pollution control. These laws and regulations require us to remove or remediate, at current and former operating sites, the effect on the environment of the disposal or release of specified substances.

MGP Sites

We have participated in the investigation, assessment or remediation of, and have exposures at, seven former MGP sites. Those sites are located in Salisbury, Maryland; Seaford, Delaware; and Winter Haven, Key West, Pensacola, Sanford and West Palm Beach, Florida. We are also in discussions with the MDE regarding another former MGP site located in Cambridge, Maryland.

As of September 30, 2018, we had approximately \$9.4 million in environmental liabilities related to FPU's MGP sites in Key West, Pensacola, Sanford and West Palm Beach. FPU has approval to recover, from insurance and from customers through rates, up to \$14.0 million of its environmental costs related to its MGP sites. As of September 30, 2018 we have recovered approximately \$11.4 million, leaving approximately \$2.6 million in regulatory assets for future recovery of environmental costs from FPU's customers.

Environmental liabilities for our MGP sites are recorded on an undiscounted basis based on the estimate of future costs provided by independent consultants. We continue to expect that all costs related to environmental remediation and related activities, including any potential future remediation costs for which we do not currently have approval for regulatory recovery, will be recoverable from customers through rates.

The following is a summary of our remediation status and estimated costs to implement clean-up of our key MGP sites:

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Jurisdiction	MGP Site	Status	Cost to Clean up	Recovery through Rates
Florida	West Palm Beach	Remedial actions approved by the FDEP have been implemented on the east parcel of the site. We expect to implement similar remedial actions on other remaining portions, including the anticipated demolition of buildings on the site's west parcel in 2018.	Between \$4.5 million to \$15.4 million, including costs associated with the relocation of FPU's operations at this site, which is necessary to implement the remedial plan, and any potential costs associated with future redevelopment of the properties.	Yes
Florida	Sanford	In March 2018, the EPA approved a "site-wide ready for anticipated use" status, which is the final step before delisting a site. Construction has been completed and restrictive covenants are in place to ensure protection of human health. The only remaining activity is long-term groundwater monitoring. It is unlikely that FPU will incur any significant future costs associated with the site.	FPU's remaining remediation expenses, including attorneys' fees and costs, are anticipated to be less than \$10,000.	Yes
Florida	Winter Haven	Remediation is ongoing.	Not expected to exceed \$425,000, which includes costs of implementing institutional controls at the site.	Yes
Delaware	Seaford	Proposed plan for implementation approved by the DNREC in July 2017. Site assessment is ongoing.	Between \$273,000 and \$465,000.	Yes
Maryland	Cambridge	Currently in discussions with the MDE.	Unable to estimate.	N/A

6. Other Commitments and Contingencies

Natural Gas, Electric and Propane Supply

We have entered into contractual commitments, with various expiration dates, to purchase natural gas, electricity and propane from various suppliers. In 2017, our Delmarva Peninsula natural gas distribution operations entered into asset management agreements with PESCO to manage their natural gas transportation and storage capacity. The agreements were effective as of April 1, 2017, and each has a three-year term, expiring on March 31, 2020. Previously, the Delaware PSC approved PESCO to serve as an asset manager with respect to our Delaware Division.

In May 2013, Sandpiper entered into a capacity, supply and operating agreement with EGWIC to purchase propane over a six-year term ending in May 2019. Sandpiper's current annual commitment is approximately 1.8 million gallons. Sandpiper has the option to enter into either a fixed per-gallon price for some or all of the propane purchases or a market-based price utilizing one of two local propane pricing indices.

Also in May 2013, Sharp entered into a separate supply and operating agreement with EGWIC. Under this agreement, Sharp has a commitment to supply propane to EGWIC over a six-year term ending in May 2019. Sharp's current annual commitment is approximately 1.8 million gallons. The agreement between Sharp and EGWIC is separate from the agreement between Sandpiper and EGWIC, and neither agreement permits the parties to set off the rights and obligations specified in one agreement against those specified in the other agreement.

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Chesapeake Utilities' Florida Division has firm transportation service contracts with FGT and Gulfstream. Pursuant to a capacity release program approved by the Florida PSC, all of the capacity under these agreements has been released to various third parties, including PESCO. Under the terms of these capacity release agreements, Chesapeake Utilities is contingently liable to FGT and Gulfstream should any party that acquired the capacity through release fail to pay the capacity charge.

FPU's electric supply contracts require FPU to maintain an acceptable standard of creditworthiness based on specific financial ratios. FPU's agreement with FPL requires FPU to meet or exceed a debt service coverage ratio of 1.25 times based on the results of the prior 12 months. If FPU fails to meet this ratio, it must provide an irrevocable letter of credit or pay all amounts outstanding under the agreement within five business days. FPU's electric supply agreement with Gulf Power requires FPU to meet the following ratios based on the average of the prior six quarters: (a) funds from operations interest coverage ratio (minimum of 2 times), and (b) total debt to total capital (maximum of 65 percent). If FPU fails to meet the requirements, it has to provide the supplier a written explanation of actions taken, or proposed to be taken, to become compliant. Failure to comply with the ratios specified in the Gulf Power agreement could also result in FPU having to provide an irrevocable letter of credit. As of September 30, 2018, FPU was in compliance with all of the requirements of its fuel supply contracts.

Eight Flags provides electricity and steam generation services through its CHP plant located on Amelia Island, Florida. In June 2016, Eight Flags began selling power generated from the CHP plant to FPU pursuant to a 20-year power purchase agreement for distribution to our electric customers. In July 2016, Eight Flags also started selling steam, pursuant to a separate 20-year contract, to Rayonier, the landowner on which the CHP plant is located. The CHP plant is powered by natural gas transported by FPU through its distribution system and Peninsula Pipeline through its intrastate pipeline.

Corporate Guarantees

We have issued corporate guarantees to certain vendors of our subsidiaries, primarily PESCO. These corporate guarantees provide for the payment of natural gas purchases in the event that PESCO defaults. PESCO has never defaulted on its obligations to pay its suppliers. The liabilities for these purchases are recorded when incurred. The aggregate amount guaranteed at September 30, 2018 was approximately \$73.9 million, with the guarantees expiring on various dates through September 2019.

Chesapeake Utilities also guarantees the payment of FPU's first mortgage bonds. The maximum exposure under this guarantee is the outstanding principal plus accrued interest balances. The outstanding principal balances of FPU's first mortgage bonds approximate their carrying values (see Note 14, Long-Term Debt, for further details).

Letters of Credit

As of September 30, 2018, we have issued letters of credit totaling approximately \$5.0 million related to the electric transmission services for FPU's electric division, the firm transportation service agreement between TETLP and our Delaware and Maryland divisions, the payment of natural gas purchases for PESCO, and to our current and previous primary insurance carriers. These letters of credit have various expiration dates through December 2019. There have been no draws on these letters of credit as of September 30, 2018. We do not anticipate that the counterparties will draw upon these letters of credit, and we expect that the letters of credit will be renewed to the extent necessary in the future.

Other

We are involved in certain other legal actions and claims arising in the normal course of business. We are also involved in certain legal and administrative proceedings before various governmental agencies concerning rates. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these proceedings will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

7. Segment Information

We use the management approach to identify operating segments. We organize our business around differences in regulatory environment and/or products or services, and the operating results of each segment are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker (our Chief Executive Officer) in order to make decisions about resources and to

assess performance.

Our operations are comprised of two reportable segments:

• **Regulated Energy.** Includes energy distribution and transmission services (natural gas distribution, natural gas transmission and electric distribution operations). All operations in this segment are regulated, as to their rates

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and services, by the PSC having jurisdiction in each operating territory or by the FERC in the case of Eastern Shore. Unregulated Energy. Includes energy transmission, energy generation, propane delivery, and other energy services (propane distribution, the operations of our Eight Flags' CHP plant, as well as natural gas marketing, gathering, processing, transportation and supply). These operations are unregulated as to their rates and services. Through March 2017, this segment also included the operations of Xeron, our propane and crude oil trading subsidiary, that wound down its operations shortly after the first quarter of 2017. Also included in this segment are other unregulated energy services, such as energy-related merchandise sales and heating, ventilation and air conditioning, plumbing and electrical services.

The remainder of our operations is presented as "Other businesses and eliminations", which consists of unregulated subsidiaries that own real estate leased to Chesapeake Utilities, as well as certain corporate costs not allocated to other operations.

