PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORP

Form 10-K

February 20, 2015

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

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

OR

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

For the transition period from

Registrants; State of Incorporation; Commission **IRS** Employer Addresses; and Telephone Number Identification No. File Number

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION

(An Arizona corporation)

1-8962 400 North Fifth Street, P.O. Box 53999 86-0512431

Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

(602) 250-1000

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

(An Arizona corporation)

400 North Fifth Street, P.O. Box 53999 86-0011170 1-4473

Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

(602) 250-1000

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title Of Each Class Name Of Each Exchange On Which Registered

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL Common Stock, New York Stock Exchange

No Par Value **CORPORATION** 

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE None

None **COMPANY** 

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Common Stock, Par Value \$2.50 per share

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION Yes x No o

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the

Act.

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION Yes o No x ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Yes o No x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

Yes x No o

Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION Yes x No o ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or in any amendment to this Form 10-K.x

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

## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION

Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer o

Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o

Non-accelerated filer x Smaller reporting company o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

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

State the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates, computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold, or the average bid and asked price of such common equity, as of the last business day of each registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter:

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION \$6,356,930,539 as of June 30, 2014

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY \$0 as of June 30, 2014

The number of shares outstanding of each registrant's common stock as of February 13, 2015

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION 110,575,187 shares

Common Stock, \$2.50 par value, 71,264,947 shares. Pinnacle West Capital Corporation is the sole holder of

Arizona Public Service Company's Common Stock.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation's definitive Proxy Statement relating to its Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 20, 2015 are incorporated by reference into Part III hereof.

Arizona Public Service Company meets the conditions set forth in General Instruction I(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-K and is therefore filing this form with the reduced disclosure format allowed under that General Instruction.

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This combined Form 10-K is separately filed by Pinnacle West and APS. Each registrant is filing on its own behalf all of the information contained in this Form 10-K that relates to such registrant and, where required, its subsidiaries. Except as stated in the preceding sentence, neither registrant is filing any information that does not relate to such registrant, and therefore makes no representation as to any such information. The information required with respect to each company is set forth within the applicable items. Item 8 of this report includes Consolidated Financial Statements of Pinnacle West and Consolidated Financial Statements of APS. Item 8 also includes Notes to Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements, the majority of which also relates to APS, and Supplemental Notes, which only relate to APS's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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## GLOSSARY OF NAMES AND TECHNICAL TERMS

**Alternating Current** ac

**Arizona Corporation Commission ACC** 

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality **ADEQ** Allowance for Funds Used During Construction **AFUDC** 

Arizona Nuclear Power Project, also known as Palo Verde **ANPP** Arizona Public Service Company, a subsidiary of the Company **APS** 

APS Energy Services Company, Inc., a subsidiary of the Company sold on August 19, 2011 **APSES** 

Asset retirement obligations ARO

The portion of APS's retail base rates attributable to fuel and purchased power costs Base Fuel Rate

Bright Canyon Energy Corporation, a subsidiary of the Company BCE

BHP Billiton New Mexico Coal, Inc. **BHP** Billiton

BHP Navajo Coal Company **BNCC** 

California Independent System Operator **CAISO** 

Cholla Power Plant Cholla Direct Current dc

United States Department of Energy DOE United States Department of the Interior DOI

Demand side management **DSM** 

Demand side management adjustment charge **DSMAC** 

El Dorado Investment Company, a subsidiary of the Company El Dorado

El Paso Electric Company El Paso

**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency **FERC** United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Four Corners Four Corners Power Plant

Gigawatt-hour, one billion watts per hour **GWh** 

kV Kilovolt, one thousand volts

Kilowatt-hour, one thousand watts per hour kWh Lost Fixed Cost Recovery Mechanism **LFCR** One million British Thermal Units MMBtu MW Megawatt, one million watts

Megawatt-hour, one million watts per hour MWh

Retail and wholesale sales supplied under traditional cost-based rate regulation Native Load

Navajo Generating Station Navajo Plant

North American Electric Reliability Corporation **NERC** United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission NRC Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC **NTEC** 

Other comprehensive income **OCI** 

Pinnacle West

Palo Verde Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station or PVNGS

Pinnacle West Capital Corporation (any use of the words "Company," "we," and "our" refer to

Pinnacle West)

Power supply adjustor approved by the ACC to provide for recovery or refund of variations **PSA** 

in actual fuel and purchased power costs compared with the Base Fuel Rate

**RES** Arizona Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff

Salt River Project or SRP Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District

SCE Southern California Edison Company

SunCor Development Company, formerly a subsidiary of the Company SunCor

TCA	Transmission cost adjustor
VIE	Variable interest entity

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## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document contains forward-looking statements based on current expectations. These forward-looking statements are often identified by words such as "estimate," "predict," "may," "believe," "plan," "expect," "require," "intend," "assume" a words. Because actual results may differ materially from expectations, we caution readers not to place undue reliance on these statements. A number of factors could cause future results to differ materially from historical results, or from outcomes currently expected or sought by Pinnacle West or APS. In addition to the Risk Factors described in Item 1A and in Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," these factors include, but are not limited to:

our ability to manage capital expenditures and operations and maintenance costs while maintaining reliability and customer service levels;

variations in demand for electricity, including those due to weather, the general economy, customer and sales growth (or decline), and the effects of energy conservation measures and distributed generation;

power plant and transmission system performance and outages;

competition in retail and wholesale power markets;

regulatory and judicial decisions, developments and proceedings;

new legislation or regulation, including those relating to environmental requirements, nuclear plant operations and potential deregulation of retail electric markets;

fuel and water supply availability;

our ability to achieve timely and adequate rate recovery of our costs, including returns on debt and equity capital;

our ability to meet renewable energy and energy efficiency mandates and recover related costs;

risks inherent in the operation of nuclear facilities, including spent fuel disposal uncertainty;

current and future economic conditions in Arizona, particularly in real estate markets;

the development of new technologies which may affect electric sales or delivery;

the cost of debt and equity capital and the ability to access capital markets when required;

environmental and other concerns surrounding coal-fired generation;

volatile fuel and purchased power costs;

the investment performance of the assets of our nuclear decommissioning trust, pension, and other postretirement benefit plans and the resulting impact on future funding requirements;

the liquidity of wholesale power markets and the use of derivative contracts in our business;

potential shortfalls in insurance coverage;

new accounting requirements or new interpretations of existing requirements;

generation, transmission and distribution facility and system conditions and operating costs;

the ability to meet the anticipated future need for additional baseload generation and associated transmission facilities in our region;

the willingness or ability of our counterparties, power plant participants and power plant land owners to meet contractual or other obligations or extend the rights for continued power plant operations; and restrictions on dividends or other provisions in our credit agreements and ACC orders.

These and other factors are discussed in the Risk Factors described in Item 1A of this report, which readers should review carefully before placing any reliance on our financial statements or disclosures. Neither Pinnacle West nor APS assumes any obligation to update these statements, even if our internal estimates change, except as required by law.

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## PART I

## ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Pinnacle West

Pinnacle West is a holding company that conducts business through its subsidiaries. We derive essentially all of our revenues and earnings from our wholly-owned subsidiary, APS. APS is a vertically-integrated electric utility that provides either retail or wholesale electric service to most of the State of Arizona, with the major exceptions of about one-half of the Phoenix metropolitan area, the Tucson metropolitan area and Mohave County in northwestern Arizona.

Pinnacle West's other subsidiaries are El Dorado and BCE. Additional information related to these subsidiaries is provided later in this report.

Our reportable business segment is our regulated electricity segment, which consists of traditional regulated retail and wholesale electricity businesses (primarily electric service to Native Load customers) and related activities, and includes electricity generation, transmission and distribution.

## BUSINESS OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

APS currently provides electric service to approximately 1.2 million customers. We own or lease 6,426 MW of regulated generation capacity and we hold a mix of both long-term and short-term purchased power agreements for additional capacity, including a variety of agreements for the purchase of renewable energy. During 2014, no single purchaser or user of energy accounted for more than 1.4% of our electric revenues.

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The following map shows APS's retail service territory, including the locations of its generating facilities and principal transmission lines.

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## **Energy Sources and Resource Planning**

To serve its customers, APS obtains power through its various generation stations and through purchased power agreements. Resource planning is an important function necessary to meet Arizona's future energy needs. APS's sources of energy by type during 2014 were as follows:

## **Generation Facilities**

APS has ownership interests in or leases the coal, nuclear, gas, oil and solar generating facilities described below. For additional information regarding these facilities, see Item 2.

## Coal-Fueled Generating Facilities

Four Corners — Four Corners is a 5-unit coal-fired power plant located in the northwestern corner of New Mexico. APS operates the plant and owns 100% of Four Corners Units 1, 2 and 3 and 63% of Four Corners Units 4 and 5 following the acquisition of SCE's interest in Units 4 and 5 described below. As of December 30, 2013, APS retired Units 1, 2 and 3. APS has a total entitlement from Four Corners of 970 MW.

On November 8, 2010, APS and SCE entered into an asset purchase agreement (the "Asset Purchase Agreement") providing for the purchase by APS of SCE's 48% interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners, allowing APS to acquire 739 MW from SCE. On December 30, 2013, APS and SCE closed this transaction. The final purchase price for SCE's interest was approximately \$182 million, subject to certain minor post-closing adjustments.

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In connection with APS's most recent retail rate case with the ACC, the ACC reserved the right to review the prudence of the Four Corners transaction for cost recovery purposes upon the closing of the transaction. On December 23, 2014, the ACC approved rate adjustments related to APS's acquisition of SCE's interest in Four Corners resulting in a revenue increase of \$57.1 million on an annual basis.

Concurrently with the closing of the SCE transaction, BHP Billiton, the parent company of BNCC, the coal supplier and operator of the mine that serves Four Corners, transferred its ownership of BNCC to NTEC, a company formed by the Navajo Nation to own the mine and develop other energy projects. BHP Billiton will be retained by NTEC under contract as the mine manager and operator until July 2016. Also occurring concurrently with the closing, the Four Corners' co-owners executed a long-term agreement for the supply of coal to Four Corners from July 2016, when the current coal supply agreement expires, through 2031 (the "2016 Coal Supply Agreement"). El Paso, a 7% owner in Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners, did not sign the 2016 Coal Supply Agreement. Under the 2016 Coal Supply Agreement, APS has agreed to assume the 7% shortfall obligation. On February 17, 2015, APS and El Paso entered into an asset purchase agreement providing for the purchase by APS, or an affiliate of APS, of El Paso's 7% interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners. The cash purchase price, which will be subject to certain adjustments at closing, is immaterial in amount, and the purchaser will assume El Paso's reclamation and decommissioning obligations associated with the 7% interest. Completion of the purchase is subject to the receipt of certain regulatory approvals and is expected to occur in July 2016.

When APS, or an affiliate of APS, ultimately acquires El Paso's interest in Four Corners, NTEC will have an option to purchase the interest within a certain timeframe pursuant to an option granted by APS to NTEC. The 2016 Coal Supply Agreement contains alternate pricing terms for the 7% shortfall obligations in the event NTEC does not exercise its option.

The Four Corners plant site is leased from the Navajo Nation and is also subject to an easement from the federal government. APS, on behalf of the Four Corners participants, negotiated amendments to an existing facility lease with the Navajo Nation which extends the Four Corners leasehold interest from 2016 to 2041. The Navajo Nation approved these amendments in March 2011. The effectiveness of the amendments also requires the approval of the DOI, as does a related federal rights-of-way grant, which the Four Corners participants are pursuing. A federal environmental review is underway as part of the DOI review process. In March 2014, APS received a draft of the environmental impact statement ("DEIS") in connection with the DOI review process. As a proponent of Four Corners and the Navajo Mine Energy Project, APS, along with other members of the public, submitted comments on the DEIS. APS cannot predict whether these federal approvals will be granted and, if so, on a timely basis, or whether any conditions that may be attached to them will be acceptable to the Four Corners owners. On December 19, 2014, APS obtained a Prevention of Significant Deterioration ("PSD") permit from EPA allowing APS to install selective catalytic reduction ("SCR") control technology at Four Corners, as described below under "Environmental Matters — EPA Environmental Regulation."

Cholla — Cholla is a 4-unit coal-fired power plant located in northeastern Arizona. APS operates the plant and owns 100% of Cholla Units 1, 2 and 3. PacifiCorp owns Cholla Unit 4, and APS operates that unit for PacifiCorp. APS has a total entitlement from Cholla of 647 MW. APS purchases all of Cholla's coal requirements from a coal supplier that mines all of the coal under long-term leases of coal reserves with the federal and state governments and private landholders. The Cholla coal contract runs through 2024. In addition, APS has a long-term coal transportation contract that runs through 2017 with plans to extend the contract beyond 2017. See "Current and Future Resources - Future Resources and Resource Plan" below for a discussion of future plans for Cholla.

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Navajo Generating Station — The Navajo Plant is a 3-unit coal-fired power plant located in northern Arizona. Salt River Project operates the plant and APS owns a 14% interest in Navajo Units 1, 2 and 3. APS has a total entitlement from the Navajo Plant of 315 MW. The Navajo Plant's coal requirements are purchased from a supplier with long-term leases from the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe. The Navajo Plant is under contract with its coal supplier through 2019, with extension rights through 2026. The Navajo Plant site is leased from the Navajo Nation and is also subject to an easement from the federal government. The current lease expires in 2019. See "Environmental Matters - EPA Environmental Regulation - Regional Haze Rules - Navajo Plant" below for a discussion of potential future plans for the Navajo Plant.

These coal-fueled plants face uncertainties, including those related to existing and potential legislation and regulation, that could significantly impact their economics and operations. See "Environmental Matters" below and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Overview and Capital Expenditures" in Item 7 for developments impacting these coal-fueled facilities. See Note 10 for information regarding APS's coal mine reclamation obligations.

#### Nuclear

Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station — Palo Verde is a 3-unit nuclear power plant located approximately 50 miles west of Phoenix, Arizona. APS operates the plant and owns 29.1% of Palo Verde Units 1 and 3 and approximately 17% of Unit 2. In addition, APS leases approximately 12.1% of Unit 2, resulting in a 29.1% combined ownership and leasehold interest in that unit. APS has a total entitlement from Palo Verde of 1,146 MW.

Palo Verde Leases — In 1986, APS entered into agreements with three separate lessor trust entities in order to sell and lease back approximately 42% of its share of Palo Verde Unit 2 and certain common facilities. The agreements expire at the end of 2015 and contain options to renew the leases or to purchase the property for fair market value at the end of the lease terms. On July 7, 2014, APS notified the lessor trust entities of APS's intent to exercise the fixed rate lease renewal options. The length of the renewal options will result in APS retaining the assets through 2023 under one lease and 2033 under the other two leases. At the end of the lease renewal periods, APS will have the option to purchase the leased assets at their fair market value, extend the leases for up to two years, or return the assets to the lessors. See Note 18 for additional information regarding the Palo Verde Unit 2 sale leaseback transactions.

Palo Verde Operating Licenses — Operation of each of the three Palo Verde Units requires an operating license from the NRC. The NRC issued full power operating licenses for Unit 1 in June 1985, Unit 2 in April 1986 and Unit 3 in November 1987, and issued renewed operating licenses for each of the three units in April 2011, which extended the licenses for Units 1, 2 and 3 to June 2045, April 2046 and November 2047, respectively.

Palo Verde Fuel Cycle — The Palo Verde participants are continually identifying their future nuclear fuel resource needs and negotiating arrangements to fill those needs. The fuel cycle for Palo Verde is comprised of the following stages:

- •mining and milling of uranium ore to produce uranium concentrates;
- •conversion of uranium concentrates to uranium hexafluoride;
- •enrichment of uranium hexafluoride;
- •fabrication of fuel assemblies:
- •utilization of fuel assemblies in reactors; and
- •storage and disposal of spent nuclear fuel.

The Palo Verde participants have contracted for 100% of Palo Verde's requirements for uranium concentrates and conversion services through 2018 and 45% of its requirements in 2019-2020. The

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participants have also contracted for 100% of Palo Verde's enrichment services through 2020; and all of Palo Verde's fuel assembly fabrication services through 2022.

Spent Nuclear Fuel and Waste Disposal — The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 ("NWPA") required the DOE to accept, transport, and dispose of spent nuclear fuel and high level waste generated by the nation's nuclear power plants by 1998. The DOE's obligations are reflected in a contract for Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and/or High-Level Radioactive Waste (the "Standard Contract") with each nuclear power plant. The DOE failed to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel by 1998. APS is directly and indirectly involved in several legal proceedings related to DOE's failure to meet its statutory and contractual obligations regarding acceptance of spent nuclear fuel and high level waste.

APS Lawsuit for Breach of Standard Contract — In December 2003, APS, acting on behalf of itself and the participant owners of Palo Verde, filed a lawsuit against DOE in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for damages incurred due to DOE's breach of the Standard Contract. The Court of Federal Claims ruled in favor of APS and the Palo Verde participants in October 2010 and awarded \$30.2 million in damages to APS and the Palo Verde participants for costs incurred through December 2006.

On December 19, 2012, APS, acting on behalf of itself and the participant owners of Palo Verde, filed a second breach of contract lawsuit against the DOE. This lawsuit sought to recover damages incurred due to DOE's failure to accept Palo Verde's spent nuclear fuel for the period beginning January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2011. On August 18, 2014, APS and DOE entered into a settlement agreement, stipulating to a dismissal of the lawsuit and payment of \$57.4 million by DOE to the Palo Verde owners for certain specified costs incurred by Palo Verde during the period January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2011. APS's share of this amount is \$16.7 million. Amounts recovered in the lawsuit and settlement were recorded as adjustments to regulatory liability and had no impact on current income.

The One-Mill Fee — In 2011, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the Nuclear Energy Institute challenged DOE's 2010 determination of the adequacy of the one tenth of a cent per kWh fee (the "one-mill fee") paid by the nation's commercial nuclear power plant owners pursuant to their individual obligations under the Standard Contract. This fee is recovered by APS in its retail rates. In June 2012, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (the "D.C. Circuit") held that DOE failed to conduct a sufficient fee analysis in making the 2010 determination. The D.C. Circuit remanded the 2010 determination to the Secretary of the DOE ("Secretary") with instructions to conduct a new fee adequacy determination within six months. In February 2013, upon completion of DOE's revised one-mill fee adequacy determination, the D.C. Circuit reopened the proceedings. On November 19, 2013, the D.C. Circuit ordered the Secretary to notify Congress of his intent to suspend collecting annual fees for nuclear waste disposal from nuclear power plant operators, as he is required to do pursuant to the NWPA and the D.C. Circuit's order. On January 3, 2014, the Secretary notified Congress of his intention to suspend collection of the one-mill fee, subject to Congress' disapproval. On May 16, 2014, the DOE notified all commercial nuclear power plant operators who are party to a Standard Contract that it reduced the one-mill fee to zero, thus effectively terminating the one-mill fee.

DOE's Construction Authorization Application for Yucca Mountain — The DOE had planned to meet its NWPA and Standard Contract disposal obligations by designing, licensing, constructing, and operating a permanent geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. In June 2008, the DOE submitted its Yucca Mountain construction authorization application to the NRC, but in March 2010, the DOE filed a motion to dismiss with prejudice the Yucca Mountain construction authorization application. Several interested parties have also intervened in the NRC proceeding. Additionally, a number of interested parties filed a variety of lawsuits in different jurisdictions around the country challenging the DOE's authority to withdraw the Yucca Mountain construction authorization application and NRC's cessation of its review of the Yucca Mountain

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construction authorization application. The cases have been consolidated into one matter at the D.C. Circuit. In August 2013, the D.C. Circuit ordered the NRC to resume its review of the application with available appropriated funds.

On October 16, 2014, the NRC issued Volume 3 of the safety evaluation report developed as part of the Yucca Mountain construction authorization application. This volume addresses repository safety after permanent closure, and its issuance is a key milestone in the Yucca Mountain licensing process. Volume 3 contains the staff's finding that the DOE's repository design meets the requirements that apply after the repository is permanently closed, including but not limited to the post-closure performance objectives in NRC's regulations.

On December 18, 2014, the NRC issued Volume 4 of the safety evaluation report developed as part of the Yucca Mountain construction authorization application. This volume covers administrative and programmatic requirements for the repository. It documents the staff's evaluation of whether the DOE's research and development and performance confirmation programs, as well as other administrative controls and systems, meet applicable NRC requirements. Volume 4 contains the staff's finding that most administrative and programmatic requirements in NRC regulations are met, except for certain requirements relating to ownership of land and water rights.

Publication of Volumes 3 and 4 does not signal whether or when the NRC might authorize construction of the repository.

Waste Confidence — On June 8, 2012, the D.C. Circuit issued its decision on a challenge by several states and environmental groups of the NRC's rulemaking regarding temporary storage and permanent disposal of high level nuclear waste and spent nuclear fuel. The petitioners had challenged the NRC's 2010 update to the agency's Waste Confidence Decision and temporary storage rule ("Waste Confidence Decision").

