

Missouri Gas Energy
Hypothetical Example of the Inadequacy of
A DCF Return Rate Related to Book Value
When Market Value is Greater / Less than Book Value

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
		<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Book Value with Market to Book Ratio of 180%</u>	<u>Book Value with Market to Book Ratio of 80%</u>
1.	Per Share	\$ 24.00	\$ 13.33	\$ 30.00
2.	DCF Cost Rate (1)	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
3.	Return in Dollars	\$ 2.400	\$ 1.333	\$ 3.000
4.	Dividends (2)	\$ 0.840	\$ 0.840	\$ 0.840
5.	Growth in Dollars	\$ 1.560	\$ 0.493	\$ 2.160
6.	Return on Market Value	10.00%	5.55% (3)	12.50% (4)
7.	Rate of Growth on Market Value	6.50% (5)	2.05% (6)	9.00% (7)

Notes: (1) Comprised of 3.5% dividend yield and 6.5% growth.

(2) $\$24.00 \times 3.5\%$ yield = \$0.840.

(3) $\$1.333 / \24.00 market value = 5.55%.

(4) $\$3.000 / \24.00 market value = 12.50%.

(5) Expected rate of growth per market based DCF model.

(6) Actual rate of growth when DCF cost rate is applied to book value (\$1.333 possible earnings - \$0.840 dividends = \$0.493 for growth / \$24.00 market value = 2.05%).

(7) Actual rate of growth when DCF cost rate is applied to book value (\$3.000 possible earnings - \$0.840 dividends = \$2.160 for growth / \$24.00 market value = 9.00%).

Missouri Gas Energy
Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use of the
Single Stage Discounted Cash Flow Model for the
Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Based upon Projected Growth in EPS

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	Average Dividend Yield (1)	Dividend Growth Component (2)	Adjusted Dividend Yield (3)	Growth Rate (4)	Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate (5)
<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>					
AGL Resources Inc.	5.37 %	0.11 %	5.48 %	4.25 %	9.73 %
Atmos Energy Corp.	5.36	0.12	5.48	4.65	10.13
The Laclede Group, Inc.	3.35	0.08	3.43	4.50	7.93
New Jersey Resources Corp.	3.07	0.12	3.19	7.90	11.09
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	3.61	0.11	3.72	6.10	9.82
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	3.82	0.15	3.97	7.65	11.62
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	3.05	0.11	3.16	7.25	10.41
Southwest Gas Corporation	3.62	0.10	3.72	5.75	9.47
WGL Holdings, Inc.	<u>4.31</u>	<u>0.08</u>	<u>4.39</u>	<u>3.75</u>	<u>8.14</u>
Average	<u>3.95 %</u>	<u>0.11 %</u>	<u>4.06 %</u>	<u>5.76 %</u>	<u>9.82 %</u>
Median	<u>3.62 %</u>	<u>0.11 %</u>	<u>3.72 %</u>	<u>5.75 %</u>	<u>9.82 %</u>
<u>Southern Union Company</u>	<u>4.49 %</u>	<u>0.20 %</u>	<u>4.69 %</u>	<u>9.05 %</u>	<u>13.74 %</u>

Notes:

- (1) From Schedule FJH-12.
- (2) This reflects a growth rate component equal to one-half the conclusion of growth rate (from page 1 of Schedule FJH-14) x Column 1 to reflect the periodic payment of dividends (Gordon Model) as opposed to the continuous payment. Thus, for AGL Resources Inc., $5.37\% \times (1/2 \times 4.25\%) = 0.11\%$.
- (3) Column 1 + Column 2.
- (4) From page 1 of Schedule FJH-14.
- (5) Column 3 + Column 4.

Missouri Gas Energy
Derivation of Dividend Yield for Use in the
Discounted Cash Flow Model

Dividend Yield			
	Spot (2/13/2009)(1)	Average of Last 2 Months (2)	Average Dividend Yield (3)
<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>			
AGL Resources Inc.	5.34 %	5.40 %	5.37 %
Atmos Energy Corp.	5.24	5.47	5.36
The Laclede Group, Inc.	3.40	3.30	3.35
New Jersey Resources Corp.	3.16	2.97	3.07
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	3.60	3.63	3.61
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	4.00	3.65	3.82
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	3.15	2.95	3.05
Southwest Gas Corporation	3.72	3.53	3.62
WGL Holdings, Inc.	4.24	4.38	4.31
Average	<u>3.98 %</u>	<u>3.92 %</u>	<u>3.95 %</u>
Median	<u>3.72 %</u>	<u>3.63 %</u>	<u>3.62 %</u>
<u>Southern Union Company</u>	<u>4.35 %</u>	<u>4.63 %</u>	<u>4.49 %</u>

Notes:

- (1) The spot dividend yield is the current annualized dividend per share divided by the spot market price on 2/13/2009.
- (2) The average 2-month dividend yield was computed by relating the indicated annualized dividend rate and market price on the last trading day of each of the Two months ended 1/31/2009.
- (3) Equal weight has been given to the 2-month average and spot dividend yield. This provides recognition of current conditions, but does not place undue emphasis thereon.

Source of Information: yahoo.finance.com

Missouri Gas Energy
Current Institutional Holdings and Individual Holdings for the
Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies
and Southern Union Company

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	February 13, 2009 Percentage of Institutional Holdings	February 13, 2009 Percentage of Individual Holdings (1)
<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>		
AGL Resources Inc.	66.10 %	33.90 %
Atmos Energy Corp.	58.49	41.51
The Laclede Group, Inc.	51.52	48.48
New Jersey Resources Corp.	58.61	41.39
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	57.72	42.28
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	44.85	55.15
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	57.30	42.70
Southwest Gas Corporation	75.03	24.97
WGL Holdings, Inc.	0.00	100.00
	<u>52.18 %</u>	<u>47.82 %</u>
Average	<u>52.18 %</u>	<u>47.82 %</u>
	<u>57.72 %</u>	<u>42.28 %</u>
Median	<u>57.72 %</u>	<u>42.28 %</u>
<u>Southern Union Company</u>	<u>75.09 %</u>	<u>24.91 %</u>

Notes: (1) (1 - column 1).

Source of Information: today.reuters.com, updated February 13, 2009

Missouri Gas Energy
Historical and Projected Growth

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
	Value Line Projected Growth 2011- 2013 (1)	Reuters Mean Consensus Projected Five Year Growth Rate	Average Projected Five Year Growth Rate in EPS (2)
	EPS	EPS	No. of Est.
<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>			
AGL Resources Inc.	3.00 %	5.50 %	[2] 4.25 %
Atmos Energy Corp.	4.50	4.80	[5] 4.65
The Laclede Group, Inc.	4.50	NA	NA 4.50
New Jersey Resources Corp.	9.50	6.30	[3] 7.90
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	7.00	5.20	[3] 6.10
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	7.50	7.80	[4] 7.65
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	6.00	8.50	[2] 7.25
Southwest Gas Corporation	6.50	5.00	[3] 5.75
WGL Holdings, Inc.	3.50	4.00	[1] 3.75
Average	<u>5.78 %</u>	<u>5.89 %</u>	<u>5.76 %</u>
Median	<u>6.00 %</u>	<u>5.35 %</u>	<u>5.75 %</u>
<u>Southern Union Company</u>	<u>9.50 %</u>	<u>8.60 %</u>	[1] <u>9.05 %</u>

NA= Not Applicable

Notes: (1) As shown on pages 2 through 11 of this Schedule.

(2) Average of Columns 1 and 2.

Source of Information: Value Line Investment Survey Standard Edition December 12, 2008.