The following table presents financial information about our reportable segments:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
(in thousands)				
Operating Revenues, Unaffiliated Customers				
Regulated Energy segment	\$69,697	\$67,257	\$243,382	\$232,519
Unregulated Energy segment and other businesses	70,582	59,679	272,917	204,661
Total operating revenues, unaffiliated customers	\$140,279	\$126,936	\$516,299	\$437,180
Intersegment Revenues ⁽¹⁾				
Regulated Energy segment	\$3,073	\$2,446	\$9,285	\$5,834
Unregulated Energy segment	5,460	5,009	24,837	15,801
Other businesses	135	194	521	581
Total intersegment revenues	\$8,668	\$7,649	\$34,643	\$22,216
Operating Income				
Regulated Energy segment	\$15,915	\$15,523	\$56,930	\$53,004
Unregulated Energy segment	(3,933)	(951)	10,241	10,626
Other businesses and eliminations	54	60	(1,481)	162
Total operating income	12,036	14,632	65,690	63,792
Other expense, net	(11)	(154)	(204)	(1,855)
Interest charges	4,430	3,321	11,976	9,133
Income before Income Taxes	7,595	11,157	53,510	52,804
Income taxes	2,057	4,324	14,731	20,781
Net Income	\$5,538	\$6,833	\$38,779	\$32,023

(1) All significant intersegment revenues are billed at market rates and have been eliminated from consolidated operating revenues.

(in thousands)	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Identifiable Assets		
Regulated Energy segment	\$1,223,537	\$1,121,673
Unregulated Energy segment	244,390	259,041
Other businesses and eliminations	37,629	34,220
Total identifiable assets	\$1,505,556	\$1,414,934

Our operations are entirely domestic.

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8. Stockholder's Equity

Preferred Stock

We had 2,000,000 authorized and unissued shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share, as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017. Shares of preferred stock may be issued from time to time, by authorization of our Board of Directors and without the necessity of further action or authorization by stockholders, in one or more series and with such voting powers, designations, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications as the Board of Directors may, in its discretion, determine.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Defined benefit pension and postretirement plan items, unrealized gains (losses) of our propane swap agreements, call options and natural gas futures contracts, designated as commodity contracts cash flow hedges, are the components of our accumulated other comprehensive loss. During the first quarter of 2018, we elected early adoption of ASU 2018-02, Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income. Accordingly, we reclassified stranded tax effects resulting from the TCJA from accumulated other comprehensive loss to retained earnings, related to our employee benefit plans and commodity contracts cash flow hedges.

The following tables present the changes in the balance of accumulated other comprehensive (loss)/income as of September 30, 2018 and 2017. All amounts except the stranded tax reclassification are presented net of tax.

	Defined Benefit Pension and Postretirement Plan Items	Commodity Contracts Cash Flow Hedges	Total
(in thousands)			
As of December 31, 2017	\$ (4,743)	\$ 471	\$(4,272)
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications	—	(1,126)	(1,126)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income	275	1,043	1,318
Net current-period other comprehensive income/(loss)	275	(83)	192
Stranded tax reclassification to retained earnings	(1,022)	115	(907)
As of September 30, 2018	\$ (5,490)	\$ 503	\$(4,987)

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	Defined Benefit Pension and Postretirement Plan Items	Commodity Contracts Cash Flow Hedges	Total
(in thousands)			
As of December 31, 2016	\$ (5,360)	\$ 482	\$(4,878)
Other comprehensive (loss)/income before reclassifications	(9)	322	313
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss)	271	(965)	(694)
Net prior-period other comprehensive income/(loss)	262	(643)	(381)
As of September 30, 2017	\$ (5,098)	\$ (161)	\$(5,259)

The following table presents amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive loss for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017. Deferred gains or losses for our commodity contracts cash flow hedges are recognized in earnings upon settlement.

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2018		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017	
(in thousands)				
Amortization of defined benefit pension and postretirement plan items:				
Prior service credit ⁽¹⁾	\$19	\$19	\$58	\$58
Net loss ⁽¹⁾	(138)	(171)	(435)	(509)
Total before income taxes	(119)	(152)	(377)	(451)
Income tax benefit	33	61	102	180
Net of tax	\$(86)	\$(91)	\$(275)	\$(271)
Gains and losses on commodity contracts cash flow hedges:				
Propane swap agreements ⁽²⁾	\$(276)	\$198	\$(921)	\$663
Natural gas swaps ⁽²⁾	123	1	(358)	1
Natural gas futures ⁽²⁾	(308)	(852)	(171)	929
Total before income taxes	(461)	(653)	(1,450)	1,593
Income tax benefit (expense)	129	248	407	(628)
Net of tax	(332)	(405)	(1,043)	965
Total reclassifications for the period	\$(418)	\$(496)	\$(1,318)	\$694

⁽¹⁾ These amounts are included in the computation of net periodic costs (benefits). See Note 9, Employee Benefit Plans, for additional details.

⁽²⁾ These amounts are included in the effects of gains and losses from derivative instruments. See Note 12, Derivative Instruments, for additional details.

Amortization of defined benefit pension and postretirement plan items is included in operations expense, and gains and losses on propane swap agreements, call options and natural gas futures contracts are included in cost of sales in the accompanying consolidated statements of income. The income tax benefit is included in income tax expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of income.

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9. Employee Benefit Plans

Net periodic benefit costs for our pension and post-retirement benefits plans for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017 are set forth in the following tables:

	Chesapeake Pension Plan		FPU Pension Plan		Chesapeake SERP		Chesapeake Postretirement Plan		FPU Medical Plan	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
For the Three Months Ended September 30, (in thousands)										
Interest cost	\$94	\$103	\$570	\$623	\$21	\$22	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13
Expected return on plan assets	(131)	(127)	(770)	(699)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amortization of prior service credit	—	—	—	—	—	—	(19)	(19)	—	—
Amortization of net loss	82	107	86	131	25	22	15	17	—	—
Net periodic cost (benefit) ⁽¹⁾	45	83	(114)	55	46	44	6	9	12	13
Amortization of pre-merger regulatory asset	—	—	191	191	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total periodic cost	\$45	\$83	\$77	\$246	\$46	\$44	\$6	\$9	\$14	\$15
	Chesapeake Pension Plan		FPU Pension Plan		Chesapeake SERP		Chesapeake Postretirement Plan		FPU Medical Plan	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
For the Nine Months Ended September 30, (in thousands)										
Interest cost	\$288	\$309	\$1,754	\$1,870	\$63	\$66	\$29	\$31	\$38	\$38
Expected return on plan assets	(406)	(381)	(2,318)	(2,098)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amortization of prior service credit	—	—	—	—	—	—	(58)	(58)	—	—
Amortization of net loss	258	319	302	392	75	65	45	50	—	—
Net periodic cost (benefit) ⁽¹⁾	140	247	(262)	164	138	131	16	23	38	38
Amortization of pre-merger regulatory asset	—	—	571	571	—	—	—	—	6	6
Total periodic cost	\$140	\$247	\$309	\$735	\$138	\$131	\$16	\$23	\$44	\$44

⁽¹⁾As a result of our adoption of ASU 2017-07 on January 1, 2018, the "other than service" cost components of net periodic costs have been recorded or reclassified to other income (expense), net in the condensed consolidated statements of income.

We expect to record pension and postretirement benefit costs of approximately \$856,000 for 2018. Included in these costs is approximately \$769,000 related to continued amortization of the FPU pension regulatory asset, which represents the portion attributable to FPU's regulated energy operations for the changes in funded status that occurred, but were not recognized, as part of net periodic benefit costs prior to the FPU merger in 2009. This was deferred as a regulatory asset by FPU prior to the merger, to be recovered through rates pursuant to a previous order by the Florida PSC. The unamortized balance of this regulatory asset was approximately \$749,000 and approximately \$1.3 million at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively.

Pursuant to a Florida PSC order, FPU continues to record, as a regulatory asset, a portion of the unrecognized pension and postretirement benefit costs related to its regulated operations after the FPU merger. The portion of the unrecognized pension and postretirement benefit costs related to FPU's unregulated operations and Chesapeake Utilities' operations is recorded to accumulated other comprehensive loss.