The D.C. Circuit found that the agency's 2010 Waste Confidence Decision update constituted a major federal action, which, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA"), requires either an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact from the agency's actions. The D.C. Circuit found that the NRC's evaluation of the environmental risks from spent nuclear fuel was deficient, and therefore remanded the 2010 Waste Confidence Decision update for further action consistent with NEPA.

On September 6, 2012, the NRC Commissioners issued a directive to the NRC staff to proceed directly with development of a generic environmental impact statement to support an updated Waste Confidence Decision. The NRC Commissioners also directed the staff to establish a schedule to publish a final rule and environmental impact study within 24 months of September 6, 2012.

In September 2013, the NRC issued its draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement ("GEIS") to support an updated Waste Confidence Decision. On August 26, 2014, the NRC approved a final rule on the environmental effects of continued storage of spent nuclear fuel. The continued storage rule adopted the findings of the GEIS regarding the environmental impacts of storing spent fuel at any reactor site after the reactor's licensed period of operations. As a result, those generic impacts do not need to be re-analyzed in the environmental reviews for individual licenses. Although Palo Verde had not been involved in any licensing actions affected by the D.C. Circuit's June 8, 2012, decision, the NRC lifted its suspension on final licensing actions on all nuclear power plant licenses and renewals that went into effect when the D.C. Circuit issued its June 2012 decision. The August 26th final rule has been subject to continuing legal challenges before the NRC and the Court of Appeals.

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Palo Verde has sufficient capacity at its on-site independent spent fuel storage installation ("ISFSI") to store all of the nuclear fuel that will be irradiated during the initial operating license period, which ends in December 2027. Additionally, Palo Verde has sufficient capacity at its on-site ISFSI to store a portion of the fuel that will be irradiated during the period of extended operation, which ends in November 2047. If uncertainties regarding the United States government's obligation to accept and store spent fuel are not favorably resolved, APS will evaluate alternative storage solutions that may obviate the need to expand the ISFSI to accommodate all of the fuel that will be irradiated during the period of extended operation.

Nuclear Decommissioning Costs — APS currently relies on an external sinking fund mechanism to meet the NRC financial assurance requirements for decommissioning its interests in Palo Verde Units 1, 2 and 3. The decommissioning costs of Palo Verde Units 1, 2 and 3 are currently included in APS's ACC jurisdictional rates. Decommissioning costs are recoverable through a non-bypassable system benefits charge (paid by all retail customers taking service from the APS system). See Note 19 for additional information about APS's nuclear decommissioning trusts.

Palo Verde Liability and Insurance Matters — See "Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station — Nuclear Insurance" in Note 10 for a discussion of the insurance maintained by the Palo Verde participants, including APS, for Palo Verde.

Impact of Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan on Nuclear Energy Industry — On March 11, 2011, an earthquake measuring 9.0 on the Richter Scale occurred off the coast of Japan causing a series of seven tsunamis. As a result, the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station experienced damage.

Following the earthquake and tsunamis, the NRC established a task force to conduct a systematic and methodical review of NRC processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to its regulatory system. On March 12, 2012, the NRC issued the first regulatory requirements based on the recommendations of the Near Term Task Force. With respect to Palo Verde, the NRC issued two orders requiring safety enhancements regarding: (1) mitigation strategies to respond to extreme natural events resulting in the loss of power at the plant; and (2) enhancement of spent fuel pool instrumentation.

The NRC has issued a number of guidance documents regarding implementation of these requirements. Due to the developing nature of these requirements, we cannot predict the ultimate financial or operational impacts on Palo Verde or APS. However, to implement these recommendations, Palo Verde expects to spend approximately \$40 million for capital enhancements to the plant over the next two years in addition to the approximate \$80 million that has already been spent on capital enhancements as of December 31, 2014 (APS's share is 29.1%).

## Natural Gas and Oil Fueled Generating Facilities

APS has six natural gas power plants located throughout Arizona, consisting of Redhawk, located near Palo Verde; Ocotillo, located in Tempe (discussed below); Sundance, located in Coolidge; West Phoenix, located in southwest Phoenix; Saguaro, located north of Tucson; and Yucca, located near Yuma. Several of the units at Yucca run on either gas or oil. APS has one oil-only power plant, Douglas, located in the town of Douglas, Arizona. APS owns and operates each of these plants with the exception of one oil-only combustion turbine unit and one oil and gas steam unit at Yucca that are operated by APS and owned by the Imperial Irrigation District. APS has a total entitlement from these plants of 3,179 MW. Gas for these plants is financially hedged up to three years in advance of purchasing and the gas is generally purchased one month prior to delivery. APS has long-term gas transportation agreements with three different companies, some of which are effective through 2024. Fuel oil is acquired under short-term purchases delivered primarily to West Phoenix, where it is distributed to APS's other oil power plants by truck.

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Ocotillo is a 330 MW 4-unit gas plant. In early 2014, APS announced a project to modernize the plant, which involves retiring two older 110 MW steam units, adding five 102 MW combustion turbines and maintaining two existing 55 MW combustion turbines. In total, this increases the capacity of the site by 290 MW, to 620 MW, with completion targeted for summer 2018. The last milestone before construction begins was raised during the ACC's Integrated Resource Planning meeting in the fall of 2014. While there was support for the first 2 units which replace the existing steam units, questions were raised on the cost effectiveness for the additional three units. To address these matters, APS issued a request for proposal in late January 2015 for the incremental capacity, equivalent to 3 of the 5 units.

#### Solar Facilities

To date, APS has begun operation of 150 MW of utility scale solar through its AZ Sun Program, discussed below. These facilities are owned by APS and are located in multiple locations throughout Arizona.

Additionally, APS owns and operates more than forty small solar systems around the state. Together they have the capacity to produce approximately 4 MW of renewable energy. This fleet of solar systems includes a 3 MW facility located at the Prescott Airport and 1 MW of small solar in various locations across Arizona. APS has also developed solar photovoltaic distributed energy systems installed as part of the Community Power Project in Flagstaff, Arizona. The Community Power Project, approved by the ACC on April 1, 2010, is a pilot program through which APS owns, operates and receives energy from approximately 1 MW of solar photovoltaic distributed energy systems located within a certain test area in Flagstaff, Arizona. Additionally, APS owns 12 MW of solar photovoltaic systems installed across Arizona through the ACC-approved Schools and Government Program.

In December 2014, the ACC voted that it had no objection to APS implementing a 10 MWdc (approximately 8.5 MWac) residential rooftop program. The first stage of the residential rooftop solar program is to be 8 MW followed by a 2 MW second stage that will only be deployed if coupled with distributed storage. Under this program, APS will own, operate and maintain approximately 1,500 residential systems. The program will target specific distribution feeders in an effort to maximize potential system benefits, as well as make systems available to limited-income customers who cannot easily install solar through transactions with third parties.

## **Purchased Power Contracts**

In addition to its own available generating capacity, APS purchases electricity under various arrangements, including long-term contracts and purchases through short-term markets to supplement its owned or leased generation and hedge its energy requirements. A portion of APS's purchased power expense is netted against wholesale sales on the Consolidated Statements of Income. (See Note 16.) APS continually assesses its need for additional capacity resources to assure system reliability.

Purchased Power Capacity — APS's purchased power capacity under long-term contracts, including its renewable energy portfolio, is summarized in the table below. All capacity values are based on net capacity unless otherwise noted.

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Type	Dates Available	Capacity (MW)
Purchase Agreement (a)	Year-round through June 14, 2020	60
Exchange Agreement (b)	May 15 to September 15 annually through 2020	480
Tolling Agreement	Year-round through May 2017	514
Tolling Agreement	Summer seasons through October 2019	560
Day-Ahead Call Option Agreement	Summer seasons through September 2015	500
Day-Ahead Call Option Agreement	Summer seasons through summer 2016	150
Demand Response Agreement (c)	Summer seasons through 2024	25
Renewable Energy (d)	Various	629

- (a) Up to 60 MW of capacity is available; however, the amount of electricity available to APS under this agreement is based in large part on customer demand and is adjusted annually.
- This is a seasonal capacity exchange agreement under which APS receives electricity during the summer peak (b) season (from May 15 to September 15) and APS returns a like amount of electricity during the winter season (from October 15 to February 15).
- (c) The capacity under this agreement may be increased in 5 MW increments in each of 2015 and 2016 and 10 MW increments in years 2017 through 2024, up to a maximum of 50 MW.
- (d) Renewable energy purchased power agreements are described in detail below under "Current and Future Resources Renewable Energy Standard Renewable Energy Portfolio."

**Current and Future Resources** 

## Current Demand and Reserve Margin

Electric power demand is generally seasonal. In Arizona, demand for power peaks during the hot summer months. APS's 2014 peak one-hour demand on its electric system was recorded on July 23, 2014 at 7,007 MW, compared to the 2013 peak of 6,927 MW recorded on July 8, 2013. APS's reserve margin at the time of the 2014 peak demand, calculated using system load serving capacity, was 34%. Excluding certain contractual rights to call on additional capacity on short notice, which APS may use in the event of unusual weather or unplanned outages, the 2014 reserve margin was 24%. APS anticipates the reserve margin for 2015 will be approximately 33% or 23% excluding contractual rights to call on additional capacity. APS expects that our reserve margins will decrease over the next three years and that additional conventional resources will be needed around 2017.

#### Future Resources and Resource Plan

Under the ACC's resource planning rule, APS will file by April 1 of each even-numbered year its resource plans for the next fifteen-year period. The rule requires the ACC to issue an order with its acknowledgment of APS's resource plan within approximately ten months following its submittal. The ACC's acknowledgment of APS's resource plan will consider factors such as the total cost of electric energy services, demand management, analysis of supply-side options, system reliability and risk management. APS filed its 2014 resource plan on April 1, 2014 and it will be filing its next resource plan by April 1, 2016. The ACC staff is exploring potential ways to improve the resource plan process.

After considering the costs to comply with environmental regulations, on September 11, 2014, APS announced that it will close Cholla Unit 2 by April 2016 and cease burning coal at the other APS-owned units (Units 1 and 3) at the plant by the mid-2020s, if EPA approves a compromise proposal offered by APS to meet required environmental and emissions standards and rules. APS filed an amendment to its resource plan with the ACC to request approval of the retirement of Cholla Unit 2. The ACC has not yet made a decision on this amendment. Previously, APS estimated Cholla Unit 2's end of life to be 2033. APS is currently recovering

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depreciation and a return on the net book value of the unit in base rates and plans to seek recovery of all of the unit's retirement-related costs in its next retail rate case. If APS closes Cholla Unit 2, APS believes it will be allowed recovery of the remaining net book value of Unit 2 (\$128 million as of December 31, 2014), in addition to a return on its investment. In accordance with GAAP, in the third quarter of 2014, Unit 2's remaining net book value was reclassified from property, plant and equipment to a regulatory asset. If the ACC does not allow full recovery of the remaining net book value of Cholla Unit 2, all or a portion of the regulatory asset will be written off and APS's net income, cash flows, and financial position will be negatively impacted.

## Renewable Energy Standard

In 2006, the ACC adopted the RES. Under the RES, electric utilities that are regulated by the ACC must supply an increasing percentage of their retail electric energy sales from eligible renewable resources, including solar, wind, biomass, biogas and geothermal technologies. The renewable energy requirement is 5% of retail electric sales in 2015 and increases annually until it reaches 15% in 2025. In APS's 2009 retail rate case settlement agreement (the "2009 Settlement Agreement"), APS committed to have 1,700 GWh of new renewable resources in service by year-end 2015 in addition to its 2008 renewable resource commitments. Taken together, APS's commitment is estimated to be approximately 12% of retail sales, by year-end 2015, which is more than double the RES target of 5% for that year. A component of the RES is focused on stimulating development of distributed energy systems (generally speaking, small-scale renewable technologies that are located on customers' properties, such as rooftop solar systems). Accordingly, under the RES, an increasing percentage of that requirement must be supplied from distributed energy resources. This distributed energy requirement is 30% of the overall RES requirement of 5% in 2015. The following table summarizes the RES requirement standard (not including the additional commitment required by the 2009 Settlement Agreement) and its timing:

	2015	2020	2025
RES as a % of retail electric sales	5%	10%	15%
Percent of RES to be supplied from distributed	30%	30%	30%
energy resources	3070	3070	30 70

Renewable Energy Portfolio. To date, APS has a diverse portfolio of existing and planned renewable resources totaling 1,253 MW, including solar, wind, geothermal, biomass and biogas. Of this portfolio, 1,194 MW are currently in operation and 59 MW are under contract for development or are under construction. Renewable resources in operation include 169 MW of facilities owned by APS, 629 MW of long-term purchased power agreements, and an estimated 396 MW of customer-sited, third-party owned distributed energy resources.

APS's strategy to achieve its RES requirements includes executing purchased power contracts for new facilities, ongoing development of distributed energy resources and procurement of new facilities to be owned by APS. APS is developing owned solar resources through the AZ Sun Program. Under this program to date, APS estimates its investment commitment will be approximately \$674 million. See Note 3 for additional details about the AZ Sun Program.

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The following table summarizes APS's renewable energy sources currently in operation and under development. Agreements for the development and completion of future resources are subject to various conditions, including successful siting, permitting and interconnection of the projects to the electric grid.

	Location	Actual/ Target Commercial Operation Date	Term (Years)	Net Capacity In Operation (MW AC)	Net Capacity Planned/Under Development (MW AC)
APS Owned					
Solar:					
AZ Sun Program:					
Paloma	Gila Bend, AZ	2011		17	
Cotton Center	Gila Bend, AZ	2011		17	
Hyder Phase 1	Hyder, AZ	2011		11	
Hyder Phase 2	Hyder, AZ	2012		5	
Chino Valley	Chino Valley, AZ	2012		19	
Hyder II	Hyder, AZ	2013		14	
Foothills	Yuma, AZ	2013		35	
Gila Bend	Gila Bend, AZ	2014		32	
Luke AFB	Glendale, AZ	2015			10
City of Phoenix	Buckeye, AZ	2015			10
Subtotal AZ Sun Program	•			150	20
Multiple Facilities	AZ	Various		4	
Distributed Energy:					
APS Owned (a)	AZ	Various		15	9
Total APS Owned				169	29
Purchased Power Agreements					
Solar:					
Solana	Gila Bend, AZ	2013	30	250	
RE Ajo	Ajo, AZ	2011	25	5	
Sun E AZ 1	Prescott, AZ	2011	30	10	
Saddle Mountain	Tonopah, AZ	2012	30	15	
Badger	Tonopah, AZ	2013	30	15	
Gillespie	Maricopa County, AZ	2013	30	15	
Wind:					
Aragonne Mesa	Santa Rosa, NM	2006	20	90	
High Lonesome	Mountainair, NM	2009	30	100	
Perrin Ranch Wind	Williams, AZ	2012	25	99	
Geothermal:					
Salton Sea	Imperial County, CA	2006	23	10	
Biomass:					
Snowflake	Snowflake, AZ	2008	15	14	
Biogas:					
Glendale Landfill	Glendale, AZ	2010	20	3	
NW Regional Landfill	Surprise, AZ	2012	20	3	
Total Purchased Power				629	
Agreements				J <b>2</b> )	
Distributed Energy					

Solar (b)					
Third-party Owned	AZ	Various		363	30
Agreement 1	Bagdad, AZ	2011	25	15	
Agreement 2	AZ	2011-2012	20-21	18	
Total Distributed Energy				396	30
Total Renewable Portfolio				1,194	59

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- (a) Includes Flagstaff Community Power Project, APS School and Government Program and APS Solar Partner Program.
- (b) Distributed generation is produced in DC and is converted to AC for reporting purposes.

## Demand Side Management

In December 2009, Arizona regulators placed an increased focus on energy efficiency and other demand side management programs to encourage customers to conserve energy, while incentivizing utilities to aid in these efforts that ultimately reduce the demand for energy. The ACC initiated its Energy Efficiency rulemaking, with a proposed Energy Efficiency Standard ("EES") of 22% cumulative annual energy savings by 2020. This standard was adopted and became effective on January 1, 2011. This standard will likely impact Arizona's future energy resource needs. (See Note 3 for energy efficiency and other demand side management obligations.)

#### Government Awards

Through various DOE initiatives, the Federal government made a number of programs available for utilities to develop renewable resources, improve reliability and create jobs. APS continues its work on a \$3 million financial award for a high penetration photovoltaic generation study related to the Community Power Project in Flagstaff, Arizona. This award will conclude during 2015 and is contingent upon APS meeting certain project milestones, including DOE-established budget parameters.

Competitive Environment and Regulatory Oversight

#### Retail

The ACC regulates APS's retail electric rates and its issuance of securities. The ACC must also approve any significant transfer or encumbrance of APS's property used to provide retail electric service and approve or receive prior notification of certain transactions between Pinnacle West, APS and their respective affiliates.

APS is subject to varying degrees of competition from other investor-owned electric and gas utilities in Arizona (such as Southwest Gas Corporation), as well as cooperatives, municipalities, electrical districts and similar types of governmental or non-profit organizations. In addition, some customers, particularly industrial and large commercial customers, may own and operate generation facilities to meet some or all of their own energy requirements. This practice is becoming more popular with customers installing or having installed products such as rooftop solar panels to meet or supplement their energy needs.

On April 14, 2010, the ACC issued a decision holding that solar vendors that install and operate solar facilities for non-profit schools and governments pursuant to a specific type of contract that calculates payments based on the energy produced are not "public service corporations" under the Arizona Constitution, and are therefore not regulated by the ACC. A second matter is pending with the ACC to determine whether that ruling should extend to solar providers who serve a broader customer base under the same business model. Use of such products by customers within our territory results in an increasing level of competition. APS cannot predict when, and the extent to which, additional electric service providers will enter or re-enter APS's service territory.

In 1999, the ACC approved rules for the introduction of retail electric competition in Arizona. As a result, as of January 1, 2001, all of APS's retail customers were eligible to choose alternate energy suppliers.

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Although some very limited retail competition existed in APS's service territory in 1999 and 2000, there are currently no active retail competitors offering unbundled energy or other utility services to APS's customers. In 2000, the Arizona Superior Court found that the rules were in part unconstitutional and in other respects unlawful, the latter finding being primarily on procedural grounds, and invalidated all ACC orders authorizing competitive electric services providers to operate in Arizona. In 2004, the Arizona Court of Appeals invalidated some, but not all of the rules and upheld the invalidation of the orders authorizing competitive electric service providers. In 2005, the Arizona Supreme Court declined to review the Court of Appeals' decision.

In 2008, the ACC directed the ACC staff to investigate whether such retail competition was in the public interest and what legal impediments remain to competition in light of the Court of Appeals' decision referenced above. The ACC staff's report on the results of its investigation was issued on August 12, 2010. The report stated that additional analysis, discussion and study of all aspects of the issue are required in order to perform a proper evaluation. While the report did not make any specific recommendations other than to conduct more workshops, the report did state that the current retail electric competition rules are incomplete and in need of modification.

On May 9, 2013, the ACC voted to re-examine the facilitation of a deregulated retail electric market in Arizona. The ACC subsequently opened a docket for this matter and received comments from a number of interested parties on the considerations involved in establishing retail electric deregulation in the state. One of these considerations was whether various aspects of a deregulated market, including setting utility rates on a "market" basis, would be consistent with the requirements of the Arizona Constitution. On September 11, 2013, after receiving legal advice from the ACC staff, the ACC voted 4-1 to close the current docket and await full Arizona Constitutional authority before any further examination of this matter. The motion approved by the ACC also included opening one or more new dockets in the future to explore options to offer more rate choices to customers and innovative changes within the existing cost-of-service regulatory model that could include elements of competition. The ACC opened a docket on November 4, 2013 to explore technological advances and innovative changes within the electric utility industry. A series of workshops in this docket were held in 2014 and another is currently scheduled for February 26, 2015.

#### Wholesale

FERC regulates rates for wholesale power sales and transmission services. (See Note 3 for information regarding APS's transmission rates.) During 2014, approximately 7.3% of APS's electric operating revenues resulted from such sales and services. APS's wholesale activity primarily consists of managing fuel and purchased power supplies to serve retail customer energy requirements. APS also sells, in the wholesale market, its generation output that is not needed for APS's Native Load and, in doing so, competes with other utilities, power marketers and independent power producers. Additionally, subject to specified parameters, APS hedges both electricity and fuels. The majority of these activities are undertaken to mitigate risk in APS's portfolio.

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**Environmental Matters** 

## Climate Change

Legislative Initiatives. There have been no recent attempts by Congress to pass legislation that would regulate greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions, and it is unclear if and when the 1 <sup>14</sup>Congress will consider a climate change bill. In the event climate change legislation ultimately passes, the actual economic and operational impact of such legislation on APS depends on a variety of factors, none of which can be fully known until a law is enacted and the specifics of the resulting program are established. These factors include the terms of the legislation with regard to allowed GHG emissions; the cost to reduce emissions; in the event a cap-and-trade program is established, whether any permitted emissions allowances will be allocated to source operators free of cost or auctioned (and, if so, the cost of those allowances in the marketplace) and whether offsets and other measures to moderate the costs of compliance will be available; and, in the event of a carbon tax, the amount of the tax per pound of carbon dioxide ("CQ") equivalent emitted.

