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Date of Hearing: 4/3/2017

Case No. 16-0395-EL-SSD

PUCO Case Caption: In the Matter of the Application of
The Dayton Power and Light Company for Approval
of Its Electric Security Plan

List of exhibits being filed: Volume I

DP&L Exhibit 105

OCC Exhibits 1, 2

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APR 14 2017
Technician [Signature] Date Processed APR 14 2017

Reporter's Signature: Sharon Sue Gibson

Date Submitted: 4/14/2017

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

- - -

In the Matter of the :
 Application of The Dayton :
 Power and Light Company : Case No. 16-395-EL-SSO
 for Approval of its :
 Electric Security Plan. :

:

In the Matter of the :
 Application of The Dayton :
 Power and Light Company : Case No. 16-396-EL-ATA
 for Approval of Revised :
 Tariffs. :

:

In the Matter of the :
 Application of The Dayton :
 Power and Light Company :
 for Approval of Certain : Case No. 16-397-EL-AAM
 Accounting Authority :
 Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code:
 \$4904.13. :

- - -

PROCEEDINGS

before Mr. Gregory Price and Mr. Nicholas Walstra,
 Attorney Examiners, at the Public Utilities
 Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Room 11-A,
 Columbus, Ohio, called at 10:00 a.m. on Monday,
 April 3, 2017.

- - -

VOLUME I

- - -

ARMSTRONG & OKEY, INC.
 222 East Town Street, Second Floor
 Columbus, Ohio 43215-5201
 (614) 224-9481 - (800) 223-9481

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Research Update:

DPL Inc. And DP&L Downgraded To 'BB-' On Persistent Weak Financial Measures And Coal Retirements; Outlook Negative

Primary Credit Analyst:

Obioma Ugboaja, New York 212-438-7406; obioma.ugboaja@spglobal.com

Secondary Contact:

Gabe Grosberg, New York (1) 212-438-6043; gabe.grosberg@spglobal.com

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Research Update:

DPL Inc. And DP&L Downgraded To 'BB-' On Persistent Weak Financial Measures And Coal Retirements; Outlook Negative

Overview

- U.S.-based DPL Inc.'s utility company, Dayton Power & Light Co. (DP&L), recently announced its decision to close certain merchant generating assets on or before June 1, 2018. The company has also agreed to a six-year Electric Security Plan (ESP) settlement proposal that includes the collection of distribution modernization rider (DMR) revenues for years one through three of the term of the ESP.
- We are lowering our issuer credit ratings on both parent DPL and utility subsidiary DP&L to 'BB-' from 'BB'. The outlook is negative.
- We are lowering our rating on DPL's senior unsecured debt to 'B+' from 'BB' and revising the recovery rating on this debt to '5' from '4' based on deteriorating value of the merchant power assets and the structural subordination of this debt.
- At the same time, we are affirming our 'BBB-' rating on DP&L's senior secured debt. We revised the recovery rating on this debt to '1+' from '1', reflecting our assessment of modestly improved recovery prospects for the utility secured debt.
- In addition, we are revising our stand-alone credit profile assessment for DP&L to 'bbb' from 'bbb+'.
- The negative outlook reflects our expectations for persistently weak financial measures for consolidated DPL that are now highly dependent on the long-term sustainability of the DMR. The company also faces significant refinancing risks for its approximate \$1.7 billion of outstanding debt, maturing 2019-2022. We expect that these risks will offset any near-term potential improvement to DPL's business risk assessment following its strategic decision to shrink its higher-risk merchant generation assets.

Rating Action

On March 27, 2017, S&P Global Ratings lowered its issuer credit ratings on DPL Inc. and subsidiary Dayton Power & Light Co. (DP&L) to 'BB-' from 'BB'. The outlook is negative.

At the same time, we lowered the rating on DPL's senior unsecured debt to 'B+' from 'BB' and revised the recovery rating on this debt to '5' from '4'. The '5' recovery rating reflects our expectation for modest (10%-30%; rounded estimate: 15%) recovery in the event of a payment default.