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The following tables present the amounts included in the regulatory asset and accumulated other comprehensive loss that were recognized as components of net periodic benefit cost during the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017:

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2018	Chesapeake Pension Plan	FPU Pension Plan	Chesapeake SERP	Chesapeake Postretirement Plan	FPU Medical Plan	Total
(in thousands)						
Prior service credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (19)	\$ —	—\$(19)
Net loss	82	86	25	15	—	208
Total recognized in net periodic benefit cost	82	86	25	(4)	—	189
Recognized from accumulated other comprehensive loss ⁽¹⁾	82	16	25	(4)	—	119
Recognized from regulatory asset	—	70	—	—	—	70
Total	\$ 82	\$ 86	\$ 25	\$ (4)	\$ —	—\$189

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2017	Chesapeake Pension Plan	FPU Pension Plan	Chesapeake SERP	Chesapeake Postretirement Plan	FPU Medical Plan	Total
(in thousands)						
Prior service credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (19)	\$ —	—\$(19)
Net loss	107	131	22	17	—	277
Total recognized in net periodic benefit cost	107	131	22	(2)	—	258
Recognized from accumulated other comprehensive loss ⁽¹⁾	107	25	22	(2)	—	152
Recognized from regulatory asset	—	106	—	—	—	106
Total	\$ 107	\$ 131	\$ 22	\$ (2)	\$ —	—\$258

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018	Chesapeake Pension Plan	FPU Pension Plan	Chesapeake SERP	Chesapeake Postretirement Plan	FPU Medical Plan	Total
(in thousands)						
Prior service credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (58)	\$ —	—\$(58)
Net loss	258	302	75	45	—	680
Total recognized in net periodic benefit cost	258	302	75	(13)	—	622
Recognized from accumulated other comprehensive loss ⁽¹⁾	258	57	75	(13)	—	377
Recognized from regulatory asset	—	245	—	—	—	245
Total	\$ 258	\$ 302	\$ 75	\$ (13)	\$ —	—\$622

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For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017	Chesapeake Pension Plan	FPU Pension Plan	Chesapeake SERP	Chesapeake Postretirement Plan	FPU Medical Plan	Total
(in thousands)						
Prior service credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (58)	\$ —	—\$(58)
Net loss	319	392	65	50	—	826
Total recognized in net periodic benefit cost	319	392	65	(8)	—	768
Recognized from accumulated other comprehensive loss ⁽¹⁾	319	75	65	(8)	—	451
Recognized from regulatory asset	—	317	—	—	—	317
Total	\$ 319	\$ 392	\$ 65	\$ (8)	\$ —	—\$768

⁽¹⁾ See Note 8, Stockholder's Equity.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, we contributed approximately \$235,000 and \$433,000, respectively, to the Chesapeake Pension Plan and approximately \$123,000 and \$971,000, respectively, to the FPU Pension Plan. We expect to contribute a total of approximately \$359,000 and approximately \$1.5 million to the Chesapeake Pension Plan and FPU Pension Plan, respectively, during 2018, which represents the minimum annual contribution payments required.

The Chesapeake SERP, the Chesapeake Postretirement Plan and the FPU Medical Plan are unfunded and are expected to be paid out of our general funds. Cash benefits paid under the Chesapeake SERP for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, were approximately \$38,000 and \$113,000, respectively. We expect to pay total cash benefits of approximately \$151,000 under the Chesapeake SERP in 2018. Cash benefits paid under the Chesapeake Postretirement Plan, primarily for medical claims for nine months ended September 30, 2018, were approximately \$15,000 and no cash benefits were paid for medical claims during the third quarter of 2018. We estimate that approximately \$97,000 will be paid for such benefits under the Chesapeake Postretirement Plan in 2018. Cash benefits paid under the FPU Medical Plan, primarily for medical claims for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, were approximately \$9,000 and \$33,000, respectively. We estimate that approximately \$88,000 will be paid for such benefits under the FPU Medical Plan in 2018.

10. Investments

The investment balances at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, consisted of the following:

(in thousands)	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Rabbi trust (associated with the Deferred Compensation Plan)	\$ 7,929	\$ 6,734
Investments in equity securities	22	22
Total	\$ 7,951	6,756

We classify these investments as trading securities and report them at their fair value. For the three months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, we recorded a net unrealized gain of approximately \$313,000 and \$261,000, respectively, in other expense, net in the condensed consolidated statements of income related to these investments. For the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017, we recorded a net unrealized gain of approximately \$426,000 and \$694,000, respectively, in other expense, net in the condensed consolidated statements of income related to these investments. For the investment in the Rabbi Trust, we also have recorded an associated liability, which is included in other pension and benefit costs in the consolidated balance sheets and is adjusted each period for the gains and losses incurred by the investments in the Rabbi Trust.

11. Share-Based Compensation

Our non-employee directors and key employees are granted share-based awards through our SICP. We record these share-based awards as compensation costs over the respective service period for which services are received in

exchange for an award of equity or equity-based compensation. The compensation cost is based primarily on the fair value of the shares awarded, using the estimated fair value of each share on the date it was granted and the number of shares to be issued at the end of the service period.

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The table below presents the amounts included in net income related to share-based compensation expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2018		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017	
(in thousands)				
Awards to non-employee directors	\$ 135	\$ 134	\$ 404	\$ 406
Awards to key employees	153	662	2,728	1,202
Total compensation expense	288	796	3,132	1,608
Less: tax benefit	(79)	(320)	(858)	(647)
Share-based compensation amounts included in net income	\$ 209	\$ 476	\$ 2,274	\$ 961

Non-employee Directors

Shares granted to non-employee directors are issued in advance of the directors' service periods and are fully vested as of the grant date. We record a prepaid expense equal to the fair value of the shares issued and amortize the expense equally over a one-year service period. In May 2018, each of our non-employee directors received an annual retainer of 792 shares of common stock under the SICP for service as a director through the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The table below presents the summary of the stock activity for awards to non-employee directors for the nine months ended September 30, 2018:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Fair Value
Outstanding—December 31, 2017—		\$ —
Granted	7,128	\$ 75.70
Vested	(7,128)	\$ 75.70
Outstanding—September 30, 2018—		\$ —

At September 30, 2018, there was approximately \$315,000 of unrecognized compensation expense related to these awards. This expense will be recognized over the directors' remaining service periods ending April 30, 2019. See Note 1, Summary of Accounting Policies, for additional information regarding ASU 2018-07 and its impact on the accounting for non-employee share-based payments.

Key Employees

The table below presents the summary of the stock activity for awards to key employees for the nine months ended September 30, 2018:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Fair Value
Outstanding—December 31, 2017	132,642	\$ 59.31
Granted	49,494	\$ 67.76
Vested	(29,786)	\$ 47.39
Vested - Accelerated pursuant to separation agreement ⁽¹⁾	(16,676)	\$ 75.78
Expired	(3,933)	\$ 49.66
Outstanding—September 30, 2018	131,741	\$ 67.43

⁽¹⁾Includes 2,569 shares that were forfeited.

In February 2018, our Board of Directors granted awards of 49,494 shares of common stock to key employees under the SICP. The shares granted are multi-year awards that will vest at the end of the three-year service period ending December 31, 2020. All of these stock awards are earned based upon the successful achievement of long-term financial results, which comprise market-based and performance-based conditions or targets. The fair value of each

performance-

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based condition or target is equal to the market price of our common stock on the grant date of each award. For the market-based conditions, we used the Black-Scholes pricing model to estimate the fair value of each market-based award granted.

In March 2018, upon the election of certain of our executive officers, we withheld shares with a value at least equivalent to each such executive officer's minimum statutory obligation for applicable income and other employment taxes related to shares that we awarded for the performance period ended December 31, 2017, remitted the cash to the appropriate taxing authorities, and paid the balance of such awarded shares to each such executive officer. We withheld 10,436 shares, based on the value of the shares on their award date, determined by the average of the high and low prices of our common stock. Total combined payments for the employees' tax obligations to the taxing authorities were approximately \$719,000.

In June 2018, the Company and a former executive officer entered into a separation agreement and release (the "Separation Agreement"). Pursuant to the Separation Agreement, three awards, representing a total of 14,107 shares of common stock previously granted to the executive officer under the SICP, immediately vested at the time of separation, and an additional 2,569 shares were forfeited. We settled the awards that vested in cash and recognized \$1.1 million as share-based compensation expense.