Reuters Company Research February 13, 2009

AGL RESOURCES NYSE-ATG					RECENT PRICE	28.54	P/E RATIO	10.2	Trailing: 11.0 Median: 14.0	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.00	DIVID YLD	6.0%	VALUE LINE																																													
TIMELINESS	3	Raised 1/17/08	High: 21.6	23.4	23.4	23.2	24.5	25.0	29.3	33.7	39.3	40.1	44.7	39.1					Target Price Range 2011 2012 2013																																								
SAFETY	2	New 7/27/90	Low: 17.8	17.7	15.6	15.5	19.0	17.3	21.0	26.5	32.0	34.4	36.2	24.0																																													
TECHNICAL	3	Raised 12/21/07	LEGENDS 1.25 x Dividends per share divided by Interest Rate Relative Price Strength 2-for-1 split 12/95 Options: Yes Shaded area: prior recession Latest recession began 12/07																																																								
BETA	.75	(1.00 = Market)																																																									
2011-13 PROJECTIONS																																																											
Price	Gain	Return																																																									
High	65	(+0.5%)	21%																																																								
Low	40	(+4.0%)	73%																																																								
Insider Decisions																																																											
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S																																																			
to Buy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0																																																			
to Sell	3	2	1	0	3	0	0	1																																																			
to Hold	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0																																																			
Institutional Decisions																																																											
to Buy	105	151	82																																																								
to Sell	127	105	130																																																								
to Hold	47656	48762	48786																																																								
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009																																																											
20.43	22.73	23.59	19.32	21.61	22.75	23.36	18.71	11.25	18.04	15.32	15.25	23.89	34.98	33.73	32.84	35.40	35.90	Revenues per sh ^A	41.25																																								
2.31	2.25	2.24	2.33	2.49	2.42	2.65	2.29	2.88	3.31	3.39	3.47	3.29	4.20	4.50	4.84	4.70	4.80	"Cash Flow" per sh ^A	5.40																																								
1.13	1.08	1.17	1.33	1.37	1.41	.91	1.29	1.50	1.82	2.08	2.28	2.48	2.72	2.72	2.70	2.80	2.80	Earnings per sh ^A	3.15																																								
1.03	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.06	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.11	1.15	1.30	1.40	1.40	1.64	1.64	1.72	Div'ds Decl'd per sh ^C	1.84																																								
2.74	2.49	2.37	2.17	2.37	2.59	2.05	2.51	2.92	2.83	3.30	2.46	3.44	3.44	3.26	3.39	4.20	4.35	Cop'l Spending per sh ^D	5.60																																								
8.70	8.50	10.19	10.12	10.66	10.99	11.42	11.59	11.50	12.19	12.62	14.66	18.06	19.29	20.71	21.74	22.60	22.75	Book Value per sh ^D	23.15																																								
48.69	49.72	50.85	55.02	55.70	55.60	57.30	57.10	54.00	55.10	56.70	64.60	76.70	77.70	77.70	76.40	77.00	78.00	Common Shs Outst'g ^E	80.00																																								
15.5	17.0	16.1	12.6	13.8	14.7	13.9	21.4	13.8	14.5	12.5	12.5	13.1	14.3	13.5	14.7	13.5	14.7	Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	15.0																																								
.94	1.06	.99	.84	.86	.85	.72	1.22	.88	.75	.69	.71	.69	.78	.73	.78	.78	.78	Relative P/E Ratio	1.00																																								
5.9%	5.4%	5.9%	6.2%	5.6%	5.4%	5.5%	5.5%	6.2%	4.9%	4.7%	4.3%	3.8%	3.7%	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	3.9%																																								
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/08																																																											
Total Debt \$2444.0 mill. Due in 5 Yrs \$1086 mill.										1338.6	1058.6	607.4	1049.3	888.9	1832.0	2718.0	2621.0	2494.0	Revenues (\$mill) ^A	3300																																							
LT Debt \$1875.0 mill. LT Interest \$85.0 mill.										80.8	82.1	71.1	82.3	103.0	132.4	153.0	193.0	212.0	210.5	210	220	Not Profit (\$mill) ^A	250																																				
(Total interest coverage: 3.8x)										32.5%	33.1%	34.3%	40.7%	35.0%	35.9%	37.0%	37.7%	37.8%	37.6%	39.0%	38.0%	Income Tax Rate	38.0%																																				
Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals \$26.0 mill.										6.0%	4.9%	11.7%	7.8%	11.9%	13.5%	8.4%	7.1%	8.1%	8.4%	7.7%	7.9%	Net Profit Margin	7.6%																																				
Pension Assets-12/07 \$383.0 mill.										47.5%	45.3%	45.9%	61.3%	58.3%	50.3%	54.0%	51.9%	50.2%	60.2%	49.0%	48.0%	Long-Term Debt Ratio	45.5%																																				
Oblig. \$427.0 mill.										47.1%	49.2%	48.3%	38.7%	41.7%	48.7%	46.0%	48.1%	49.8%	49.8%	61.0%	62.0%	Common Equity Ratio	54.5%																																				
Pfd Stock None										1388.4	1345.8	1266.2	1736.3	1704.3	1801.4	3008.0	3114.0	3231.0	3358.0	3415	3425	Total Capital (\$mill)	3400																																				
Common Stock 76,760,439 shs.										1634.0	1698.9	1637.5	2058.9	2194.2	2352.4	3176.0	3271.0	3436.0	3560.5	3750	3850	Net Plant (\$mill)	4200																																				
as of 10/22/08										7.6%	5.7%	7.4%	6.5%	8.1%	8.9%	6.3%	7.9%	8.0%	7.7%	7.5%	7.6%	Return on Total Cap'l	8.5%																																				
MARKET CAP: \$2.2 billion (Mid Cap)										11.1%	7.1%	10.2%	12.3%	14.5%	14.0%	11.0%	12.9%	13.2%	12.7%	12.0%	12.5%	Return on Shr. Equity	13.5%																																				
CURRENT POSITION										12.3%	7.9%	11.5%	12.3%	14.5%	14.0%	11.0%	12.9%	13.2%	12.7%	12.0%	12.5%	Return on Com Equity	13.5%																																				
2006 2007 9/30/08										4.4%	NMF	3.2%	4.2%	7.0%	6.6%	5.6%	6.2%	6.3%	5.3%	4.5%	5.0%	Related to Com Eq	5.5%																																				
(\$mill)										64%	101%	72%	65%	62%	63%	49%	62%	62%	63%	62%	61%	All Div'ds to Net Prof	59%																																				
BUSINESS: AGL Resources, Inc. is a public utility holding company. Its distribution subsidiaries include Atlanta Gas Light, Chattanooga Gas, and Virginia Natural Gas. The utilities have more than 2.2 million customers in Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee, New Jersey, Florida, and Maryland. Engaged in nonregulated natural gas marketing and other allied services. Also wholesales and retails																																																											
propane. Deregulated subsidiaries: Acquila Natural Gas markets natural gas at retail. Solid Utilities, 3/01. Acquila Compass Energy Services, 1/07. Officers/directors own less than 1.0% of common (3/08 Proxy). Pres. & CEO: John W. Somersholder II, Inc.: GA. Addr: Ten Peachtree Place N.E., Atlanta, GA 30308. Telephone: 404-584-4000. Internet: www.aglresources.com.																																																											
ample supply of natural gas to the region. The project will likely be completed late in 2009, and ought to earn solid returns for the company. Elsewhere, construction continues on the Spindletop salt dome in Beaumont, Texas. This underground natural gas storage facility will offer up to 12 billion cubic feet (bcf) of gas capacity in two caverns. The project should meet a growing demand for natural gas storage in the region. Meantime, AGL is moving forward with the Magnolia Pipeline Project. This \$48 million initiative will provide transportation of regasified liquid natural gas from Elba Island to Atlanta Gas Light in the Macon and Atlanta areas. Overall, this stock offers attractive total return potential for a utility. We anticipate steady bottom-line growth from 2009 onward, assuming capital projects pay off. Moreover, AGL earns high marks for Safety, Price Stability, and Earnings Predictability. Income investors may find this neutrally-ranked issue's healthy dividend yield appealing. Earnings need to pick up for dividend growth to remain above average, though.																																																											
Michael Napoli, CPA December 12, 2008																																																											
(A) Fiscal year ends December 31st. Ended September 30th prior to 2002.										\$0.13; '01, \$0.13; '03, (\$0.07); '06, (\$0.45).										plan available. (D) Includes Intangibles. At 9/30/08: \$418 million, \$5.44/share.										Company's Financial Strength B++																													
(B) Diluted earnings per share. Excl. nonrecurring gains (losses): '06, (\$0.03); '08, \$0.38; '00, \$0.20.										(C) Dividends historically paid early March, June, Sept., and Dec. = Div'd Relvst.										(E) In millions, adjusted for stock split.										Stock's Price Stability 100																													
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LACLEDE GROUP NYSE-LG			RECENT PRICE	48.89	P/E RATIO	21.2	(Trailing: 18.1 Median: 15.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	2.08	DIV YLD	3.1%	VALUE LINE								
TIMELINESS	2	Rated 10/10/08	High: 28.6	27.9	27.0	24.8	25.5	25.0	30.0	32.5	34.3	37.5	36.0	55.8	Target Price Range	2011	2012	2013		
SAFETY	2	Rated 6/20/03	Low: 20.3	22.4	20.0	17.5	19.0	21.8	26.0	28.9	28.9	29.1	28.8	31.9						
TECHNICAL	1	Rated 12/5/08	<div>LEGENDS</div> <div>1.00 x Dividends p sh divided by Interest Rate Relative Price Strength Options: Yes Shaded area: prior recession Latest recession began 12/07</div>																	
BETA	.65	(1.00 = Market)	<div>2011-13 PROJECTIONS</div> <div>Ann'l Total Price Gain Return High 60 (+25%) 8% Low 46 (-10%) 1%</div>																	
Insider Decisions			<div>Insider Decisions</div> <div>J F M A M J J A S to Buy 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 to Sell 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 to Hold 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0</div>																	
Institutional Decisions			<div>Institutional Decisions</div> <div>Q1 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 to Buy 72 97 82 72 72 72 72 72 72 to Sell 55 50 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 to Hold 10492 11750 11943 11943 11943 11943 11943 11943 11943</div>																	
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 6/30/08			<div>Percent shares traded</div> <div>7.5 2.5</div>																	
Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals \$9 mill.			<div>1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009</div> <div>26.83 32.33 33.43 24.79 31.03 34.33 31.04 28.04 28.88 63.08 39.84 54.95 69.59 75.43 93.51 93.40 100.40 96.00 2.32 2.81 2.65 2.55 3.29 3.32 3.02 2.56 2.68 3.00 2.56 3.15 2.79 2.98 3.81 3.87 4.20 4.30 1.17 1.61 1.42 1.27 1.87 1.84 1.59 1.47 1.37 1.61 1.18 1.82 1.80 2.37 2.31 2.84 2.50 1.20 1.22 1.22 1.24 1.26 1.30 1.32 1.34 1.34 1.34 1.34 1.35 1.37 1.40 1.45 1.49 1.63 2.87 2.62 2.50 2.63 2.35 2.44 2.68 2.50 2.77 2.51 2.80 2.87 2.45 2.84 2.97 2.72 2.55 11.79 12.19 12.44 13.05 13.72 14.28 14.57 14.86 14.99 15.25 15.07 15.65 16.96 17.31 18.85 19.79 22.10 21.90 15.59 15.59 15.67 17.42 17.56 17.56 17.53 18.88 18.88 18.88 18.96 19.11 20.99 21.17 21.36 21.65 22.00 22.50 15.8 13.5 16.4 15.5 11.9 12.5 16.5 14.9 14.5 20.0 13.5 15.7 16.2 13.6 14.2 14.3 14.3 .86 .80 1.08 1.04 .75 .72 .81 .90 .97 .74 1.69 .78 .83 .86 .73 .75 .85 6.5% 6.6% 5.3% 6.3% 5.6% 5.4% 5.4% 5.8% 6.6% 5.7% 6.7% 6.4% 4.7% 4.4% 4.3% 4.4% 3.9%</div>																	
Pension Assets 9/07 \$260.3 mill.			<div>OBIG, \$283.3 mill.</div> <div>547.2 491.6 566.1 1002.1 755.2 1050.3 1250.3 1597.0 1997.6 2021.6 2209.0 2160 27.9 28.9 26.0 30.5 22.4 34.6 35.1 40.1 60.5 49.8 57.5 66.5</div>																	
Pfd Stock \$5 mill.			<div>Common Stock 21,971,760 shs. as of 8/5/08</div> <div>35.6% 35.5% 35.2% 32.7% 35.4% 35.0% 34.8% 34.1% 32.5% 33.4% 31.3% 31.5% 31.5% 31.5% 31.5% 31.5% 31.5% 31.5% 5.1% 5.5% 4.6% 3.0% 3.0% 3.3% 2.8% 2.5% 2.5% 2.5% 2.6% 2.6% 2.6% 2.6% 2.6% 2.6% 2.6% 2.6% 40.8% 41.8% 45.2% 49.5% 47.5% 50.4% 51.6% 48.1% 49.5% 45.3% 44.5% 45.0% 45.0% 45.0% 45.0% 45.0% 45.0% 45.0% 58.6% 57.8% 54.5% 50.2% 52.3% 49.4% 48.3% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 51.8% 438.0 488.6 519.2 574.1 546.5 605.0 737.4 707.9 788.9 784.5 875 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 490.6 519.4 575.4 602.5 594.4 621.2 646.9 679.5 763.8 783.8 825 855 855 855 855 855 855 855 8.1% 7.1% 6.7% 6.9% 6.0% 7.4% 6.8% 7.6% 8.4% 8.5% 8.0% 7.5% 7.5% 7.5% 7.5% 7.5% 7.5% 7.5% 10.8% 9.5% 8.1% 10.5% 7.8% 11.5% 10.1% 10.9% 12.5% 11.6% 12.0% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 10.8% 9.5% 8.1% 10.5% 7.8% 11.5% 10.1% 10.9% 12.5% 11.6% 12.0% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5% 11.5%</div>																	
MARKET CAP: \$1.1 billion (Mid Cap)			<div>1.8% 1.0% .2% 1.6% NMF 3.1% 2.7% 3.1% 5.1% 4.3% 5.0% 4.5% 4.5% 4.5% 4.5% 4.5% 4.5% 4.5%</div> <div>83% 89% 88% 83% 113% 74% 73% 72% 59% 63% 57% 61% 61% 61% 61% 61% 61% 61%</div>																	
CURRENT POSITION			<div>2006 2007 6/30/08</div> <div>Cash Assets 50.8 52.7 33.0 Other 409.0 414.6 395.9 Current Assets 459.8 467.3 428.9 Accts Payable 103.3 106.8 181.4 Debt Due 207.5 251.6 59.8 Other 120.1 115.3 75.3 Current Liab. 430.9 473.7 325.5 Fix. Chg. Cov. 285% 282% 285%</div>																	
ANNUAL RATES			<div>of change (per sh)</div> <div>Past 10 Yrs. Past 5 Yrs. Est'd '05-'07 to '11-'13 Revenues 11.5% 16.5% 4.6% "Cash Flow" 1.5% 5.5% 7.0% Earnings 3.0% 8.6% 4.5% Dividends 1.0% 1.0% 2.5% Book Value 9.0% 4.5% 5.5%</div>																	
QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$mill)			<div>Fiscal Year Ends</div> <div>2005 442.5 676.5 311.3 266.7 1597.0 2006 689.2 708.8 330.6 269.0 1897.6 2007 539.6 700.8 457.9 323.3 2021.6 2008 504.0 747.7 605.5 451.8 2209.0 2009 540 540 540 540 2160</div>																	
EARNINGS PER SHARE			<div>Fiscal Year Ends</div> <div>2005 .79 1.06 .28 d.24 1.80 2006 1.23 1.05 .13 d.04 2.37 2007 .89 .97 .43 .03 2.31 2008 .99 1.39 .41 d.14 2.64 2009 .96 1.16 .33 .05 2.50</div>																	
QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID			<div>Cal-endar</div> <div>2005 .34 .345 .345 .345 1.38 2006 .345 .355 .355 .355 1.41 2007 .365 .365 .365 .365 1.46 2008 .375 .375 .375 .375 1.50 2009 .385</div>																	
BUSINESS: Laclede Group, Inc., is a holding company for Laclede Gas, which distributes natural gas in eastern Missouri, including the city of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and parts of 10 other counties. Has roughly 632,000 customers. Purchased SM&P Utility Resources, 1/02; divested, 3/08. Themes sold and transported in fiscal 2007: 1.12 mill. Revenue mix for regulated operations: residential, 60%; commercial and industrial, 24%; transportation, 1%; other, 15%. Has around 3,845 employees. Officers and directors own approximately 7.0% of common shares (1/08 proxy). Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and President Douglas H. Yeager, Incorporated: Missouri. Address: 720 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. Telephone: 314-342-0500. Internet: www.thelacledegroup.com.			<div>60%; commercial and industrial, 24%; transportation, 1%; other, 15%. Has around 3,845 employees. Officers and directors own approximately 7.0% of common shares (1/08 proxy). Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and President Douglas H. Yeager, Incorporated: Missouri. Address: 720 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. Telephone: 314-342-0500. Internet: www.thelacledegroup.com.</div>																	
We do not believe that Laclede Group's share net in fiscal 2009 (which began on October 1st) will reach last year's level, attributable mainly to the difficult comparison. Regarding Laclede Gas, accounting for the biggest portion of profits, it appears that the substantial rate increase effective August 1st of 2007 won't be repeated. Furthermore, there may not be a recording of additional previously unrecognized tax benefits here. Meanwhile, Laclede Energy Resources stands to have a respectable performance (depending greatly on natural gas price volatility), but we do not anticipate a reversal of more tax-related expenses. All things considered, consolidated share net ought to decrease roughly 5%, to \$2.50, this fiscal year. Laclede Group's bottom line could expand in the mid-single-digit range (to \$2.60 a share) in fiscal 2010, assuming additional expansion in operating margins. Steady, if unspectacular, earnings increases seem achievable over the 3- to 5-year timeframe. Expansion of the customer base for the natural gas distribution unit has been moderate for some time be-			<div>cause the service area, located in eastern Missouri, is in a mature stage. That being the case, internal growth here will likely remain a challenge. The non-regulated division has promising expansion opportunities, but it has contributed just a small portion to Laclede Group's profits on a historical basis. A significant acquisition could help to offset this, but it appears that management has no such plans in the works at this juncture. Consequently, annual bottom-line advances could be only between 4% and 5% over the 2011-2013 horizon. This favorably ranked equity offers a decent level of current dividend income, which is adequately covered by earnings. But further increases in the distribution will probably be slow in coming. This is primarily because of the regulated gas segment's unexciting long-term growth prospects. Total-return possibilities are limited. That is attributable to these shares' relatively high present quotation and our expectation of moderate increases in the dividend. Frederick L. Harris, III December 12, 2008</div>																	
(A) Fiscal year ends Sept. 30th.			<div>charges. In '07: \$289.7 mill., \$13.38/sh.</div>																	
(B) Based on average shares outstanding thru '09, then diluted. Excludes nonrecurring losses: '05, '06, '07. Excludes gain from discontinued operations.			<div>(E) In millions.</div>																	
(C) Dividends historically paid in early January, April, July, and October. Dividend reinvestment plan available. (D) Incl. deferred			<div>(F) City, egs. may not sum due to rounding or change in shares outstanding.</div>																	
(E) In millions.			<div>Company's Financial Strength B+</div>																	
(F) City, egs. may not sum due to rounding or change in shares outstanding.			<div>Stock's Price Stability 100</div>																	
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			<div>Earnings Predictability 75</div>																	
			<div>To subscribe call 1-800-833-0046</div>																	