In addition, we affirmed our 'BBB-' rating on DP&L's senior secured debt. We revised the recovery rating on this debt to '1+' from '1', indicating our expectation for full (100%) recovery.

Rationale

The downgrade on DPL and DP&L reflects our base-case scenario that over the next few months the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) will most likely approve the distribution modernization rider (DMR) in line with the settlement proposal. Under the settlement proposal, the utility will recover \$105 million annually under the DMR for the next three years and will commit to commence a sale process to sell its ownership interest in its Conesville, Miami Fort, and Zimmer stations. In conjunction with the company's recent announcement of its plans to retire the J.M. Stuart and Killen coal-generating plants by June 1, 2018, the utility will most likely exit the vast majority of its higher-risk merchant operations in the next 15 months.

As a result, we expect significantly reduced cash flow contributions from the merchant business to create an over-reliance on the DMR to sustain the company's credit quality. This significantly heightens event risk for DPL that we expect will continue to pressure the issuer credit rating, despite any potential improvement to the company's business risk.

Importantly, from 2019 through 2022, more than 90% or about \$1.7 billion of DPL's consolidated debt will mature. Without a high degree of certainty that the DMR will be in effect for the long term, DPL faces significant refinancing risks over this four-year period. Absent the DMR, the company's financial measures will materially weaken, likely resulting in further downgrades

Our assessment of DPL's business risk profile as satisfactory incorporates DPL's strategic decisions to shrink its higher-risk merchant generation business and its lower-risk, rate-regulated transmission and distribution (T&D) utility operations in Ohio. However, benefits from these strategies are offset in part by the company's sizable debt maturity profile, small size, and high dependency on the long-term sustainability of the DMR.

We assess DPL's financial risk profile as aggressive using our medial volatility financial table benchmarks, reflecting the company's mostly lower-risk, rate-regulated utility operations. Under our base-case scenario that includes DMR revenues of \$105 million, future asset retirement costs of about \$130 million, and average capital spending of about \$120 million for 2017-2018, we expect funds from operations (FFO) to debt that averages about 9.6% for DPL, consistent with the lower end of the range for the aggressive financial risk profile category.

We are revising our comparable rating analysis (CRA) on DPL to negative from neutral. This reflects our expectations that the company's consolidated financial measures will be at the lower end of the range for the aggressive financial risk profile category. We are also revising our CRA on DP&L to

neutral from positive, reflecting the utility's high dependence on the long-term sustainability of the DMR. This collectively results in a revised stand-alone credit profile for DPL to 'bb-' from 'bb' and a revised stand-alone credit profile for DP&L to 'bbb' from 'bbb+'.

Our ratings on DPL further incorporate our assessment of the company's group credit profile as a moderately strategic subsidiary of ultimate parent AES Corp.

Liquidity

We assess DPL and DP&L's liquidity as adequate. We expect DPL and DP&L to cover their liquidity needs for the next 12 months even if EBITDA declines by 10%. We also expect liquidity sources over the next 12 months will exceed uses by more than 1.1x. DPL and DP&L also benefit from sound relationships with its banks and have the ability to lower capital spending or sell assets in the event of financial stress in the next 12 months.

Principal liquidity sources include:

- Consolidated credit facility of \$380 million;
- Consolidated cash FFO averaging about \$170 million; and
- Available cash of about \$55 million.

Principal liquidity uses include:

- Consolidated capital spending averaging about \$120 million; and
- Long-term debt maturities of about \$29 million due in 2017;

Outlook

The negative outlook for DPL and DP&L reflects our expectations for persistently weak financial measures for consolidated DPL, with FFO to debt that averages about 9.6% and that is now highly dependent on the long-term sustainability of the DMR to avoid further deterioration. Additionally, the company faces refinancing risks for its approximate \$1.7 billion of outstanding debt, maturing 2019-2022. We expect that these risks will offset any potential improvement to DPL's business risk assessment over the near term following its strategic decision to shrink its higher-risk merchant generation assets.