In addition to federal legislative initiatives, state-specific initiatives may also impact our business. While Arizona has no pending legislation and no proposed agency rule regulating GHGs in Arizona, the California legislature enacted AB 32 and SB 1368 in 2006 to address GHG emissions. In October 2011, the California Air Resources Board approved final regulations that established a state-wide cap on GHG emissions beginning on January 1, 2013 and established a GHG allowance trading program under that cap. The first phase of the program, which applies to, among other entities, importers of electricity, commenced on January 1, 2013. Under the program, entities selling electricity into California, including APS, must hold carbon allowances to cover GHG emissions associated with electricity sales into California from outside the state. APS is authorized to recover the cost of these carbon allowances through the PSA.

Regulatory Initiatives. In 2009, EPA determined that GHG emissions endanger public health and welfare. This determination was made in response to a 2007 United States Supreme Court ruling that GHGs fit within the Clean Air Act's broad definition of "air pollutant" and, as a result, EPA has the authority to regulate GHG emissions of new motor vehicles under the Clean Air Act. As a result of this "endangerment finding," EPA determined that the Clean Air Act required new regulatory requirements for new and modified major GHG emitting sources, including power plants. EPA issued a rule under the Clean Air Act, known as the "tailoring rule," establishing new GHG emission thresholds that determine when sources, including power plants, must obtain air operating permits or New Source Review permits. "New Source Review," or "NSR," is a pre-construction permitting program under the Clean Air Act that requires analysis of pollution controls prior to building a new stationary source or making major modifications to an existing stationary source. The tailoring rule became applicable to power plants in January 2011 and, as a result, APS will generally be required to consider the impact of GHG emissions as part of its traditional NSR analysis for new sources and major modifications to existing plants.

Consistent with President Obama's June 2013 Climate Action Plan addressing his plans to reduce GHG emissions in the United States, pursuant to its endangerment finding and its authority under Section 111(b) of the Clean Air Act, on September 20, 2013, EPA issued a proposed rule, which would establish New Source Performance Standards ("NSPS") for new fossil-fired power plants. Subsequently, on June 2, 2014, EPA issued two additional proposed rules to regulate GHG emissions from modified and reconstructed electric generating units ("EGUs") pursuant to Section 111(b) of the Clean Air Act and existing fossil fuel-fired power plants pursuant to Clean Air Act Section 111(d). On January 7, 2015, EPA announced that its carbon pollution standards for new, modified and reconstructed, and existing power plants would be finalized in summer 2015.

EPA's proposed rule applicable to modified and reconstructed power plants would require fossil fuel-fired EGUs undergoing modification or reconstruction to meet  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  performance standards based on a

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combination of best operating practices and equipment upgrades. The rule would also require existing EGUs that are modified or reconstructed after becoming subject to state or federal standards of performance for existing power plants under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act to continue to meet those requirements. We cannot currently predict the shape of any final rules or standards for modified and reconstructed fossil-fired EGUs or assess how they might potentially impact the Company.

With respect to existing power plants, EPA's proposed "Clean Power Plan" rule proposes state-specific goals or targets to achieve reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from existing EGUs measured from a 2012 baseline. EPA's proposed emission rates would not apply directly to specific units, but must be met on a state-wide basis. As proposed, each state's goal is an emissions rate, which is a single number for the future carbon intensity of that state. The proposed rule provides guidelines to states to help develop their plans for meeting the interim (2020-2029) and final (2030 and beyond) emission rates set forth in the proposal. States would be required to submit their plans to EPA by summer 2016, although states may be eligible for one- or two-year extensions, provided they submit detailed explanations that contain specified information required by EPA in advance of the applicable due date. EPA's proposal for Arizona would result in in-state coal-fired generation (with the exception of coal-fired generation located in Indian country) shifting to natural gas combined cycle and renewable generation. Such a substantial change in APS's generation portfolio could require additional capital investments and increased operating costs, and thus have a significant financial impact on the Company. APS will continue to monitor these standards as they are developed.

As for sources in Indian country (which are not subject to state plans), on October 28, 2014, EPA issued a supplemental rule proposing carbon dioxide emission rates for U.S. territories and areas of Indian country with existing fossil fuel-fired EGUs, as well as guidelines for plans to achieve those rates. The supplemental proposal applies to Four Corners and the Navajo Plant, both of which are located on the Navajo Nation. With respect to these two plants, EPA applied the four building blocks described in its June 2, 2014 Clean Air Act Section 111(d) proposal to establish interim and final goals, expressed as  $CO_2$  emission rates. If finalized as proposed, it is unlikely the rule would require additional emission reductions as a result of the plants' past and future actions to comply with the Best Available Retrofit Technology ("BART") requirements of EPA's Clean Air Visibility Rule. (See "EPA Environmental Regulation - Regional Haze Rules" discussion below.)

Company Response to Climate Change Initiatives. We have undertaken a number of initiatives to address emission concerns, including renewable energy procurement and development, promotion of programs and rates that promote energy conservation, renewable energy use, and energy efficiency. (See "Energy Sources and Resource Planning - Current and Future Resources" above for details of these plans and initiatives.) APS currently has a diverse portfolio of renewable resources, including solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, and biomass, and we expect the percentage of renewable energy in our resource portfolio to increase over the coming years.

APS prepares an inventory of GHG emissions from its operations. This inventory is reported to EPA under the EPA GHG Reporting Program and is voluntarily communicated to the public in Pinnacle West's annual Corporate Responsibility Report, which is available on our website (www.pinnaclewest.com). The report provides information related to the Company and its approach to sustainability and its workplace and environmental performance. The information on Pinnacle West's website, including the Corporate Responsibility Report, is not incorporated by reference into this report.

## **EPA Environmental Regulation**

Regional Haze Rules. In 1999, EPA announced regional haze rules to reduce visibility impairment in national parks and wilderness areas. The rules require states (or, for sources located on tribal land, EPA) to determine what pollution control technologies constitute the BART for certain older major stationary sources,

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including fossil-fired power plants. EPA subsequently issued the Clean Air Visibility Rule, which provides guidelines on how to perform a BART analysis.

The Four Corners and Navajo Plant participants' obligations to comply with EPA's final BART determinations (and Cholla's obligations to comply with ADEQ's and EPA's determinations), coupled with the financial impact of potential future climate change legislation, other environmental regulations, and other business considerations, could jeopardize the economic viability of these plants or the ability of individual participants to continue their participation in these plants.

Cholla. In 2007, ADEQ required APS to perform a BART analysis for Cholla pursuant to the Clean Air Visibility Rule. APS completed the BART analysis for Cholla and submitted its BART recommendations to ADEQ in early 2008. The recommendations include the installation of certain pollution control equipment that APS believes constitutes BART. ADEQ reviewed APS's recommendations and submitted its proposed BART State Implementation Plan ("SIP") for Cholla and other sources in Arizona in early 2011.

On December 5, 2012, EPA issued a final BART rule applicable to Cholla. EPA approved ADEQ's BART emissions limits for sulfur dioxide ("SQ") and emissions of particulate matter ("PM"), but added a s@moval efficiency requirement of 95%. In addition, EPA disapproved ADEQ's BART determinations for oxides of nitrogen ("NQ") and promulgated a Federal Implementation Plan ("FIP") establishing a new, more stringent "bubbled" NQ emission rate applicable to the two BART-eligible Cholla units owned by APS and the other BART-eligible unit owned by PacifiCorp. In order to comply with this new rate, APS will be required to install SCR control technology on all three of the BART-eligible Cholla units. APS's total costs for these post-combustion NQ controls would be approximately \$200 million. This amount is not included in our current estimates for environmental capital expenditures in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Capital Expenditures" in Item 7. Under the FIP, APS has five years from December 2012 to complete installation of the equipment and achieve the BART emission limit for NO<sub>x</sub>.

APS believes that EPA's final rule as it applies to Cholla is unsupported and that EPA had no basis for disapproving Arizona's SIP and promulgating a FIP that is inconsistent with the state's considered BART determinations under the regional haze program. Accordingly, on February 1, 2013, APS filed a Petition for Review of the final BART rule in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Briefing in the case was completed in February 2014, and the court scheduled oral argument for March 9, 2015.

In September 2014, APS met with EPA to propose a compromise BART strategy wherein, pending certain regulatory approvals, APS would permanently close Cholla Unit 2 by April 2016 and cease burning coal at Units 1 and 3 by the mid-2020s. (See Note 3 for details related to the resulting regulatory asset.) APS made the proposal with the understanding that additional emission control equipment to reduce regional haze is unlikely to be required in the future because retiring and converting the units as contemplated in the proposal is more cost-effective than, and will result in increased visibility improvement over, the current BART requirements for NO<sub>x</sub> imposed on the Cholla units under EPA's BART FIP. Because APS's proposal involves state and federal rule-making processes, APS is unable to predict when or whether it may ultimately be approved.

Four Corners. On August 6, 2012, EPA issued its final BART determination for Four Corners, which requires APS to install and operate SCR control technology on Units 4 and 5 by July 31, 2018. (APS retired Four Corners Units 1-3 on December 30, 2013.) APS estimates that its 63% share of the cost of these controls for Four Corners Units 4 and 5 would be at least \$350 million. APS expects to incur certain of these costs during the 2015 through 2017 timeframe, which are included in our capital expenditure estimates. (See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Capital Expenditures" in Item 7 for such estimates and for a discussion of the capital expenditures related to the

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agreement to purchase El Paso's 7% interest in Units 4 and 5.) For PM emissions, EPA is requiring Units 4 and 5 to meet an emission limit of 0.015 lb/MMBtu and a 20 percent opacity limit, both of which are achievable through operation of Four Corners' existing baghouses. Although unrelated to BART, the final BART rule also imposes a 20 percent opacity limitation on certain fugitive dust emissions from Four Corners' coal and material handling operations. Navajo Plant. On January 18, 2013, EPA issued a proposed BART rule for the Navajo Plant, which would require installation of SCR technology in order to achieve a new, more stringent plant-wide NO<sub>x</sub> emission limit. In addition, EPA proposed a "better than BART" alternative and solicited comment on other options that could set longer time frames for installing pollution controls if the Navajo Plant can achieve additional emission reductions. On July 26, 2013, a group of stakeholders, including SRP, the operating agent for the Navajo Plant, submitted to EPA two suggested alternatives to BART, which would achieve greater NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions and result in greater reasonable progress toward the national visibility goal than EPA's proposed BART determination. On July 28, 2014, EPA issued a final Navajo Plant BART rule approving the alternative stakeholder plan. Depending on which alternate operating scenario the Navajo Plant participants ultimately select, the required NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions could be achieved by either closing one of the three 750 MW units at the plant or curtailing energy production across all three units, such that the emission reductions are commensurate with the closure of approximately one of the Navajo Plant units. APS estimates that its share of costs for upgrades at the Navajo Plant could be up to approximately \$200 million. These costs are not included in the capital expenditure estimates described in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Capital Expenditures" in Item 7 since the majority of such costs are expected to be incurred after 2017. In October 2014, a coalition of environmental groups, an Indian tribe, and others filed petitions for review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit asking the Court to review EPA's final BART rule for the Navajo Plant. We cannot predict the outcome of this petition. Mercury and other Hazardous Air Pollutants. On December 16, 2011, EPA issued the final Mercury and Air Toxics Standards ("MATS") rule, which established maximum achievable control technology ("MACT") standards to regulate emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants from fossil-fired power plants. Generally, plants will have three years after the effective date of the rule to achieve compliance. In the case of Cholla and Four Corners, APS will have until April 16, 2016, or a total of four years after the MATS rule's effective date, to comply with the new MACT standards because the respective permitting authorities granted APS's requests for one-year compliance date extensions. Similarly, SRP will have until April 16, 2016 to comply with MATS at the Navajo Plant, as a result of a one-year extension granted by EPA and the Navajo Nation EPA.

The MATS rule will require APS to install additional pollution control equipment. APS has installed certain of the equipment necessary to meet the anticipated standards. APS estimates that the cost for the remaining equipment necessary to meet these standards is approximately \$130 million for Cholla, which would be avoided if EPA approves APS's compromise proposal discussed under "Regional Haze Rules - Cholla" above. These costs are not included in the capital expenditure estimates described in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Capital Expenditures" in Item 7. No additional equipment is needed for Four Corners Units 4 and 5 to comply with these rules. SRP, the operating agent for the Navajo Plant, is still evaluating compliance options under the rules.

Coal Combustion Waste. On December 19, 2014, EPA issued its final regulations governing the handling and disposal of coal combustion residuals ("CCR"), such as fly ash and bottom ash. The rule regulates CCR as a non-hazardous waste under Subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") and establishes national minimum criteria for existing and new CCR landfills and surface impoundments and all lateral expansions consisting of location restrictions, design and operating criteria, groundwater monitoring and corrective action, closure requirements and post closure care, and recordkeeping, notification, and Internet posting requirements. The rule generally requires any existing unlined CCR surface

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impoundment that is contaminating groundwater above a regulated constituent's groundwater protection standard to stop receiving CCR and either retrofit or close, and further requires the closure of any CCR landfill or surface impoundment that cannot meet the applicable performance criteria for location restrictions or structural integrity.

Because the Subtitle D rule is self-implementing, the CCR standards apply directly to the regulated facility, and facilities are directly responsible for ensuring that their operations comply with the rule's requirements. While EPA has chosen to regulate the disposal of CCR in landfills and surface impoundments as non-hazardous waste under the final rule, the agency makes clear that it will continue to evaluate any risks associated with CCR disposal and leaves open the possibility that it may regulate CCR as a hazardous waste under RCRA Subtitle C in the future.

APS currently disposes of CCR in ash ponds and dry storage areas at Cholla and Four Corners. APS estimates that its share of incremental costs to comply with the CCR rule for Four Corners is approximately \$15 million, and its share of incremental costs for Cholla is approximately \$85 million. APS expects to incur certain of these costs during the 2015-2017 timeframe, which are included in the capital expenditure estimates in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Capital Expenditures" in Item 7. The amount for Cholla contemplates the closure of Unit 2 in 2016. (See "EPA Environmental Regulation - Regional Haze Rules - Cholla" discussion above.) The Navajo Plant currently disposes of CCR in a dry landfill storage area. At this time, SRP, the operating agent for the Navajo Plant, is analyzing the operations that would be covered by the rule and any resulting compliance costs.

Effluent Limitation Guidelines. On April 19, 2013, EPA proposed revised effluent limitation guidelines establishing technology-based wastewater discharge limitations for fossil-fired EGUs. EPA's proposal offers numerous options (four of which are "preferred alternatives") that target metals and other pollutants in wastewater streams originating from fly ash and bottom ash handling activities, scrubber activities, and non-chemical metal cleaning wastes operations. The preferred alternatives differ with respect to the scope of requirements that would be applicable to existing discharges of pollutants found in wastestreams generated at existing power plants. All four alternatives would establish a "zero discharge" effluent limit for all pollutants in fly ash transport water. However, requirements governing bottom ash transport water differ depending on which alternative EPA ultimately chooses and could range from effluent limits based on Best Available Technology Economically Achievable to "zero discharge" effluent limits. Depending on which alternative EPA finalizes, Four Corners may be required to change equipment and operating practices affecting boilers and ash handling systems, as well as change its waste disposal techniques. We cannot currently predict the shape of EPA's final rule or whether this action will have a material adverse impact on our financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. EPA is currently subject to a consent decree deadline to finalize the revised guidelines by September 30, 2015.

Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards. On December 17, 2014, EPA published a proposal to revise the primary ground-level ozone national ambient air quality standards ("NAAQS") currently set at a level of 75 parts per billion ("ppb"). The rule would set a new, more stringent primary standard (intended to protect human health) within the range of 65 to 70 ppb and revise the secondary standard (intended to protect human welfare) to within the same range. In addition, EPA is soliciting comment on alternative standard levels below 65 ppb, and as low as 60 ppb. EPA is accepting public comment on the proposed new ranges for the standards until March 17, 2015, and is under a court-ordered deadline of October 1, 2015 to finalize the rule. As ozone standards become more stringent, our fossil generation units may come under increasing pressure to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds and to generate emission offsets for new projects or facility expansions located in ozone nonattainment areas. At this time, APS is unable to predict what impact the adoption of these standards may have on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

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New Source Review. On April 6, 2009, APS received a request from EPA under Section 114 of the Clean Air Act seeking detailed information regarding projects at and operations of Four Corners. This request is part of a national enforcement initiative that EPA has undertaken under the Clean Air Act. EPA has taken the position that many utilities have made certain physical or operational changes at their plants that should have triggered additional regulatory requirements under the NSR provisions of the Clean Air Act. Other electric utilities have received and responded to similar Section 114 requests, and several of them have been the subject of notices of violation and lawsuits filed by EPA. APS responded to EPA's request in August 2009 and is currently unable to predict any resulting actions the EPA may take, including any potential litigation.

Clean Air Act Citizen Lawsuit. On October 4, 2011, Earthjustice, on behalf of several environmental organizations, filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico against APS and the other Four Corners participants alleging violations of the NSR provisions of the Clean Air Act. Subsequent to filing its original Complaint, on January 6, 2012, Earthjustice filed a First Amended Complaint adding claims for violations of the Clean Air Act's NSPS program. Among other things, the environmental plaintiffs seek to have the court enjoin operations at Four Corners until APS applies for and obtains any required NSR permits and complies with the NSPS. The plaintiffs further request the court to order the payment of civil penalties, including a beneficial mitigation project. On April 2, 2012, APS and the other Four Corners participants filed motions to dismiss. The case is being held in abeyance while the parties seek to negotiate a settlement. On March 30, 2013, upon joint motion of the parties, the court issued an order deeming the motions to dismiss withdrawn without prejudice during pendency of the stay. At such time as the stay is lifted, APS and the other Four Corners participants may reinstate their motions to dismiss. We are unable to predict the outcome of this matter.

Superfund-Related Matters. The Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("Superfund") establishes liability for the cleanup of hazardous substances found contaminating the soil, water or air. Those who generated, transported or disposed of hazardous substances at a contaminated site are among those who are potentially responsible parties ("PRPs"). PRPs may be strictly, and often are jointly and severally, liable for clean-up. On September 3, 2003, EPA advised APS that EPA considers APS to be a PRP in the Motorola 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Superfund Site, Operable Unit 3 ("OU3") in Phoenix, Arizona. APS has facilities that are within this Superfund site. APS and Pinnacle West have agreed with EPA to perform certain investigative activities of the APS facilities within OU3. In addition, on September 23, 2009, APS agreed with EPA and one other PRP to voluntarily assist with the funding and management of the site-wide groundwater remedial investigation and feasibility study work plan. We estimate that our costs related to this investigation and study will be approximately \$2 million. We anticipate incurring additional expenditures in the future, but because the overall investigation is not complete and ultimate remediation requirements are not yet finalized, at the present time expenditures related to this matter cannot be reasonably estimated.

On August 6, 2013, the Roosevelt Irrigation District ("RID") filed a lawsuit in Arizona District Court against APS and 24 other defendants, alleging that RID's groundwater wells were contaminated by the release of hazardous substances from facilities owned or operated by the defendants. The lawsuit also alleges that, under Superfund laws, the defendants are jointly and severally liable to RID. The allegations against APS arise out of APS's current and former ownership of facilities in and around OU3. We are unable to predict the outcome of this matter; however, we do not expect the outcome to have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Manufactured Gas Plant Sites. Certain properties which APS now owns or which were previously owned by it or its corporate predecessors were at one time sites of, or sites associated with, manufactured gas plants. APS is taking action to voluntarily remediate these sites. APS does not expect these matters to have a material adverse effect on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

## Navajo Nation Environmental Issues

Four Corners and the Navajo Plant are located on the Navajo Reservation and are held under easements granted by the federal government, as well as leases from the Navajo Nation. See "Energy Sources and Resource Planning - Generation Facilities - Coal-Fueled Generating Facilities" above for additional information regarding these plants. In July 1995, the Navajo Nation enacted the Navajo Nation Air Pollution Prevention and Control Act, the Navajo Nation Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Navajo Nation Pesticide Act (collectively, the "Navajo Acts"). The Navajo Acts purport to give the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency authority to promulgate regulations covering air quality, drinking water, and pesticide activities, including those activities that occur at Four Corners and the Navajo Plant. On October 17, 1995, the Four Corners participants and the Navajo Plant participants each filed a lawsuit in the District Court of the Navajo Nation, Window Rock District, challenging the applicability of the Navajo Acts as to Four Corners and the Navajo Plant. The Court has stayed these proceedings pursuant to a request by the parties, and the parties are seeking to negotiate a settlement.

