



Electric Utilities | Trading update | United Kingdom |

Drax

In line trading update for H2 15 although market outlook remains challenging

Hold

Price 23/11/15 233.2p
12m target 270p
Upside to TP 15.8%
12m f'cast div 5.26p
12m TSR 18.0%

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Sector stance Underweight Preferred stock Engie

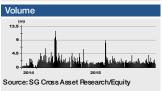
Least preferred stock SSE, Fortum

Investment trigger

Speculative appeal

New product development





Update Drax issued its scheduled trading update this morning covering the H2 period from 1 July 2015. Given the strong hedge position in the current year (>90%) Drax reiterated its 2015 EBITDA guidance range of £165-175m (SGe £165m/consensus £170m), although given the uncertainties (both regulatory and regarding power prices) pertaining to the 2016+ outlook, no EBITDA guidance is being provided for 2016 at this stage (c60% hedged at £47/MWh vs current forward power price of £39/MWh).

SG view Earnings remain highly sensitive to power price developments (£1/MWh power/spread change = 2% MV per year of shortfall), although the group could outperform on its £8.1/GJ biomass fuel guidance. In the absence of positive developments with regard to a third unit CfD or fourth unit subsidy funding (DECC's most recent policy statements indicate the 2016 allocation round would currently exclude biomass), investors are likely to continue to focus on the potential earnings risk on an MTM basis (2017 consensus EBITDA £153m vs SGe £136m – based upon £47/MWh power price).

How we value the stock Our 270p target price is based on a DCF valuation to 2027 and assumes 8.0% WACC for three coal units and three biomass units (RO regime). See page 3 for details. We estimate achieving a £105/MWh CfD rather than a ROC subsidy is potentially worth an additional 115p per unit, while we would value a fourth unit conversion at an incremental 140p (although we think the probability of both events occurring is very low).

Events, catalysts & risks We expect a State aid decision with regard to Lynemouth and Drax (to progress to Phase 2 investigation) around year-end. **Risks to TP**: upside – additional CfD unit conversions; improvements in power prices, coal and biomass spreads; downside – lower power prices and coal and biomass spreads; biomass sustainability changes.

Share data

RIC DRX.L, Bloom	DRX I	_N	
52-week range		609.5	-217.1
EV 15 (£m)			1,443
Mkt cap. (£m)			944
Free float (%)			100.0
Performance (%)	1m	3m	12m
Ordinary shares	-17.7	-18.8	-60.9
Rel. Eurofirst 300	-18.2	-22.8	-63.9

Financial data	12/14	12/15e	12/16e	12/17e
Revenues (£bn)	2.81	3.01	3.31	3.39
EBIT margin (%)	5.3	2.6	1.4	1.5
Rep. net inc. (£m)	149	42.6	18.6	22.9
EPS (adj.) (p)	14.6	10.5	4.55	5.61
Dividend/share (p)	7.34	5.26	2.28	2.80
Payout (%)	20	50	50	50
Interest cover (x)	5.21	3.02	2.02	2.24
Net debt/e quity (%)	6	3	3	2

Ratios	12/14	12/15e	12/16e	12/17e
P/E (x)	46.1	22.3	51.2	41.6
FCF yield (/EV) (%)	-9.6	3.4	-1.1	-0.4
Dividend yield (%)	1.1	2.3	1.0	1.2
Price/book value (x)	1.73	0.60	0.60	0.60
EV/revenues (x)	1.16	0.48	0.42	0.41
EV/EBIT (x)	21.9	18.1	29.8	26.8
EV/IC (x)	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.7
ROIC/WACC (x)	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.3
EPS CAGR 14-17e: -27.3%				





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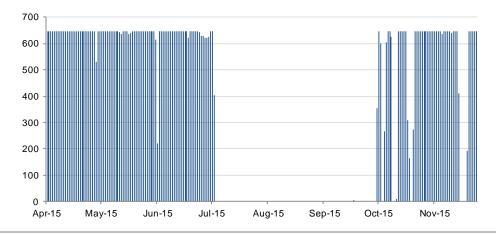
Trading update

The Drax trading update was in line with expectations.