NEW JERSEY RES. NYSE-NJR										RECENT PRICE	38.42	P/E RATIO	12.2	Trailing: 14.2 Median: 15.0	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.20	DIVID YLD	3.2%	VALUE LINE
TIMELINESS		2	Rated 11/28/08	High: 18.7 17.9 18.3 19.8 21.7 22.4 26.4 29.7 32.9 35.4 37.6 41.1		Low: 12.5 14.0 14.9 18.1 16.2 16.2 20.0 24.3 27.1 27.7 30.3 24.6		Target Price Range		2011 2012 2013									
SAFETY		1	Rated 8/15/06																
TECHNICAL		2	Rated 11/21/08																
BETA		.70	(1.00 = Market)																
2011-13 PROJECTIONS		Price Gain Ann'l Total		LEGENDS															
High Low		45 40	(+15%) 7%	1.40 x Dividends p sh divided by interest rate															
Insider Decisions		J F M A M J J A S		3-for-2 split 3002 3-for-2 split 3008															
to Buy		0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Options: No																
to Sell		0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Shaded area: prior recession Latest recession began 12/07																
Institutional Decisions		to Buy to Sell		Percent shares traded															
to Buy		85 80 64	12 6																
to Sell		70 62 88	9 6																
to Hold		26518 26910 26312	12 6																
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009		11.25 12.02 12.81 11.36 13.48 17.31 22.73 22.65 29.42 61.22 44.11 62.29 60.89 76.19 79.63 72.62 91.12 92.45		Revenues per sh A		97.60													
1.30 1.42 1.64 1.42 1.46 1.63 1.74 1.86 1.89 2.12 2.14 2.39 2.50 2.62 2.73 2.44 3.64		1.30 1.42 1.64 1.42 1.46 1.63 1.74 1.86 1.89 2.12 2.14 2.39 2.50 2.62 2.73 2.44 3.64		Cash Flow per sh		3.90													
.73 .76 .84 .86 .92 .99 1.04 1.11 1.20 1.30 1.39 1.59 1.70 1.77 1.87 1.55 2.70		.73 .76 .84 .86 .92 .99 1.04 1.11 1.20 1.30 1.39 1.59 1.70 1.77 1.87 1.55 2.70		Earnings per sh B		3.00													
.68 .68 .68 .68 .69 .71 .73 .75 .76 .78 .80 .83 .87 .91 .95 1.01 1.11		.68 .68 .68 .68 .69 .71 .73 .75 .76 .78 .80 .83 .87 .91 .95 1.01 1.11		Divs Decl'd per sh C		1.35													
1.33 1.54 1.40 1.78 1.19 1.16 1.07 1.21 1.23 1.19 1.02 1.14 1.45 1.28 1.28 1.48 1.73		1.33 1.54 1.40 1.78 1.19 1.16 1.07 1.21 1.23 1.19 1.02 1.14 1.45 1.28 1.28 1.48 1.73		Cap'l Spending per sh		1.80													
6.29 6.54 6.43 6.47 6.73 6.92 7.25 7.67 8.29 8.80 8.71 10.28 11.25 10.60 15.00 15.50 17.36		6.29 6.54 6.43 6.47 6.73 6.92 7.25 7.67 8.29 8.80 8.71 10.28 11.25 10.60 15.00 15.50 17.36		Book Value per sh D		25.75													
36.64 37.84 38.93 40.03 40.69 40.23 40.07 39.92 39.69 40.00 41.50 40.85 41.61 41.32 41.44 41.61 41.88		36.64 37.84 38.93 40.03 40.69 40.23 40.07 39.92 39.69 40.00 41.50 40.85 41.61 41.32 41.44 41.61 41.88		Common Shs Outstg E		44.00													
12.4 15.1 13.0 11.7 13.6 13.5 12.6 .89 85 .78 85 .78 85 .78 85 .78 85 .78		12.4 15.1 13.0 11.7 13.6 13.5 12.6 .89 85 .78 85 .78 85 .78 85 .78 85 .78		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio		14.0													
7.5% 5.8% 6.2% 6.7% 5.6% 5.3% 4.6% 4.5% 4.4% 4.2% 3.9% 3.7% 3.3% 3.1% 3.2% 3.0% 3.3%		7.5% 5.8% 6.2% 6.7% 5.6% 5.3% 4.6% 4.5% 4.4% 4.2% 3.9% 3.7% 3.3% 3.1% 3.2% 3.0% 3.3%		Relative P/E Ratio		.95													
				Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield		3.4%													
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/08		Total Debt \$693.8 mil. Due in 5 Yrs \$175.6 mil.		LT Interest \$16.9 mil.		LT Debt \$455.4 mil.													
Inc. \$9.8 mil. capitalized leases.		(LT Interest earned: 4.8%; total Interest coverage: 4.6x)		Pension Assets 9/08 \$80.6 mil.		Oblig. \$102.4 mil.													
Pfd Stock None		Common Stock 42,120,169 shs. as of 11/20/08		MARKET CAP: \$1.6 billion (Mid Cap)		CURRENT POSITION													
CASH ASSETS		2006 2007 9/30/08		2006 2007 9/30/08		2006 2007 9/30/08													
Cash Assets		860.5 5.1 42.6		860.5 5.1 42.6		860.5 5.1 42.6													
Other Assets		590.5 794.8 1067.1		590.5 794.8 1067.1		590.5 794.8 1067.1													
Current Assets		860.5 799.9 1109.7		860.5 799.9 1109.7		860.5 799.9 1109.7													
Accs Payable		26.8 64.4 61.7		26.8 64.4 61.7		26.8 64.4 61.7													
Debt Due		484.4 250.8 233.3		484.4 250.8 233.3		484.4 250.8 233.3													
Other		569.0 378.1 594.0		569.0 378.1 594.0		569.0 378.1 594.0													
Current Liab.		897.2 703.3 894.0		897.2 703.3 894.0		897.2 703.3 894.0													
Fix. Chg. Cov.		67.0% 46.1% 46.0%		67.0% 46.1% 46.0%		67.0% 46.1% 46.0%													
ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE (per sh)		Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. 1 Yr.		Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. 1 Yr.		Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. 1 Yr.													
Revenues		18.5% 13.0% 4.9%		18.5% 13.0% 4.9%		18.5% 13.0% 4.9%													
Cash Flow		6.5% 6.0% 9.0%		6.5% 6.0% 9.0%		6.5% 6.0% 9.0%													
Dividends		8.5% 4.0% 6.5%		8.5% 4.0% 6.5%		8.5% 4.0% 6.5%													
Book Value		7.5% 10.0% 11.0%		7.5% 10.0% 11.0%		7.5% 10.0% 11.0%													
QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mil.)		Full Fiscal Year		Full Fiscal Year		Full Fiscal Year													
Fiscal Year		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30													
2005		854.1 1065 544.3 684.9		854.1 1065 544.3 684.9		854.1 1065 544.3 684.9													
2006		1104 1084 536.1 535.5		1104 1084 536.1 535.5		1104 1084 536.1 535.5													
2007		737.4 1029 662.2 593.2		737.4 1029 662.2 593.2		737.4 1029 662.2 593.2													
2008		814.1 1178 1000 827.1		814.1 1178 1000 827.1		814.1 1178 1000 827.1													
2009		850 1190 1050 840		850 1190 1050 840		850 1190 1050 840													
QUARTERLY EARNINGS PER SHARE		Full Fiscal Year		Full Fiscal Year		Full Fiscal Year													
Fiscal Year		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30													
2005		.81 1.23 .05 0.12		.81 1.23 .05 0.12		.81 1.23 .05 0.12													
2006		.62 1.43 .09 0.29		.62 1.43 .09 0.29		.62 1.43 .09 0.29													
2007		.70 .19 .60 .06		.70 .19 .60 .06		.70 .19 .60 .06													
2008		.87 .30 .61 1.86		.87 .30 .61 1.86		.87 .30 .61 1.86													
2009		.90 .40 -- 1.50		.90 .40 -- 1.50		.90 .40 -- 1.50													
QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS P/SH		Full Fiscal Year		Full Fiscal Year		Full Fiscal Year													
Fiscal Year		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30		Dec.31 Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30													
2004		.217 .217 .217 .217		.217 .217 .217 .217		.217 .217 .217 .217													
2005		.227 .227 .227 .227		.227 .227 .227 .227		.227 .227 .227 .227													
2006		.24 .24 .24 .24		.24 .24 .24 .24		.24 .24 .24 .24													
2007		.253 .253 .253 .253		.253 .253 .253 .253		.253 .253 .253 .253													
2008		.267 .28 .28 .28		.267 .28 .28 .28		.267 .28 .28 .28													
(A) Fiscal year ends Sept. 30th.		(B) Diluted earnings. Qly eys may not sum to total due to change in shares outstanding. Next earnings report due late Jan.		(C) Dividends historically paid in early January, April, July, and October. * Dividend reinvestment plan available.		(D) Includes regulatory assets in 2008: \$340.7 million, \$8.09/share.													
(E) In millions, adjusted for split.		(F) Restated.		(G) Company's Financial Strength		A													
(H) Stock's Price Stability		(I) Price Growth Persistence		(J) Earnings Predictability		100 65 50													
TO SUBSCRIBE CALL 1-800-833-0046																			

N.W. NAT'L GAS										NYSE:NYW		RECENT PRICE	46.38	P/E RATIO	17.4 (Trailing: 18.0 Median: 16.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.71	DIV YLD	3.4%	VALUE LINE			
TIMELINESS		3	Rated 8/8/00	High: 31.4 30.8 27.9 27.5 25.8 30.7 31.3 34.1 39.6 43.7 52.8 55.2		Low: 23.0 24.3 19.6 17.8 21.7 23.6 24.0 27.6 32.4 32.8 39.8 37.7		Target Price Range		2011 2012 2013		120 100 80 60 40 32 24 20 16 12 8											
SAFETY		1	Rated 3/10/05	LEGENDS																			
TECHNICAL		1	Rated 12/12/08	1.0 x Dividends p sh																			
BETA		.60	(1.00 = Market)	divided by Interest Rate																			
2011-13 PROJECTIONS		Price Gain		Relative Price Strength																			
High Low		65 65	(+40%) (+20%)	3-to-2 sps																			
Insider Decisions		Options: Yes		Shaded area: prior recession																			
Institutional Decisions		Latest recession began 12/07																					
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 8/31/08		Total Debt \$886.8 mill. Due in 5 Yrs \$269.8 mill. LT Debt \$512.0 mill. LT Interest \$37.0 mill.		(Total Interest coverage: 4.0x)																			
Pension Assets-12/07 \$241 mill. Oblig. \$280 mill. Pfd Stock None		Common Stock 28,470,688 shs. as of 10/31/08 MARKET CAP \$1.2 billion (Mid Cap)																					
CURRENT POSITION		2006 2007 9/30/08																					
Cash Assets		5.8 6.1 4.1																					
Other		303.0 268.8 279.7																					
Current Assets		308.8 274.9 283.8																					
Accts Payable		113.6 118.7 53.5																					
Debt Due		128.6 141.4 174.8																					
Other		89.3 122.1 184.0																					
Current Liab.		341.5 389.9 412.3																					
Fx. Chg. Cov.		349% 408% NMF																					
ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)		Past 10 Yrs. Past 5 Yrs. Est'd 05-'11 to 11-'13																					
Revenues		8.5% 8.5% 6.5%																					
"Cash Flow"		3.0% 5.5% 6.0%																					
Earnings		3.0% 6.5% 7.0%																					
Dividends		1.5% 2.0% 5.5%																					
Book Value		3.5% 3.5% 3.5%																					
QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mil.)		Cal. ender Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Full Year																					
2005		308.7 163.7 106.7 341.4 910.5																					
2006		380.4 171.0 114.9 336.9 1013.2																					
2007		394.1 183.2 124.2 331.7 1033.2																					
2008		387.7 193.1 107.3 317.3 1000																					
2009		380 190 120 335 1025																					
EARNINGS PER SHARE		Cal. ender Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Full Year																					
2005		1.44 .04 .31 .84 2.11																					
2006		1.48 .07 .35 1.15 2.35																					
2007		1.77 .10 .22 1.11 2.76																					
2008		1.63 .08 .38 1.22 2.55																					
2009		1.70 .13 .30 1.27 2.80																					
QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID		Cal. ender Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Full Year																					
2004		.325 .325 .325 .325 1.30																					
2005		.325 .325 .325 .345 1.32																					
2006		.345 .345 .345 .355 1.39																					
2007		.355 .355 .355 .375 1.44																					
2008		.375 .375 .375 .395																					
BUSINESS: Northwest Natural Gas Co. distributes natural gas to 90 communities, 657,000 customers, in Oregon (90% of customers) and in southwest Washington state. Principal cities served: Portland and Eugene, OR; Vancouver, WA. Service area population: 2.5 mill. (77% in OR). Company buys gas supply from Canadian and U.S. producers; has transportation rights on Northwest Pipeline system.		Owns local underground storage, Rev. breakdown: residential, 55%; commercial, 28%; industrial, gas transportation, and other, 17%. Employs 1,130. Bardays Global owns 6.5% of shares; off. dir., 1.3% (Aldis proxy). CEO Mark S. Dodson; CEO-elect: Gregg S. Kanlor, Inc.; Oregon. Address: 220 NW 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97208. Tel: 503-226-4211. Internet: www.nwnatural.com.																					
Northwest Natural's third-quarter results reflected mostly unusual items. In the 2007 period, the company received a state tax refund, and in the 2008 quarter, it lost money from its gas cost-sharing mechanism in Oregon; the two items added up to about \$0.12 a share of the higher year-to-year loss. (Gas utilities usually book losses in the summer quarter). Meanwhile, customer growth, at 2.4% from September 30, 2007, was below the recent 3% pace, but still above the national average. Lower costs should lead to a good fourth-quarter earnings gain. Despite the higher-than-expected third-quarter loss, Northwest reaffirmed its 2008 earnings-per-share guidance of \$2.48-\$2.63. In the final frame of 2007, Northwest spent about \$3 million over its normal operating expenses, partly in connection with redoning some business practices. The absence of those costs, plus continued customer growth, should produce a good earnings boost. We look for normal earnings growth in 2009, excluding the effects of gas cost-sharing. In the first nine months of 2008, Northwest lost about \$0.17 a share		from its gas cost-sharing in Oregon. The state has modified the cost-sharing procedure, so that the company now chooses to receive either 20% or 10% of the difference between actual gas costs and the prices built into rates, with the balance going to its customers. For the next year, starting in November 2008, Northwest has chosen to retain 20% of that difference, believing that it will earn a small profit from the cost-sharing arrangement. Several projects should contribute considerably to earnings by the end of our 3- to 5-year horizon. Cull Ranch, a gas storage project near Fresno, CA, should receive approval from that state next year and open by 2011. The Palomar pipeline, a joint venture with TransCanada, would connect Portland to a second source of gas. Northwest's investment in the two projects would total about \$525 million if both halves of Palomar are built. The two investments would add significantly to our out-year earnings forecast. These top-quality shares, steady in recent troubled times, should appeal to conservative investors. Sigourney b. Romaine December 12, 2008																					
(A) Diluted earnings per share. Excludes non-recurring items: '98, \$0.15; '00, \$0.11; '06, \$0.09. Next earnings report due early February.		(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-February, mid-May, mid-August, and mid-November. = Dividend reinvestment plan available.		(C) In millions, adjusted for stock split.																			
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		Stock's Price Stability		B 80																			
		Price Growth Persistence		C 60																			
		Earnings Predictability		D 40																			
		To subscribe call 1-800-833-0046																					