Downside scenario

We could lower the ratings on DPL and DP&L over the next few quarters if the company's financial ratios further weaken, including FFO to debt that is consistently at 9% or below. This could occur if the implementation of the DMR becomes unsustainable, and as a result, the company's credit quality does not improve in light of longer-term refinancing risks.

Upside scenario

We could affirm the ratings and revise the outlook to stable within the next few quarters if the company develops a strategy to address its long-term refinancing risks, the implementation of the DMR proves durable and sustainable, and it maintains FFO to debt above 10%.

Ratings Score Snapshot

Corporate Credit Rating: BB-/Negative/--

Business risk: Satisfactory

- Industry risk: Low risk
- Country risk: Very low risk
- Competitive position: Satisfactory

Financial risk: Aggressive

- Cash flow/leverage: Aggressive

Anchor: bb

Modifiers:

- Diversification: Neutral (no impact)
- Capital structure: Neutral (no impact)
- Liquidity: Adequate (no impact)
- Financial policy: Neutral (no impact)
- Management and governance: Satisfactory (no impact)
- Comparable rating analysis: Negative (-1)

Stand-alone credit profile: bb-

Group credit profile: bb

- Entity status within group: Moderately strategic (no impact)

Recovery Analysis

Key analytical factors

- We revised our recovery rating on DP&L's secured term loan to '1+' from '1', indicating our expectation for full recovery given default. We revised our recovery rating on parent DPL Inc.'s unsecured debt to '5' from '4' (modest recovery), mainly reflecting its structurally junior claim to the consolidated value and weaker valuation assumptions for DPL's merchant generation. We conduct our recovery analysis for DPL and DP&L on a consolidated basis and assume a default in 2019. Our recovery valuation assumes that the regulated transmission and distribution assets will be valued at their net book value of about \$1.2 billion, as a proxy for the allowed regulated return on these assets. This value is up slightly as the company continues to invest in this business.
- We value the unregulated coal power generation assets at about \$120

million, based on an average dollar per kilowatt (KW) of about \$70 on its baseload coal assets, including Conesville Unit 4, Miami Fort Units 7 & 8, and Zimmer Station, reflecting continued pressure on the value and economics of these types of assets, and \$125/KW on its gas peakers. This valuation is down sharply as the viability of the coal plants is highly questionable in light of pressure from more economical natural gas power plants and regulatory pressure, notwithstanding various upgrades to these plants in recent years. The valuation reflects the expected closure of two plants, which represent about half of the company's baseload capacity, and the impairment of the remaining plants. Our revised valuation is relatively consistent with the net book value of these plants following a material asset write-down.

- The unsecured debt at DPL remains deeply subordinated in the company's capital structure because it is structurally subordinated to the debt at DP&L and subordinated to the secured revolving debt at DPL. This combined with the lower valuation on the merchant assets pushes the implied recovery rating to '5' indicating a modest (10%-30%) recovery from a '4', which indicates expectations for an average (30%-50%) recovery.

Simulated default assumptions

- Simulated year of default: 2019

Simplified waterfall

- Regulated asset value: \$1.2 billion
- Merchant asset value: \$123 million
- Net enterprise value (after 5% administrative costs): \$1.3 billion
- Valuation split (DP&L/other subsidiaries): 91%/9%
- Net collateral value available to DP&L's first-lien debt: \$1.17 billion
- First-lien debt: \$773 million
- --Recovery expectations: 100%
- Total value available to unsecured creditors at DP&L: \$518 million
- Unsecured revolver at DP&L (assumed 85% draw): \$154 million
- --Recovery expectations: Not applicable
- DPL secured revolver (assumed 85% draw) \$181 million
- Remaining value available to claims at DPL: \$364 million
- DPL secured revolver: \$181 million
- --Recovery expectations: Not applicable
- Value available to unsecured claims at DPL: \$183 million
- Senior unsecured debt at DPL: \$1.1 billion
- --Recovery expectations: 10%-30%; rounded estimate: 15%

Notes: All debt amounts include six months of prepetition interest. Revolvers assumed to be drawn at 85%.