Management reiterated its 2015 EBITDA guidance of £165m - £175m (SGe £165m/consensus £170m) which is to be expected given the group has now hedged 94% of its expected 2015 output.

Although we estimate the late return to full service of the first (Unit 2) biomass conversion unit has resulted in around 0.5 TWh of reduced output (c£10m EBITDA at assumed £20/MWh hedged bark spread), this has been offset by a "good operational performance", which as with the better than expected H1 results, we assume relates to lower than anticipated spot biomass pellet purchase costs (c£155/t ARA vs c£185/t ARA implicit in Drax's £8.1/GJ 2014 real biomass fuel cost guidance).

Drax Unit 2 - average daily notified output (MW)



Source: SG Cross Asset Research/Equity

Drax has extended its hedge position since the July interim results and we estimate is now 94% hedged for expected 2015 output. Since the last contracted position update (20 July) Drax has added 3.7 TWh to its 2016 contracted position at an estimated achieved power price of $\pounds43$ /MWh (marginally ahead of the average traded price of the 2016 calendar forward of $\pounds42$ /MWh over the period). The fixed price contracted position of 15.5 TWh for 2016 delivery compares to the 13.2 TWh of year ahead contracted output as at 27 October 2014 – suggesting that Drax is continuing to hedge forward despite the reduction in both biomass and coal forward spreads.

Drax - contracted power sales

	2015	2015	2016	2016
	TWh	Achieved power price £/MWh	TWh	Achieved power price £/MWh
Fixed price sales as at 16 Nov	26.1	49.6	15.5	47.2
Fixed margin sales at 16 Nov	0.0	-	2.5	-
Total power sales hedged	26.1		18.0	
Yet to hedge	1.7	44.0	10.2	46.0
Total power sales forecast	27.8	49.3	28.2	46.7
Hedged since last update	2.5	47.7	3.7	43.1



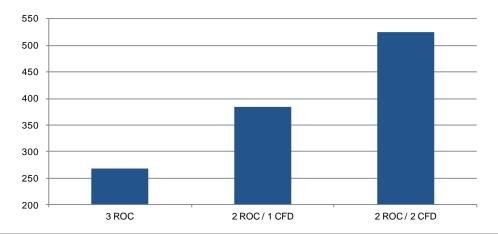
Drax valuation

Drax - SGe sum-of-the-parts valuation (3x ROC scenario)

Valuation	£m	Per share
Coal output	440	108
3 x ROC (carbon flat real post 2020)	296	73
Pellet Plant Value Add	29	7
Total EV value 3 unit conversion	765	188
Net cash as at Dec 2012*	311	76
Working capital	225	55
Pension deficit	-42	-10
Deferred tax (10 yr NPV)	-127	-31
Decommissioning costs (adj)	-40	-10
Total equity value 3 unit conversion	1,093	268

Source: SG Cross Asset Research/Equity * Starting date of biomass conversions

Drax biomass conversion valuation sensitivity (in pence)

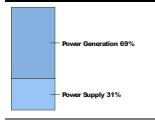




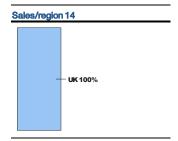
 ${\bf Drax-Summary\,inco\,me\,\,statement}$