In April 2000, the Navajo Nation Council approved operating permit regulations under the Navajo Nation Air Pollution Prevention and Control Act. APS believes the Navajo Nation exceeded its authority when it adopted the operating permit regulations. On July 12, 2000, the Four Corners participants and the Navajo Plant participants each filed a petition with the Navajo Supreme Court for review of these regulations. Those proceedings have been stayed, pending the settlement negotiations mentioned above. APS cannot currently predict the outcome of this matter. On May 18, 2005, APS, Salt River Project, as the operating agent for the Navajo Plant, and the Navajo Nation executed a Voluntary Compliance Agreement to resolve their disputes regarding the Navajo Nation Air Pollution Prevention and Control Act. As a result of this agreement, APS sought, and the courts granted, dismissal of the pending litigation in the Navajo Nation Supreme Court and the Navajo Nation District Court, to the extent the claims relate to the Clean Air Act. The agreement does not address or resolve any dispute relating to other Navajo Acts. APS cannot currently predict the outcome of this matter.

## Water Supply

Assured supplies of water are important for APS's generating plants. At the present time, APS has adequate water to meet its needs. However, the Four Corners region, in which Four Corners is located, has been experiencing drought conditions that may affect the water supply for the plants if adequate moisture is not received in the watershed that supplies the area. APS is continuing to work with area stakeholders to implement agreements to minimize the effect, if any, on future operations of the plant. The effect of the drought cannot be fully assessed at this time, and APS cannot predict the ultimate outcome, if any, of the drought or whether the drought will adversely affect the amount of power available, or the price thereof, from Four Corners.

Conflicting claims to limited amounts of water in the southwestern United States have resulted in numerous court actions, which, in addition to future supply conditions, have the potential to impact APS's operations.

San Juan River Adjudication. Both groundwater and surface water in areas important to APS's operations have been the subject of inquiries, claims, and legal proceedings, which will require a number of years to resolve. APS is one of a number of parties in a proceeding, filed March 13, 1975, before the Eleventh Judicial District Court in New Mexico to adjudicate rights to a stream system from which water for Four

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Corners is derived. An agreement reached with the Navajo Nation in 1985, however, provides that if Four Corners loses a portion of its rights in the adjudication, the Navajo Nation will provide, for an agreed upon cost, sufficient water from its allocation to offset the loss. In addition, APS is a party to a water contract that allows the company to secure water for Four Corners in the event of a water shortage and is a party to a shortage sharing agreement, which provides for the apportionment of water supplies to Four Corners in the event of a water shortage in the San Juan River Basin.

Gila River Adjudication. A summons served on APS in early 1986 required all water claimants in the Lower Gila River Watershed in Arizona to assert any claims to water on or before January 20, 1987, in an action pending in Arizona Superior Court. Palo Verde is located within the geographic area subject to the summons. APS's rights and the rights of the other Palo Verde participants to the use of groundwater and effluent at Palo Verde are potentially at issue in this action. As operating agent of Palo Verde, APS filed claims that dispute the court's jurisdiction over the Palo Verde participants' groundwater rights and their contractual rights to effluent relating to Palo Verde. Alternatively, APS seeks confirmation of such rights. Several of APS's other power plants are also located within the geographic area subject to the summons. APS's claims dispute the court's jurisdiction over APS's groundwater rights with respect to these plants. Alternatively, APS seeks confirmation of such rights. In November 1999, the Arizona Supreme Court issued a decision confirming that certain groundwater rights may be available to the federal government and Indian tribes. In addition, in September 2000, the Arizona Supreme Court issued a decision affirming the lower court's criteria for resolving groundwater claims. Litigation on both of these issues has continued in the trial court. In December 2005, APS and other parties filed a petition with the Arizona Supreme Court requesting interlocutory review of a September 2005 trial court order regarding procedures for determining whether groundwater pumping is affecting surface water rights. The Arizona Supreme Court denied the petition in May 2007, and the trial court is now proceeding with implementation of its 2005 order. No trial date concerning APS's water rights claims has been set in this matter.

Little Colorado River Adjudication. APS has filed claims to water in the Little Colorado River Watershed in Arizona in an action pending in the Apache County, Arizona, Superior Court, which was originally filed on September 5, 1985. APS's groundwater resource utilized at Cholla is within the geographic area subject to the adjudication and, therefore, is potentially at issue in the case. APS's claims dispute the court's jurisdiction over its groundwater rights. Alternatively, APS seeks confirmation of such rights. Other claims have been identified as ready for litigation in motions filed with the court. No trial date concerning APS's water rights claims has been set in this matter.

Although the above matters remain subject to further evaluation, APS does not expect that the described litigation will have a material adverse impact on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

#### **BUSINESS OF OTHER SUBSIDIARIES**

#### **Bright Canyon Energy**

On July 31, 2014, Pinnacle West announced its creation of a wholly-owned subsidiary, BCE. BCE will focus on new growth opportunities that leverage the Company's core expertise in the electric energy industry. BCE's first initiative is a 50/50 joint venture with MidAmerican Transmission, LLC. The joint venture, named TransCanyon, intends to focus on transmission opportunities within the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, excluding the retail service territories of the venture partners' utility affiliates. The joint venture submitted a bid into CAISO's competitive solicitation process to design, build and own a new 500 kV transmission line between Arizona and California, the Delaney to Colorado River Transmission Line. The winner of the bidding process is expected to be announced in 2015. This transmission line will connect a

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planned Delaney substation near Palo Verde in Arizona to the existing Colorado River substation located just west of Blythe, California.

El Dorado

El Dorado owns minority interests in several energy-related investments and Arizona community-based ventures. El Dorado's short-term goal is to prudently realize the value of its existing investments. As of December 31, 2014, El Dorado had total assets of approximately \$9 million. El Dorado is not expected to contribute in any material way to our future financial performance, nor will it require any material amounts of capital over the next three years.

#### SunCor

In February 2012, SunCor filed for protection under the United States Bankruptcy Code to complete an orderly liquidation of its business. On March 25, 2013, the bankruptcy plan submitted to the court and agreed to by SunCor and its creditors (the "Joint Plan") became effective. The Joint Plan provides for the full release of Pinnacle West and its affiliates from any and all claims related to SunCor, SunCor's subsidiaries, and their respective estates. SunCor and its subsidiaries have been formally dissolved.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

Pinnacle West, APS and El Dorado are all incorporated in the State of Arizona. BCE is incorporated in Delaware. Additional information for each of these companies is provided below:

	Principal Executive Office Address	Year of Incorporation	Approximate Number of Employees at December 31, 2014
Pinnacle West	400 North Fifth Street Phoenix, AZ 85004	1985	83
APS	400 North Fifth Street P.O. Box 53999 Phoenix, AZ 85072-3999	1920	6,279
BCE	400 North Fifth Street Phoenix, AZ 85004	2014	4
El Dorado	400 North Fifth Street Phoenix, AZ 85004	1983	_
Total			6,366

The APS number includes employees at jointly-owned generating facilities (approximately 2,830 employees) for which APS serves as the generating facility manager. Approximately 1,673 APS employees are union employees, represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers ("IBEW") or the United Security Professionals of America ("USPA"). APS is currently negotiating with IBEW representatives over the collective bargaining agreement that expires on March 31, 2015. The Company concluded negotiations with the USPA over the terms of a new collective bargaining agreement in May of 2014, and the new agreement is in place until May 31, 2017. WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

We use our website (www.pinnaclewest.com) as a channel of distribution for material Company information. The following filings are available free of charge on our website as soon as reasonably practicable after they are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"): Annual Reports on Form 10-K, definitive proxy statements for our annual shareholder meetings, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and all amendments to those reports. Our

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board and committee charters, Code of Ethics for Financial Executives, Code of Ethics and Business Practices and other corporate governance information is also available on the Pinnacle West website. Pinnacle West will post any amendments to the Code of Ethics for Financial Executives and Code of Ethics and Business Practices, and any waivers that are required to be disclosed by the rules of either the SEC or the New York Stock Exchange, on its website. The information on Pinnacle West's website is not incorporated by reference into this report.

You can request a copy of these documents, excluding exhibits, by contacting Pinnacle West at the following address: Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, Office of the Corporate Secretary, Mail Station 8602, P.O. Box 53999, Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999 (telephone 602-250-4400).

#### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the factors affecting specific business operations identified in the description of these operations contained elsewhere in this report, set forth below are risks and uncertainties that could affect our financial results. Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, the following risks and uncertainties apply to Pinnacle West and its subsidiaries, including APS.

#### REGULATORY RISKS

Our financial condition depends upon APS's ability to recover costs in a timely manner from customers through regulated rates and otherwise execute its business strategy.

APS is subject to comprehensive regulation by several federal, state and local regulatory agencies that significantly influence its business, liquidity, results of operations and its ability to fully recover costs from utility customers in a timely manner. The ACC regulates APS's retail electric rates and FERC regulates rates for wholesale power sales and transmission services. The profitability of APS is affected by the rates it may charge and the timeliness of recovering costs incurred through its rates. Consequently, our financial condition and results of operations are dependent upon the satisfactory resolution of any APS rate proceedings and ancillary matters which may come before the ACC and FERC. Arizona, like certain other states, has a statute that allows the ACC to reopen prior decisions and modify otherwise final orders under certain circumstances. The ACC must also approve APS's issuance of securities and any significant transfer or encumbrance of APS property used to provide retail electric service, and must approve or receive prior notification of certain transactions between us, APS and our respective affiliates. Decisions made by the ACC or FERC could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. APS's ability to conduct its business operations and avoid fines and penalties depends upon compliance with federal, state or local statutes, regulations and ACC requirements, and obtaining and maintaining certain regulatory permits, approvals and certificates.

APS must comply in good faith with all applicable statutes, regulations, rules, tariffs, and orders of agencies that regulate APS's business, including FERC, NRC, EPA, the ACC, and state and local governmental agencies. These agencies regulate many aspects of APS's utility operations, including safety and performance, emissions, siting and construction of facilities, customer service and the rates that APS can charge retail and wholesale customers. Failure to comply can subject APS to, among other things, fines and penalties. For example, under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, FERC can impose penalties (up to one million dollars per day per violation) for failure to comply with mandatory electric reliability standards. APS is also required to have numerous permits, approvals and certificates from these agencies. APS believes the necessary permits, approvals and certificates have been obtained for its existing operations and that APS's business is conducted in accordance with applicable laws in all material respects. However, changes in regulations or the imposition

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of new or revised laws or regulations could have an adverse impact on our results of operations. We are also unable to predict the impact on our business and operating results from pending or future regulatory activities of any of these agencies.

The operation of APS's nuclear power plant exposes it to substantial regulatory oversight and potentially significant liabilities and capital expenditures.

The NRC has broad authority under federal law to impose safety-related, security-related and other licensing requirements for the operation of nuclear generation facilities. Events at nuclear facilities of other operators or impacting the industry generally may lead the NRC to impose additional requirements and regulations on all nuclear generation facilities, including Palo Verde. As a result of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunamis that caused significant damage to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan, various industry organizations are working to analyze information from the Japan incident and develop action plans for U.S. nuclear power plants. Additionally, the NRC has been performing its own independent review of the events at Fukushima Daiichi, including a review of the agency's processes and regulations in order to determine whether the agency should promulgate additional regulations and possibly make more fundamental changes to the NRC's system of regulation. We cannot predict when or if the NRC will complete its formal actions as a result of its review. As a result of the Fukushima event, however, the NRC has directed nuclear power plants to implement the first tier recommendations of the NRC's Near Term Task Force. In response to these recommendations, Palo Verde expects to spend approximately \$40 million for capital enhancements to the plant over the next two years in addition to the approximate \$80 million that has already been spent on capital enhancements as of December 31, 2014 (APS's share is 29.1%). We cannot predict whether these amounts will increase or whether additional financial and/or operational requirements on Palo Verde and APS may be imposed.

In the event of noncompliance with its requirements, the NRC has the authority to impose a progressively increased inspection regime that could ultimately result in the shut-down of a unit or civil penalties, or both, depending upon the NRC's assessment of the severity of the situation, until compliance is achieved. The increased costs resulting from penalties, a heightened level of scrutiny and implementation of plans to achieve compliance with NRC requirements may adversely affect APS's financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

APS is subject to numerous environmental laws and regulations, and changes in, or liabilities under, existing or new laws or regulations may increase APS's cost of operations or impact its business plans.

APS is, or may become, subject to numerous environmental laws and regulations affecting many aspects of its present and future operations, including air emissions, water quality, discharges of wastewater and streams originating from fly ash and bottom ash handling facilities, solid waste, hazardous waste, and coal combustion products, which consist of bottom ash, fly ash, and air pollution control wastes. These laws and regulations can result in increased capital, operating, and other costs, particularly with regard to enforcement efforts focused on power plant emissions obligations. These laws and regulations generally require APS to obtain and comply with a wide variety of environmental licenses, permits, and other approvals. If there is a delay or failure to obtain any required environmental regulatory approval, or if APS fails to obtain, maintain, or comply with any such approval, operations at affected facilities could be suspended or subject to additional expenses. In addition, failure to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations could result in civil liability as a result of government enforcement actions or private claims or criminal penalties. Both public officials and private individuals may seek to enforce applicable environmental laws and regulations. APS cannot predict the outcome (financial or operational) of any related litigation that may arise.

Environmental Clean Up. APS has been named as a PRP for a Superfund site in Phoenix, Arizona, and it could be named a PRP in the future for other environmental clean-up at sites identified by a regulatory body.

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APS cannot predict with certainty the amount and timing of all future expenditures related to environmental matters because of the difficulty of estimating clean-up costs. There is also uncertainty in quantifying liabilities under environmental laws that impose joint and several liability on all PRPs.

Regional Haze. APS has received final rulemakings imposing new requirements on Four Corners, Cholla and the Navajo Plant. Pursuant to these rules, EPA and ADEQ will require these plants to install pollution control equipment that constitutes BART to lessen the impacts of emissions on visibility surrounding the plants. The financial impact of installing and operating the required pollution control equipment could jeopardize the economic viability of these plants or the ability of individual participants to continue their participation in these plants.

Coal Ash. In December 2014, EPA issued final regulations governing the handling and disposal of CCR, which are generated as a result of burning coal and consist of, among other things, fly ash and bottom ash. The rule regulates CCR as a non-hazardous waste. APS currently disposes of CCR in ash ponds and dry storage areas at Cholla and Four Corners and in a dry landfill storage area at the Navajo Plant. To the extent the rule requires the closure or modification of these CCR units or the construction of new CCR units beyond what we currently anticipate, APS could incur significant additional costs for CCR disposal.

Effluent Limitation Guidelines. EPA is expected to finalize revised effluent limitation guidelines establishing technology-based wastewater discharge limitations for fossil-fired EGUs in 2015. EPA has indicated that it expects the revised standards to target metals and other pollutants in wastewater streams originating from fly ash and bottom ash handling activities and scrubber-related operations. APS currently disposes of fly ash waste and bottom ash in ash ponds at Four Corners. Changes required by the rule could significantly increase ash disposal costs at Four Corners.

Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards. In December 2014, EPA proposed revisions to the national ambient air quality standards, which would set new, more stringent standards intended to protect human health and human welfare. Depending on the stringency of the final standards and the implementation requirements, APS may be required to invest in new pollution control technologies and to generate emission offsets for new projects or facility expansions located in ozone nonattainment areas.

New Source Review. EPA has taken the position that many projects electric utilities have performed are major modifications that trigger NSR requirements under the Clean Air Act. The utilities generally have taken the position that these projects are routine maintenance, repair and replacement and did not result in emissions increases, and thus are not subject to NSR. In 2009, APS received and responded to a request from EPA regarding projects and operations at Four Corners. Several environmental non-governmental organizations filed suit against the Four Corners participants for alleged violations of the Clean Air Act's NSR and NSPS programs. If EPA seeks to impose NSR requirements at Four Corners or any other APS plant, or if the citizens groups prevail in their Clean Air Act lawsuit, capital investments could be required to install new pollution control technologies. EPA could also seek civil penalties.

APS cannot assure that existing environmental regulations will not be revised or that new regulations seeking to protect the environment will not be adopted or become applicable to it. Revised or additional regulations that result in increased compliance costs or additional operating restrictions, particularly if those costs incurred by APS are not fully recoverable from APS's customers, could have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Due to current or potential future regulations or legislation, the economics of continuing to own certain resources, particularly coal facilities, may deteriorate, warranting early retirement of those plants, which may result in asset impairments. APS would seek recovery in rates for the book value of any remaining investments in the plants as well as other costs related to early retirement, but cannot predict whether it would obtain such recovery.

APS faces physical and operational risks related to climate effects, and potential financial risks resulting from climate change litigation and legislative and regulatory efforts to limit GHG emissions.

Concern over climate change has led to significant legislative and regulatory efforts to limit CO2, which is a major byproduct of the combustion of fossil fuel, and other GHG emissions.

Financial Risks - Potential Greenhouse Gas Regulation. In 2014, EPA proposed a rule to limit carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants. EPA expects to finalize the proposal in summer 2015. EPA's proposal for Arizona would result in a shift in in-state generation from coal to natural gas and renewable generation. Such a substantial change in APS's generation portfolio could require additional capital investments and increased operating costs, and thus have a significant financial impact on the Company.

Physical and Operational Risks. Weather extremes such as drought and high temperature variations are common occurrences in the Southwest's desert area, and these are risks that APS considers in the normal course of business in the engineering and construction of its electric system. Large increases in ambient temperatures could require evaluation of certain materials used within its system and represent a greater challenge.

Deregulation or restructuring of the electric industry may result in increased competition, which could have a significant adverse impact on APS's business and its results of operations.

In 1999, the ACC approved rules for the introduction of retail electric competition in Arizona. Retail competition could have a significant adverse financial impact on APS due to an impairment of assets, a loss of retail customers, lower profit margins or increased costs of capital. Although some very limited retail competition existed in APS's service area in 1999 and 2000, there are currently no active retail competitors offering unbundled energy or other utility services to APS's customers. On May 9, 2013, the ACC voted to re-examine the facilitation of a deregulated retail electric market in Arizona. The ACC subsequently opened a docket for this matter and received comments from a number of interested parties on the considerations involved in establishing retail electric deregulation in the state. One of these considerations is whether various aspects of a deregulated market, including setting utility rates on a "market" basis, would be consistent with the requirements of the Arizona Constitution. On September 11, 2013, after receiving legal advice from the ACC staff, the ACC voted 4-1 to close the current docket and await full Arizona Constitutional authority before any further examination of this matter. The motion approved by the ACC also included opening one or more new dockets in the future to explore options to offer more rate choices to customers and innovative changes within the existing cost-of-service regulatory model that could include elements of competition. One of these options could be a continuation or expansion of APS's existing AG (Alternative Generation) — 1 program, which essentially allows up to 200 MW of cumulative load to be served via a buy-through arrangement with competitive suppliers of generation. We cannot predict future regulatory or legislative action that might result in increased competition.

In 2010, the ACC issued a decision holding that solar vendors that install and operate solar facilities for non-profit schools and governments pursuant to a specific type of contract that calculates payments based on the energy produced are not "public service corporations" under the Arizona Constitution, and are therefore not regulated by the ACC. A second matter is pending with the ACC to determine whether that ruling should extend to solar providers who serve a broader customer base under the same business model. The use of such products by customers within our territory results in some level of competition. APS cannot predict whether the ACC will deem these vendors "public service corporations" subject to ACC regulation and when, and the extent to which, additional service providers will enter APS's service territory, increasing the level of competition in the market.

#### **OPERATIONAL RISKS**

APS's results of operations can be adversely affected by various factors impacting demand for electricity.

Weather Conditions. Weather conditions directly influence the demand for electricity and affect the price of energy commodities. Electric power demand is generally a seasonal business. In Arizona, demand for power peaks during the hot summer months, with market prices also peaking at that time. As a result, APS's overall operating results fluctuate substantially on a seasonal basis. In addition, APS has historically sold less power, and consequently earned less income, when weather conditions are milder. As a result, unusually mild weather could diminish APS's financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Higher temperatures may decrease the snowpack, which might result in lowered soil moisture and an increased threat of forest fires. Forest fires could threaten APS's communities and electric transmission lines and facilities. Any damage caused as a result of forest fires could negatively impact APS's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Effects of Energy Conservation Measures and Distributed Energy. The ACC has enacted rules regarding energy efficiency that mandate a 22% annual energy savings requirement by 2020. This will likely increase participation by APS customers in energy efficiency and conservation programs and other demand-side management efforts, which in turn will impact the demand for electricity. The rules also include a requirement for the ACC to review and address financial disincentives, recovery of fixed costs and the recovery of net lost income/revenue that would result from lower sales due to increased energy efficiency requirements. To that end, the settlement agreement in APS's most recent retail rate case (the "2012 Settlement Agreement") includes a mechanism, the LFCR, to address these matters.