Related Criteria

- Criteria - Corporates - General: Recovery Rating Criteria For Speculative-Grade Corporate Issuers, Dec. 07, 2016
- Criteria - Corporates - General: Methodology And Assumptions: Liquidity

Descriptors For Global Corporate Issuers, Dec. 16, 2014

- Criteria - Corporates - Industrials: Key Credit Factors For The Unregulated Power And Gas Industry, March 28, 2014
- Criteria - Corporates - General: Corporate Methodology: Ratios And Adjustments, Nov. 19, 2013
- Criteria - Corporates - General: Corporate Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- Criteria - Corporates - Utilities: Key Credit Factors For The Regulated Utilities Industry, Nov. 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Methodology: Industry Risk, Nov. 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Group Rating Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Country Risk Assessment Methodology And Assumptions, Nov. 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Methodology: Management And Governance Credit Factors For Corporate Entities And Insurers, Nov. 13, 2012
- General Criteria: Use Of CreditWatch And Outlooks, Sept. 14, 2009
- Criteria - Insurance - General: Hybrid Capital Handbook: September 2008 Edition, Sept. 15, 2008
- Criteria - Corporates - General: 2008 Corporate Criteria: Rating Each Issue, April 15, 2008

Ratings List

Downgraded; Ratings Affirmed

	To	From
DPL Inc.		
Dayton Power & Light Co.		
Corporate Credit Rating	BB-/Negative/--	BB/Negative/--

Downgraded; Recovery Rating Revised

	To	From
DPL Inc.		
Senior Unsecured	B+	BB
Recovery Rating	5 (15%)	4 (45%)

DPL Capital Trust II		
Preferred Stock	B	B+

Ratings Affirmed; Recovery Rating Revised

Dayton Power & Light Co.		
Senior Secured	BBB-	
Recovery Rating	1+ (100%)	1 (95%)

Certain terms used in this report, particularly certain adjectives used to express our view on rating relevant factors, have specific meanings ascribed to them in our criteria, and should therefore be read in conjunction with such criteria. Please see Ratings Criteria at www.standardandpoors.com for further information. Complete ratings information is available to subscribers of RatingsDirect at www.globalcreditportal.com and at www.spcapitaliq.com. All ratings affected by this rating action can be found on the S&P Global Ratings'

Research Update: DPL Inc. And DP&L Downgraded To 'BB-' On Persistent Weak Financial Measures And Coal Retirements; Outlook Negative

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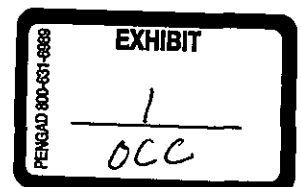
OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES

INT-4-1. In response to IGS INT-2-1 (which requested an identification of all debt obligations entered into by DPL Inc. as a consequence of the acquisition of DPL Inc. by AES Corp. ("AES")), "DP&L states that the \$1.25 billion of DPL Inc. debt at the end of 2015 was initially incurred between 2000-2011 to finance capital expenditures and a portion is related to AES' acquisition of the Company (\$1.25 billion was assumed in 2011, of which —\$520 million has been since repaid)." Regarding this response:

- a. Identify whether AES entered into a debt obligation in the amount of \$1.25 billion (through its subsidiary Dolphin Subsidiary II, Inc. ("Dolphin Sub.")) to finance the acquisition of DPL Inc.
- b. Identify whether DPL Inc. assumed the obligation to repay the \$1.25 billion debt obligation entered into by Dolphin Sub. following AES' acquisition of DPL Inc.
- c. All else being equal, is it true that the AES acquisition of DPL Inc. increased the debt obligation of DPL Inc. by \$1.25 billion. If this is not true, explain your answer.