PIEDMONT NAT'L GAS NYSE-PNY										RECENT PRICE	31.23	P/E RATIO	19.8 (Trailing: 19.9 Median: 17.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.94	DIVID YLD	3.3%	VALUE LINE							
TIMELINESS	3	Rated 9/15/07	High: 18.2	18.1	18.3	19.7	19.0	22.0	24.3	25.8	28.4	28.0	35.3	Target Price Range											
SAFETY	2	New 7/27/00	Low: 11.0	15.9	14.9	11.8	14.6	13.7	16.6	19.2	21.3	23.2	22.0	21.7	2011 2012 2013										
TECHNICAL	1	Rated 12/5/08	LEGENDS																						
BEYA .70 (1.00 = Market)	1.0 = Dividends p sh divided by Interest Rate																								
..... Relative Price Strength																									
2 for 1 split 11/04																									
Options Yes																									
Shaded area: prior recession																									
Latest recession began 12/07																									
2011-13 PROJECTIONS																									
Price	Gain	Return																							
High	40	(+20%)	10%																						
Low	30	(-5%)	3%																						
Insider Decisions																									
J F M A M J J A S																									
to Buy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												
to Sell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												
Institutional Decisions																									
10/10/11	10/20/11	3/27/08																							
to Buy	70	87	82																						
to Sell	85	77	88																						
Net Buy	36778	38888	35228																						
Percent shares traded	7.5	5																							
	2.6																								
1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	VALUE LINE PUB, INC							
8.91	10.57	10.82	8.76	11.59	12.84	12.45	10.97	13.01	17.05	12.57	18.14	19.95	22.85	25.80	23.37	28.30	29.10	Revenues per sh ^							
1.07	1.14	1.13	1.25	1.49	1.62	1.72	1.70	1.77	1.81	1.81	2.04	2.31	2.43	2.51	2.64	2.80	2.85	"Cash Flow" per sh							
.70	.73	.68	.73	.84	.93	.93	.93	1.01	1.01	.95	1.11	1.27	1.32	1.27	1.40	1.55	1.60	Earnings per sh ^							
.46	.48	.51	.54	.57	.61	.64	.68	.72	.76	.80	.82	.85	.91	.95	.99	1.03	1.07	Div'ds Decl'd per sh ^							
1.41	1.58	1.95	1.72	1.54	1.52	1.48	1.58	1.65	1.29	1.21	1.16	1.85	2.50	2.74	1.85	1.95	3.40	Cap'l Spending per sh							
5.13	6.45	6.68	6.16	6.53	6.95	7.45	7.86	8.25	8.63	8.91	9.38	11.15	11.63	11.83	11.99	12.60	13.15	Book Value per sh ^							
51.59	62.30	63.16	67.67	69.10	60.39	61.48	62.59	63.83	64.93	66.18	67.31	76.67	76.70	74.61	73.23	73.50	73.50	Common Shs Outstanding ^							
12.3	15.4	16.7	13.8	13.9	13.6	16.3	17.7	14.3	16.7	18.4	16.7	16.5	17.9	19.2	18.7	18.7	18.7	Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio							
.75	.91	1.03	.92	.87	.78	.85	1.01	.93	.86	1.01	.85	.88	.95	1.04	.98	.98	.98	Relative P/E Ratio							
6.3%	4.3%	4.8%	5.4%	4.8%	4.8%	4.0%	4.1%	5.0%	4.5%	4.8%	4.4%	4.1%	3.8%	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield							
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 7/31/08																									
Total Debt \$894.0 mil. Due in 5 Yrs \$160.0 mil.												765.3	686.5	830.4	1107.9	832.0	1220.8	1529.7	1761.1	1924.7	Revenues (\$mil) ^				
LT Debt \$824.6 mil. LT Interest \$55.7 mil.												60.3	58.2	64.0	65.5	62.2	74.4	95.2	101.5	97.2	104.4	Net Profit (\$mil)			
(LT Interest earned: 4.0%; total interest coverage: 4.0x)												39.2%	39.7%	34.7%	34.6%	33.1%	34.8%	35.1%	33.7%	34.2%	33.0%	35.0%	35.0%	Income Tax Rate	
Pension Assets-10/07 \$225.0 mil.												7.9%	8.5%	7.7%	5.9%	7.5%	6.1%	6.2%	5.8%	5.0%	6.1%	6.5%	5.5%	Net Profit Margin	
Oblig. \$188.7 mil.												44.7%	46.2%	46.1%	47.6%	43.9%	42.2%	43.6%	41.4%	48.3%	48.4%	47.5%	60.0%	Long-Term Debt Ratio	
Pfd Stock None												65.3%	63.8%	63.8%	62.4%	59.1%	57.8%	56.4%	58.5%	51.7%	51.6%	52.5%	50.0%	Common Equity Ratio	
Common Stock 73,278,668 shs.												829.3	814.7	978.4	1059.4	1051.6	1090.2	1614.8	1509.2	1707.9	1707.9	1765	1765	Total Capital (\$mil)	
as of 9/2/08												890.6	1047.0	1072.0	1114.7	1158.5	1812.3	1849.8	1939.1	2075.3	2141.5	2200	2259	Net Plant (\$mil)	
MARKET CAP: \$2.3 billion (Mid Cap)												9.2%	8.1%	8.3%	7.9%	7.8%	8.6%	7.8%	8.2%	7.2%	7.8%	8.0%	7.5%	Return on Total Cap'l	
CURRENT POSITION												13.2%	11.8%	12.4%	11.7%	10.6%	11.8%	11.1%	11.5%	11.0%	11.9%	12.5%	12.5%	Return on Shr. Equity	
2008												13.2%	11.8%	12.4%	11.7%	10.6%	11.8%	11.1%	11.5%	11.0%	11.9%	12.5%	12.5%	Return on Com Equity	
2007												4.7%	3.3%	3.5%	3.0%	1.7%	3.1%	3.7%	3.5%	2.8%	3.5%	4.0%	4.0%	Retained to Com Eq	
7/31/08												65%	72%	71%	75%	83%	74%	66%	68%	74%	70%	66%	67%	All Div'ds to Net Prof	
(MILL)																									
Cash Assets												8.9	7.5	4.8											
Other												467.1	427.8	429.9											
Current Assets												476.0	435.3	434.8											
Debt Payable												80.3	87.2	151.8											
Acc't Due												170.0	195.0	189.5											
Other												160.1	132.3	114.2											
Current Liab.												400.4	424.5	435.5											
Fix. Chg. Cov.												261%	225%	220%											
ANNUAL RATES												Past	Past	Est'd	05-'07										
of change (per sh)												10 Yrs.	5 Yrs.	to '11-'13											
Revenues												8.0%	11.0%	6.0%											
"Cash Flow"												6.5%	7.0%	6.5%											
Earnings												6.0%	8.0%	7.5%											
Dividends												5.0%	4.5%	4.0%											
Book Value												6.0%	6.6%	4.5%											
Fiscal Year												Jan.31	Apr.30	Jul.31	Oct.31	Fiscal Year									
2005												680.6	608.0	232.8	339.6	1761.1									
2006												921.4	483.2	237.9	282.2	1924.7									
2007												677.2	631.5	224.4	278.2	1711.3									
2008												788.5	634.2	354.7	302.6	2080									
2009												815	655	360	370	2140									
Fiscal Year												Jan.31	Apr.30	Jul.31	Oct.31	Fiscal Year									
2005												.93	.52	d.06	d.07	1.32									
2006												.94	.57	d.16	d.08	1.27									
2007												.94	.69	d.12	d.11	1.40									
2008												1.12	.66	d.10	d.13	1.55									
2009												1.13	.68	d.10	d.11	1.60									
Calendar												Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year									
2004												209	215	215	215	.85									
2005												216	23	23	23	.91									
2006												23	24	24	24	.95									
2007												23	25	25	25	.99									
2008												25	26	26	26										
(A) Fiscal year ends October 31st.																									
(B) Diluted earnings. Excl. extraordinary items.																									
00, 84, 04. Nonrecurring charges '97, '24.																									
Next earnings report due early Feb.																									
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It may be reproduced, copied, stored or transmitted in any printed, electronic or other form, or used for generating or marketing any product or service.																									
Company's Financial Strength												B++													
Stocks Price Stability												100													
Price Growth Persistence												60													
Earnings Predictability												85													
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SOUTHWEST GAS NYSE-SWX										RECENT PRICE	24.79	P/E RATIO	13.6	(Trailing: 14.1) (Median: 18.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.33	DIVID YLD	3.8%	VALUE LINE		
TIMELINESS	3	Raised 12/23/08	High	Low	20.3	28.9	29.5	23.0	24.7	25.3	29.6	26.2	28.1	39.4	39.9	33.3	Target Price Range	2011	2012	2013	
SAFETY	3	Lowered 1/4/91	LEGENDS																		
TECHNICAL	2	Raised 12/2/08	200 x Dividends p sh divided by Interest Rate Relative Price Strength																		
BEIA	.75	(100 = Market)	Options: Yes Shaded areas: prior recession Latest recession began 12/07																		
2011-13 PROJECTIONS			Ann'l Total																		
High	Price	Gain	Return																		
Low	45	(+80%)	18%																		
	30	(+20%)	8%																		
Insider Decisions			J F M A M J J A S O N D																		
to Buy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
to Sell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Institutional Decisions			Q108 Q208 Q308 Q408																		
to Buy	80	85	69	Percent	8	6	3														
to Sell	98	85	74	Traded	3	3	3														
			1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009																		
25.93	25.68	28.16	23.03	24.09	28.73	30.17	30.24	32.61	42.98	39.68	35.98	40.14	43.59	48.47	50.27	48.85	50.00	Revenues per sh	58.35		
3.34	3.24	5.09	2.65	3.00	3.85	4.48	4.45	4.57	4.78	5.07	5.11	5.57	5.20	5.97	6.21	6.00	6.45	"Cash Flow" per sh	7.00		
.81	.63	1.22	.10	.25	.77	1.65	1.27	1.21	1.15	1.16	1.13	1.68	1.25	1.98	1.95	1.75	2.00	Earnings per sh	2.50		
.70	.74	.80	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.82	.86	.90	.94	Div'ds Decl'd per sh	1.05		
5.02	5.43	6.64	6.79	6.19	6.19	6.40	7.41	7.04	6.17	6.50	7.03	8.23	7.49	8.27	7.96	6.80	7.50	Cap'l Spending per sh	9.90		
15.99	15.96	16.36	14.55	14.20	14.09	15.67	16.31	16.82	17.27	17.91	18.42	19.16	19.10	21.68	22.98	23.30	24.45	Book Value per sh	26.55		
20.60	21.00	21.26	24.47	25.73	27.39	30.41	30.99	31.71	32.49	33.29	34.23	36.79	39.33	41.77	42.81	44.09	45.00	Common Shs Outst'g	45.00		
1.66	25.5	14.0	NMF	68.3	24.1	13.2	21.1	16.0	19.0	19.9	19.2	14.3	20.6	15.9	18.4	18.4	18.4	Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	15.0		
10.1	1.57	.82	NMF	4.34	1.39	.69	1.20	1.04	.97	1.09	1.09	.76	1.10	.88	.89	.89	.89	Relative P/E Ratio	1.00		
5.2%	4.4%	4.7%	5.4%	4.7%	4.4%	3.8%	3.1%	4.2%	3.8%	3.6%	3.8%	3.5%	3.2%	2.6%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	2.8%		
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/08				917.3 935.9 1034.1 1395.7 1320.9 1231.0 1477.1 1714.3 2024.7 2152.1 2150 2250																	
Total Debt \$1325.6 mil. Due in 5 Yrs \$615.0 mil.				47.5 39.3 38.3 37.2 38.6 38.5 50.9 40.1 80.5 83.3 75.0 80.0																	
LT Debt \$1313.1 mil. LT Interest \$90.0 mil.				43.4% 35.5% 26.2% 34.5% 32.6% 30.5% 34.8% 29.7% 37.3% 36.5% 39.0% 36.0%																	
(Total interest coverage: 2.3x)				5.2% 4.2% 3.7% 2.7% 2.8% 3.1% 4.0% 2.6% 4.0% 3.9% 3.5% 4.0%																	
Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals \$7.0 mil.				60.2% 60.3% 60.2% 58.2% 62.5% 66.0% 64.2% 63.6% 60.6% 58.1% 56.0% 54.0%																	
Pension Assets-12/07 \$441.7 mil.				35.3% 35.5% 35.6% 39.6% 34.1% 34.0% 35.8% 36.2% 39.4% 41.9% 44.0% 46.0%																	
Oblig. \$546.4 mil.				1349.3 1424.7 1469.9 1417.6 1748.3 1851.6 1858.6 2076.0 2287.8 2349.8 2325 2380																	
Pfd Stock None				1459.4 1591.1 1686.1 1825.6 1797.5 2175.7 2335.0 2469.1 2688.1 2845.3 2960 3100																	
Common Stock 43,914,407 shs. as of 10/31/08				6.8% 4.8% 4.6% 5.1% 4.3% 4.2% 5.0% 4.3% 5.5% 5.5% 5.0% 5.0%																	
				8.5% 7.0% 6.5% 6.0% 5.9% 6.1% 8.3% 6.4% 8.9% 8.6% 7.5% 8.0%																	
				10.0% 7.8% 7.2% 6.5% 6.5% 6.1% 8.3% 6.4% 8.9% 8.6% 7.5% 8.0%																	
MARKET CAP: \$1.1 billion (Mid Cap)				5.0% 2.8% 2.4% 1.9% 1.9% 1.7% 4.3% 2.2% 5.2% 4.8% 3.5% 4.5%																	
CURRENT POSITION 2005 2007 9/30/08				60% 64% 67% 71% 70% 72% 49% 65% 42% 44% 47% 47%																	
(MILL)				18.8 32.0 32.0 13.2																	
Cash Assets				482.8 470.5 257.2																	
Other				501.6 502.5 270.4																	
Current Assets				285.7 220.7 79.7																	
Accts Payable				27.5 47.1 12.5																	
Debt Due				202.9 260.1 268.8																	
Other				486.1 527.9 359.0																	
Current Liab.				220% 228% 230%																	
Fix. Chg. Cov.																					
ANNUAL RATES				Past Past Est'd '05-'07																	
of change (per sh)				10 Yr 5 Yr to '11-'13																	
Revenues				6.0% 4.5% 3.5%																	
"Cash Flow"				4.5% 4.0% 3.0%																	
Earnings				12.0% 6.0% 6.5%																	
Dividends				--- --- 4.0%																	
Book Value				3.0% 3.5% 4.0%																	
QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mil)				Cal-ender Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Full Year																	
2005				542.9 361.1 313.3 497.0 1714.3																	
2006				676.9 430.9 351.8 565.1 2024.7																	
2007				793.7 426.6 371.5 580.3 2152.1																	
2008				813.6 447.3 374.4 514.7 2150																	
2009				800 475 415 560 2250																	
EARNINGS PER SHARE				Cal-ender Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Full Year																	
2005				.88 .607 .43 .87 1.25																	
2006				1.11 .82 .62 1.11 1.88																	
2007				1.17 .81 .62 1.11 1.85																	
2008				1.14 .80 .63 1.05 1.75																	
2009				1.15 .84 .65 1.10 2.00																	
QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID				Cal-ender Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Full Year																	
2004				.205 .205 .205 .205 .82																	
2005				.205 .205 .205 .205 .82																	
2006				.205 .205 .205 .205 .85																	
2007				.205 .215 .215 .215 .85																	
2008				.215 .225 .225 .225 .85																	
(A) Incl. Income for Preferred Stock on the equity basis through 1994. (B) Based on avg. shares outstanding thru 10/31/08. Excl. noncum. gains (losses): '93, '84, '77, '66; '02, '06; '05, '04.																					
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BIZ. '06, '74, Incl. asset withdrawal; '93, '44, Excl. loss from disc. ops.; '95, '76, Total net sum due to reclass. Next Reg. reports due late February. (C) Dividends historically paid																					
early March, June, September, December. * Div'd reinvest. plan avail. (D) In millions.																					
Company's Financial Strength				B																	
Stock's Price Stability				100																	
Price Growth Persistence				55																	
Earnings Predictability				65																	
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SOUTHERN UNION NYSE-SUG										RECENT PRICE	12.55	P/E RATIO	6.6	(Trailing: 6.6 Median: 26.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	0.65	DIV YLD	4.8%	VALUE LINE
TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 01/14/07	SAFETY 3 New 3/24/00	TECHNICAL 3 Lowered 10/31/08	BETA 1.10 (1.00 = Market)	2011-13 PROJECTIONS	Insider Decisions	Institutional Decisions	LEGENDS	High: 12.3 18.4 23.2 21.9 17.6 17.0 23.8 26.3 29.8 35.5 29.8	Low: 8.7 10.9 13.1 14.4 8.8 10.4 16.1 20.8 22.8 26.8 10.6	Target Price Range	2011	2012	2013						