At September 30, 2018, the aggregate intrinsic value of the SICP awards granted to key employees was approximately \$11.1 million. At September 30, 2018, there was approximately \$2.6 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to these awards, which is expected to be recognized as expense from 2018 through 2020.

Stock Options

We did not have any stock options outstanding at September 30, 2018 or 2017, nor were any stock options issued during these periods.

12. Derivative Instruments

We use derivative and non-derivative contracts to manage risks related to obtaining adequate supplies and the price fluctuations of natural gas, electricity and propane. Our natural gas, electric and propane distribution operations have entered into agreements with suppliers to purchase natural gas, electricity and propane for resale to our customers. Aspire Energy has entered into contracts with producers to secure natural gas to meet its obligations. Purchases under these contracts typically either do not meet the definition of derivatives or are considered "normal purchases and normal sales" and are accounted for on an accrual basis. Our propane distribution and natural gas marketing operations may also enter into fair value hedges of their inventory or cash flow hedges of their future purchase commitments in order to mitigate the impact of wholesale price fluctuations. As of September 30, 2018, our natural gas and electric distribution operations did not have any outstanding derivative contracts.

We adopted ASU 2017-12 as of July 1, 2018. See Note 1, Summary of Accounting Policies, under the heading "FASB Statements and Other Authoritative Pronouncements" for additional details.

Volume of Derivative Activity

As of September 30, 2018, the volume of our open commodity derivative contracts were as follows:

Business unit	Commodity	Quantity hedged (in millions)	Designation	Longest Expiration date of hedge
PESCO	Natural gas (Dts)	22.1	Cash flows hedges	March 2022
PESCO	Natural gas (Dts)	1.1	Not designated	January 2020
Sharp	Propane (gallons)	4.4	Cash flows hedges	June 2021
Sharp	Propane (gallons)	0.3	Fair value hedges	March 2019

PESCO entered into natural gas futures contracts associated with the purchase and sale of natural gas to specific customers. We designated and accounted for them as cash flow hedges. The change in fair value of the natural gas futures contracts is recorded as unrealized gain (loss) in other comprehensive income (loss) and later recognized in the statement of income in the same period and in the same line item as the hedged transaction. We expect to reclassify approximately \$570,000 from accumulated other comprehensive loss to earnings during the next 12-month period ending September 30, 2019.

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Sharp entered into futures and swap agreements to mitigate the risk of fluctuations in wholesale propane index prices associated with the propane volumes expected to be purchased during the heating season. Under the futures and swap agreements, Sharp will receive the difference between (i) the index prices (Mont Belvieu prices in August 2018 through June 2021) and (ii) the per gallon propane swap prices, to the extent the index prices exceed the contracted prices. If the index prices are lower than the swap prices, Sharp will pay the difference. We designated and accounted for propane swaps as cash flows hedges. The change in the fair value of the swap agreements is recorded as unrealized gain (loss) in other comprehensive income (loss) and later recognized in the statement of income in the same period and in the same line item as the hedged transaction. We expect to reclassify approximately \$392,000 from accumulated other comprehensive income to earnings during the next 12-month period ending September 30, 2019. Sharp paid a total of \$28,000 to purchase a put option to protect against a decline in propane prices and related potential inventory losses associated volumes of propane for its propane price cap program during the upcoming heating season. We will exercise the put option if propane prices fall below specified strike price(s) per gallon in December 2018 to March 2019. If exercised, we will receive the difference between the market price and the strike price during those months. We accounted for the put option as a fair value hedge. The premium paid by Sharp is amortized and recorded in earnings over the duration of the put option and recorded in the same line item as the hedged item. The change in the fair value of the put option is recorded in derivative assets and or derivative liability and later recognized in cost of sales.

Balance Sheet Offsetting

PESCO has entered into master netting agreements with counterparties that enable it to net the counterparties' outstanding accounts receivable and payable, which are presented on a net basis in the consolidated balance sheets. The following table summarizes the accounts receivable and payable on a gross and net basis at September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017:

	At September 30, 2018		
(in thousands)	Gross amounts	Amounts offset	Net amounts
Accounts receivable	\$7,042	\$ 1,158	\$5,884
Accounts payable	\$11,264	\$ 1,158	\$ 10,106

	At December 31, 2017		
(in thousands)	Gross amounts	Amounts offset	Net amounts
Accounts receivable	\$8,283	\$ 2,391	\$5,892
Accounts payable	\$16,643	\$ 2,391	\$ 14,252

Broker Margin

Futures exchanges have contract specific margin requirements that require the posting of cash or cash equivalents relating to traded contracts. Margin requirements consist of initial margin that is posted upon the initiation of a position, maintenance margin that is usually expressed as a percent of initial margin, and variation margin that fluctuates based on the daily MTM relative to maintenance margin requirements. We maintain separate broker margin accounts for Sharp and PESCO. The balances are as follows:

(in thousands)	Balance Sheet Location	At September 30, 2018	At December 31, 2017
Sharp	Other Current Liabilities	\$ 18	\$ —
PESCO	Other Current Assets	\$ 2,060	\$ 6,300

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Financial Statements Presentation

The following tables present information about the fair value and related gains and losses of our derivative contracts. We did not have any derivative contracts with a credit risk-related contingency.

The fair values of the derivative contracts recorded in the condensed consolidated balance sheets as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017, are as follows:

(in thousands)	Asset Derivatives Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value As Of	
		September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments			
Propane swap agreements	Derivative assets, at fair value	\$—	\$ 13
Natural gas futures contracts	Derivative assets, at fair value	1,841	—
Derivatives designated as fair value hedges			
Propane put options	Derivative assets, at fair value	19	—
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges			
Natural gas futures contracts	Derivative assets, at fair value	8,114	92
Propane swap agreements	Derivative assets, at fair value	594	1,181
Total asset derivatives		\$10,568	\$ 1,286
(in thousands)	Liability Derivatives Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value As Of	
		September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments			
Natural gas futures contracts	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	\$1,602	\$ 5,776
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges			
Natural gas futures contracts	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	8,168	469
Natural gas swap contracts	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	—	2
Propane swap agreements	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	4	—
Total liability derivatives		\$9,774	\$ 6,247

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The effects of gains and losses from derivative instruments on the condensed consolidated financial statements are as follows:

(in thousands)	Location of Gain (Loss) on Derivatives	Amount of Gain (Loss) on Derivatives:			
		For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2018		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017	
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments					
Realized gain on forward contracts and options ⁽¹⁾	Revenue	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$ 112
Natural gas futures contracts	Cost of sales	197	286	(2,766)	907
Propane swap agreements	Cost of sales	—	15	(13)	11
Natural gas swap contracts	Cost of sales	—	1	—	1
Derivatives designated as fair value hedges					
Put /Call option ⁽²⁾	Cost of sales	—	—	—	(9)
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges					
Propane swap agreements	Cost of sales	(276)	198	(921)	663
Propane swap agreements	Other comprehensive income (loss)	296	1,590	(590)	814
Natural gas futures contracts	Cost of sales	(308)	(852)	(171)	929
Natural gas swap contracts	Cost of sales	123	1	(358)	1
Natural gas swap contracts	Other comprehensive income (loss)	(25)	(413)	563	(413)
Natural gas futures contracts	Other comprehensive income (loss)	630	(1,296)	(241)	(1,420)
Total		\$ 637	\$ (470)	\$ (4,497)	\$ 1,596

(1) All of the realized and unrealized gain (loss) on forward contracts represents the effect of trading activities on our condensed consolidated statements of income.

As a fair value hedge with no ineffective portion, the unrealized gains and losses associated with this call option are recorded in cost of sales, offset by the corresponding change in the value of propane inventory (hedged item),

(2) which is also recorded in cost of sales. The amounts in cost of sales offset to zero, and the unrealized gains and losses of this put option effectively changed the value of propane inventory on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

As of September 30, 2018, the following amounts were recorded in the condensed consolidated balance sheets related to fair value hedges:

(in thousands)	Carrying Amount of Hedged Item		Cumulative Adjustment Included in Carrying Amount of Hedged Item	
	At September 30, 2018	At December 31, 2017	At September 30, 2018	At December 31, 2017
Balance Sheet Location of Hedged Items				
Inventory	\$ 290	\$ —	—	—

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13. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation methods used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are the following:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities;

Level 2: Quoted prices in markets that are not active, or inputs which are observable, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability; and

Level 3: Prices or valuation techniques requiring inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable (i.e. supported by little or no market activity).