APS must also meet certain distributed energy requirements. A portion of APS's total renewable energy requirement must be met with an increasing percentage of distributed energy resources (generally, small scale renewable technologies located on customers' properties). The distributed energy requirement was 25% of the overall RES requirement of 3% in 2011 and increased to 30% of the applicable RES requirement for 2012 and subsequent years. Customer participation in distributed energy programs would result in lower demand, since customers would be meeting some or all of their own energy needs. Reduced demand due to these energy efficiency and distributed energy requirements, unless substantially offset through ratemaking mechanisms, could have a material adverse impact on APS's financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Customer and Sales Growth. For the three years 2012 through 2014, APS's retail customer growth averaged 1.3% per year. We currently expect annual customer growth to average in the range of 2.0-3.0% for 2015 through 2017 based on our assessment of modestly improving economic conditions in Arizona. For the three years 2012 through 2014, APS experienced annual decreases in retail electricity sales averaging 0.2%, adjusted to exclude the effects of weather variations. We currently estimate that annual retail electricity sales in kWh will increase on average in the range of 0.5-1.5% during 2015 through 2017, including the effects of customer conservation and energy efficiency and distributed renewable generation initiatives, but excluding the effects of weather variations. Actual customer and sales growth may differ from our projections as a result of numerous factors, such as economic conditions, customer growth, usage patterns and energy conservation, impacts of energy efficiency programs and growth in distributed generation, and responses to retail price changes. Additionally, recovery of a substantial portion of our fixed costs of providing service is based upon the volumetric amount of our sales. If our customer growth rate does not continue to improve as projected, or if it declines, or if the Arizona economy fails to improve, we may be unable to reach our estimated demand level and sales projections, which could have a negative impact on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

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The operation of power generation facilities and transmission systems involves risks that could result in reduced output or unscheduled outages, which could materially affect APS's results of operations.

The operation of power generation, transmission and distribution facilities involves certain risks, including the risk of breakdown or failure of equipment, fuel interruption, and performance below expected levels of output or efficiency. Unscheduled outages, including extensions of scheduled outages due to mechanical failures or other complications, occur from time to time and are an inherent risk of APS's business. Because our transmission facilities are interconnected with those of third parties, the operation of our facilities could be adversely affected by unexpected or uncontrollable events occurring on the larger transmission power grid, and the operation or failure of our facilities could adversely affect the operations of others. If APS's facilities operate below expectations, especially during its peak seasons, it may lose revenue or incur additional expenses, including increased purchased power expenses. Concerns over physical security of these assets is also increasing, which may require us to incur additional capital and operating costs to address. Damage to certain of our facilities due to vandalism or other deliberate acts could lead to outages or other adverse effects.

The inability to successfully develop or acquire generation resources to meet reliability requirements, new or evolving standards or regulations could adversely impact our business.

Potential changes in regulatory standards, impacts of new and existing laws and regulations, including environmental laws and regulations, and the need to obtain certain regulatory approvals create uncertainty surrounding our generation portfolio. The current abundance of low, stably priced natural gas, together with environmental and other concerns surrounding coal-fired generation resources, create strategic questions related to the appropriate generation portfolio and fuel diversification mix. In addition, APS is required by the ACC to meet certain energy resource portfolio requirements such as the EES and the RES. The development of any generation facility is subject to many risks, including risks related to financing, siting, permitting, technology, the construction of sufficient transmission capacity to support these facilities and stresses to generation and transmission resources from intermittent generation characteristics of renewable resources. APS's inability to adequately develop or acquire the necessary generation resources could have a material adverse impact on our business and results of operations.

The lack of access to sufficient supplies of water could have a material adverse impact on APS's business and results of operations.

Assured supplies of water are important for APS's generating plants. Water in the southwestern United States is limited, and various parties have made conflicting claims regarding the right to access and use such limited supply of water. Both groundwater and surface water in areas important to APS's generating plants have been and are the subject of inquiries, claims and legal proceedings. In addition, the region in which APS's power plants are located is prone to drought conditions, which could potentially affect the plants' water supplies. APS's inability to access sufficient supplies of water could have a material adverse impact on our business and results of operations.

The ownership and operation of power generation and transmission facilities on Indian lands could result in uncertainty related to continued leases, easements and rights-of-way, which could have a significant impact on our business.

Certain APS power plants, including Four Corners, and portions of the transmission lines that carry power from these plants are located on Indian lands pursuant to leases, easements or other rights-of-way that are effective for specified periods. APS is unable to predict the final outcome of pending and future approvals by applicable governing bodies with respect to renewals of these leases, easements and rights-of-way.

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There are inherent risks in the ownership and operation of nuclear facilities, such as environmental, health, fuel supply, spent fuel disposal, regulatory and financial risks and the risk of terrorist attack.

APS has an ownership interest in and operates, on behalf of a group of participants, Palo Verde, which is the largest nuclear electric generating facility in the United States. Palo Verde constitutes approximately 18% of our owned and leased generation capacity. Palo Verde is subject to environmental, health and financial risks, such as the ability to obtain adequate supplies of nuclear fuel; the ability to dispose of spent nuclear fuel; the ability to maintain adequate reserves for decommissioning; potential liabilities arising out of the operation of these facilities; the costs of securing the facilities against possible terrorist attacks; and unscheduled outages due to equipment and other problems. APS maintains nuclear decommissioning trust funds and external insurance coverage to minimize its financial exposure to some of these risks; however, it is possible that damages could exceed the amount of insurance coverage. In addition, APS may be required under federal law to pay up to \$111 million (but not more than \$16.5 million per year) of liabilities arising out of a nuclear incident occurring not only at Palo Verde, but at any other nuclear power plant in the United States. Although we have no reason to anticipate a serious nuclear incident at Palo Verde, if an incident did occur, it could materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. A major incident at a nuclear facility anywhere in the world could cause the NRC to limit or prohibit the operation or licensing of any domestic nuclear unit and to promulgate new regulations that could require significant capital expenditures and/or increase operating costs.

The use of derivative contracts in the normal course of our business could result in financial losses that negatively impact our results of operations.

APS's operations include managing market risks related to commodity prices. APS is exposed to the impact of market fluctuations in the price and transportation costs of electricity, natural gas and coal to the extent that unhedged positions exist. We have established procedures to manage risks associated with these market fluctuations by utilizing various commodity derivatives, including exchange traded futures and options and over-the-counter forwards, options, and swaps. As part of our overall risk management program, we enter into derivative transactions to hedge purchases and sales of electricity and fuels. The changes in market value of such contracts have a high correlation to price changes in the hedged commodity. To the extent that commodity markets are illiquid, we may not be able to execute our risk management strategies, which could result in greater unhedged positions than we would prefer at a given time and financial losses that negatively impact our results of operations.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank Act") contains measures aimed at increasing the transparency and stability of the over-the counter, or OTC, derivative markets and preventing excessive speculation. The Dodd-Frank Act could restrict, among other things, trading positions in the energy futures markets, require different collateral or settlement positions, or increase regulatory reporting over derivative positions. Based on the provisions included in the Dodd-Frank Act and the implementation of regulations, these changes could, among other things, impact our ability to hedge commodity price and interest rate risk or increase the costs associated with our hedging programs.

We are exposed to losses in the event of nonperformance or nonpayment by counterparties. We use a risk management process to assess and monitor the financial exposure of all counterparties. Despite the fact that the majority of APS's trading counterparties are rated as investment grade by the rating agencies, there is still a possibility that one or more of these companies could default, which could result in a material adverse impact on our earnings for a given period.

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Changes in technology could create challenges for APS's existing business.

Research and development activities are ongoing to develop and commercialize alternative technologies that produce power or reduce power consumption or emissions, including renewable technologies including photovoltaic (solar) cells, customer-sited generation, energy storage (batteries), and efficiency technologies. Advances in these, or other technologies could reduce the cost of power production, making APS's existing generating facilities less economical. In addition, advances in technology and equipment/appliance efficiency could reduce the demand for power supply, which could adversely affect APS's business.

APS has, and continues to pursue and implement, smart grid technologies, including advanced transmission and distribution system technologies, as well as digital meters enabling two-way communications between the utility and its customers. Many of the products and processes resulting from these and other alternative technologies have not yet been widely used or tested on a long-term basis, and their use on large-scale systems is not as established or mature as APS's existing technologies and equipment. Widespread installation and acceptance of these technologies could enable the entry of new market participants, such as technology companies, into the interface between APS and its customers and could have other unpredictable effects on APS's business.

We are subject to employee workforce factors that could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

Like most companies in the electric utility industry, our workforce is maturing, with approximately 37% of employees eligible to retire by the end of 2017. Although we have undertaken efforts to recruit and train new employees, we face increased competition for talent. We are subject to other employee workforce factors, such as the availability of qualified personnel, the need to negotiate collective bargaining agreements with union employees and potential work stoppages. These or other employee workforce factors could negatively impact our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We are subject to information security risks and risks of unauthorized access to our systems.

In the regular course of our business, we handle a range of sensitive security, customer and business systems information. A security breach of our information systems such as theft or the inappropriate release of certain types of information, including confidential customer, employee, financial or system operating information, could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. We operate in a highly regulated industry that requires the continued operation of sophisticated information technology systems and network infrastructure. Despite implementation of security measures, our technology systems are vulnerable to disability, failures or unauthorized access. Our generation, transmission and distribution facilities, information technology systems and other infrastructure facilities and systems and physical assets could be targets of such unauthorized access. Failures or breaches of our systems could impact the reliability of our generation, transmission and distribution systems and also subject us to financial harm. If our technology systems were to fail or be breached and if we are unable to recover in a timely way, we may not be able to fulfill critical business functions and sensitive confidential data could be compromised, which could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

We are subject to laws and rules issued by multiple government agencies concerning safeguarding and maintaining the confidentiality of our security, customer and business information. One of these agencies, NERC, has issued comprehensive regulations and standards surrounding the security of our operating systems, and is continually in the process of developing updated and additional requirements with which the utility industry must comply. The increasing promulgation of NERC rules and standards will increase our compliance costs and our exposure to the potential risk of violations of the standards.

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While we have experienced, and expect to continue to experience, these types of threats and attempted intrusions, none of them to date has been material to the Company. The implementation of additional security measures could increase costs and have a material adverse impact on our financial results. We have obtained cyber insurance to provide coverage for a portion of the losses and damages that may result from a security breach of our information technology systems, but such insurance may not cover the total loss or damage caused by a breach. These types of events could also require significant management attention and resources, and could adversely affect Pinnacle West's and APS's reputation with customers and the public.

#### FINANCIAL RISKS

Financial market disruptions or new rules or regulations may increase our financing costs or limit our access to various financial markets, which may adversely affect our liquidity and our ability to implement our financial strategy.

Pinnacle West and APS rely on access to credit markets as a significant source of liquidity and the capital markets for capital requirements not satisfied by cash flow from our operations. We believe that we will maintain sufficient access to these financial markets. However, certain market disruptions or rules or regulations may cause our cost of borrowing to increase generally, and/or otherwise adversely affect our ability to access these financial markets.

In addition, the credit commitments of our lenders under our bank facilities may not be satisfied or continued beyond current commitment periods for a variety of reasons, including new rules and regulations, periods of financial distress or liquidity issues affecting our lenders or financial markets, which could materially adversely affect the adequacy of our liquidity sources and the cost of maintaining these sources.

Changes in economic conditions, monetary policy, financial regulation or other factors could result in higher interest rates, which would increase interest expense on our existing variable rate debt and new debt we expect to issue in the future, and thus reduce funds available to us for our current plans.

Additionally, an increase in our leverage, whether as a result of these factors or otherwise, could adversely affect us by:

- •causing a downgrade of our credit ratings;
- •increasing the cost of future debt financing and refinancing;
- •increasing our vulnerability to adverse economic and industry conditions; and
- requiring us to dedicate an increased portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our debt, which would reduce funds available to us for operations, future investment in our business or other purposes.

A downgrade of our credit ratings could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our current ratings are set forth in "Liquidity and Capital Resources — Credit Ratings" in Item 7. We cannot be sure that any of our current ratings will remain in effect for any given period of time or that a rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by a rating agency if, in its judgment, circumstances in the future so warrant. Any downgrade or withdrawal could adversely affect the market price of Pinnacle West's and APS's securities, limit our access to capital and increase our borrowing costs, which would diminish our financial results. We would be required to pay a higher interest rate for future financings, and our potential pool of investors and funding sources could decrease. In addition, borrowing costs under our existing credit facilities

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depend on our credit ratings. A downgrade could also require us to provide additional support in the form of letters of credit or cash or other collateral to various counterparties. If our short-term ratings were to be lowered, it could severely limit access to the commercial paper market. We note that the ratings from rating agencies are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold our securities and that each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating.

Investment performance, changing interest rates and other economic factors could decrease the value of our benefit plan assets and nuclear decommissioning trust funds and increase the valuation of our related obligations, resulting in significant additional funding requirements. We are subject to risks related to the provision of employee healthcare benefits and recent healthcare reform legislation. Any inability to fully recover these costs in our utility rates would negatively impact our financial condition.

We have significant pension plan and other postretirement benefits plan obligations to our employees and retirees, and legal obligations to fund nuclear decommissioning trusts for Palo Verde. We hold and invest substantial assets in these trusts that are designed to provide funds to pay for certain of these obligations as they arise. Declines in market values of the fixed income and equity securities held in these trusts may increase our funding requirements into the related trusts. Additionally, the valuation of liabilities related to our pension plan and other postretirement benefit plans are impacted by a discount rate, which is the interest rate used to discount future pension and other postretirement benefit obligations. Declining interest rates decrease the discount rate, increase the valuation of the plan liabilities and may result in increases in pension and other postretirement benefit costs, cash contributions, regulatory assets, and charges to OCI. Changes in demographics, including increased number of retirements or changes in life expectancy and changes in other actuarial assumptions, may also result in similar impacts. The minimum contributions required under these plans are impacted by federal legislation. Increasing liabilities or otherwise increasing funding requirements under these plans, resulting from adverse changes in legislation or otherwise, could result in significant cash funding obligations that could have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

We recover most of the pension costs and other postretirement benefit costs and all of the nuclear decommissioning costs in our regulated rates. Any inability to fully recover these costs in a timely manner would have a material negative impact on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Employee healthcare costs in recent years have continued to rise. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is expected to result in additional healthcare cost increases. Costs and other effects of the legislation, which may include the cost of compliance and potentially increased costs of providing for medical insurance for our employees, cannot be determined with certainty at this time.

Our cash flow depends on the performance of APS.

We derive essentially all of our revenues and earnings from our wholly owned subsidiary, APS. Accordingly, our cash flow and our ability to pay dividends on our common stock is dependent upon the earnings and cash flows of APS and its distributions to us. APS is a separate and distinct legal entity and has no obligation to make distributions to us.

APS's financing agreements may restrict its ability to pay dividends, make distributions or otherwise transfer funds to us. In addition, an ACC financing order requires APS to maintain a common equity ratio of at least 40% and does not allow APS to pay common dividends if the payment would reduce its common equity below that threshold. The common equity ratio, as defined in the ACC order, is total shareholder equity divided by the sum of total shareholder equity and long-term debt, including current maturities of long-term debt.

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Pinnacle West's ability to meet its debt service obligations could be adversely affected because its debt securities are structurally subordinated to the debt securities and other obligations of its subsidiaries.

Because Pinnacle West is structured as a holding company, all existing and future debt and other liabilities of our subsidiaries will be effectively senior in right of payment to our debt securities. The assets and cash flows of our subsidiaries will be available, in the first instance, to service their own debt and other obligations. Our ability to have the benefit of their cash flows, particularly in the case of any insolvency or financial distress affecting our subsidiaries, would arise only through our equity ownership interests in our subsidiaries and only after their creditors have been satisfied.

The market price of our common stock may be volatile.

The market price of our common stock could be subject to significant fluctuations in response to factors such as the following, some of which are beyond our control:

- variations in our quarterly operating results;
- operating results that vary from the expectations of management, securities analysts and investors;
- changes in expectations as to our future financial performance, including financial estimates by securities analysts and investors:
- developments generally affecting industries in which we operate;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, joint marketing relationships, joint ventures or capital commitments;
- announcements by third parties of significant claims or proceedings against us;
- favorable or adverse regulatory or legislative developments;
- our dividend policy;
- future sales by the Company of equity or equity-linked securities; and
- general domestic and international economic conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general has experienced volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of a particular company. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

Certain provisions of our articles of incorporation and bylaws and of Arizona law make it difficult for shareholders to change the composition of our board and may discourage takeover attempts.

These provisions, which could preclude our shareholders from receiving a change of control premium, include the following:

restrictions on our ability to engage in a wide range of "business combination" transactions with an "interested shareholder" (generally, any person who owns 10% or more of our outstanding voting power or any of our affiliates or associates) or any affiliate or associate of an interested shareholder, unless specific conditions are met; anti-greenmail provisions of Arizona law and our bylaws that prohibit us from purchasing shares of our voting stock from beneficial owners of more than 5% of our outstanding shares unless specified conditions are satisfied; the ability of the Board of Directors to increase the size of the Board of Directors and fill vacancies on the Board of Directors, whether resulting from such increase, or from death, resignation, disqualification or otherwise; and

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the ability of our Board of Directors to issue additional shares of common stock and shares of preferred stock and to determine the price and, with respect to preferred stock, the other terms, including preferences and voting rights, of those shares without shareholder approval.

While these provisions have the effect of encouraging persons seeking to acquire control of us to negotiate with our Board of Directors, they could enable the Board of Directors to hinder or frustrate a transaction that some, or a majority, of our shareholders might believe to be in their best interests and, in that case, may prevent or discourage attempts to remove and replace incumbent directors.

#### ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Neither Pinnacle West nor APS has received written comments regarding its periodic or current reports from the SEC staff that were issued 180 days or more preceding the end of its 2014 fiscal year and that remain unresolved.

## ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

## Generation Facilities

APS's portfolio of owned and leased generating facilities is provided in the table below:

Name	No. of Units	% Owned (a)		Principal Fuels Used	Primary Dispatch Type	Owned Capacity (MW)
Nuclear:		-0.4				
Palo Verde (b)	3	29.1	%	Uranium	Base Load	1,146
Total Nuclear						1,146
Steam:			~	~ 1		0.50
Four Corners 4, 5 (c)	2	63	%	Coal	Base Load	970
Cholla	3	4.4	~	Coal	Base Load	647
Navajo (d)	3	14	%	Coal	Base Load	315
Ocotillo	2			Gas	Peaking	220
Total Steam						2,152
Combined Cycle:	2					004
Redhawk	2			Gas	Load Following	984
West Phoenix	5			Gas	Load Following	887
Total Combined Cycle Combustion Turbine:						1,871
Ocotillo	2			Gas	Peaking	110
Saguaro 1, 2	2			Gas/Oil	Peaking	110
Saguaro 3	1			Gas	Peaking	79
Douglas	1			Oil	Peaking	16
Sundance	10			Gas	Peaking	420
West Phoenix	2			Gas	Peaking	110
Yucca 1, 2, 3	3			Gas/Oil	Peaking	93
Yucca 4	1			Oil	Peaking	54
Yucca 5, 6	2			Gas	Peaking	96
<b>Total Combustion Turbine</b>						1,088
Solar:						
Cotton Center	1			Solar	As Available	17
Hyder	1			Solar	As Available	16
Paloma	1			Solar	As Available	17
Chino Valley	1			Solar	As Available	19
Gila Bend	1			Solar	As Available	32
Hyder II	1			Solar	As Available	14
Foothills	1			Solar	As Available	35
APS Owned Distributed Energy				Solar	As Available	15
Multiple facilities				Solar	As Available	4
Total Solar						169
Total Capacity						6,426

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- (a) 100% unless otherwise noted.
  - See "Business of Arizona Public Service Company Energy Sources and Resource Planning Generation Facilities Nuclear" in Item 1 for details regarding leased interests in Palo Verde. The other participants are Salt River Project
- (b)(17.49%), SCE (15.8%), El Paso (15.8%), Public Service Company of New Mexico (10.2%), Southern California Public Power Authority (5.91%), and Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (5.7%). The plant is operated by APS.
  - The other participants are Salt River Project (10%), Public Service Company of New Mexico (13%), Tucson Electric Power Company (7%) and El Paso (7%). The plant is operated by APS. As discussed under "Business of
- (c) Arizona Public Service Company Energy Sources and Resource Planning Generation Facilities Coal-Fueled Generating Facilities Four Corners" in Item 1, in December 2013 APS acquired SCE's 48% interest in Units 4 and 5, and closed Units 1, 2 and 3.
- The other participants are Salt River Project (21.7%), Nevada Power Company (11.3%), the United States (d) Government (24.3%), Tucson Electric Power Company (7.5%) and Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (21.2%). The plant is operated by Salt River Project.

See "Business of Arizona Public Service Company — Environmental Matters" in Item 1 with respect to matters having a possible impact on the operation of certain of APS's generating facilities.

See "Business of Arizona Public Service Company" in Item 1 for a map detailing the location of APS's major power plants and principal transmission lines.