Missouri Gas Energy
Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate
Through Use of a Risk Premium Model
Using an Adjusted Total Market Approach

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>	<u>Southern Union Company</u>
1.	Prospective Yield on Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds (1)	5.08 %	5.08 %
2.	Adjustment to Reflect Yield Spread Between Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds and A Rated Public Utility Bonds	<u>1.41 (2)</u>	<u>1.41 (2)</u>
3.	Adjusted Prospective Yield on A Rated Public Utility Bonds	6.49 %*	6.49 %*
4.	Adjustment to Reflect Bond Rating Difference of Proxy Group	<u>0.40 (3)</u>	<u>0.60 (4)</u>
5.	Adjusted Prospective Bond Yield	6.89	7.09
6.	Equity Risk Premium (5)	<u>5.47</u>	<u>7.41</u>
7.	Risk Premium Derived Common Equity Cost Rate	<u>12.36 %</u>	<u>14.50 %</u>

* Actual Moody's A Rated Public Utility Bond Yield for January 2009 is 6.39%.

- Notes: (1) Derived in Note (3) on page 6 of this Schedule.
- (2) The average yield spread of A rated public utility bonds over Aaa rated corporate bonds of 1.41% from page 4 of this Schedule.
- (3) Adjustment to reflect the Baa1 Moody's Bond Rating of the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies as shown on page 2 of this Schedule. Normally, Mr. Hanley would take 2/3 of the spread between Baa and A2 Public Utility Bonds ($2/3 * 1.55\% = 1.03\%$) to reflect the risk of the proxy group. However Mr. Hanley believes that the current spread between A2 and Baa2 rated public utility bonds are not representative of the long-term and will utilize a normalized spread of 0.60% between A2 and Baa2 rated public utility bonds based upon a weighting explained in depth in Mr. Hanley's direct testimony. A spread of 0.40%, or 2/3 of the normalized spread will be applied to the prospective yield on A rated public utility bonds relative to the proxy group of nine Value Line natural gas distribution companies as shown above.
- (4) Adjustment to reflect the Baa3 Moody's Bond Rating of Southern Union Company as shown on page 2 of this Schedule. Normally, Mr. Hanley would take the full spread between A2 and Baa2 yields (1.51%) and add it to prospective A yield to reflect the risk of Southern Union Company. However Mr. Hanley believes that the current spread between A2 and Baa2 rated public utility bonds are not representative of the long-term and will utilize a normalized spread of 0.60% between A2 and Baa2 rated public utility bonds based upon a weighting explained in depth in Mr. Hanley's direct testimony. The full spread of 0.60% will be applied to the prospective yield on A rated public utility bonds relative to Southern Union Company as shown above.
- (5) From page 5 of this Schedule.

Moody's		Standard & Poor's			
Bond Rating		Bond Rating		Bond Rating	
February 2009		February 2009		February 2009	
Bond Rating	Numerical Weighting (1)	Bond Rating	Numerical Weighting (1)	Business Risk Profile (2)	Numerical Weighting (1)
Bond Rating	Numerical Weighting (1)	Bond Rating	Numerical Weighting (1)	Business Risk Profile (2)	Numerical Weighting (1)
Proxy Group of Nine Value Line					
Natural Gas Distribution Companies					
ATG	A3	7.0	A-	Excellent	1.0
ATG	Baa3	10.0	BBB+	Excellent	1.0
ATG	A3	7.0	A	Excellent	1.0
NJR	NR	-	A	Excellent	1.0
NWN	A2	6.0	AA-	Excellent	1.0
PNY	A3	7.0	A	Excellent	1.0
SJL	Baa1	8.0	BBB+	Excellent	1.0
SWX	Baa3	10.0	BBB-	Strong	2.0
WGL	A2	6.0	AA-	Excellent	1.0
	Baa1	7.5	A-	Excellent	1.0
	AVERAGE				
	Baa3	10.0	BBB-	Satisfactory	3.0
				Aggressive	4.0

Notes: (1) From page 3 of this Schedule.
(2) From Standard & Poor's Issuer Ranking: U.S. Natural Gas Distribution and Integrated Gas Companies. Strongest to Weakest and U.S. Midstream Energy Companies, Strongest to Weakest February 2, 2009 shown on Schedule 4 of this Exhibit.
(3) Ratings, business risk and financial risk profiles are those of Atlanta Gas Light Company.
(4) Ratings, business risk and financial risk are those of Laclede Gas Company.
(5) Ratings, business risk and financial risk profiles are those of New Jersey Natural Gas Company.
(6) Ratings, business risk and financial risk profiles are those of South Jersey Gas.
(7) Ratings, business risk and financial risk profiles are those of Washington Gas Light Company.

Source Information: Moody's Investors Service
Standard & Poor's Global Utilities Rating Service

Missouri Gas Energy
Numerical Assignment for
Moody's and Standard & Poor's Bond Ratings
Standard & Poor's Business and Financial Risk Profiles

<u>Moody's Bond Rating</u>	<u>Numerical Bond Weighting</u>	<u>Standard & Poor's Bond Rating</u>
Aaa	1	AAA
Aa1	2	AA+
Aa2	3	AA
Aa3	4	AA-
A1	5	A+
A2	6	A
A3	7	A-
Baa1	8	BBB+
Baa2	9	BBB
Baa3	10	BBB-
Ba1	11	BB+
Ba2	12	BB
Ba3	13	BB-

Standard & Poor's

<u>Business Risk Profile</u>	<u>Numerical Weighting</u>	<u>Financial Risk Profile</u>	<u>Numerical Weighting</u>
Excellent	1	Minimal	1
Strong	2	Modest	2
Satisfactory	3	Intermediate	3
Weak	4	Aggressive	4
Vulnerable	5	Highly Leveraged	5

Moody's
Comparison of Interest Rate Trends
for the Two Months Ending January 2009 (1)

Years	Corporate Bonds	Public Utility Bonds		Spread - Corporate v. Public Utility Bonds		Spread - Public Utility Bonds	
		Aa Rated	A Rated	Aa (Pub. Util.) over Aaa (Corp.)	A (Pub. Util.) over Aaa (Corp.)	A over Aa	Baa over A
December-08	5.06	5.93	6.54				
January-09	5.05	6.01	6.39				
Average of Last 2 Months	5.06 %	5.97 %	6.47 %	0.91 %	1.41 %	0.50 %	1.55 %

Notes: (1) All yields are distributed yields.

Average 5 yr Spread Between Moody's A and Baa Rated Public Utility Bonds
January 2009 Spread Between Moody's A and Baa Rated Public Utility Bonds
5 yr Normalized Spread Between Moody's A and Baa Rated Public Utility Bonds

0.37% 80% Weight
1.51% 20% Weight
0.50%

Source of Information: Mergent Bond Record, February 2009, Vol. 76, No. 2.

Missouri Gas Energy
Judgment of Equity Risk Premium for
the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Line <u>No.</u>		<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>	<u>Southern Union Company</u>
1.	Calculated equity risk premium based on the total market using the beta approach (1)	6.80 %	10.69 %
2.	Mean equity risk premium based on a study using the holding period returns of public utilities with Baa rated bonds (2)	<u>4.13</u>	<u>4.13</u>
3.	Average equity risk premium	<u><u>5.47 %</u></u>	<u><u>7.41 %</u></u>

Notes:

- (1) From page 6 of this Schedule.
- (2) From page 8 of this Schedule.

Missouri Gas Energy
Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach
Using the Beta for
the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Line No.		Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies	Southern Union Company
1.	Arithmetic mean total return rate on the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Index - 1926-2007 (1)	12.30 %	12.30 %
2.	Arithmetic mean yield on Aaa and Aa Corporate Bonds 1926-2007 (2)	<u>(6.10)</u>	<u>(6.10)</u>
3.	Historical Equity Risk Premium	<u>6.20 %</u>	<u>6.20 %</u>
4.	Forecasted 3-5 year Total Annual Market Return (3)	28.85 %	28.85 %
5.	Prospective Yield an Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds (4)	<u>(5.08)</u>	<u>(5.08)</u>
6.	Forecasted Equity Risk Premium	<u>23.77 %</u>	<u>23.77 %</u>
7.	Conclusion of Equity Risk Premium (5)	9.71 %	9.71 %
8.	Adjusted Value Line Beta (6)	<u>0.70</u>	<u>1.10</u>
9.	Beta Adjusted Equity Risk Premium	<u>6.80 %</u>	<u>10.69 %</u>

- Notes: (1) From Ibbotson SBB - 2008 Valuation Yearbook - Market Results for Stocks Bonds Bills and Inflation for 1926-2007, Morningstar, Inc., 2008 Chicago, IL.
- (2) From Moody's Industrial Manual and Mergent Bond Record Monthly Update.
- (3) From page 3 of Schedule FJH-18.
- (4) Average forecast based upon six quarterly estimates of Aaa rated corporate bonds per the consensus of nearly 50 economists reported in Blue Chip Financial Forecasts dated February 1, 2009 (see page 7 of this Schedule). The estimates are detailed below.

First Quarter 2009	4.90 %
Second Quarter 2009	4.90
Third Quarter 2009	5.00
Fourth Quarter 2009	5.10
First Quarter 2010	5.20
Second Quarter 2010	<u>5.40</u>
Average	<u>5.08 %</u>

- (5) The average of the Historical Equity Risk Premium of 6.20% from Line No. 3 and the Forecasted Equity Risk Premium of 23.77% from Line No. 6 $((6.20\% + 23.77\%) / 2 = 14.98\%)$. Normally, Mr. Hanley would use this average in his Risk Premium Analysis. However, in Mr. Hanley's opinion, the current and recent substantial volatility in the stock market is extraordinary and not representative of the expected long-term. Consequently, in this instance, Mr. Hanley will apply a 20% weight to the forecasted risk premium of 23.77% and an 80% weight to the historical risk premium of 6.20%, resulting in a 9.71% weighted risk premium.
- (6) From page 9 of this Schedule.

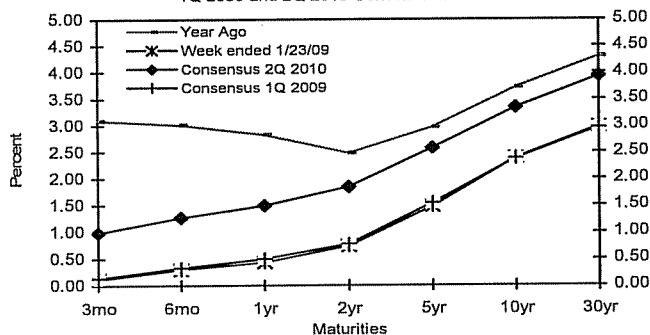
Consensus Forecasts Of U.S. Interest Rates And Key Assumptions¹

Interest Rates	History								Consensus Forecasts-Quarterly Avg.						
	Average For Week End				Average For Month				Latest Q	1Q 2009	2Q 2009	3Q 2009	4Q 2009	1Q 2010	2Q 2010
	Jan.23	Jan.16	Jan.9	Jan.2	Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	4Q 2008							
Federal Funds Rate	0.20	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.16	0.39	0.97	0.51	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.9	
Prime Rate	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.61	4.00	4.56	4.06	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.9	
LIBOR, 3-mo.	1.13	1.13	1.37	1.43	1.83	2.28	4.06	2.11	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.9	
Commercial Paper, 1-mo.	0.16	0.13	0.09	0.12	0.25	0.61	1.55	0.80	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.3	
Treasury bill, 3-mo.	0.12	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.03	0.19	0.69	0.30	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.0	
Treasury bill, 6-mo.	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.27	0.26	0.74	1.23	0.74	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.3	
Treasury bill, 1 yr.	0.43	0.43	0.44	0.37	0.49	1.07	1.42	0.99	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.5	
Treasury note, 2 yr.	0.74	0.74	0.80	0.79	0.82	1.21	1.61	1.21	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.8	
Treasury note, 5 yr.	1.48	1.42	1.62	1.55	1.52	2.29	2.73	2.18	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.6	
Treasury note, 10 yr.	2.39	2.30	2.48	2.24	2.42	3.53	3.81	3.25	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.3	
Treasury note, 30 yr.	2.98	2.93	3.03	2.68	2.87	4.00	4.17	3.68	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.9	
Corporate Aaa bond	4.93	4.89	5.04	4.74	5.08	6.15	6.28	5.84	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.4	
Corporate Baa bond	7.98	7.97	8.23	8.07	8.46	9.22	8.88	8.85	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.5	
State & Local bonds	4.80	4.80	5.02	5.24	5.56	5.23	5.50	5.43	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.8	
Home mortgage rate	4.96	4.96	5.01	5.1	5.33	6.09	6.20	5.87	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4	
Key Assumptions	History								Consensus Forecasts-Quarterly Avg.						
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q*	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	
	2007	2007	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	
Major Currency Index	81.9	79.3	77.0	73.3	72.0	70.9	73.5	81.3	80.1	80.8	81.1	81.1	81.6	81.9	
Real GDP	0.1	4.8	4.8	-0.2	0.9	2.8	-0.5	-5.2	-3.7	-1.2	0.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	
GDP Price Index	4.1	2.0	1.5	2.8	2.6	1.1	4.2	0.3	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	
Consumer Price Index	3.7	4.6	2.8	5.0	4.3	5.0	6.7	-9.2	-2.2	1.0	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	