Financial Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value

The following table summarizes our financial assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the fair value measurements, by level, within the fair value hierarchy as of September 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017:

As of September 30, 2018	Fair Value	Fair Value Measurements Using:		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Other Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
(in thousands)				
Assets:				
Investments—equity securities	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ —	\$ —
Investments—guaranteed income funds	679	—	—	679
Investments—mutual funds and other	7,250	7,250	—	—
Total investments	7,951	7,272	—	679
Derivative assets	10,568	—	10,568	—
Total assets	\$ 18,519	\$ 7,272	\$ 10,568	\$ 679
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities	\$ 9,774	\$ —	\$ 9,774	\$ —

As of December 31, 2017	Fair Value	Fair Value Measurements Using:		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Other Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
(in thousands)				
Assets:				
Investments—equity securities	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ —	\$ —
Investments—guaranteed income funds	648	—	—	648
Investments—mutual funds and other	6,086	6,086	—	—
Total investments	6,756	6,108	—	648
Derivative assets	1,286	—	1,286	—
Total assets	\$ 8,042	\$ 6,108	\$ 1,286	\$ 648
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities	\$ 6,247	\$ —	\$ 6,247	\$ —

The following valuation techniques were used to measure the fair value of assets and liabilities in the tables above:
Level 1 Fair Value Measurements:

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Investments - equity securities — The fair values of these trading securities are recorded at fair value based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

Investments - mutual funds and other — The fair values of these investments, comprised of money market and mutual funds, are recorded at fair value based on quoted net asset values of the shares.

Level 2 Fair Value Measurements:

Derivative assets and liabilities — The fair values of forward contracts are measured using market transactions in either the listed or OTC markets. The fair value of the propane put/call options, swap agreements and natural gas futures contracts are measured using market transactions for similar assets and liabilities in either the listed or OTC markets.

Level 3 Fair Value Measurements:

Investments - guaranteed income fund — The fair values of these investments are recorded at the contract value, which approximates their fair value.

The following table sets forth the summary of the changes in the fair value of Level 3 investments for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017:

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 2017	
(in thousands)		
Beginning Balance	\$648	\$561
Purchases and adjustments	64	76
Transfers	(29)	—
Distribution	(12)	(2)
Investment income	8	7
Ending Balance	\$679	\$642

Investment income from the Level 3 investments is reflected in other expense, (net) in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of income.

At September 30, 2018, there were no non-financial assets or liabilities required to be reported at fair value. We review our non-financial assets for impairment at least on an annual basis, as required.

Other Financial Assets and Liabilities

Financial assets with carrying values approximating fair value include cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities with carrying values approximating fair value include accounts payable and other accrued liabilities and short-term debt. The fair value of cash and cash equivalents is measured using the comparable value in the active market and approximates its carrying value (Level 1 measurement). The fair value of short-term debt approximates the carrying value due to its short maturities and because interest rates approximate current market rates (Level 3 measurement). At September 30, 2018, long-term debt, including current maturities but excluding a capital lease obligation, had a carrying value of approximately \$250.7 million. This compares to a fair value of approximately \$248.9 million, using a discounted cash flow methodology that incorporates a market interest rate based on published corporate borrowing rates for debt instruments with similar terms and average maturities, and with adjustments for duration, optionality, and risk profile. At December 31, 2017, long-term debt, including the current maturities but excluding a capital lease obligation, had a carrying value of approximately \$205.2 million, compared to the estimated fair value of approximately \$215.4 million. The valuation technique used to estimate the fair value of long-term debt would be considered a Level 3 measurement.

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14. Long-Term Debt

Our outstanding long-term debt is shown below:

(in thousands)	September 30, 2018	December 31, 2017
FPU secured first mortgage bonds ⁽¹⁾ :		
9.08% bond, due June 1, 2022	\$7,985	\$ 7,982
Uncollateralized senior notes:		
5.50% note, due October 12, 2020	6,000	6,000
5.93% note, due October 31, 2023	16,500	18,000
5.68% note, due June 30, 2026	23,200	26,100
6.43% note, due May 2, 2028	7,000	7,000
3.73% note, due December 16, 2028	20,000	20,000
3.88% note, due May 15, 2029	50,000	50,000
3.25% note, due April 30, 2032	70,000	70,000
3.48% note, due May 31, 2038	50,000	—
Promissory notes	26	97
Capital lease obligation	987	2,070
Less: debt issuance costs	(488)	(433)
Total long-term debt	251,210	206,816
Less: current maturities	(9,613)	(9,421)
Total long-term debt, net of current maturities	\$241,597	\$ 197,395

⁽¹⁾ FPU secured first mortgage bonds are guaranteed by Chesapeake Utilities.

In January 2018, we borrowed an additional \$25.0 million under the Revolver, which we classified as long-term debt due to the stated maturity date of October 8, 2020. In May 2018, we utilized a portion of the proceeds from the issuance of \$50.0 million of 3.48% Series A notes to repay the \$25.0 million of long-term debt borrowed under the Revolver. For additional information regarding the issuance of the Series A notes, see "Shelf Agreements" below.

Shelf Agreements

In October 2015, we entered into the \$150.0 million Prudential Shelf Agreement, under which we may request that Prudential purchase up to \$150.0 million of our unsecured senior debt. Prudential is under no obligation to purchase any unsecured senior debt. As of September 30, 2018, we had issued \$70.0 million of 3.25% Prudential Shelf Notes. In September 2018, we amended the Prudential Shelf Agreement, pursuant to which we may request that Prudential purchase up to \$150.0 million of our unsecured debt over a three-year period which expires in August 2021. Following this amendment, in September 2018, Prudential accepted our request to purchase \$100 million of Shelf Notes on or before August 20, 2019. The new Prudential Shelf Notes will bear interest at the rate of 3.98% and have a maturity date not to exceed 20 years from the date of issuance. The proceeds received from the issuance of these Prudential Shelf Notes will be used to reduce short-term borrowings under the Revolver, lines of credit and/or to fund capital expenditures.

In March 2017, we entered into the MetLife Shelf Agreement and the NYL Shelf Agreement, under which we may request that MetLife and NYL, through March 2, 2020, purchase up to \$150.0 million of Met Life Shelf Notes and \$100.0 million NYL Shelf Notes, respectively. The unsecured senior debt would have a fixed interest rate and a maturity date not to exceed 20 years from the date of issuance. MetLife and NYL are under no obligation to purchase any unsecured senior debt. The interest rate and terms of payment of any series of unsecured senior debt will be determined at the time of purchase.

In November 2017, NYL agreed to purchase \$50.0 million of 3.48% Series A notes and \$50.0 million of 3.58% Series B notes. The Series A notes were issued in May 2018 and the Series B notes will be issued on or before November 20, 2018. The proceeds received from the issuances of these NYL Shelf Notes will be used to reduce borrowings under the Revolver and/or lines of credit and/or to fund capital expenditures. The NYL Shelf Agreement has been fully

utilized.

As of September 30, 2018, we have \$200.0 million of additional potential borrowing capacity (after excluding existing unfunded commitments) under the Prudential Shelf Agreement (\$50.0 million) and MetLife Shelf Agreement (\$150.0 million). The Prudential Shelf Agreement and the NYL Shelf Agreement set forth certain business covenants to which we are subject when any note is outstanding, including covenants that limit or restrict our ability, and the ability of our

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subsidiaries, to incur indebtedness, or place or permit liens and encumbrances on any of our property or the property of our subsidiaries.

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Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations is designed to provide a reader of the financial statements with a narrative report on our financial condition, results of operations and liquidity. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the attached unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, including the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto.