RESPONSE: General Objections Nos. 1 (relevance), 2 (unduly burdensome), 4 (proprietary), 5 (inspection of business records), 6 (calls for narrative answer), 9 (vague or undefined), 10 (possession of DP&L's unregulated affiliate), 11 (calls for a legal conclusion), 13 (mischaracterization). Subject to all general objections, DP&L states:

- a. Please see IGS 2nd Set RPD-2-1 Attachment 26, DP&L-SSO 0007603 - DP&L-SSO 0007605 (AES 8-K filed 10-5-11), which states that "On October 3, 2011, Dolphin Subsidiary II, Inc. (the "Company"), a newly formed, wholly owned special purpose indirect subsidiary of The AES Corporation ("AES"), entered into an indenture (the "Indenture") with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (the "Trustee") as part of its issuance of \$450 million aggregate principal amount of 6.50% senior notes due 2016 (the "2016 Notes")



and \$800 million aggregate principal amount of 7.25% senior notes due 2021 (the "2021 Notes" and together with the 2016 Notes, the "notes") to finance the pending AES acquisition (the "Acquisition") of DPL Inc. ("DPL"). That same document also stated that "The proceeds from issuance of the notes were deposited into an escrow account pledged for the benefit of the Trustee pending the consummation of the Acquisition."

- b. Please see IGS 2nd Set RPD-2-1 Attachment 24, DP&L-SSO 0007289 - DP&L-SSO 0007509 (DPL 10-K YE 2011) Debt footnote #7 pg. 100, which states that "In connection with the closing of the Merger (see Note 2), DPL assumed \$1.25 billion of debt that Dolphin Subsidiary II, Inc., a subsidiary of AES, issued on October 3, 2011 to finance a portion of the merger." Footnote #2 from the same document states, "On November 28, 2011, AES completed its acquisition of DPL. AES paid cash consideration of approximately \$3,483.6 million. The allocation of the purchase price was based on the estimated fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed. In addition, Dolphin Subsidiary II, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of AES) issued \$1,250.0 million of debt, which, as a result of the merger of DPL and Dolphin Subsidiary II, Inc. was assumed by DPL."
- c. Please see IGS 4th Set INT-4-1 Attachment 1, DP&L-SSO 0007720 - DP&L-SSO 0007725 (DPL 8-K filed 11-28-11) which states: "On November 28, 2011 (the "Merger Date"), DPL Inc. ("DPL") completed its merger (the "Merger") with Dolphin Sub, Inc. ("Merger Sub"), a wholly owned subsidiary of The AES Corporation ("AES"), pursuant to that certain Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of April 19, 2011, by and among AES, Merger Sub and DPL (the "Merger Agreement"). As a result, each issued and outstanding share of the common stock, par value \$.01 per share, of DPL (the "DPL

Common Stock") (other than shares owned directly or indirectly by AES or Merger Sub or held by DPL or its subsidiaries, which were cancelled as a result of the Merger), including grants of restricted common stock, was automatically cancelled and, other than shares of DPL Common Stock held by shareholders who have validly exercised their appraisal rights under Ohio law, converted into the right to receive \$30 in cash (the "Per Share Merger Consideration"), without interest. DPL is the surviving corporation in the Merger and, as a result of the Merger, is a wholly owned subsidiary of AES." That same document also states "Effective on the Merger Date, DPL assumed all obligations with respect to the \$450 million aggregate principal amount of 6.50% senior notes due 2016 (the "2016 Notes") and \$800 million aggregate principal amount of 7.25% senior notes due 2021 (the "2021 Notes" and together with the 2016 Notes, the "Notes") previously issued by Dolphin Subsidiary II, Inc. ("Dolphin II"), a wholly-owned special purpose indirect subsidiary of AES. The Notes were issued in a private offering on October 3, 2011 and the proceeds from the offering were deposited into an escrow account pending the consummation of the Merger. In connection with the consummation of the Merger, the funds were released from the escrow account to fund the consummation, and Dolphin II was merged with and into DPL, with DPL continuing as the surviving company. As a result, DPL assumed all obligations under the Notes and the Notes are no longer subject to the special mandatory redemption provision relating to the consummation of the Merger contained in the indenture (the "Indenture") relating to the Notes."

Witness Responsible: Craig L. Jackson