Individual panel members' forecasts are on pages 4 through 9. Historical data for interest rates except LIBOR is from Federal Reserve Release (FRSR) H.15. LIBOR quotes available from *The Wall Street Journal*. Definitions reported here are same as those in FRSR H.15. Treasury yields are reported on a constant maturity basis. Historical data for the U.S. Federal Reserve Board's Major Currency Index is from FRSR H.10 and G.5. Historical data for Real GDP and GDP Chained Price Index are from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). Consumer Price Index (CPI) history is from the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). *Figures for 4Q 2008 Real GDP and GDP Chained Price Index are consensus forecasts based on a special question asked of the panelists this month (see page 14). Actual figures will be released on January 30th.*

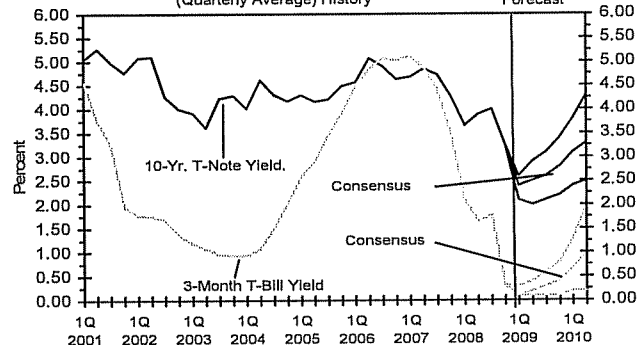
U.S. Treasury Yield Curve

Week ended January 23, 2009 and Year Ago vs.
1Q 2009 and 2Q 2010 Consensus Forecasts



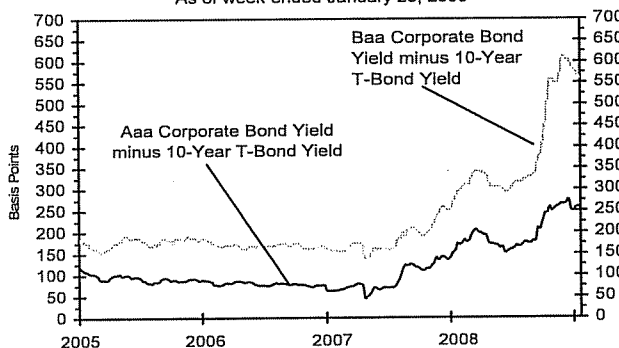
U.S. 3-Mo. T-Bills & 10-Yr. T-Note Yield

(Quarterly Average) History Forecast



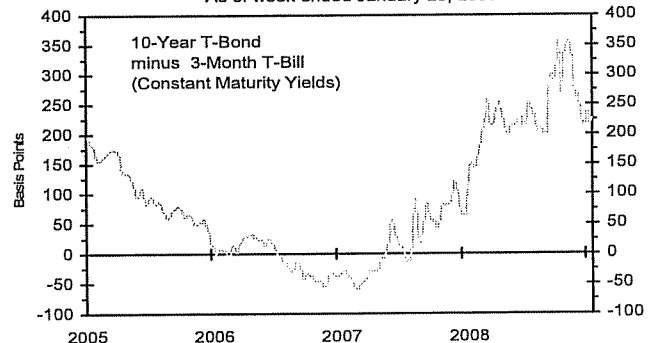
Corporate Bond Spreads

As of week ended January 23, 2009



U.S. Treasury Yield Curve

As of week ended January 23, 2009



Missouri Gas Energy
Derivation of Mean Equity Risk Premium Based on a Study
Using Holding Period Returns of Public Utilities

Line No.	Over Baa Rated Public Utility Bonds AUS Consultants - Utility Services Study (1)
Time Period	1928-2007
1.	Arithmetic Mean Holding Period Returns (2): Standard & Poor's Public Utility Index 11.24 %
2.	Arithmetic Mean Yield on: Moody's Baa Rated Public Utility Bonds (7.11)
3.	Equity Risk Premium 4.13 %

Notes: (1) S&P Public Utility Index and Moody's Public Utility Bond Average Annual Yields 1928-2007, (AUS Consultants - Utility Services, 2008).

(2) Holding period returns are calculated based upon income received (dividends and interest) plus the relative change in the market value of a security over a one-year holding period.

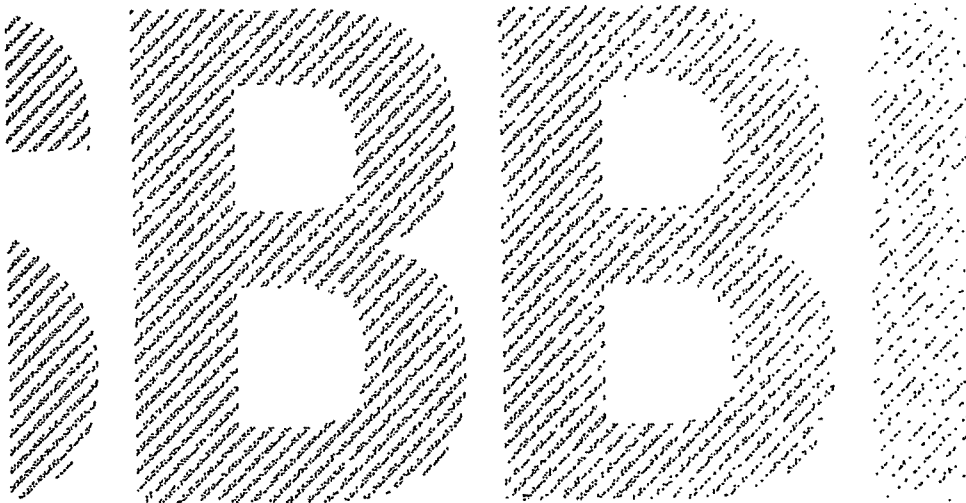
Missouri Gas Energy
Value Line Adjusted Betas for
the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies
and Southern Union Company

	<u>Value Line Adjusted Beta</u>
 <u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>	
AGL Resources Inc.	0.75
Atmos Energy Corp.	0.65
The Laclede Group, Inc.	0.65
New Jersey Resources Corp.	0.70
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	0.60
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	0.70
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	0.75
Southwest Gas Corporation	0.75
WGL Holdings, Inc.	0.75
Average	<u>0.70</u>
Median	<u>0.70</u>
 <u>Southern Union Company</u>	 <u>1.10</u>

Source of Information: Value Line Investment Survey
(Standard Edition) December 12,
2008.

Ibbotson® SBBI®
2008 Valuation Yearbook

Market Results for
Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation
1926–2007



For example, if bond yields rise unexpectedly, investors can receive a higher coupon payment from a newly issued bond than from the purchase of an outstanding bond with the former lower-coupon payment. The outstanding lower-coupon bond will thus fail to attract buyers, and its price will decrease, causing its yield to increase correspondingly, as its coupon payment remains the same. The newly priced outstanding bond will subsequently attract purchasers who will benefit from the shift in price and yield; however, those investors who already held the bond will suffer a capital loss due to the fall in price.

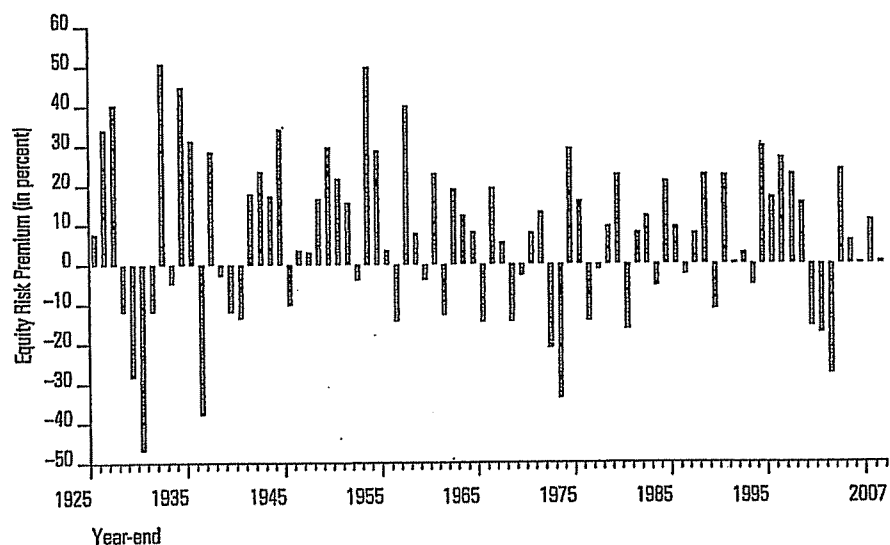
Anticipated changes in yields are assessed by the market and figured into the price of a bond. Future changes in yields that are not anticipated will cause the price of the bond to adjust accordingly. Price changes in bonds due to unanticipated changes in yields introduce price risk into the total return. Therefore, the total return on the bond series does not represent the riskless rate of return. The income return better represents the unbiased estimate of the purely riskless rate of return, since an investor can hold a bond to maturity and be entitled to the income return with no capital loss.

Arithmetic versus Geometric Means

The equity risk premium data presented in this book are arithmetic average risk premia as opposed to geometric average risk premia. The arithmetic average equity risk premium can be demonstrated to be most appropriate when discounting future cash flows. For use as the expected equity risk premium in either the CAPM or the building block approach, the arithmetic mean or the simple difference of the arithmetic means of stock market returns and riskless rates is the relevant number. This is because both the CAPM and the building block approach are additive models, in which the cost of capital is the sum of its parts. The geometric average is more appropriate for reporting past performance, since it represents the compound average return.

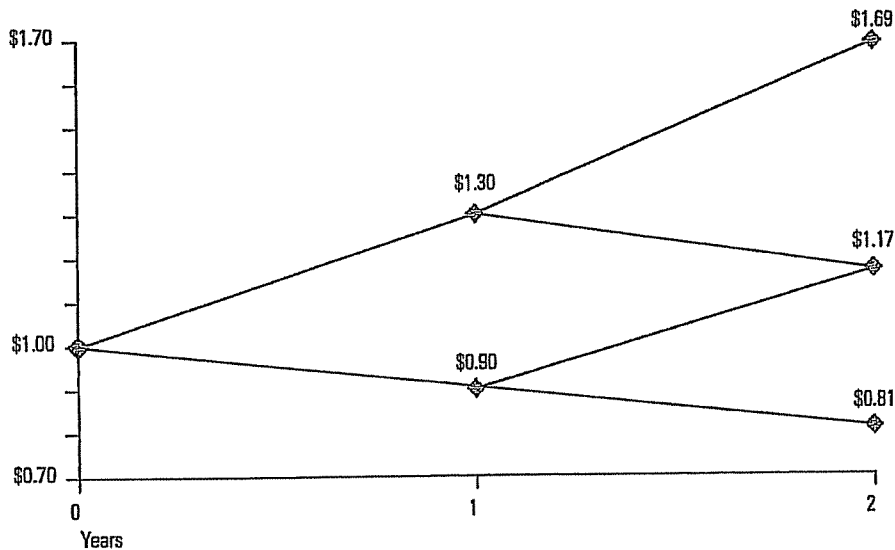
The argument for using the arithmetic average is quite straightforward. In looking at projected cash flows, the equity risk premium that should be employed is the equity risk premium that is expected to actually be incurred over the future time periods. Graph 5-3 shows the realized equity risk premium for each year based on the returns of the S&P 500 and the income return on long-term government bonds. (The actual, observed difference between the return on the stock market and the riskless rate is known as the realized equity risk premium.) There is considerable volatility in the year-by-year statistics. At times the realized equity risk premium is even negative.

Graph 5-3
Realized Equity Risk Premium Per Year
1926-2007



To illustrate how the arithmetic mean is more appropriate than the geometric mean in discounting cash flows, suppose the expected return on a stock is 10 percent per year with a standard deviation of 20 percent. Also assume that only two outcomes are possible each year: +30 percent and -10 percent (i.e., the mean plus or minus one standard deviation). The probability of occurrence for each outcome is equal. The growth of wealth over a two-year period is illustrated in Graph 5-4.

Graph 5-4



The most common outcome of \$1.17 is given by the geometric mean of 8.2 percent. Compounding the possible outcomes as follows derives the geometric mean:

$$[(1 + 0.30) \times (1 - 0.10)]^n - 1 = 0.082$$

However, the expected value is predicted by compounding the arithmetic, not the geometric, mean. To illustrate this, we need to look at the probability-weighted average of all possible outcomes:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 (0.25 \times \$1.69) = \$0.4225 \\
 + (0.50 \times \$1.17) = \$0.5850 \\
 + (0.25 \times \$0.81) = \$0.2025 \\
 \hline
 \text{Total} \quad \quad \quad \$1.2100
 \end{array}$$

Therefore, \$1.21 is the probability-weighted expected value. The rate that must be compounded to achieve the terminal value of \$1.21 after 2 years is 10 percent, the arithmetic mean:

$$\$1 \times (1 + 0.10)^2 = \$1.21$$

The geometric mean, when compounded, results in the median of the distribution:

$$\$1 \times (1 + 0.082)^2 = \$1.17$$

The arithmetic mean equates the expected future value with the present value; it is therefore the appropriate discount rate.

Appropriate Historical Time Period

The equity risk premium can be estimated using any historical time period. For the U.S., market data exists at least as far back as the late 1800s. Therefore, it is possible to estimate the equity risk premium using data that covers roughly the past 100 years.

Our equity risk premium covers the time period from 1926 to the present. The original data source for the time series comprising the equity risk premium is the Center for Research in Security Prices. CRSP chose to begin their analysis of market returns with 1926 for two main reasons. CRSP determined that the time period around 1926 was approximately when quality financial data became available. They also made a conscious effort to include the period of extreme market volatility from the late twenties and early thirties; 1926 was chosen because it includes one full business cycle of data before the market crash of 1929. These are the most basic reasons why our equity risk premium calculation window starts in 1926.

Implicit in using history to forecast the future is the assumption that investors' expectations for future outcomes conform to past results. This method assumes that the price of taking on risk changes only slowly, if at all, over time. This "future equals the past" assumption is most applicable to a random time-series variable. A time-series variable is random if its value in one period is independent of its value in other periods.

Does the Equity Risk Premium Revert to Its Mean over Time?

Some have argued that the estimate of the equity risk premium is upwardly biased since the stock market is currently priced high. In other words, since there have been several years with extraordinarily high market returns and realized equity risk premia, the expectation is that returns and realized equity risk premia will be lower in the future, bringing the average back to a normalized level. This argument relies on several studies that have tried to determine whether reversion to the mean exists in stock market prices and the equity risk premium.³ Several academics contradict each other on this topic; moreover, the evidence supporting this argument is neither conclusive nor compelling enough to make such a strong assumption.

Our own empirical evidence suggests that the yearly difference between the stock market total return and the U.S. Treasury bond income return in any particular year is random. Graph 5-3, presented earlier, illustrates the randomness of the realized equity risk premium.