£m	2012	2013	2014	2015E	2016e	2017e	2018e	2019e	2020e
Achieved power price £/MWh	51.3	46.7	51.3	49.0	47.1	46.6	47.8	49.0	50.2
Achieved coal price \$/t	103.7	103.7	100.0	80.3	75.5	70.8	72.8	75.0	77.2
Biomass cost £/MWh	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.5
Coal output	27.1	23.2	18.8	18.9	14.2	14.2	13.3	12.5	11.7
Biomass output	1.2	2.9	7.9	8.9	14.0	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
Total output	28.2	26.1	26.7	27.8	28.2	28.7	27.9	27.0	26.2
Coal spread	19.9	18.7	16.8	14.5	9.9	10.3	10.9	11.5	12.1
Bark spread ROC		23.4	25.2	22.6	19.9	18.7	19.2	19.9	19.3
Bark spread CfD		22.0	23.2	22.6	23.8	24.4	25.0	25.6	26.2
ЕВІТДА	298.3	230.0	225.8	164.9	131.4	136.2	147.9	185.1	185.3
D&A	-58.5	-64.8	-80.7	-85.2	-84.9	-84.5	-74.2	-65.3	-57.7
Operating profit	239.8	165.2	145.1	79.6	46.5	51.7	73.8	119.8	127.7
Net interest	-13.6	-23.2	-28.6	-26.3	-23.1	-23.1	-22.9	-20.3	-17.8
Exceptionals	-36.1	-110.2	65.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
РΤР	190	32	182	53	23	29	51	100	110
Tax	-26.4	19.6	-41.8	-10.7	-4.9	-5.7	-9.7	-18.9	-23.1
Tax rate		-62 %	23%	20%	21%	20%	19%	19%	21%
PAT	164	51	141	43	19	23	41	81	87
Shares basic	372	402	404	405	408	408	408	408	408
Shares diluted	375	407	407	408	408	408	408	408	408
EPS adj.	51.9	35.3	14.7	10.5	4.6	5.6	10.1	19.8	21.3
DPS	25.3	17.6	7.3	5.3	2.3	2.8	8.1	15.8	17.0

Sales/division 14



EBIT/division 14 Power Generation 100%



Major shareholders (%)	
Invesco	26.0
Schroders	12.5
Artemis	5.3

Drax

Drax								
Valuation (£m)	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13	12/14	12/15e	12/16e	12/17e
Nb. of shares basic year end/outstanding	365 383	365 472	402 530	402 638	405 672	405 233	408 233	408 233
Share price (average) (p) Average market cap. (SG adjusted) (1)	1,396	1,721	2,130	2,566	2,721	233 944	255 951	255 951
Restated net debt (-)/cash (+) (2)	-405	-468	-227	-387	-477	-439	-384	-385
Value of minorities (3)	100	100		001		100	00.	000
Value of financial investments (4)								
Other adjustment (5)	68	68	73	73	65	60	54	49
EV = (1) - (2) + (3) - (4) + (5)	1,869	2,258	2,430	3,025	3,263	1,443	1,389	1,384
P/E (x)	6.0	8.6	10.3	18.2	46.1	22.3	51.2	41.6
Price/cash flow (x)	3.4	8.7	9.8	18.2	31.8	5.0	10.5	9.5
Price/free cash flow (x)	4.01	11.2	nm	nm	nm	12.5	120	55.0
Price/book value (x)	1.46	1.32	1.44	1.82	1.73	0.60	0.60	0.60
EV/revenues (x)	1.13	1.23	1.37	1.47	1.16	0.48	0.42	0.41
EV/EBITDA (x) Dividend yield (%)	4.8 8.4	6.8 5.9	8.1 4.8	13.2 2.8	14.2	8.8 2.3	10.6 1.0	10.2 1.2
Per share data (p)	0.4	5.9	4.0	2.0	1.1	2.0	1.0	1.2
SG EPS (adj.)	63.6	55.1	51.4	35.0	14.6	10.5	4.55	5.61
Cash flow	112	54.0	54.1	35.0	21.2	46.3	22.2	24.5
Book value	263	357	368	350	388	389	388	391
Dividend	32.0	27.8	25.3	17.6	7.34	5.26	2.28	2.80
Income statement (£m)								
Revenues	1,648	1,836	1,780	2,062	2,805	3,010	3,315	3,389
Grossincome	550	501	511	445	450	404	375	384
EBITDA	392	334	298	230	230	165	131	136
Depreciation and amortisation	-52	-57	-59	-65	-81	-85	-85	-85
EBIT	339	276	240	165	149	80	47	52
Impairment losses Net interest income	0 -24	0 -28	0 -14	0 -23	-29	0 -26	0 -23	0 -23
Exceptional & non-operating items	-61	90	-36	-110	66	0	0	0
Taxation	-67	127	-26	20	-37	-11	-5	-6
Minorityinterests	-		0	0			_	_
Reported net income	188	465	164	51	149	43	19	23
SG adjusted net income	233	202	193	142	59	43	19	23
Cash flow statement (£m)								
EBITDA	392	334	298	230	230	165	131	136
								-2
Change in working capital	115	-50	-35	-60 07	-102	86	-7 24	
Other operating cash movements	-95	-85	-60	-27	-41	-63	-34	-34
Other operating cash movements Cash flow from operating activities	-95 411	-85 199	-60 203	-27 142	-41 86	-63 189	-34 90	-34 100
Other operating cash movements Cash flow from operating activities Net capital expenditure	-95 411 -62	-85 199 -44	-60 203 -206	-27 142 -302	-41 86 -200	-63 189 -113	-34 90 -83	-34 100 -83
Other operating cash movements Cash flow from operating activities Net capital expenditure Free cash flow	-95 411 -62 349	-85 199 -44 155	-60 203 -206 -3	-27 142 -302 -159	-41 86 -200 -114	-63 189 -113 76	-34 90 -83 8	-34 100 -83 17
Other operating cash movements Cash flow from operating activities Net capital expenditure	-95 411 -62	-85 199 -44	-60 203 -206	-27 142 -302	-41 86 -200	-63 189 -113	-34 90 -83	-34 100 -83
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Other operating cash movements Cash flow from operating activities Net capital expenditure Free cash flow Cash flow from investing activities Cash flow from financing activities Net change in cash resulting from CF Balance sheet (2m) Total long-term assets of which intangible Working capital Employee benefit obligations	-95 411 -62 349 -40 -153 156 -1,221 0 -177 37	-85 199 -44 155 65 -253 -33 1,217 0 137 37	-60 203 -206 -3 0 172 169 1,418 0 48 42	-27 142 -302 -159 10 45 -104 1,627 0 131 42	-41 86 -200 -114 -20 44 -90 1,819 0 334 34	-63 189 -113 76 0 -21 55 1,846 0 248 29	-34 90 -83 8 0 -9 -1 1,844 0 255 23	-34 100 -83 17 0 -11 6 -1,842 0 257
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APPENDIX