#### Transmission and Distribution Facilities

Current Facilities. APS's transmission facilities consist of approximately 5,909 pole miles of overhead lines and approximately 49 miles of underground lines, 5,686 miles of which are located in Arizona. APS's distribution facilities consist of approximately 11,071 miles of overhead lines and approximately 17,908 miles of underground primary cable, all of which are located in Arizona. APS distribution facilities reflect an actual net gain of 167 miles in 2014. APS shares ownership of some of its transmission facilities with other companies. The following table shows APS's jointly-owned interests in those transmission facilities recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014:

	Percent Owned		
	(Weighted-Average)		
Morgan — Pinnacle Peak System	64.4	%	
Palo Verde — Estrella 500kV System	50.0	%	
Round Valley System	50.0	%	
ANPP 500kV System	33.6	%	
Navajo Southern System	22.6	%	
Four Corners Switchyards	47.5	%	
Palo Verde — Yuma 500kV System	18.2	%	
Phoenix — Mead System	17.1	%	
Palo Verde — Morgan System	90.0	%	
Hassayampa — North Gila System	80.0	%	

Expansion. Each year APS prepares and files with the ACC a ten-year transmission plan. In APS's 2015 plan, APS projects it will develop 275 miles of new lines over the next ten years. One significant project currently under development is a new 500kV path that will span from the Palo Verde hub around the western and northern edges of the Phoenix metropolitan area and terminate at a bulk substation in the northeast part of Phoenix. The project consists of four phases. The first phase, Morgan to Pinnacle Peak 500kV, is currently in-service. The second and third phases,

Delaney to Palo Verde 500kV and Delaney to Sun Valley 500kV, are

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under construction. The fourth phase, Morgan to Sun Valley 500kV, has been permitted and is in final design and development. In total, the projects consist of over 100 miles of new 500kV lines, with many of those miles constructed with the capability to string a 230kV line as a second circuit.

APS continues to work with regulators to identify transmission projects necessary to support renewable energy facilities. Two such projects, which are included in APS's 2015 transmission plan, are the Delaney to Palo Verde line and the North Gila to Hassayampa line, both of which are intended to support the transmission of renewable energy to Phoenix and California. The North Gila to Hassayampa line is under construction and expected to be in service before the summer of 2015.

Physical Security Standards. On March 7, 2014, FERC issued an order requiring NERC to act within 90 days to develop standards that will require utilities to take steps, or to demonstrate that they have taken steps, to address physical security risks and vulnerabilities related to the reliable operation of the bulk-power system. On May 23, 2014, NERC filed a petition with FERC for approval of the proposed Physical Security Reliability Standard CIP-014-1. On November 20, 2014, FERC approved the Physical Security Reliability Standard CIP-014-1, and on January 21, 2015, FERC issued an order granting rehearing for further consideration. The Physical Security Reliability Standard requires transmission owners and operators to protect those critical transmission stations and substations and their associated primary control centers that, if rendered inoperable or damaged as a result of a physical attack, could result in widespread instability, uncontrolled separation or cascading within an interconnection. As required by the Physical Security Reliability Standard, APS will determine whether it has any critical transmission stations and substations and associated primary control centers that will be required to comply with the standard. Until APS has made such determination, we cannot predict the extent of any financial or operational impacts on APS.

Plant and Transmission Line Leases and Rights-of-Way on Indian Lands

The Navajo Plant and Four Corners are located on land held under leases from the Navajo Nation and also under rights-of-way from the federal government. The right-of-way and lease for the Navajo Plant expire in 2019 and the right-of-way and lease for Four Corners expire in 2016. On March 7, 2011, the Navajo Nation Council signed a resolution approving a 25-year extension to the existing Four Corners lease term and providing Navajo Nation consent to renewal of the related rights-of-way. APS is filing applications for renewal of these rights-of-way with the DOI. Before it may approve the Four Corners lease extension and issue the renewed rights-of-way, the United States must complete an analysis under the federal National Environmental Policy Act, the ESA and related statutes.

Certain portions of the transmission lines that carry power from several of our power plants are located on Indian lands pursuant to rights-of-way that are effective for specified periods. Some of these rights-of-way have expired and our renewal applications have not yet been acted upon by the appropriate Indian tribes or federal agencies. Other rights expire at various times in the future and renewal action by the applicable tribe or federal agencies will be required at that time. In recent negotiations, certain of the affected Indian tribes have required payments substantially in excess of amounts that we have paid in the past for such rights-of-way. The ultimate cost of renewal of certain of the rights-of-way for our transmission lines is therefore uncertain.

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## ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

See "Business of Arizona Public Service Company — Environmental Matters" in Item 1 with regard to pending or threatened litigation and other disputes.

See Note 3 for ACC and FERC-related matters.

See Note 10 for information regarding environmental matters, Superfund–related matters, matters related to a September 2011 power outage and a New Mexico tax matter.

## ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF PINNACLE WEST

Pinnacle West's executive officers are elected no less often than annually and may be removed by the Board of Directors at any time. The executive officers, their ages at February 20, 2015, current positions and principal occupations for the past five years are as follows:

Name	Age	Position	Period
Donald E. Brandt	60	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Pinnacle West; Chairman of the Board of APS	2009-Present
		President of APS President of Pinnacle West Chief Executive Officer of APS	2013-Present 2008-Present 2008-Present
Robert S. Bement	59	Senior Vice President, Site Operations, PVNGS, of APS Vice President, Nuclear Operations of APS	2010-Present 2007-2010
Denise R. Danner	59	Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer of Pinnacle West; Chief Accounting Officer of APS	2010-Present
Patrick Dinkel	51	Vice President and Controller of APS Vice President, Transmission and Distribution Operations of APS Vice President, Resource Management of APS	2009-Present 2014-Present 2012-2014
		Vice President, Power Marketing, Resource Planning and Acquisition of APS	2011-2012
		Vice President, Power Marketing and Resource Planning of APS	2010-2011
		General Manager, Strategic Planning and Resource Acquisition of APS	2009-2010
Randall K. Edington	61	Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer, PVNGS, of APS	2007-Present
David P. Falck	61	Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Pinnacle West and APS	2009-Present
		Secretary of Pinnacle West and APS	2009-2012
Daniel T. Froetscher	53	Senior Vice President, Transmission, Distribution & Customers of APS	2014-Present
		Vice President, Energy Delivery of APS	2008-2014
Jeffrey B. Guldner	49	Senior Vice President, Public Policy of APS	2014-Present
		Senior Vice President, Customers and Regulation of APS	2012-2014
		Vice President, Rates and Regulation of APS	2007-2012
James R. Hatfield	57	Executive Vice President of Pinnacle West and APS	2012-Present
		Chief Financial Officer of Pinnacle West and APS	2008-Present
		Senior Vice President of Pinnacle West and APS	2008-2012
	40	Treasurer of Pinnacle West and APS	2009-2010
John S. Hatfield	49	Vice President, Communications of APS	2010-Present
T D. M.I 1	52	Director, Corporate Communications of SCE	2004-2010
Tammy D. McLeod	55	Vice President, Resource Management of APS	2014-Present
Las D. Wielder	10	Vice President and Chief Customer Officer of APS	2007-2014
Lee R. Nickloy	48	Vice President and Treasurer of Pinnacle West and APS	2010-Present
		Assistant Treasurer and Director Corporate Finance of Ameren Corporation	2000-2010
Mark A. Schiavoni	59	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of APS Executive Vice President, Operations of APS	2014-Present 2012-2014

Senior Vice President, Fossil Operations of APS

2009-2012

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# PART II

# ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANTS' COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Pinnacle West's common stock is publicly held and is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. At the close of business on February 13, 2015, Pinnacle West's common stock was held of record by approximately 21,649 shareholders.

# QUARTERLY STOCK PRICES AND DIVIDENDS PAID PER SHARE STOCK SYMBOL: PNW

			Dividends
High	Low	Close	Per Share
\$55.99	\$51.15	\$54.66	\$0.5675
58.06	53.71	57.84	0.5675
57.95	52.13	54.64	0.5675
71.11	54.59	68.31	0.595
			Dividends
High	Low	Close	Per Share
\$57.96	\$51.50	\$57.89	\$0.545
61.89	51.56	55.47	0.545
60.33	52.03	54.74	0.545
58.70	52.32	52.92	0.5675
	\$55.99 58.06 57.95 71.11 High \$57.96 61.89 60.33	\$55.99 \$51.15 58.06 53.71 57.95 52.13 71.11 54.59 High Low \$57.96 \$51.50 61.89 51.56 60.33 52.03	\$55.99 \$51.15 \$54.66 58.06 53.71 57.84 57.95 52.13 54.64 71.11 54.59 68.31 High Low Close \$57.96 \$51.50 \$57.89 61.89 51.56 55.47 60.33 52.03 54.74

APS's common stock is wholly-owned by Pinnacle West and is not listed for trading on any stock exchange. As a result, there is no established public trading market for APS's common stock.

The chart below sets forth the dividends paid on APS's common stock for each of the four quarters for 2014 and 2013.

# Common Stock Dividends

(Dollars in Thousands)		
Quarter	2014	2013
1st Quarter	\$62,500	\$59,800
2nd Quarter	62,600	59,900
3rd Quarter	62,700	59,900
4th Quarter	65,800	62,500

The sole holder of APS's common stock, Pinnacle West, is entitled to dividends when and as declared out of legally available funds. As of December 31, 2014, APS did not have any outstanding preferred stock.

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# Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table contains information about our purchases of our common stock during the fourth quarter of 2014.

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (1)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1 – October 31, 2014	56,107	\$58.73	_	_
November 1 – November 30, 2014		_	_	_
December 1 – December 31, 2014	_		_	_
Total	56,107	\$58.73		

 $<sup>{\</sup>rm (1)}^{\hbox{Represents shares of common stock withheld by Pinnacle West to satisfy tax withholding obligations upon the vesting of performance shares.}$ 

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ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA
PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION – CONSOLIDATED

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION – CONSOLIDATED						
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	
	(dollars in thou	sands, except per	r share amounts)			
OPERATING RESULTS						
Operating revenues	\$3,491,632	\$3,454,628	\$3,301,804	\$3,241,379	\$3,189,199	
Income from continuing operations	\$423,696	\$439,966	\$418,993	\$355,634	\$344,851	
Income (loss) from discontinued operations – net of income taxes (a	<u> </u>	_	(5,829)	11,306	25,358	
Net income	423,696	439,966	413,164	366,940	370,209	
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	26,101	33,892	31,622	27,467	20,156	
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$397,595	\$406,074	\$381,542	\$339,473	\$350,053	
COMMON STOCK DATA Book value per share – year-end Earnings per weighted-average	\$39.50	\$38.07	\$36.20	\$34.98	\$33.86	
common share outstanding: Continuing operations attributable to common shareholders – basic	\$3.59	\$3.69	\$3.54	\$3.01	\$3.05	
Net income attributable to common shareholders – basic	\$3.59	\$3.69	\$3.48	\$3.11	\$3.28	
Continuing operations attributable to common shareholders – diluted	\$3.58	\$3.66	\$3.50	\$2.99	\$3.03	
Net income attributable to common shareholders – diluted	\$3.58	\$3.66	\$3.45	\$3.09	\$3.27	
Dividends declared per share	\$2.33	\$2.23	\$2.67	\$2.10	\$2.10	
Weighted-average common shares outstanding – basic	110,626,101	109,984,160	109,510,296	109,052,840	106,573,348	
Weighted-average common shares outstanding – diluted BALANCE SHEET DATA	111,178,141	110,805,943	110,527,311	109,864,243	107,137,785	
Total assets	\$14,313,532	\$13,508,686	\$13,379,615	\$13,111,018	\$12,392,998	
Liabilities and equity: Current liabilities	\$1,559,143	\$1,618,644	\$1,083,542	\$1,342,705	\$1,449,704	
Long-term debt less current maturities	3,031,215	2,796,465	3,199,088	3,019,054	3,045,794	
Deferred credits and other Total liabilities Total equity	5,204,072 9,794,430 4,519,102	4,753,117 9,168,226 4,340,460	4,994,696 9,277,326 4,102,289	4,818,673 9,180,432 3,930,586	4,122,274 8,617,772 3,775,226	
Total liabilities and equity	\$14,313,532	\$13,508,686	\$13,379,615	\$13,111,018	\$12,392,998	

<sup>(</sup>a) Amounts primarily related to SunCor discontinued operations (see Note 1).

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SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY – CONSOLIDATED						
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	
	(dollars in thous	sands)				
OPERATING RESULTS						
Electric operating revenues	\$3,488,946	\$3,451,251	\$3,293,489	\$3,237,241	\$3,180,807	
Fuel and purchased power costs	1,179,829	1,095,709	994,790	1,009,464	1,046,815	
Other operating expenses	1,716,325	1,733,677	1,693,170	1,673,394	1,584,955	
Operating income	592,792	621,865	605,529	554,383	549,037	
Other income	36,358	20,797	16,358	24,974	20,138	
Interest expense — net of allowand for borrowed funds	ce <sub>181,830</sub>	183,801	194,777	215,584	213,349	
Net income	447,320	458,861	427,110	363,773	355,826	
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	26,101	33,892	31,613	27,524	20,163	
Net income attributable to common shareholder	\$421,219	\$424,969	\$395,497	\$336,249	\$335,663	
BALANCE SHEET DATA						
Total assets	\$14,215,004	\$13,381,377	\$13,242,542	\$13,032,237	\$12,271,877	
Liabilities and equity:						
Total equity	\$4,629,852	\$4,454,874	\$4,222,483	\$4,051,406	\$3,916,037	
Long-term debt less current maturities	2,906,215	2,671,465	3,074,088	2,894,054	3,045,794	
Total capitalization	7,536,067	7,126,339	7,296,571	6,945,460	6,961,831	
Current liabilities	1,532,464	1,580,847	1,043,087	1,322,714	1,234,865	
Deferred credits and other	5,146,473	4,674,191	4,902,884	4,764,063	4,075,181	
Total liabilities and equity	\$14,215,004	\$13,381,377	\$13,242,542	\$13,032,237	\$12,271,877	

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# ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

#### INTRODUCTION

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements and APS's Consolidated Financial Statements and the related Notes that appear in Item 8 of this report. For information on factors that may cause our actual future results to differ from those we currently seek or anticipate, see "Forward-Looking Statements" at the front of this report and "Risk Factors" in Item 1A.

# **OVERVIEW**

Pinnacle West owns all of the outstanding common stock of APS. APS is a vertically-integrated electric utility that provides either retail or wholesale electric service to most of the state of Arizona, with the major exceptions of about one-half of the Phoenix metropolitan area, the Tucson metropolitan area and Mohave County in northwestern Arizona. APS accounts for essentially all of our revenues and earnings, and is expected to continue to do so.

#### Areas of Business Focus

Operational Performance, Reliability and Recent Developments.

Nuclear. APS operates and is a joint owner of Palo Verde. The March 2011 earthquake and tsunamis in Japan and the resulting accident at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station had a significant impact on nuclear power operators worldwide. In the aftermath of the accident, the NRC conducted an independent assessment to consider actions to address lessons learned from the Fukushima events. The independent assessment, named the Near Term Task Force, recommended a number of proposed enhancements to U.S. commercial nuclear power plant equipment and emergency plans. The NRC has directed nuclear power plants to begin implementing some of the Near Term Task Force's recommendations. To implement these recommendations, Palo Verde expects to spend approximately \$40 million for capital enhancements to the plant over the next two years in addition to the approximate \$80 million that has already been spent on capital enhancements as of December 31, 2014 (APS's share is 29.1%).

Coal and Related Environmental Matters and Transactions. APS is a joint owner of three coal-fired power plants and acts as operating agent for two of the plants. APS is focused on the impacts on its coal fleet that may result from increased regulation and potential legislation concerning GHG emissions. On June 2, 2014, EPA proposed a rule to limit carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants. EPA expects to finalize the proposal in summer 2015. EPA's proposal for Arizona would result in a shift in in-state generation from coal to natural gas and renewable generation. Such a substantial change in APS's generation portfolio could require additional capital investments and increased operating costs, and thus have a significant financial impact on the Company. APS continually analyzes its long-range capital management plans to assess the potential effects of these changes, understanding that any resulting regulation and legislation could impact the economic viability of certain plants, as well as the willingness or ability of power plant participants to continue participation in such plants.

### Cholla

On September 11, 2014, APS announced that it will close its 260 MW Unit 2 at Cholla by April 2016 and cease burning coal at the other APS-owned units (Units 1 and 3) at the plant by the mid-2020s if EPA approves a compromise proposal offered by APS to meet required environmental and emissions standards and

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rules. APS will also ask the ACC to approve the plan contemplated by the proposal. (See Note 3 for details related to the resulting regulatory asset and Note 10 for details of the proposal.) APS believes that the environmental benefits of this proposal are greater in the long term than the benefits that would have resulted from adding the emissions control equipment.

#### Four Corners

Asset Purchase Agreement and Coal Supply Matters. On December 30, 2013, APS purchased SCE's 48% interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners. The final purchase price for the interest was approximately \$182 million, subject to certain minor post-closing adjustments. In connection with APS's most recent retail rate case with the ACC, the ACC reserved the right to review the prudence of the Four Corners transaction for cost recovery purposes upon the closing of the transaction. On December 23, 2014, the ACC approved rate adjustments related to APS's acquisition of SCE's interest in Four Corners resulting in a revenue increase of \$57.1 million on an annual basis.

Concurrently with the closing of the SCE transaction, BHP Billiton, the parent company of BNCC, the coal supplier and operator of the mine that serves Four Corners, transferred its ownership of BNCC to NTEC, a company formed by the Navajo Nation to own the mine and develop other energy projects. BHP Billiton will be retained by NTEC under contract as the mine manager and operator until July 2016. Also occurring concurrently with the closing, the Four Corners' co-owners executed the 2016 Coal Supply Agreement for the supply of coal to Four Corners from July 2016, when the current coal supply agreement expires, through 2031. El Paso, a 7% owner in Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners, did not sign the 2016 Coal Supply Agreement. Under the 2016 Coal Supply Agreement, APS has agreed to assume the 7% shortfall obligation. On February 17, 2015, APS and El Paso entered into an asset purchase agreement providing for the purchase by APS, or an affiliate of APS, of El Paso's 7% interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners. The cash purchase price, which will be subject to certain adjustments at closing, is immaterial in amount, and the purchaser will assume El Paso's reclamation and decommissioning obligations associated with the 7% interest. Completion of the purchase is subject to the receipt of certain regulatory approvals and is expected to occur in July 2016.

When APS, or an affiliate of APS, ultimately acquires El Paso's interest in Four Corners, NTEC will have an option to purchase the interest within a certain timeframe pursuant to an option granted by APS to NTEC. The 2016 Coal Supply Agreement contains alternate pricing terms for the 7% shortfall obligations in the event NTEC does not exercise its option.

Pollution Control Investments and Shutdown of Units 1, 2 and 3. EPA, in its final regional haze rule for Four Corners, required the Four Corners' owners to elect one of two emissions alternatives to apply to the plant. On December 30, 2013, APS, on behalf of the co-owners, notified EPA that they chose the alternative BART compliance strategy requiring the permanent closure of Units 1, 2 and 3 by January 1, 2014 and installation and operation of SCR controls on Units 4 and 5 by July 31, 2018. On December 30, 2013, APS retired Units 1, 2 and 3.

Lease Extension. APS, on behalf of the Four Corners participants, negotiated amendments to an existing facility lease with the Navajo Nation, which extends the Four Corners leasehold interest from 2016 to 2041. The Navajo Nation approved these amendments in March 2011. The effectiveness of the amendments also requires the approval of the DOI, as does a related federal rights-of-way grant which the Four Corners participants are pursuing. A federal environmental review is underway as part of the DOI review process. In March 2014, APS received a draft of the environmental impact statement in connection with the DOI review process. As a proponent of Four Corners and the Navajo Mine Energy Project, APS, along with other members of the public, submitted comments on the draft impact statement. APS cannot predict whether these federal approvals will be granted and, if so, on a timely basis, or whether any conditions that may be attached to them

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will be acceptable to the Four Corners owners. On December 19, 2014, APS obtained a PSD permit from EPA allowing APS to install SCR control technology at Four Corners.

Transmission and Delivery. APS is working closely with regulators to identify and plan for transmission needs that continue to support system reliability, access to markets and renewable energy development. The capital expenditures table presented in the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section below includes new APS transmission projects through 2017, along with other transmission costs for upgrades and replacements. APS is also working to establish and expand smart grid technologies throughout its service territory to provide long-term benefits both to APS and its customers. APS is strategically deploying a variety of technologies that are intended to allow customers to better monitor their energy use and needs, minimize system outage durations, as well as the number of customers that experience outages, and facilitate greater cost savings to APS through improved reliability and the automation of certain distribution functions, including remote meter reading and remote connects and disconnects.