3 Fama, Eugene F., and Kenneth R. French. "Permanent and Temporary Components of Stock Prices," *Journal of Political Economy*, April 1988, pp. 246-273. Poterba, James M., and Lawrence H. Summers. "Mean Reversion in Stock Prices," *Journal of Financial Economics*, October 1988, pp. 27-59. Lo, Andrew W., and A. Craig MacKinlay. "Stock Market Prices Do Not Follow Random Walks: Evidence from a Simple Specification Test," *The Review of Financial Studies*, Spring 1988, pp. 41-66. Finnerty, John D., and Dean Leistikow. "The Behavior of Equity and Debt Risk Premiums: Are They Mean Reverting and Downward-Trending?" *The Journal of Portfolio Management*, Summer 1993, pp. 73-84. Ibbotson, Roger G., and Scott L. Lummer. "The Behavior of Equity and Debt Risk Premiums: Comment," *The Journal of Portfolio Management*, Summer 1994, pp. 98-100. Finnerty, John D., and Dean Leistikow. "The Behavior of Equity and Debt Risk Premiums: Reply to Comment," *The Journal of Portfolio Management*, Summer 1994, pp. 101-102.

A statistical measure of the randomness of a return series is its serial correlation. Serial correlation (or autocorrelation) is defined as the degree to which the return of a given series is related from period to period. A serial correlation near positive one indicates that returns are predictable from one period to the next period and are positively related. That is, the returns of one period are a good predictor of the returns in the next period. Conversely, a serial correlation near negative one indicates that the returns in one period are inversely related to those of the next period. A serial correlation near zero indicates that the returns are random or unpredictable from one period to the next. Table 5-3 contains the serial correlation of the market total returns, the realized long-horizon equity risk premium, and inflation.

Table 5-3
Interpretation of Annual Serial Correlations
1926-2007

Series	Serial Correlation	Interpretation
Large Company Stock Total Returns	0.03	Random
Equity Risk Premium	0.03	Random
Inflation Rates	0.65	Trend

The significance of this evidence is that the realized equity risk premium next year will not be dependent on the realized equity risk premium from this year. That is, there is no discernable pattern in the realized equity risk premium—it is virtually impossible to forecast next year's realized risk premium based on the premium of the previous year. For example, if this year's difference between the riskless rate and the return on the stock market is higher than last year's, that does not imply that next year's will be higher than this year's. It is as likely to be higher as it is lower. The best estimate of the expected value of a variable that has behaved randomly in the past is the average (or arithmetic mean) of its past values.

Table 5-4 also indicates that the equity risk premium varies considerably by decade. The complete decades ranged from a high of 17.9 percent in the 1950s to a low of 0.3 percent in the 1970s, however, thus far the 2000s have shown a -2.4 percent equity risk premium. This look at historical equity risk premium reveals no observable pattern.

Table 5-4
Long-Horizon Equity Risk Premium by Decade
1926-2007

1920s*	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s**	1997-2007
17.6%	2.3%	8.0%	17.9%	4.2%	0.3%	7.9%	12.1%	-2.4%	4.2%

*Based on the period 1926-1929.

**Based on the period 2000-2007.

Finnerty and Leistikow perform more econometrically sophisticated tests of mean reversion in the equity risk premium. Their tests demonstrate that—as we suspected from our simpler tests—the equity risk premium that was realized over 1926 to the present was almost perfectly free of mean reversion and had no statistically identifiable time trends.⁴ Lo and MacKinlay conclude, “the rejection of the random walk for weekly returns does not support a mean-reverting model of asset prices.”

Choosing an Appropriate Historical Period

The estimate of the equity risk premium depends on the length of the data series studied. A proper estimate of the equity risk premium requires a data series long enough to give a reliable average without being unduly influenced by very good and very poor short-term returns. When calculated using a long data series, the historical equity risk premium is relatively stable.⁵ Furthermore, because an average of the realized equity risk premium is quite volatile when calculated using a short history, using a long series makes it less likely that the analyst can justify any number he or she wants. The magnitude of how shorter periods can affect the result will be explored later in this chapter.

Some analysts estimate the expected equity risk premium using a shorter, more recent time period on the basis that recent events are more likely to be repeated in the near future; furthermore, they believe that the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s contain too many unusual events. This view is suspect because all periods contain “unusual” events. Some of the most unusual events of the last hundred years took place quite recently, including the inflation of the late 1970s and early 1980s, the October 1987 stock market crash, the collapse of the high-yield bond market, the major contraction and consolidation of the thrift industry, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the development of the European Economic Community, and the attacks of September 11, 2001.

It is even difficult for economists to predict the economic environment of the future. For example, if one were analyzing the stock market in 1987 before the crash, it would be statistically improbable to predict the impending short-term volatility without considering the stock market crash and market volatility of the 1929–1931 period.

Without an appreciation of the 1920s and 1930s, no one would believe that such events could happen. The 82-year period starting with 1926 is representative of what can happen: it includes high and low returns, volatile and quiet markets, war and peace, inflation and deflation, and prosperity and depression. Restricting attention to a shorter historical period underestimates the amount of change that could occur in a long future period. Finally, because historical event-types (not specific events) tend to

⁴ Though the study performed by Finnerty and Leistikow demonstrates that the traditional equity risk premium exhibits no mean reversion or drift, they conclude that, “the processes generating these risk premiums are generally mean-reverting.” This conclusion is completely unrelated to their statistical findings and has received some criticism. In addition to examining the traditional equity risk premium, Finnerty and Leistikow include analyses on “real” risk premium as well as separate risk premium for income and capital gains. In their comments on the study, Ibbotson and Lummer show that these “real” risk premium adjust for inflation twice, “creating variables with no economic content.” In addition, separating income and capital gains does not shed light on the behavior of the risk premium as a whole.

⁵ This assertion is further corroborated by data presented in *Global Investing: The Professional's Guide to the World of Capital Markets* (by Roger G. Ibbotson and Gary P. Brinson and published by McGraw-Hill, New York). Ibbotson and Brinson constructed a stock market total return series back to 1790. Even with some uncertainty about the accuracy of the data before the mid-nineteenth century, the results are remarkable. The real (adjusted for inflation) returns that investors received during the three 50-year periods and one 51-year period between 1790 and 1990 did not differ greatly from one another (that is, in a statistically significant amount). Nor did the real returns differ greatly from the overall 201-year average. This finding implies that because real stock-market returns have been reasonably consistent over time, investors can use these past returns as reasonable bases for forming their expectations of future returns.

repeat themselves, long-run capital market return studies can reveal a great deal about the future. Investors probably expect "unusual" events to occur from time to time, and their return expectations reflect this.

A Look at the Historical Results

It is interesting to take a look at the realized returns and realized equity risk premium in the context of the above discussion. Table 5-5 shows the average stock market return and the average (arithmetic mean) realized long-horizon equity risk premium over various historical time periods. Similarly, Graph 5-5 shows the average (arithmetic mean) realized equity risk premium calculated through 2007 for different starting dates. The table and the graph both show that using a longer historical period provides a more stable estimate of the equity risk premium. The reason is that any unique period will not be weighted heavily in an average covering a longer historical period. It better represents the probability of these unique events occurring over a long period of time.

Table 5-5
Stock Market Return and Equity Risk Premium Over Time
1926-2007

Period Length	Period Dates	Large Company Stock Arithmetic Mean Total Return	Long-Horizon Equity Risk Premium
82 Years	1926-2007	12.3%	7.1%
70 Years	1938-2007	12.8%	7.3%
60 Years	1948-2007	13.1%	7.1%
50 Years	1958-2007	12.2%	5.5%
40 Years	1968-2007	11.8%	4.4%
30 Years	1978-2007	14.0%	6.3%
20 Years	1988-2007	13.0%	6.6%
15 Years	1993-2007	11.8%	6.0%
10 Years	1998-2007	7.2%	1.9%
5 Years	2003-2007	13.2%	8.3%

Looking carefully at Graph 5-5 will clarify this point. The graph shows the realized equity risk premium for a series of time periods through 2007, starting with 1926. In other words, the first value on the graph represents the average realized equity risk premium over the period 1926-2007. The next value on the graph represents the average realized equity risk premium over the period 1927-2007, and so on, with the last value representing the average over the most recent five years, 2003-2007. Concentrating on the left side of Graph 5-5, one notices that the realized equity risk premium, when measured over long periods of time, is relatively stable. In viewing the graph from left to right, moving from longer to shorter historical periods, one sees that the value of the realized equity risk premium begins to decline significantly. Why does this occur? The reason is that the severe bear market of 1973-1974 is receiving proportionately more weight in the shorter, more recent average. If you continue to follow the line to the right, however, you will also notice that when 1973 and 1974 fall out of the recent average, the realized equity risk premium jumps up by nearly 1.2 percent.

Missouri Gas Energy
 Spreads Between Moody's A and Baa Rated Public Utility Bond Yields
 for Five Years One Month Ending January 2009

DATE	Moody's A Rated Public Utility Bond Yields	Moody's Baa Rated Public Utility Bond Yields	Spread Between A and Baa Rated Bond Yields
Jan-04	6.15%	6.47%	0.32%
Feb-04	6.15%	6.28%	0.13%
Mar-04	5.97%	6.12%	0.15%
Apr-04	6.35%	6.46%	0.11%
May-04	6.62%	6.75%	0.13%
Jun-04	6.46%	6.84%	0.38%
Jul-04	6.27%	6.67%	0.40%
Aug-04	6.14%	6.45%	0.31%
Sep-04	5.98%	6.27%	0.29%
Oct-04	5.94%	6.17%	0.23%
Nov-04	5.97%	6.16%	0.19%
Dec-04	5.92%	6.10%	0.18%
Jan-05	5.78%	5.95%	0.17%
Feb-05	5.61%	5.76%	0.15%
Mar-05	5.83%	6.01%	0.18%
Apr-05	5.64%	5.95%	0.31%
May-05	5.53%	5.88%	0.35%
Jun-05	5.40%	5.70%	0.30%
Jul-05	5.51%	5.80%	0.29%
Aug-05	5.50%	5.81%	0.31%
Sep-05	5.52%	5.83%	0.31%
Oct-05	5.79%	6.08%	0.29%
Nov-05	5.88%	6.19%	0.31%
Dec-05	5.80%	6.14%	0.34%
Jan-06	5.75%	6.06%	0.31%
Feb-06	5.82%	6.11%	0.29%
Mar-06	5.98%	6.26%	0.28%
Apr-06	6.29%	6.54%	0.25%
May-06	6.42%	6.59%	0.17%
Jun-06	6.40%	6.61%	0.21%
Jul-06	6.37%	6.61%	0.24%
Aug-06	6.20%	6.43%	0.23%
Sep-06	6.00%	6.26%	0.26%
Oct-06	5.98%	6.24%	0.26%
Nov-06	5.80%	6.04%	0.24%
Dec-06	5.81%	6.05%	0.24%
Jan-07	5.96%	6.16%	0.20%
Feb-07	5.90%	6.10%	0.20%
Mar-07	5.85%	6.10%	0.25%
Apr-07	5.97%	6.24%	0.27%
May-07	5.99%	6.23%	0.24%
Jun-07	6.30%	6.54%	0.24%
Jul-07	6.25%	6.49%	0.24%
Aug-07	6.24%	6.51%	0.27%
Sep-07	6.18%	6.45%	0.27%
Oct-07	6.11%	6.36%	0.25%
Nov-07	5.97%	6.27%	0.30%
Dec-07	6.16%	6.51%	0.35%
Jan-08	6.02%	6.35%	0.33%
Feb-08	6.21%	6.60%	0.39%
Mar-08	6.21%	6.68%	0.47%
Apr-08	6.29%	6.81%	0.52%
May-08	6.27%	6.79%	0.52%
Jun-08	6.38%	6.93%	0.55%
Jul-08	6.40%	6.97%	0.57%
Aug-08	6.37%	6.98%	0.61%
Sep-08	6.49%	7.15%	0.66%
Oct-08	7.56%	8.58%	1.02%
Nov-08	7.20%	8.98%	1.78%
Dec-08	6.54%	8.13%	1.59%
Jan-09	6.39%	7.90%	1.51%
Average	6.09%	6.46%	0.37%

Source of Information:
 Mergent Bond Record, February 2009, Volume 76, No. 2.

Schedule FJH-17

Missouri Gas Energy
Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use
of the Capital Asset Pricing Model
for the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies
and Southern Union Company

<u>Line No.</u>	<u>Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies</u>	<u>Southern Union Company</u>
1. Traditional Capital Asset Pricing Model (1)	10.92 %	15.23 %
2. Empirical Capital Asset Pricing Model (1)	<u>11.73 %</u>	<u>14.96 %</u>
3. Conclusion	<u><u>11.33 %</u></u>	<u><u>15.10 %</u></u>

Notes:

- (1) From page 2 of this Schedule.

Missouri Gas Energy
Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use
of the Capital Asset Pricing Model

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
	Value Line Adjusted Beta	Company-Specific Risk Premium Based on Market Premium of 10.77% (1)	CAPM Result Including Risk-Free Rate of 3.38% (2)
<u>Traditional Capital Asset Pricing Model (3)</u>			
Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies			
AGL Resources Inc.	0.75	8.08 %	11.46 %
Atmos Energy Corp.	0.65	7.00	10.38
The Laclede Group, Inc.	0.65	7.00	10.38
New Jersey Resources Corp.	0.70	7.54	10.92
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	0.60	6.46	9.84
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	0.70	7.54	10.92
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	0.75	8.08	11.46
Southwest Gas Corporation	0.75	8.08	11.46
WGL Holdings, Inc.	0.75	8.08	11.46
Average	<u>0.70</u>	<u>7.54 %</u>	<u>10.92 %</u>
Median	<u>0.70</u>	<u>7.54 %</u>	<u>10.92 %</u>
<u>Southern Union Company</u>	<u>1.10</u>	<u>11.85 %</u>	<u>15.23 %</u>

<u>Empirical Capital Asset Pricing Model (4)</u>			
Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies			
AGL Resources Inc.	0.75	8.75 %	12.13 %
Atmos Energy Corp.	0.65	7.95	11.33
The Laclede Group, Inc.	0.65	7.95	11.33
New Jersey Resources Corp.	0.70	8.35	11.73
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	0.60	7.54	10.92
Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.	0.70	8.35	11.73
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	0.75	8.75	12.13
Southwest Gas Corporation	0.75	8.75	12.13
WGL Holdings, Inc.	0.75	8.75	12.13
Average	<u>0.70</u>	<u>8.35 %</u>	<u>11.73 %</u>
Median	<u>0.70</u>	<u>8.35 %</u>	<u>11.73 %</u>
<u>Southern Union Company</u>	<u>1.10</u>	<u>11.58 %</u>	<u>14.96 %</u>

See page 3 for notes.