Safe Harbor for Forward-Looking Statements

We make statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q that do not directly or exclusively relate to historical facts. Such statements are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. One can typically identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words, such as “project,” “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “plan,” “estimate,” “continue,” “potential,” “forecast” or other similar words or conditional verbs such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “would” or “could.” These statements represent our intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about future financial performance, business strategy, projected plans and objectives of the Company. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made or as of the date indicated and we do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. These statements are subject to many risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause actual future results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. In addition to the risk factors described under Item 1A, Risk Factors in our 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K, such factors include, but are not limited to:

- state and federal legislative and regulatory initiatives (including deregulation) that affect cost and investment recovery, have an impact on rate structures, and affect the speed and the degree to which competition enters the electric and natural gas industries;
- the outcomes of regulatory, tax, environmental and legal matters, including whether pending matters are resolved within current estimates and whether the costs associated with such matters are adequately covered by insurance or recoverable in rates;
- the impact of significant changes to current tax regulations and rates;
- the timing of certification authorizations associated with new capital projects;
- the ability to construct facilities at or below estimated costs;
- changes in environmental and other laws and regulations to which we are subject and environmental conditions of property that we now, or may in the future, own or operate;
- possible increased federal, state and local regulation of the safety of our operations;
- general economic conditions, including any potential effects arising from terrorist attacks and any hostilities or other external factors over which we have no control;
- long-term global climate change, which could adversely affect customer demand or cause extreme weather conditions that disrupt the Company's operations;
- the weather and other natural phenomena, including the economic, operational and other effects of hurricanes, ice storms and other damaging weather events;
- customers' preferred energy sources;
- industrial, commercial and residential growth or contraction in our markets or service territories;
- the effect of competition on our businesses;
- the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices and interest rates;
- the ability to establish new, and maintain key, supply sources;
- the effect of spot, forward and future market prices on our various energy businesses;
- the extent of our success in connecting natural gas and electric supplies to transmission systems and in expanding natural gas and electric markets;
- the creditworthiness of counterparties with which we are engaged in transactions;
- the capital-intensive nature of our regulated energy businesses;
- the results of financing efforts, including our ability to obtain financing on favorable terms, which can be affected by various factors, including credit ratings and general economic conditions;

the ability to successfully execute, manage and integrate merger, acquisition or divestiture plans; regulatory or other limitations imposed as a result of a merger, acquisition or divestiture; and the success of the business following a merger, acquisition or divestiture;

the impact on our costs and funding obligations, under our pension and other post-retirement benefit plans, of potential downturns in the financial markets, lower discount rates, and costs associated with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;

the ability to continue to hire, train and retain appropriately qualified personnel;

the effect of accounting pronouncements issued periodically by accounting standard-setting bodies;

the timing and success of technological improvements; and

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risks related to cyber-attacks or cyber-terrorism that could disrupt our business operations or result in failure of information technology systems.

Introduction

We are a diversified energy company engaged, directly or through our operating divisions and subsidiaries, in regulated and unregulated energy businesses. These businesses center around energy distribution, energy transmission, energy generation, propane delivery and other energy services.

Our strategy is focused on growing earnings from a stable utility foundation and investing in related businesses and services that provide opportunities for returns greater than traditional utility returns. We are focused on identifying and developing opportunities across the energy value chain, with emphasis on midstream and downstream investments that are accretive to earnings per share and consistent with our long-term growth strategy.

The key elements of this strategy include:

- executing a capital investment program in pursuit of growth opportunities that generate returns equal to or greater than our cost of capital;

- expanding our energy distribution and transmission businesses organically as well as into new geographic areas;

- providing new services in our current service territories;

- expanding our footprint in potential growth markets through strategic acquisitions;

- entering new unregulated energy markets and business lines that will complement our existing operating units and growth strategy while capitalizing on opportunities across the energy value chain; and

- differentiating the Company as a full-service energy supplier/partner/provider through a customer-centric model.

Due to the seasonality of our business, results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the entire fiscal year. Revenue and earnings are typically greater during the first and fourth quarters, when consumption of energy is normally highest due to colder temperatures.

The following discussions and those later in the document on operating income and segment results include the use of the term "gross margin," which is determined by deducting the cost of sales from operating revenue. Cost of sales includes the purchased cost of natural gas, electricity and propane and the cost of labor spent on direct revenue-producing activities, and excludes depreciation, amortization and accretion. Gross margin should not be considered an alternative to operating income or net income, which are determined in accordance with GAAP. We believe that gross margin, although a non-GAAP measure, is useful and meaningful to investors as a basis for making investment decisions. It provides investors with information that demonstrates the profitability achieved by us under our allowed rates for regulated energy operations and under our competitive pricing structures for unregulated energy operations. Our management uses gross margin in measuring our business units' performance and has historically analyzed and reported gross margin information publicly. Other companies may calculate gross margin in a different manner.

Unless otherwise noted, earnings per share information is presented on a diluted basis.

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Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months ended September 30, 2018

Overview

Chesapeake Utilities is a Delaware corporation formed in 1947. We are a diversified energy company engaged, through our operating divisions and subsidiaries, in regulated energy, unregulated energy and other businesses. We operate primarily on the Delmarva Peninsula and in Florida, Pennsylvania and Ohio and provide services centered on energy distribution, energy transmission, energy generation, propane delivery and other energy services. These services include: natural gas distribution, transmission, supply, gathering, processing and marketing; electric distribution and generation; propane distribution; steam generation; and other energy-related services.

Operational Highlights

Our net income for the quarter ended September 30, 2018 was \$5.5 million, or \$0.34 per share. This represents a decrease of \$1.3 million, or \$0.08 per share, compared to net income of \$6.8 million, or \$0.42 per share, reported for the same quarter in 2017. Operating income decreased by \$2.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2018, compared to the same period in the prior year, as margin increased by \$3.0 million, or 5.1 percent, and was offset by a \$1.5 million increase in depreciation, amortization and property taxes and a \$4.1 million increase in other operating expenses. During the third quarter, we refunded \$2.0 million in margin, which represents a pass-through to regulated energy customers of the \$2.0 million benefit from lower federal income taxes during the quarter. Excluding the estimated customer refunds during the third quarter of 2018 associated with the TCJA, gross margin increased by \$5.0 million, or 8.4 percent, and operating income decreased by \$603,000, or 4.1 percent, compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease in the federal income tax rate positively impacted earnings in our unregulated energy businesses.

	Three Months Ended		Increase
	September 30, 2018	2017	(decrease)
(in thousands except per share)			
Business Segment:			
Regulated Energy segment	\$15,915	\$15,523	\$392
Unregulated Energy segment	(3,933)	(951)	(2,982)
Other businesses and eliminations	54	60	(6)
Operating Income	\$12,036	\$14,632	\$(2,596)
Other expense, net	(11)	(154)	143
Interest charges	4,430	3,321	1,109
Pre-tax Income	7,595	11,157	(3,562)
Income taxes	2,057	4,324	(2,267)
Net Income	\$5,538	\$6,833	\$(1,295)
Earnings Per Share of Common Stock			
Basic	\$0.34	\$0.42	\$(0.08)
Diluted	\$0.34	\$0.42	\$(0.08)

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Key variances, between the third quarter of 2018 and the third quarter of 2017, included:

(in thousands, except per share data)	Pre-tax Income	Net Income	Earnings Per Share
Third Quarter of 2017 Reported Results	\$11,157	\$6,833	\$ 0.42
Increased (Decreased) Gross Margins:			
Eastern Shore and Peninsula Pipeline service expansions*	3,616	2,636	0.16
Pass-through of lower taxes to regulated energy customers ⁽¹⁾	(1,993)	(1,454)	(0.09)
Implementation of Eastern Shore settled rates* ⁽²⁾	1,161	847	0.05
Natural gas growth (including customer and consumption growth, but excluding service expansions)	734	535	0.03
PESCO results (decrease primarily due to imbalance adjustments)	(629)	(459)	(0.03)
Retail margins per gallon	(469)	(342)	(0.02)
Florida electric reliability/modernization program*	464	339	0.02
Unregulated energy customer consumption	(374)	(273)	(0.02)
GRIP*	329	240	0.01
	2,839	2,069	0.11
Decreased (Increased) Other Operating Expenses:			
Outside services and facilities maintenance costs ⁽³⁾	(1,532)	(1,117)	(0.07)
Depreciation, asset removal and property tax costs due to new capital investments ⁽³⁾	(1,447)	(1,055)	(0.06)
Benefits and other employee-related expenses ⁽³⁾	(758)	(553)	(0.03)
Payroll expense (increased staffing and annual salary increases) ⁽³⁾	(754)	(550)	(0.03)
Operating expenses to increase staffing, infrastructure and risk management systems necessary to support growth for PESCO	(452)	(330)	(0.02)
Early termination of facility lease due to consolidation of operations facilities ⁽³⁾	(423)	(309)	(0.02)
	(5,366)	(3,914)	(0.23)
Interest charges	(1,109)	(809)	(0.04)
Income taxes - including TCJA impact - decreased effective tax rate for regulated energy	—	1,454	0.09
Income taxes - including TCJA impact - change in effective tax rate for unregulated energy and other operations	—	(151)	(0.01)
Net other changes	74	56	—
	(1,035)	550	0.04
Third Quarter of 2018 Reported Results	\$7,595	\$5,538	\$ 0.34

⁽¹⁾ "Pass-through of lower taxes to regulated customers" represents the amounts that have already been refunded to customers or reserves established for future refunds and/or reduced rates to customers in the third quarter of 2018 as a result of lower taxes due to the TCJA. Refunds made to customers are offset by the corresponding decrease in federal income taxes and are expected to have no net impact on net income.