Renewable Energy. The ACC approved the RES in 2006. The renewable energy requirement is 5% of retail electric sales in 2015 and increases annually until it reaches 15% in 2025. In the 2009 Settlement Agreement, APS agreed to exceed the RES standards, committing to use APS's best efforts to obtain 1,700 GWh of new renewable resources to be in service by year-end 2015, in addition to its 2008 renewable resource commitments. Taken together, APS's commitment is currently estimated to be approximately 12% of APS's estimated retail energy sales by year-end 2015, which is more than double the existing RES target of 5% for that year. A component of the RES targets development of distributed energy systems (generally speaking, small-scale renewable technologies that are located on customers' properties).

On July 12, 2013, APS filed its annual RES implementation plan, covering the 2014-2018 timeframe and requesting a 2014 RES budget of approximately \$143 million. In a final order dated January 7, 2014, the ACC approved the requested budget. Also in 2013, the ACC conducted a hearing to consider APS's proposal to establish compliance with distributed energy requirements by tracking and recording distributed energy, rather than acquiring and retiring renewable energy credits. On February 6, 2014, the ACC established a proceeding to modify the renewable energy rules to establish a process for compliance with the renewable energy requirement that is not based solely on the use of renewable energy credits. On September 9, 2014, the ACC authorized a rulemaking process to modify the RES rules. The proposed changes would permit the ACC to find that utilities have complied with the distributed energy requirement in light of all available information. The ACC adopted these changes on December 18, 2014. The revised rules are expected to become effective in the second quarter of 2015.

In accordance with the ACC's decision on the 2014 RES plan, on April 15, 2014, APS filed an application with the ACC requesting permission to build an additional 20 MW of APS-owned utility scale solar under the AZ Sun Program. In a subsequent filing, APS also offered an alternative proposal to replace the 20 MW of utility scale solar with 10 MW (approximately 1,500 customers) of APS-owned residential solar that will not be under the AZ Sun Program. On December 19, 2014, the ACC voted that it had no objection to APS implementing its residential rooftop solar program. The first stage of the residential rooftop solar program is to be 8 MW followed by a 2 MW second stage that will only be deployed if coupled with distributed storage. The program will target specific distribution feeders in an effort to maximize potential system benefits, as well as make systems available to limited-income customers who cannot easily install solar through transactions with third parties. The ACC expressly reserved that any determination of prudency of the residential rooftop solar program for rate making purposes shall not be made until the project is fully in service and APS requests cost recovery in a future rate case.

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On July 1, 2014, APS filed its 2015 RES implementation plan and proposed a RES budget of approximately \$154 million. On December 31, 2014, the ACC issued a decision approving the 2015 RES implementation plan with minor modifications, including reducing the budget to approximately \$152 million.

Demand Side Management. In December 2009, Arizona regulators placed an increased focus on energy efficiency and other demand side management programs to encourage customers to conserve energy, while incentivizing utilities to aid in these efforts that ultimately reduce the demand for energy. The ACC initiated an Energy Efficiency rulemaking, with a proposed EES of 22% cumulative annual energy savings by 2020. The 22% figure represents the cumulative reduction in future energy usage through 2020 attributable to energy efficiency initiatives. This standard became effective on January 1, 2011.

On June 1, 2012, APS filed its 2013 DSM Plan. In 2013, the standards required APS to achieve cumulative energy savings equal to 5% of its 2012 retail energy sales. Later in 2012, APS filed a supplement to its plan that included a proposed budget for 2013 of \$87.6 million.

On March 11, 2014, the ACC issued an order approving APS's 2013 DSM Plan. The ACC approved a budget of \$68.9 million for each of 2013 and 2014. The ACC also approved a Resource Savings Initiative that allows APS to count towards compliance with the ACC Electric Energy Efficiency Standards, savings for improvements to APS's transmission and delivery system, generation and facilities that have been approved through a DSM Plan. Consistent with the ACC's March 11, 2014 order, APS intends to continue its approved DSM programs in 2015.

On June 27, 2013, the ACC voted to open a new docket investigating whether the Electric Energy Efficiency Rules should be modified. The ACC held a series of three workshops in March and April 2014 to investigate methodologies used to determine cost effective energy efficiency programs, cost recovery mechanisms, incentives, and potential changes to the Electric Energy Efficiency and Resource Planning Rules.

On November 4, 2014, the ACC staff issued a request for informal comment on a draft of possible amendments to Arizona's Electric Utility Energy Efficiency Standards. The draft proposed substantial changes to the rules and energy efficiency standards. The ACC accepted written comments and took public comment regarding the possible amendments on December 19, 2014. A formal rule making has not been initiated and there has been no additional action on the draft to date.

Rate Matters. APS needs timely recovery through rates of its capital and operating expenditures to maintain its financial health. APS's retail rates are regulated by the ACC and its wholesale electric rates (primarily for transmission) are regulated by FERC. On June 1, 2011, APS filed a rate case with the ACC. APS and other parties to the retail rate case subsequently entered into the 2012 Settlement Agreement detailing the terms upon which the parties have agreed to settle the rate case. See Note 3 for details regarding the 2012 Settlement Agreement terms and for information on APS's FERC rates.

APS has several recovery mechanisms in place that provide more timely recovery to APS of its fuel and transmission costs, and costs associated with the promotion and implementation of its demand side management and renewable energy efforts and customer programs. These mechanisms are described more fully in Note 3.

As part of APS's acquisition of SCE's interest in Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners, APS and SCE agreed, via a "Transmission Termination Agreement" that, upon closing of the acquisition, the companies would terminate an existing transmission agreement ("Transmission Agreement") between the parties that provides transmission capacity on a system (the "Arizona Transmission System") for SCE to transmit its portion of the output from Four Corners to California. APS previously submitted a request to FERC related to this

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termination, which resulted in a FERC order denying rate recovery of \$40 million that APS agreed to pay SCE associated with the termination. APS and SCE negotiated an alternate arrangement under which SCE would assign its 1,555 MW capacity rights over the Arizona Transmission System to third parties, including 300 MW to APS's marketing and trading group. However, this alternative arrangement was not approved by FERC. In late March 2014, APS and SCE filed requests for rehearing with FERC. Both requests for rehearing were denied on August 14, 2014. Although APS and SCE continue to evaluate potential paths forward, it is possible that the terms of the Transmission Termination Agreement may again control. APS believes that the original denial by FERC of rate recovery under the Transmission Termination Agreement constitutes the failure of a condition that relieves APS of its obligations under that agreement. If APS and SCE were unable to determine a resolution through negotiation, the Transmission Termination Agreement requires that disputes be resolved through arbitration. APS is unable to predict the outcome of this matter if it proceeds to arbitration. If the matter proceeds to arbitration and APS is not successful, APS may be required to record a charge to its results of operations.

Deregulation. On May 9, 2013, the ACC voted to re-examine the facilitation of a deregulated retail electric market in Arizona. The ACC subsequently opened a docket for this matter and received comments from a number of interested parties on the considerations involved in establishing retail electric deregulation in the state. One of these considerations is whether various aspects of a deregulated market, including setting utility rates on a "market" basis, would be consistent with the requirements of the Arizona Constitution. On September 11, 2013, after receiving legal advice from the ACC staff, the ACC voted 4-1 to close the current docket and await full Arizona Constitutional authority before any further examination of this matter. The motion approved by the ACC also included opening one or more new dockets in the future to explore options to offer more rate choices to customers and innovative changes within the existing cost-of-service regulatory model that could include elements of competition. The ACC opened a new docket on November 4, 2013 to explore technological advances and innovative changes within the electric utility industry. A series of workshops in this docket were held in 2014 and another is currently scheduled for February 26, 2015.

Net Metering. On July 12, 2013, APS filed an application with the ACC proposing a solution to address the cost shift brought by the current net metering rules. On December 3, 2013, the ACC issued its order on APS's net metering proposal. The ACC instituted a charge on customers who install rooftop solar panels after December 31, 2013, and directed APS to provide quarterly reports on the pace of rooftop solar adoption to assist the ACC in considering further increases. The charge of \$0.70 per kilowatt became effective on January 1, 2014, and is estimated to collect \$4.90 per month from a typical future rooftop solar customer to help pay for their use of the electricity grid.

In making its decision, the ACC determined that the current net metering program creates a cost shift, causing non-solar utility customers to pay higher rates to cover the costs of maintaining the electrical grid. ACC staff and the state's Residential Utility Consumer Office, among other organizations, also agreed that a cost shift exists. The fixed charge does not increase APS's revenue because it is credited to the LFCR, but it will modestly reduce the impact of the cost shift on non-solar customers. The ACC acknowledged that the new charge addresses only a portion of the cost shift. The ACC also required APS to file its next rate case in June 2015, the earliest date contemplated in the 2012 Settlement Agreement.

In May 2014, the ACC began conducting a series of workshops to, among other things, evaluate the role and value of the electric grid as it relates to rooftop solar and other issues regarding net metering.

On July 22, 2014, the ACC Commissioners voted to reopen the December 2013 net metering decision for the limited purpose of deciding whether to eliminate the requirement that APS file its next rate case in June 2015. The vote included a request that parties comment in the docket about their thoughts on removing the filing date requirement and on the process for the broader discussion regarding rate design. On August 12,

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2014, the ACC Commissioners voted to lift the requirement that APS file its next general rate case by June 2015. On September 29, 2014, the staff of the ACC filed in a new docket a proposal for permitting a utility to request ACC approval of its proposed rate design outside of and before a general rate case. On October 20, 2014, APS and other interested stakeholders filed comments to this proposal. No further action has been taken in this docket.

Financial Strength and Flexibility. Pinnacle West and APS currently have ample borrowing capacity under their respective credit facilities, and may readily access these facilities ensuring adequate liquidity for each company. Capital expenditures will be funded with internally generated cash and external financings, which may include issuances of long-term debt and Pinnacle West common stock.

#### Other Subsidiaries.

Bright Canyon Energy. On July 31, 2014, Pinnacle West announced its creation of a wholly owned subsidiary, BCE. BCE will focus on new growth opportunities that leverage the Company's core expertise in the electric energy industry. BCE's first initiative is a 50/50 joint venture with MidAmerican Transmission, LLC. The joint venture, named TransCanyon, intends to focus on transmission opportunities within the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, excluding the retail service territories of the venture partners' utility affiliates. The joint venture submitted a bid into CAISO's competitive solicitation process to design, build and own a new 500 kV transmission line between Arizona and California, the Delaney to Colorado River Transmission Line. The winner of the bidding process is expected to be announced in 2015. This transmission line will connect a planned Delaney substation near Palo Verde in Arizona to the existing Colorado River substation located just west of Blythe, California.

El Dorado. The operations of El Dorado are not expected to have any material impact on our financial results, or to require any material amounts of capital, over the next three years.

# **Key Financial Drivers**

In addition to the continuing impact of the matters described above, many factors influence our financial results and our future financial outlook, including those listed below. We closely monitor these factors to plan for the Company's current needs, and to adjust our expectations, financial budgets and forecasts appropriately.

Electric Operating Revenues. For the years 2012 through 2014, retail electric revenues comprised approximately 93% of our total electric operating revenues. Our electric operating revenues are affected by customer growth or decline, variations in weather from period to period, customer mix, average usage per customer and the impacts of energy efficiency programs, distributed energy additions, electricity rates and tariffs, the recovery of PSA deferrals and the operation of other recovery mechanisms. These revenue transactions are affected by the availability of excess generation or other energy resources and wholesale market conditions, including competition, demand and prices.

Customer and Sales Growth. Retail customers in APS's service territory increased 1.4% for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior-year. For the three years 2012 through 2014, APS's customer growth averaged 1.3% per year. We currently expect annual customer growth to average in the range of 2.0-3.0% for 2015 through 2017 based on our assessment of modestly improving economic conditions in Arizona. Retail electricity sales in kWh, adjusted to exclude the effects of weather variations, were flat for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior-year, reflecting the effects of customer conservation and energy efficiency and distributed renewable generation initiatives, partially offset by improving economic conditions and customer growth. For the three years 2012 through 2014, APS experienced annual decreases in

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retail electricity sales averaging 0.2%, adjusted to exclude the effects of weather variations. We currently estimate that annual retail electricity sales in kWh will increase on average in the range of 0.5-1.5% during 2015 through 2017, including the effects of customer conservation and energy efficiency and distributed renewable generation initiatives, but excluding the effects of weather variations. A slower recovery of the Arizona economy could further impact these estimates.

Actual sales growth, excluding weather-related variations, may differ from our projections as a result of numerous factors, such as economic conditions, customer growth, usage patterns and energy conservation, impacts of energy efficiency programs and growth in distributed generation, and responses to retail price changes. Based on past experience, a reasonable range of variation in our kWh sales projection attributable to such economic factors under normal business conditions can result in increases or decreases in annual net income of up to \$10 million.

Weather. In forecasting the retail sales growth numbers provided above, we assume normal weather patterns based on historical data. Historically, extreme weather variations have resulted in annual variations in net income in excess of \$20 million. However, our experience indicates that the more typical variations from normal weather can result in increases or decreases in annual net income of up to \$10 million.

Fuel and Purchased Power Costs. Fuel and purchased power costs included on our Consolidated Statements of Income are impacted by our electricity sales volumes, existing contracts for purchased power and generation fuel, our power plant performance, transmission availability or constraints, prevailing market prices, new generating plants being placed in service in our market areas, changes in our generation resource allocation, our hedging program for managing such costs and PSA deferrals and the related amortization.

Operations and Maintenance Expenses. Operations and maintenance expenses are impacted by customer and sales growth, power plant operations, maintenance of utility plant (including generation, transmission, and distribution facilities), inflation, outages, renewable energy and demand side management related expenses (which are offset by the same amount of operating revenues) and other factors. In the 2009 Settlement Agreement, APS committed to operational expense reductions from 2010 through 2014. On September 30, 2014, Pinnacle West announced plan design changes to the group life and medical postretirement benefit plan, which required an interim remeasurement of the benefit obligation for the plan. This remeasurement is expected to reduce net periodic benefit costs on a prospective basis. See Note 7. In October 2014, the Society of Actuaries' Retirement Plans Experience Committee issued its final report on mortality tables ("RP-2014 Mortality Tables Report"). At December 31, 2014, we updated our mortality assumptions using a modification of these tables, which better reflects our employees' demographics. See Note 7 for additional details.

Depreciation and Amortization Expenses. Depreciation and amortization expenses are impacted by net additions to utility plant and other property (such as new generation, transmission, and distribution facilities), and changes in depreciation and amortization rates. See "Capital Expenditures" below for information regarding the planned additions to our facilities. See Note 3 regarding deferral of certain costs pursuant to an ACC order.

Property Taxes. Taxes other than income taxes consist primarily of property taxes, which are affected by the value of property in-service and under construction, assessment ratios, and tax rates. The average property tax rate in Arizona for APS, which owns essentially all of our property, was 10.7% of the assessed value for 2014, 10.5% for 2013, and 9.6% for 2012. We expect property taxes to increase as we add new generating units and continue with improvements and expansions to our existing generating units, transmission and distribution facilities. (See Note 3 for property tax deferrals contained in the 2012 Settlement Agreement).

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Income Taxes. Income taxes are affected by the amount of pretax book income, income tax rates, certain deductions and non-taxable items, such as AFUDC. In addition, income taxes may also be affected by the settlement of issues with taxing authorities.

Interest Expense. Interest expense is affected by the amount of debt outstanding and the interest rates on that debt (see Note 6). The primary factors affecting borrowing levels are expected to be our capital expenditures, long-term debt maturities, equity issuances and internally generated cash flow. An allowance for borrowed funds used during construction offsets a portion of interest expense while capital projects are under construction. We stop accruing AFUDC on a project when it is placed in commercial operation.

#### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Pinnacle West's only reportable business segment is our regulated electricity segment, which consists of traditional regulated retail and wholesale electricity businesses (primarily electric service to Native Load customers) and related activities and includes electricity generation, transmission and distribution.

Operating Results – 2014 compared with 2013.

Our consolidated net income attributable to common shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2014 was \$398 million, compared with net income of \$406 million for the prior year. The results reflect a decrease of approximately \$4 million for the regulated electricity segment primarily due to higher fossil generation costs, lower retail sales due to the effects of weather, higher property taxes, and lower retail transmission revenues. These negative factors were partially offset by lower operations and maintenance expenses related to lower employee benefit costs, higher other income, and increased revenues for lost fixed cost recovery. All other segment's income was lower by \$4 million primarily related to El Dorado's investment losses.

The following table presents net income attributable to common shareholders by business segment compared with the prior year:

	Year Ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	Net Change	
	(dollars in mill	ions)		
Regulated Electricity Segment:				
Operating revenues less fuel and purchased power expenses	\$2,309	\$2,356	\$(47	)
Operations and maintenance	(908	) (925	) 17	
Depreciation and amortization	(417	(416	) (1	)
Taxes other than income taxes	(172	) (164	) (8	)
All other income and expenses, net	28	11	17	
Interest charges, net of allowance for borrowed funds used during construction	(185	) (187	) 2	
Income taxes	(224	) (232	) 8	
Less income related to noncontrolling interests (Note 18)	(26	) (34	) 8	
Regulated electricity segment net income	405	409	(4	)
All other	(7	) (3	) (4	)
Net Income Attributable to Common Shareholders	\$398	\$406	\$(8	)

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Operating revenues less fuel and purchased power expenses. Regulated electricity segment operating revenues less fuel and purchased power expenses were \$47 million lower for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior year. The following table summarizes the major components of this change:

Increase (Decrease)

	iliciease (Declease)					
	Operating revenues		Fuel and purchased power expenses		Net change	
	(dollars in m	illi	ons)			
Effects of weather	\$(45	)	\$(16	)	\$(29	)
Lower demand side management regulatory surcharges, offset by renewable energy regulatory surcharges and purchased power	_		20		(20	)
Lower retail transmission revenues	(7	)	_		(7	)
Lower retail sales due to changes in customer usage patterns and related pricing, partially offset by customer growth	(4	)	_		(4	)
Higher net fuel and purchased power costs, including related deferrals and higher off-system sales margins	78		79		(1	)
Lost fixed cost recovery	12				12	
Miscellaneous items, net	3		1		2	
Total	\$37		\$84		\$(47	)

Operations and maintenance. Operations and maintenance expenses decreased \$17 million for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior year primarily because of:

A decrease of \$33 million related to costs for demand-side management, renewable energy and similar regulatory programs, which were partially offset in operating revenues and purchased power;

•A decrease of \$20 million related to lower employee benefit costs;

An increase of \$33 million in generation costs, primarily related to an increased ownership share in Four Corners, a portion of which is deferred in depreciation and amortization, and higher fossil maintenance costs; and An increase of \$3 million related to miscellaneous other factors.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expenses were \$1 million higher for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior year primarily related to higher plant balances of approximately \$23 million, partially offset by higher Four Corners cost deferrals in the current year of approximately \$22 million.

Taxes other than income taxes. Taxes other than income taxes were \$8 million higher for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior year primarily due to higher property tax rates and higher plant balances.

All other income and expenses, net. All other income and expenses, net, were \$17 million higher for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior year due to the debt return on the Four Corners acquisition, an increase in the allowance for equity funds used during construction due to higher balances, and other non-operating income.

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Income taxes. Income taxes were \$8 million lower for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with the prior year primarily due to the effects of lower pretax income in the current year.

Operating Results – 2013 compared with 2012.

Our consolidated net income attributable to common shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2013 was \$406 million, compared with net income of \$382 million for the prior year. The results reflect an increase of approximately \$21 million for the regulated electricity segment, primarily due to increases related to the retail regulatory settlement effective July 1, 2012 (see Note 3); higher retail transmission revenues; and lower net interest charges due to lower debt balances and lower interest rates in the current-year period. These positive factors were partially offset by higher operations and maintenance expenses; higher fuel and purchased power costs, net of related deferrals; lower retail sales as a result of changes in customer usage related to energy efficiency, customer conservation and distributed generation, partially offset by customer growth; and higher depreciation and amortization expenses.

The following table presents net income attributable to common shareholders by business segment compared with the prior year:

Year Ended

	I cai Enucc	ı	
	December 3	31,	
	2013	2012	Net Change
	(dollars in r	millions)	-
Regulated Electricity Segment:			
Operating revenues less fuel and purchased power expenses	\$2,356	\$2,299	\$57
Operations and maintenance	(925	) (885	) (40
Depreciation and amortization	(416	) (404	) (12
Taxes other than income taxes	(164	) (159	) (5
Other income (expenses), net	11	6	5
Interest charges, net of allowance for borrowed funds used during construction	(187	) (200	) 13
Income taxes	(232	) (237	) 5
Less income related to noncontrolling interests (Note 18)	(34	) (32	) (2
Regulated electricity segment net income	409	388	21
All other	(3	) —	(3)
Income from Continuing Operations Attributable to Common Shareholders	406	388	18
Loss from Discontinued Operations Attributable to Common Shareholders (a)	_	(6	) 6
Net Income Attributable to Common Shareholders	\$406	\$382	\$24

(a) Includes activities related to SunCor.