Missouri Gas Energy
Development of the Market-Required Rate of Return on Common Equity Using
the Capital Asset Pricing Model for
the Proxy Group of Nine Natural Gas Distribution Companies
and Southern Union Company
Adjusted to Reflect a Forecasted Risk-Free Rate and Market Return

Notes:

- (1) For reasons explained in Mr. Hanley's accompanying direct testimony, from the two previous month-end (December 2008 – January 2009), as well as a recently available (February 13, 2009), Value Line Summary & Index, a forecasted 3-5 year total annual market return of 28.85% can be derived by averaging the 3-month and spot forecasted total 3-5 year total appreciation, converting it into an annual market appreciation and adding the Value Line average forecasted annual dividend yield.

The 3-5 year average total market appreciation of 148% produces a four-year average annual return of 25.49% $((2.48^{.25}) - 1)$. When the average annual forecasted dividend yield of 3.36% is added, a total average market return of 28.85% $(3.36\% + 25.49\%)$ is derived.

The 3-month and spot forecasted total market return of 28.85% minus the risk-free rate of 3.38% (developed in Note 2) is 25.47% $(28.85\% - 3.38\%)$. The Morningstar, Inc. (Ibbotson Associates) calculated market premium of 7.10% for the period 1926-2007 results from a total market return of 12.30% less the average income return on long-term U.S. Government Securities of 5.20% $(12.30\% - 5.20\% = 7.10\%)$. This is then averaged with the 25.54% Value Line market premium resulting in a 16.29% market premium. In Mr. Hanley's opinion, the current and recent substantial volatility in the stock market is extraordinary and not representative of the expected long-term. Consequently, in this instance, Mr. Hanley will weight what he believes is an extraordinary expected capital appreciation at 20% and will weight the historical market premium at 80%. The product of this weighting is 10.77% $((.20 * 25.47\%) + (.80 * 7.10\%))$ which will be then multiplied by the beta in column 1 of page2 of this Exhibit.

- (2) For reasons explained in Mr. Hanley's direct testimony, the risk-free rate that Mr. Hanley relies upon for his CAPM analysis is the average forecast based upon six quarterly estimates of 30-year Treasury Note yields per the consensus of nearly 50 economists reported in the Blue Chip Financial Forecasts dated February 1, 2009 (see Page 7 of Schedule FJH-15). The estimates are detailed below:

	<u>30-Year Treasury Note Yield</u>
First Quarter 2009	2.90%
Second Quarter 2009	3.00
Third Quarter 2009	3.20
Fourth Quarter 2009	3.40
First Quarter 2010	3.80
Second Quarter 2010	4.00
Average	<u>3.38%</u>

- (3) The traditional Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) is applied using the following formula:

$$R_S = R_F + \beta (R_M - R_F)$$

Where R_S = Return rate of common stock

R_F = Risk Free Rate

β = Value Line Adjusted Beta

R_M = Return on the market as a whole

- (4) The empirical CAPM is applied using the following formula:

$$R_S = R_F + .25 (R_M - R_F) + .75 \beta (R_M - R_F)$$

Where R_S = Return rate of common stock

R_F = Risk-Free Rate

β = Value Line Adjusted Beta

R_M = Return on the market as a whole

Source of Information: Value Line Summary & Index
Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, February 1, 2009
Value Line Investment Survey, (Standard Edition) December 12, 2008.
Ibbotson SBBI – 2008 Valuation Yearbook – Market Results for Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation for 1926-2007, Morningstar, Inc., 2008, Chicago,

Missouri Gas Energy
Comparable Earnings Analysis
for a Proxy Group of Nine Non-Utility Companies Comparable to the
Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies (1)

Proxy Group of Nine Non-Utility Companies Comparable to the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies (1)	Adj Beta	Unadj Beta	Standard Error of the Regression	Standard Deviation of Beta	Rate of Return on Book Common Equity, Net Worth, or Partner's Capital	
					5-Year Projected (2)	Student's Statistic
Automatic Data Proc.	0.75	0.58	2.2033	0.0635	Percent	Percent
Gallagher (Arthur J.)	0.70	0.51	2.2842	0.0658	16.00	0.57)
Erie Indemnity Co.	0.70	0.51	2.0646	0.0595	23.50	0.58
Intl Flavors & Frag.	0.70	0.53	2.2368	0.0644	22.00	0.35
Kraft Foods	0.65	0.44	2.2521	0.0649	25.50	0.89
Northrop Grumman	0.75	0.56	2.2626	0.0652	10.50	(1.42)
Raytheon Co.	0.75	0.59	2.1222	0.0611	12.50	(1.11)
Sara Lee Corp.	0.70	0.50	2.2565	0.0650	14.50	(0.81)
Exxon Mobil Corp.	0.80	0.62	2.2771	0.0656	24.00	0.66
Average	0.72	0.54	2.2177	0.0639	29.00	1.43
Average for the Proxy Group of Nine Value Line Natural Gas Distribution Companies	0.70	0.52	2.1000 (3)	0.0605		
Median (4)						22.00%

See Page 3 for notes.

Missouri Gas Energy
Comparable Earnings Analysis
for a Proxy Group of Twenty Non-Utility Companies Comparable to
Southern Union Company (5)

Proxy Group of Twenty Non-Utility Companies Comparable to Southern Union Company (5)	Adj Beta	Unadj Beta	Standard Error of the Regression	Standard Deviation of Beta	Rate of Return on Book Common Equity, Net Worth, or Partner's Capital	
					5-Year Projected (2)	Student's Statistic
Air Products & Chem.	1.10	1.08	2.3626	0.0681	23.00 %	0.70
AptarGroup	1.00	1.00	2.5946	0.0747	12.50	(0.68)
Avery Dennison	1.00	0.95	2.3991	0.0691	14.50	(0.42)
Amer. Express	1.15	1.21	2.4846	0.0716	28.00	1.35
Bail Corp.	1.10	1.12	2.5673	0.0740	17.50	(0.02)
Can. National Railway	1.10	1.13	2.5814	0.0744	15.50	(0.29)
Rockwell Collins	1.05	1.02	2.4591	0.0708	36.00 (6)	2.40
Dow Chemical	1.00	0.96	2.5945	0.0747	10.50	(0.94)
DST Systems	1.00	0.97	2.3933	0.0689	17.00	(0.09)
Eaton Corp.	1.10	1.14	2.4252	0.0699	18.00	0.04
Fortune Brands	1.00	0.99	2.3314	0.0672	10.50	(0.94)
Honeywell Intl	1.10	1.08	2.4089	0.0694	24.50	0.89
Mettler-Toledo Intl	1.00	0.97	2.5052	0.0722	32.50	1.94
News Corp.	1.05	1.03	2.3072	0.0665	9.00	(1.14)
Praxair Inc.	1.05	1.02	2.3077	0.0665	19.50	0.24
Donnelley (R.R.) & Sons	1.05	1.02	2.5412	0.0732	14.50	(0.42)
Republic Services	1.05	1.01	2.3435	0.0675	15.00	(0.35)
Stanley Works	1.10	1.09	2.6062	0.0751	15.50	(0.29)
Travelers Cos.	1.05	1.02	2.5261	0.0728	11.50	(0.81)
Time Warner	1.00	0.96	2.2781	0.0656	8.50	(1.20)
Average	1.05	1.04	2.4509	0.0706		
Southern Union Company	1.10	1.09	2.4005 (7)	0.0692		
Median (4)					15.50%	
Conservative Median (8)					15.50%	

See Page 3 for notes.

Missouri Gas Energy
Comparable Earnings Analysis

Notes:

- (1) The criteria for selection of the proxy group of nine non-utility companies was that the non-utility companies be domestic and have a meaningful rate of return on book common equity, shareholders' equity, net worth, or partners' capital for each of the five years ended 2007 and projected 2011- 2013 as reported in Value Line Investment Survey (Standard Edition). The proxy group of nine non-utility companies was selected based upon the proxy group of nine Value Line natural gas distribution companies' unadjusted beta range of 0.40 – 0.64 and standard error of the regression range of 1.9155 – 2.2845. These ranges are based upon plus or minus two standard deviations of the unadjusted beta and standard error of the regression as detailed in Mr. Hanley's direct testimony. Plus or minus two standard deviations captures 95.50% of the distribution of unadjusted betas and standard errors of the regression.
- (2) 2011 - 2013.
- (3) The standard deviation of group of ten Value Line electric and combination electric and gas companies' standard error of the regression is 0.0923. The standard deviation of the standard error of the regression is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Standard Deviation of the Std. Err. of the Regr.} = \frac{\text{Standard Error of the Regression}}{\sqrt{2N}}$$

where: N = number of observations. Since Value Line betas are derived from weekly price change observations over a period of five years, N = 259

$$\text{Thus, } 0.0923 = \frac{2.100}{\sqrt{518}} = \frac{2.100}{22.7596}$$

- (4) Median five year projected rate of return on book common equity, shareholder's equity, net worth, or partners' capital.
- (5) The criteria for selection of the proxy group of twenty companies was that the non-utility companies be domestic and have a meaningful projected rate of return on book common equity, shareholders' equity, net worth, or partners' capital 2011 - 2013 as reported in Value Line Investment Survey (Standard Edition). The proxy group of twenty non-utility companies was selected based upon Southern Union Company's unadjusted beta range of 0.95 – 1.23 and standard error of the regression range of 2.1896 – 2.6114. These ranges are based upon plus or minus two standard deviations of the unadjusted beta and standard error of the regression as detailed in Mr. Hanley's direct testimony. Plus or minus two standard deviations captures 95.50% of the distribution of unadjusted betas and standard errors of the regression.
- (6) The Student's T-statistic associated with these returns exceeds 2.083 at the 95% level of confidence. Therefore, they have been excluded, as outliers, to arrive at proper mean projected returns as fully explained in Mr. Hanley's testimony.
- (7) The standard deviation of the proxy group of eight Value Line natural gas distribution companies' standard error of the regression is 0.2110 (2.4005 / 22.7596).
- (8) Median of the five year historical and five year projected return on book common equity, shareholder's equity, net worth or partner's capital excluding returns identified as outliers as outlined on Note 6) above.

Source of Information: Value Line, Inc., December 15, 2008
Value Line Investment Survey (Standard Edition)

Missouri Gas Energy
Authorized Returns on Equity and Equity Ratios for
Natural Gas Distribution Companies from January 2008 to February 2009

Company	State	Case Identification	Date	Return on Equity (%)	Common Equity /Total Cap (%)	
Northern States Power Co-WI	Wisconsin	D-4220-UR-115 (gas)	1/8/2008	10.75	52.51	
Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Wisconsin	D-5-UR-103 (WEP-GAS)	1/17/2008	10.75	54.36	
Wisconsin Gas LLC	Wisconsin	D-5-UR-103 (WG)	1/17/2008	10.75	46.64	
North Shore Gas Co.	Illinois	D-07-0241	2/5/2008	9.99	56.00	
Peoples Gas Light & Coke Co.	Illinois	D-07-0242	2/5/2008	10.19	56.00	
Indiana Gas Co.	Indiana	Ca-43298	2/13/2008	10.20	48.99	(1)
Avista Corp.	Oregon	D-UG-181	3/31/2008	10.00	50.00	(1)
Duke Energy Ohio Inc.	Ohio	C-07-0589-GA-AIR	5/28/2008	10.50	55.76	(1)
Atmos Energy Corp.	Texas	GUD-9762	6/24/2008	10.00	48.27	
Questar Gas Co.	Utah	D-07-057-13	6/27/2008	10.00	51.38	(1)
San Diego Gas & Electric Co.	California	AP-06-12-009 (gas)	7/31/2008	10.70	49.00	(1)
Southern California Gas Co.	California	AP-06-12-010	7/31/2008	10.82	48.00	(1)
SourceGas Distribution LLC	Colorado	D-08S-108G	8/27/2008	10.25	53.13	(1)
Chesapeake Utilities Corp.	Delaware	D-07-186	9/2/2008	10.25	61.81	(1)
Atmos Energy Corp.	Georgia	D-27163-U	9/17/2008	10.70	45.00	
Central Illinois Light Co.	Illinois	D-07-0588	9/24/2008	10.68	46.50	
Central Illinois Public	Illinois	D-07-0589	9/24/2008	10.68	47.91	
Illinois Power Co.	Illinois	D-07-0590	9/24/2008	10.68	51.76	
Avista Corp.	Idaho	C-AVU-G-08-01	9/30/2008	10.20	47.94	(1)
New Jersey Natural Gas Co.	New Jersey	D-GR-07110889	10/3/2008	10.30	51.20	(1)
Puget Sound Energy Inc.	Washington	D-UG-07-2301	10/8/2008	10.15	46.00	(1)
CenterPoint Energy Resources	Texas	GUD 9791	10/20/2008	10.06	55.40	
Piedmont Natural Gas Co.	North Carolina	D-G-9, Sub 550	10/24/2008	10.60	51.00	(1)
Public Service Co. of NC	North Carolina	D-G-5, Sub 495	10/24/2008	10.60	54.00	(1)
Southwest Gas Corp.	California	A-07-12-022 (SoCalDiv)	11/21/2008	10.50	47.00	(1)
Southwest Gas Corp.	California	A-07-12-022 (NoCalDiv)	11/21/2008	10.50	47.00	(1)
Southwest Gas Corp.	California	A-07-12-022 (LkTah)	11/21/2008	10.50	47.00	(1)
Narragansett Electric Co.	Rhode Island	D-3943	11/24/2008	10.50	NA	
Columbia Gas of Ohio Inc	Ohio	C-08-0072-GA-AIR	12/3/2008	10.39	NA	(1)
Southwest Gas Corp.	Arizona	D-G-01551A-07-0504	12/24/2008	10.00	43.44	
Northwest Natural Gas Co.	Washington	D-UG-08-0546	12/26/2008	10.10	50.74	(1)
Avista Corp.	Washington	D-UG-08-0417	12/29/2008	10.20	46.30	(1)
Michigan Gas Utilities Corp	Michigan	C-U-15549	1/13/2009	10.45	46.49	
New England Gas Company	Massachusetts	DPU 08-35	2/2/2009	10.05	34.19	
Average				10.38	49.71	
Average of Litigated Cases				10.42	48.89	

Notes:

- (1) Order followed stipulation or settlement by the parties. Decision particulars not necessarily precedent-setting or specifically adopted by the regulatory body.

Source of Information:

Report downloaded from Regulatory Research Associates, Inc. (RRA) an SNL Energy Company on March 12, 2009.