⁽²⁾ Excluding amounts refunded to customers associated with the TCJA, which are broken out separately and discussed in footnote 1.

⁽³⁾ Excluding incremental operating expenses at PESCO.

*See the Major Projects and Initiatives table.

Our net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 was \$38.8 million, or \$2.36 per share. This represents an increase of \$6.8 million, or \$0.40 per share, compared to net income of \$32.0 million, or \$1.96 per share, reported for the same period in 2017. Operating income increased by \$1.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, compared to the same

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period in the prior year. This increase was driven by a \$17.0 million, or 8.3 percent, increase in gross margin, which was offset by a \$3.7 million increase in depreciation, amortization and property taxes and an \$11.4 million increase in other operating expenses. Excluding the estimated customer refunds reserved or refunded to regulated customers for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, associated with the TCJA, gross margin and operating income increased by \$24.6 million, or 12.0 percent, and \$9.4 million, or 14.8 percent, respectively, compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease in the federal income tax rate positively impacted earnings in our unregulated energy businesses.

	Nine Months		Increase (decrease)
	Ended September 30, 2018	2017	
(in thousands except per share)			
Business Segment:			
Regulated Energy segment	\$56,930	\$53,004	\$ 3,926
Unregulated Energy segment	10,241	10,626	(385)
Other businesses and eliminations	(1,481)	162	(1,643)
Operating Income	\$65,690	\$63,792	\$ 1,898
Other expense, net	(204)	(1,855)	1,651
Interest charges	11,976	9,133	2,843
Pre-tax Income	53,510	52,804	706
Income taxes	14,731	20,781	(6,050)
Net Income	\$38,779	\$32,023	\$ 6,756
Earnings Per Share of Common Stock			
Basic	\$2.37	\$1.96	\$ 0.41
Diluted	\$2.36	\$1.96	\$ 0.40

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Key variances, between the nine months ended 2018 and the nine months ended 2017, included:

(in thousands, except per share data)	Pre-tax Income	Net Income	Earnings Per Share
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2017 Reported Results	\$52,804	\$32,023	\$ 1.96
Adjusting for unusual items:			
One-time separation expenses associated with a former executive	(1,548)	(1,421)	(0.09)
Absence of Xeron expenses, including 2017 wind-down expenses	829	601	0.04
	(719)	(820)	(0.05)
Increased (Decreased) Gross Margins:			
Pass-through of lower taxes to regulated energy customers ⁽¹⁾	(7,530)	(5,457)	(0.33)
Implementation of Eastern Shore settled rates* ⁽²⁾	6,256	4,534	0.28
Eastern Shore and Peninsula Pipeline service expansions*	5,966	4,323	0.26
Return to normal weather	5,342	3,872	0.24
Natural gas growth (including customer and consumption growth, but excluding service expansions)	4,098	2,970	0.18
Unregulated energy growth excluding PESCO	1,704	1,234	0.08
Florida electric reliability/modernization program*	1,231	892	0.05
GRIP*	931	675	0.04
Non-recurring margin decrease at PESCO	(863)	(626)	(0.04)
Margin from PESCO operations	(373)	(271)	(0.02)
	16,762	12,146	0.74
Decreased (Increased) Other Operating Expenses:			
Depreciation, asset removal and property tax costs due to new capital investments ⁽³⁾	(3,401)	(2,465)	(0.15)
Payroll expense (increased staffing and annual salary increases) ⁽³⁾	(3,287)	(2,382)	(0.15)
Facilities maintenance costs ⁽³⁾	(2,275)	(1,649)	(0.10)
Operating expenses to increase staffing, infrastructure and risk management systems necessary to support growth for PESCO	(2,167)	(1,571)	(0.10)
Incentive compensation costs (based on period-over-period results) ⁽³⁾	(1,046)	(758)	(0.05)
Vehicle, credit collections, other taxes, sales and advertising costs ⁽³⁾	(1,010)	(732)	(0.04)
Benefits and other employee-related expenses ⁽³⁾	(749)	(543)	(0.03)
Regulatory costs ⁽³⁾	536	389	0.02
Early termination of facility lease due to consolidation of operations facilities ⁽³⁾	(423)	(306)	(0.02)
	(13,822)	(10,017)	(0.62)
Interest charges	(2,843)	(2,060)	(0.13)
Income taxes - including TCJA impact - decreased effective tax rate for regulated energy	—	5,457	0.33
Income taxes - including TCJA impact - decreased effective tax rate for unregulated energy and other operations		1,087	0.07
Net other changes	1,328	963	0.06
	(1,515)	5,447	0.33
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018 Reported Results	\$53,510	\$38,779	\$ 2.36

⁽¹⁾ "Pass-through of lower taxes to regulated customers" represents the amounts that have already been refunded to customers or reserves established for future refunds and/or reduced rates to customers in the third quarter of 2018 as a result of lower taxes due to the TCJA. Refunds made to customers are offset by the corresponding decrease in federal income taxes and are expected to have no net impact on net income.

⁽²⁾ Excluding amounts refunded to regulated customers associated with the TCJA, which are broken out separately and discussed in footnote 1.

⁽³⁾ Excluding incremental operating expenses at PESCO.

*See the Major Projects and Initiatives table.

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Summary of Key Factors

Recently Completed and Ongoing Major Projects and Initiatives

We constantly seek and develop additional projects and initiatives in order to increase shareholder value and serve our customers. The following table represents the major projects recently completed and currently underway. In the future, we will add new projects to this table as such projects are initiated.

	Gross Margin for the Period						Estimate for Fiscal	
	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended		Year Ended			
	September 30, 2018	September 30, 2017	September 30, 2018	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2017	2018	2019	
in thousands								
Florida GRIP	\$3,722	\$3,393	\$10,933	\$10,002	\$13,454	\$14,287	\$14,370	
Eastern Shore Rate Case ⁽¹⁾	2,181	1,020	7,276	1,020	3,693	9,800	9,800	
Florida Electric Reliability/Modernization Pilot Program ⁽¹⁾	464	—	1,231	—	94	1,558	1,558	
New Smyrna Beach, Florida Project ⁽¹⁾	352	—	1,056	—	235	1,409	1,409	
2017 Eastern Shore System Expansion Project - including interim services ⁽¹⁾	2,409	—	4,439	—	433	8,009	15,773	
Northwest Florida Expansion Project ⁽¹⁾	1,307	—	2,177	—	—	3,484	6,500	
(Palm Beach County) Belvedere, Florida Project ⁽¹⁾	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,023	
Total	\$10,435	\$4,413	\$27,112	\$11,022	\$17,909	\$38,547	\$51,433	

⁽¹⁾Gross margin amount included in this table has not been adjusted to reflect the impact of the TCJA. The refunds and rate reductions implemented were or will be, offset by lower federal income taxes due to the TCJA.

Ongoing Growth Initiatives

GRIP

GRIP is a natural gas pipe replacement program approved by the Florida PSC that allows automatic recovery, through regulated rates, of capital and other program-related costs, inclusive of a return on investment, associated with the replacement of mains and services. Since the program's inception in August 2012, we have invested \$123.4 million to replace 261 miles of qualifying distribution mains, including \$9.5 million during the first nine months of 2018. The increased investments in GRIP generated additional gross margin of \$329,000 and \$931,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2017.

Regulatory Proceedings

Eastern Shore Rate Case

Eastern Shore's rate case settlement agreement became final on April 1, 2018, with settlement rates effective January 1, 2018. The final agreement increases Eastern Shore's operating income by \$6.6 million, representing \$9.8 million in additional margin from base rates offset by \$3.2 million in lower federal income tax expense for Eastern Shore resulting from the TCJA. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, Eastern Shore recognized incremental gross margin of approximately \$1.2 million and \$6.3 million, respectively. As of September 30, 2018, Eastern Shore has provided rate reductions to its customers totaling approximately \$2.5 million related to the decrease in federal income taxes as a result of the TCJA.