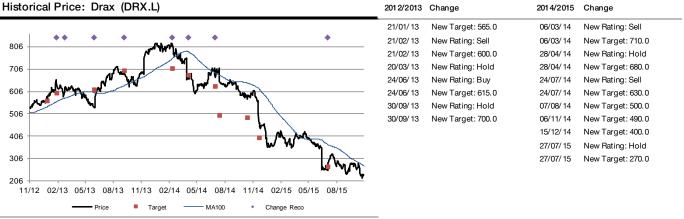
COMPANIES MENTIONED

Drax (DRX.L, Hold) Engie (ENGIE.PA, Buy) Fortum (FUM1V.HE, Sell) SSE (SSE.L, Sell)

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Source: SG Cross Asset Research/Equity

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HOLD: absolute total shareholder return forecast between 0% and +15% over a 12 month period.

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Total shareholder return means forecast share price appreciation plus all forecast cash dividend income, including income from special dividends, paid during the 12 month period. Ratings are determined by the ranges described above at the time of the initiation of coverage or a change in rating (subject to limited management discretion). At other times, ratings may fall outside of these ranges because of market price movements and/or other short term volatility or trading patterns. Such interim deviations from specified ranges will be permitted but will become subject to review by research management.

Sector Weighting Definition on a 12 months period:

The sector weightings are assigned by the SG Equity Research Strategist and are distinct and separate from SG equity research analyst ratings. They are based on the relevant MSCI.

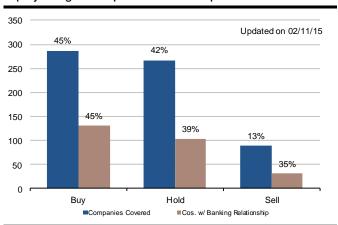
OVERWEIGHT: sector expected to outperform the relevant broad market benchmark over the next 12 months.

NEUTRAL: sector expected to perform in-line with the relevant broad market benchmark over the next 12 months.

UNDERWEIGHT: sector expected to underperform the relevant broad market benchmark over the next 12 months.

The Preferred and Least preferred stocks are selected by the covering analyst based on the individual analyst's coverage universe and not by the SG Equity Research Strategist.

Equity rating and dispersion relationship





All pricing information included in this report is as of market close, unless otherwise stated.

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