Florida Electric Reliability/Modernization Pilot Program

In December 2017, the Florida PSC approved a \$1.6 million annualized rate increase, effective January 2018, for the recovery of a limited number of investments and costs related to reliability, safety and modernization for our Florida electric distribution system. This increase will continue through at least the last billing cycle of December 2019. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, additional margin of \$464,000 and \$1.2 million, respectively, was generated.

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Major Projects and Initiatives Currently Underway

New Smyrna Beach, Florida Project

In the fourth quarter of 2017, we commenced construction of a 14-mile natural gas transmission pipeline to serve current and planned customer growth in the New Smyrna Beach service area. The project was partially placed into service at the end of 2017 and is expected to be fully in service during the fourth quarter of 2018. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, the project generated incremental gross margin of approximately \$352,000 and \$1.1 million, respectively, and is expected to generate \$1.4 million of annual gross margin beginning in fiscal year 2019.

2017 Eastern Shore System Expansion Project

In November 2017, Eastern Shore began construction of a \$117.0 million system expansion that will increase its capacity by 26 percent once completed. We have invested \$103.3 million through September 30, 2018 and expect to substantially complete the project during the remainder of 2018. The first phase of the project was placed into service in December 2017. Additional segments of the project were placed into service over the first nine months of 2018. The project generated \$2.4 million and \$4.4 million in incremental gross margin, including margin from interim services, during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively. The project is expected to produce approximately \$15.8 million annually in gross margin through 2022 and \$13.2 million annually in gross margin thereafter.

Northwest Florida Expansion Project

In our first expansion of natural gas service into Northwest Florida, Peninsula Pipeline has completed construction of transmission lines and the Florida natural gas division has completed construction of lateral distribution lines to serve several customers. The project was placed into service in May 2018 and generated incremental gross margin of \$1.3 million and \$2.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively. The estimated annual gross margin from this project is \$6.5 million.

(Palm Beach County) Belvedere, Florida Project

Peninsula Pipeline is constructing a transmission line to bring natural gas to our natural gas distribution system in West Palm Beach, Florida. We expect to complete this project by mid-2019 and estimate that the annual gross margin associated with this project will be approximately \$2.0 million.

Impact of Hurricane Michael

In October 2018, Hurricane Michael passed through our electric distribution operation's service territory in Northwest Florida. The hurricane caused widespread and severe damage to our infrastructure resulting in 100% of our customers losing electrical service. We have restored power to those customers who are able to accept power following Hurricane Michael. Efforts to restore the severely damaged infrastructure will continue into the foreseeable future and we estimate that we will spend over \$50.0 million towards these restoration and reliability efforts. Consistent with past practices, at the appropriate time, FPU will seek a recovery of the associated storm related costs. We have developed a preliminary range of the negative earnings impact on 2018's results, which is estimated at \$0.01-\$0.03 per share.

Future Projects Not Included in the Table Above

Del-Mar Energy Pathway Project

In September 2018, Eastern Shore filed with the FERC a CP to construct the Del-Mar Energy Pathway project. The proposed project will provide an additional 14,300 Dts/d of capacity to four customers. The benefits of this project include additional natural gas transmission pipeline infrastructure in eastern Sussex County, Delaware, and the initial extension of Eastern Shore's pipeline system into Somerset County, Maryland. The estimated annual gross margin from this project is \$5.1 million.

Other major factors influencing gross margin

Weather and Consumption

Weather did not have a material impact on results for the three months ended September 30, 2018. For the nine months ended September 30, 2018, colder temperatures compared to the prior year contributed \$5.3 million in incremental gross margin. While temperatures during the first nine months of 2018 were colder than the first nine months of 2017, they were still warmer than normal, as shown in the table below. We estimate that we would have generated an additional \$2.2 million in gross margin if temperatures for the nine months ended September 30, 2018 had been normal. The following table summarizes HDD and CDD variances from the 10-year average HDD/CDD ("Normal") for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 and 2017.

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HDD and CDD Information

	Three Months			Nine Months		
	Ended			Ended		
	September 30,	2017	Variance	September 30,	2017	Variance
	2018			2018		
Delmarva						
Actual HDD	10	16	(6)	2,729	2,262	467
10-Year Average HDD ("Delmarva Normal")	61	61	—	2,846	2,850	(4)
Variance from Delmarva Normal	(51)	(45)		(117)	(588)	
Florida						
Actual HDD	—	—	—	507	298	209
10-Year Average HDD ("Florida Normal")	—	—	—	533	555	(22)
Variance from Florida Normal	—	—		(26)	(257)	
Ohio						
Actual HDD	55	80	(25)	3,707	3,070	637
10-Year Average HDD ("Ohio Normal")	91	92	(1)	3,774	3,866	(92)
Variance from Ohio Normal	(36)	(12)		(67)	(796)	
Florida						
Actual CDD	1,613	1,526	87	2,704	2,606	98
10-Year Average CDD ("Florida CDD Normal")	1,535	1,542	(7)	2,593	2,579	14
Variance from Florida CDD Normal	78	(16)		111	27	

Natural Gas Distribution Customer and Consumption Growth

The Company's natural gas distribution operations generated \$734,000 and \$4.1 million of additional margin for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively. The breakdown of the increased margin is as follows:

(in thousands)	Three Months	Nine Months
	Ended	Ended
	September 30,	September 30,
	2018	2018
Customer growth:		
Residential	\$ 309	\$ 1,171
Commercial and industrial, excluding new service in Northwest Florida	283	927
New service in Northwest Florida	305	652
Total customer growth	897	2,750
Volume growth:		
Residential	(239)	613
Commercial and industrial	57	1,030
Other - including unbilled revenue	19	(295)
Total volume growth	(163)	1,348
Total natural gas distribution growth	\$ 734	\$ 4,098

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Customer growth for our Delmarva Peninsula and Florida natural gas distribution operations generated \$897,000 and \$2.8 million in additional gross margin for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2017. The additional margin was generated from an approximately 3.9 percent and 3.8 percent increase in the average number of residential customers for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, respectively, as well as growth in commercial and industrial customers on the Delmarva Peninsula in the third quarter and first nine months of 2018, compared to the corresponding periods in 2017. Residential customer growth on the Delmarva Peninsula has averaged 3.0 percent over the past five years. Our Florida natural gas distribution operations generated additional gross margin for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018, due to growth in all customer classes and new service to customers in Northwest Florida.

Lower consumption by natural gas distribution customers reduced gross margin by \$163,000 during the third quarter of 2018 compared to the same period in 2017. The lower consumption was primarily due to a decline in residential consumption in Florida, as compared to the increased customer consumption due to Hurricane Irma in the prior year period. These businesses generated \$1.3 million in additional gross margin for the nine months ended September 30, 2018, compared to the same period in 2017, from higher consumption by residential and commercial customers.

Propane Operations

Gross margin generated by our propane operations decreased by \$834,000 during the three months ended September 30, 2018, compared to the same period in 2017, as a result of lower retail margins per gallon and the timing of propane deliveries to customers. Customer consumption for our Florida propane operations was higher during the third quarter of 2017 due to the impact of Hurricane Irma.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2018, propane operations generated \$4.9 million in incremental margin compared to the same period in 2017. More normal temperatures accounted for \$2.9 million of the margin increase during the nine months ended September 30, 2018. The balance of the increase reflected increased customer growth, continued expansion of AutoGas through the addition of new customers and other factors, higher sales and revenues from service contracts and increased wholesale sales activities.

PESCO

PESCO's gross margin for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018 was lower by \$629,000 and \$1.2 million, compared to the same periods in 2017, respectively. The following table summarizes the changes in PESCO'S year-over-year margin for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2018:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2018	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2018
(in thousands)		
2017 Gross margin	\$ 1,360	\$ 5,749
Imbalance positions and true up	(493	) (493
Margin changes from growth and the acquisition of certain assets from ARM in 2017	(136	) 119
Non-recurring margin factors - change in gross margin contribution from various asset management agreements, MTM impact, Bomb Cyclone impact and other adjustments	—	