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Operating revenues less fuel and purchased power expenses. Regulated electricity segment operating revenues less fuel and purchased power expenses were \$57 million higher for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared with the prior year. The following table summarizes the major components of this change:

	Increase (Decrease)			
	Operating revenues	Fuel and purchased power expenses	Net change	
	(dollars in mill			
Impacts of retail regulatory settlement effective July 1, 2012	\$64	\$6	\$58	
Higher demand-side management, renewable energy and similar regulatory surcharges	34	7	27	
Higher retail transmission revenues	11		11	
Lower retail sales due to changes in customer usage patterns and related pricing, partially offset by customer growth	(17	) (4	) (13	)
Higher fuel and purchased power costs, net of related deferrals and off-system sales	74	95	(21	)
Miscellaneous items, net	(8	) (3	) (5	)
Total	\$158	\$101	\$57	

Operations and maintenance. Operations and maintenance expenses increased \$40 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared with the prior year primarily because of:

An increase of \$14 million related to technical analysis, consulting, advertising and communications costs;

• An increase of \$13 million related to costs for demand-side management, renewable energy and similar regulatory programs, which were largely offset in operating revenues;

An increase of \$9 million related to the closure of Four Corners Units 1, 2, and 3, deferred for regulatory recovery in depreciation;

- An increase of \$6 million in energy delivery and customer service costs;
- An increase of \$6 million in information technology costs;
- A decrease of \$6 million in generation costs primarily related to lower fossil generation outage costs and lower nuclear generation costs; and
- A decrease of \$2 million related to other miscellaneous factors.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expenses were \$12 million higher for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared with the prior year, primarily because of increased plant in service, partially offset by the regulatory deferral of operating expenses associated with the closure of Four Corners Units 1, 2, and 3.

Interest charges, net of allowance for borrowed funds used during construction. Interest charges, net of allowance for borrowed funds used during construction, decreased \$13 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared with the prior year, primarily because of lower debt balances and lower interest rates in the current year.

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Income taxes. Income taxes were \$5 million lower for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared with the prior year primarily due to a lower effective tax rate in the current period, partially offset by the effects of higher pretax income in the current year.

# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

#### Overview

Pinnacle West's primary cash needs are for dividends to our shareholders and principal and interest payments on our indebtedness. The level of our common stock dividends and future dividend growth will be dependent on declaration by our Board of Directors and based on a number of factors, including our financial condition, payout ratio, free cash flow and other factors.

Our primary sources of cash are dividends from APS and external debt and equity issuances. An ACC order requires APS to maintain a common equity ratio of at least 40%. As defined in the related ACC order, the common equity ratio is defined as total shareholder equity divided by the sum of total shareholder equity and long-term debt, including current maturities of long-term debt. At December 31, 2014, APS's common equity ratio, as defined, was 56%. Its total shareholder equity was approximately \$4.5 billion, and total capitalization was approximately \$8.0 billion. Under this order, APS would be prohibited from paying dividends if such payment would reduce its total shareholder equity below approximately \$3.2 billion, assuming APS's total capitalization remains the same. This restriction does not materially affect Pinnacle West's ability to meet its ongoing cash needs or ability to pay dividends to shareholders.

APS's capital requirements consist primarily of capital expenditures and maturities of long-term debt. APS funds its capital requirements with cash from operations and, to the extent necessary, external debt financing and equity infusions from Pinnacle West.

Summary of Cash Flows

The following tables present net cash provided by (used for) operating, investing and financing activities for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 (dollars in millions):

#### Pinnacle West Consolidated

	2014	2013	2012	
Net cash flow provided by operating activities	\$1,100	\$1,153	\$1,171	
Net cash flow used for investing activities	(923	) (1,009	) (873	)
Net cash flow used for financing activities	(179	) (161	) (305	)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$(2	) \$(17	) \$(7	)
Arizona Public Service Company				
	2014	2013	2012	
Net cash flow provided by operating activities	\$1,124	\$1,194	\$1,176	
Net cash flow used for investing activities	(922	) (1,009	) (873	)
Net cash flow used for financing activities	(201	) (185	) (319	)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$1	<b>\$</b> —	\$(16	)

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# Operating Cash Flows

2014 Compared with 2013. Pinnacle West's consolidated net cash provided by operating activities was \$1,100 million in 2014 compared to \$1,153 million in 2013, a decrease of \$53 million in net cash provided. The decrease is primarily related to \$99 million in higher fuel and purchased power costs, a \$39 million increase in cash collateral posted, \$34 million of higher pension contributions in 2014, and other changes in working capital. The decrease is partially offset by a \$121 million increase in income tax refunds net of payments (primarily related to a \$135 million income tax refund received in the first quarter of 2014). APS's operating cash flows included income tax refunds of approximately \$86 million in 2014 compared with payments of \$8 million in 2013.

2013 Compared with 2012. Pinnacle West's consolidated net cash provided by operating activities was \$1,153 million in 2013, compared to \$1,171 million in 2012, a decrease of \$18 million in net cash provided. The decrease is primarily related to a \$127 million change in cash collateral posted and \$76 million of higher pension contributions made in 2013 compared to 2012 (approximately \$18 million of which is reflected in capital expenditures). The decrease is partially offset by approximately \$167 million of higher cash inflows primarily due to higher authorized revenue requirements resulting from the retail regulatory settlement effective July 1, 2012 and other changes in working capital.

Other. Pinnacle West sponsors a qualified defined benefit pension plan and a non-qualified supplemental excess benefit retirement plan for the employees of Pinnacle West and our subsidiaries. The requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") require us to contribute a minimum amount to the qualified plan. We contribute at least the minimum amount required under ERISA regulations, but no more than the maximum tax-deductible amount. The minimum required funding takes into consideration the value of plan assets and our pension benefit obligations. Under ERISA, the qualified pension plan was 118% funded as of January 1, 2014 and is estimated to be approximately 118% funded as of January 1, 2015. Under GAAP, the qualified pension plan was 90% funded as of January 1, 2014 and is estimated to be approximately 90% funded as of January 1, 2015. The assets in the plan are comprised of fixed-income, equity, real estate, and short-term investments. Future year contribution amounts are dependent on plan asset performance and plan actuarial assumptions. We made contributions to our pension plan totaling \$175 million in 2014, \$141 million in 2013, and \$65 million in 2012. The minimum contributions for the pension plan are zero for the next three years. We expect to make voluntary contributions totaling up to \$300 million for the next three years (up to \$100 million each year in 2015, 2016, and 2017). With regard to contributions to our other postretirement benefit plans, we made a contribution of approximately \$1 million in 2014, \$14 million in 2013, and \$23 million in 2012. We expect to make contributions of approximately \$1 million in each of the next three years to our other postretirement benefit plans.

Included in the current income tax receivable on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2013 was \$133 million that represented the anticipated IRS refund related to the finalized examinations of tax years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009. Cash related to this refund was received in the first quarter of 2014.

#### **Investing Cash Flows**

2014 Compared with 2013. Pinnacle West's consolidated net cash used for investing activities was \$923 million in 2014, compared to \$1,009 million in 2013, a decrease of \$86 million in net cash used. The decrease in net cash used for investing activities is primarily related to APS's purchase of SCE's interest in Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners of approximately \$209 million in 2013, partially offset by an increase of approximately \$123 million in other capital expenditures.

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2013 Compared with 2012. Pinnacle West's consolidated net cash used for investing activities was \$1,009 million in 2013, compared to \$873 million in 2012, an increase of \$136 million in net cash used. The increase in net cash used for investing activities is primarily related to APS's purchase of SCE's interest in Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners of approximately \$209 million, partially offset by a decrease of approximately \$73 million in other capital expenditures.

Capital Expenditures. The following table summarizes the estimated capital expenditures for the next three years:

Capital Expenditures (dollars in millions)

	Estimated for the Year Ended			
	December 31,			
	2015	2016	2017	
APS				
Generation:				
Nuclear Fuel	\$78	\$87	\$79	
Renewables	86	1	2	
Environmental	36	162	161	
New Gas Generation	96	235	190	
Other Generation	180	204	198	
Distribution	329	362	385	
Transmission	203	133	180	
Other (a)	83	81	98	
Total APS	\$1,091	\$1,265	\$1,293	

# (a) Primarily information systems and facilities projects.

Generation capital expenditures are comprised of various improvements to APS's existing fossil and nuclear plants. Examples of the types of projects included in this category are additions, upgrades and capital replacements of various power plant equipment, such as turbines, boilers and environmental equipment. The estimated Renewables expenditures include 20 MW of utility-scale solar projects which were approved by the ACC in the 2014 RES Implementation Plan and the residential rooftop solar program. We have not included estimated costs for Cholla's compliance with MATS or EPA's regional haze rule since we have challenged the regional haze rule judicially and we have proposed a compromise strategy to EPA, which, if approved, would allow us to avoid expenditures related to environmental control equipment. The portion of estimated costs through 2017 for installation of pollution control equipment needed to ensure Four Corners' compliance with EPA's regional haze rules have been included in the table above. The portion of estimated costs through 2017 for incremental costs to comply with the CCR rule for Four Corners and Cholla have also been included in the table above. The table does not include capital expenditures related to El Paso's 7% interest in Four Corners Units 4 and 5 of \$24 million in 2016 and \$23 million in 2017. The consummation of the purchase of El Paso's interest in Four Corners is not expected to take place until 2016, thus, there are no related capital expenditures in 2015. We are monitoring the status of other environmental matters, which, depending on their final outcome, could require modification to our planned environmental expenditures.

Distribution and transmission capital expenditures are comprised of infrastructure additions and upgrades, capital replacements, and new customer construction. Examples of the types of projects included in

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the forecast include power lines, substations, and line extensions to new residential and commercial developments.

Capital expenditures will be funded with internally generated cash and external financings, which may include issuances of long-term debt and Pinnacle West common stock.

Financing Cash Flows and Liquidity

2014 Compared with 2013. Pinnacle West's consolidated net cash used for financing activities was \$179 million in 2014, compared to \$161 million in 2013, an increase of \$18 million in net cash used. The increase in net cash used for financing activities is primarily due to \$530 million in higher repayments of long-term debt, a \$67 million net reduction in funds received through short-term borrowings, and \$11 million in higher dividend payments, partially offset by \$595 million in higher issuances of long-term debt (see below).

2013 Compared with 2012. Pinnacle West's consolidated net cash used for financing activities was \$161 million in 2013, compared to \$305 million of net cash used in 2012, a decrease of \$144 million in net cash used. The decrease in net cash used for financing activities is primarily due to \$531 million in lower repayments of long-term debt, largely offset by \$340 million in lower issuances of long-term debt and a \$31 million net change in APS's commercial paper borrowings, which is classified as short-term borrowings on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. On December 30, 2013, commercial paper issuances were used to fund the acquisition of SCE's 48% ownership interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners (see below).

Significant Financing Activities. On December 17, 2014, the Pinnacle West Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.595 per share of common stock, payable on March 2, 2015, to shareholders of record on February 2, 2015. During 2014, Pinnacle West increased its indicated annual dividend from \$2.27 per share to \$2.38 per share. For the year ended December 31, 2014, Pinnacle West's total dividends paid per share of common stock were \$2.30 per share, which resulted in dividend payments of \$247 million.

On July 12, 2013, APS purchased all \$33 million of the Coconino County, Arizona Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 1994 Series A, due 2029. On October 11, 2013, APS purchased all \$32 million of the City of Farmington, New Mexico Pollution Control Revenue Bonds, 1994 Series C, due 2024. On January 15, 2014, both of these series of bonds were canceled and refinanced as described below.

On January 10, 2014, APS issued \$250 million of 4.70% unsecured senior notes that mature on January 15, 2044. The proceeds from the sale were used to repay commercial paper which was used to fund the acquisition of SCE's 48% ownership interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners and to replenish cash used in 2013 to re-acquire the two series of tax-exempt indebtedness listed above.

On May 1, 2014, APS purchased a total of \$100 million of the Maricopa County, Arizona, Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2009 Series A, D and E due 2029 in connection with the mandatory tender provisions for this indebtedness. On May 14, 2014, APS remarketed all \$36 million of the 2009 Series A Bonds, which are classified as long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014. We expect to remarket or refinance all \$64 million of the 2009 Series D Bonds and 2009 Series E Bonds within the next twelve months.

On May 30, 2014, APS purchased all \$38 million of the Navajo County, Arizona, Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2009 Series A, due 2034, and on June 1, 2014, APS purchased a total of \$64 million of the Navajo 2009 Series B Bonds and 2009 Series C Bonds, in each case, in connection with the mandatory tender provisions for this indebtedness. On September 23, 2014, APS remarketed all \$38 million of the

2009 Series A Bonds, which are classified as current maturities of long-term

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debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014. On October 1, 2014, APS remarketed all \$32 million of the 2009 Series C Bonds, which are classified as long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014. We expect to remarket or refinance all \$32 million of the 2009 Series B Bonds within the next twelve months.

On June 1, 2014, APS remarketed all \$13 million of the Coconino County, Arizona Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2009 Series A, due 2034. These bonds are classified as long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014.

On June 18, 2014, APS issued \$250 million of 3.35% unsecured senior notes that mature on June 15, 2024. The net proceeds from the sale were used along with other funds to repay at maturity APS's \$300 million aggregate principal amount of 5.80% senior notes due June 30, 2014.

On December 31, 2014, Pinnacle West entered into a \$125 million term loan facility that matures December 31, 2017. Pinnacle West used the proceeds to repay and refinance the term loan facility that would have matured in November 2015.

On January 12, 2015, APS issued \$250 million of 2.20% unsecured senior notes that mature on January 15, 2020. The net proceeds from the sale were used to repay commercial paper borrowings and replenish cash temporarily used to fund capital expenditures.

Available Credit Facilities. Pinnacle West and APS maintain committed revolving credit facilities in order to enhance liquidity and provide credit support for their commercial paper programs.

On May 9, 2014, Pinnacle West replaced its \$200 million revolving credit facility that would have matured in November 2016, with a new \$200 million facility that matures in May 2019. At December 31, 2014, the facility was available to refinance indebtedness of the Company and for other general corporate purposes, including credit support for its \$200 million commercial paper program. Pinnacle West has the option to increase the amount of the facility up to a maximum of \$300 million upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and with the consent of the lenders. At December 31, 2014, Pinnacle West had no outstanding borrowings under its credit facility, no letters of credit outstanding and no commercial paper borrowings.

On May 9, 2014, APS replaced its \$500 million revolving credit facility that would have matured in November 2016, with a new \$500 million facility that matures in May 2019.

At December 31, 2014, APS had two credit facilities totaling \$1 billion, including a \$500 million credit facility that matures in April 2018 and the \$500 million facility that matures in May 2019 (see above). APS may increase the amount of each facility up to a maximum of \$700 million upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and with the consent of the lenders. APS will use these facilities to refinance indebtedness and for other general corporate purposes. Interest rates are based on APS's senior unsecured debt credit ratings.

The facilities described above are available to support APS's \$250 million commercial paper program, for bank borrowings or for issuances of letters of credit. At December 31, 2014, APS had \$147 million of commercial paper borrowings and no outstanding borrowings or outstanding letters of credit under these credit facilities.

See "Financial Assurances" in Note 10 for a discussion of APS's separate outstanding letters of credit. Other Financing Matters. See Note 3 for information regarding the PSA approved by the ACC. See Note 16 for information related to the change in our margin and collateral accounts.

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#### **Debt Provisions**

Pinnacle West's and APS's debt covenants related to their respective bank financing arrangements include maximum debt to capitalization ratios. Pinnacle West and APS comply with this covenant. For both Pinnacle West and APS, this covenant requires that the ratio of consolidated debt to total consolidated capitalization not exceed 65%. At December 31, 2014, the ratio was approximately 46% for Pinnacle West and 45% for APS. Failure to comply with such covenant levels would result in an event of default which, generally speaking, would require the immediate repayment of the debt subject to the covenants and could "cross-default" other debt. See further discussion of "cross-default" provisions below.

Neither Pinnacle West's nor APS's financing agreements contain "rating triggers" that would result in an acceleration of the required interest and principal payments in the event of a rating downgrade. However, our bank credit agreements contain a pricing grid in which the interest rates we pay for borrowings thereunder are determined by our current credit ratings.

All of Pinnacle West's loan agreements contain "cross-default" provisions that would result in defaults and the potential acceleration of payment under these loan agreements if Pinnacle West or APS were to default under certain other material agreements. All of APS's bank agreements contain "cross-default" provisions that would result in defaults and the potential acceleration of payment under these bank agreements if APS were to default under certain other material agreements. Pinnacle West and APS do not have a material adverse change restriction for credit facility borrowings.

See Note 6 for further discussions of liquidity matters.

#### Credit Ratings

The ratings of securities of Pinnacle West and APS as of February 13, 2015 are shown below. We are disclosing these credit ratings to enhance understanding of our cost of short-term and long-term capital and our ability to access the markets for liquidity and long-term debt. The ratings reflect the respective views of the rating agencies, from which an explanation of the significance of their ratings may be obtained. There is no assurance that these ratings will continue for any given period of time. The ratings may be revised or withdrawn entirely by the rating agencies if, in their respective judgments, circumstances so warrant. Any downward revision or withdrawal may adversely affect the market price of Pinnacle West's or APS's securities and/or result in an increase in the cost of, or limit access to, capital. Such revisions may also result in substantial additional cash or other collateral requirements related to certain derivative instruments, insurance policies, natural gas transportation, fuel supply, and other energy-related contracts. At this time, we believe we have sufficient available liquidity resources to respond to a downward revision to our credit ratings.

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	Moody's	Standard & Poor's	Fitch
Pinnacle West			
Corporate credit rating	Baa1	A-	BBB+
Commercial paper	P-2	A-2	F2
Outlook	Positive	Stable	Positive
APS			
Corporate credit rating	A3	A-	BBB+
Senior unsecured	A3	A-	A-
Secured lease obligation bonds	A3	A-	A-
Commercial paper	P-2	A-2	F2
Outlook	Positive	Stable	Positive
Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements			

See Note 18 for a discussion of the impacts on our financial statements of consolidating certain VIEs.

# **Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes Pinnacle West's consolidated contractual requirements as of December 31, 2014 (dollars in millions):

	2015	2016- 2017	2018- 2019	Thereafter	Total
Long-term debt payments,					
including interest: (a)					
APS	\$551	\$686	\$788	\$3,653	\$5,678
Pinnacle West	2	131	_		133
Total long-term debt payments, including interest	553	817	788	3,653	5,811
Short-term debt payments, including interest (b)	147	_	_	_	147
Fuel and purchased power commitments (c)	618	1,223	1,146	7,994	10,981
Renewable energy credits (d)	46	84	84	448	662
Purchase obligations (e)	105	154	47	222	528
Coal reclamation	1	32	37	281	351
Nuclear decommissioning funding requirements	17	5	5	63	90
Noncontrolling interests (f)	35	45	45	250	375
Operating lease payments	18	11	7	63	99
Total contractual commitments	\$1,540	\$2,371	\$2,159	\$12,974	\$19,044

The long-term debt matures at various dates through 2044 and bears interest principally at fixed rates. Interest on variable-rate long-term debt is determined by using average rates at December 31, 2014 (see Note 6).

<sup>(</sup>b) The short-term debt represents commercial paper borrowings at APS (see Note 5).

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Our fuel and purchased power commitments include purchases of coal, electricity, natural gas, renewable energy,

- (c) nuclear fuel, and natural gas transportation (see Notes 3 and 10). These amounts include commitments incurred from acquiring SCE's interest in Four Corners and APS assuming an additional 7% in the 2016 Coal Supply Agreement.
- (d) Contracts to purchase renewable energy credits in compliance with the RES (see Note 3).
- (e) These contractual obligations include commitments for capital expenditures and other obligations.
- (f) Payments to the noncontrolling interests relate to the Palo Verde Sale Leaseback (see Note 18).

This table excludes \$46 million in unrecognized tax benefits because the timing of the future cash outflows is uncertain. Estimated minimum pension contributions are zero for 2015, 2016 and 2017, respectively (see Note 7).

### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

In preparing the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), management must often make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and related disclosures at the date of the financial statements and during the reporting period. Some of those judgments can be subjective and complex, and actual results could differ from those estimates. We consider the following accounting policies to be our most critical because of the uncertainties, judgments and complexities of the underlying accounting standards and operations involved.

### Regulatory Accounting

Regulatory accounting allows for the actions of regulators, such as the ACC and FERC, to be reflected in our financial statements. Their actions may cause us to capitalize costs that would otherwise be included as an expense in the current period by unregulated companies. Regulatory assets represent incurred costs that have been deferred because they are probable of future recovery in customer rates. Regulatory liabilities generally represent expected future costs that have already been collected from customers. Management continually assesses whether our regulatory assets are probable of future recovery by considering factors such as applicable regulatory environment changes and recent rate orders to other regulated entities in the same jurisdiction. This determination reflects the current political and regulatory climate in Arizona and is subject to change in the future. If future recovery of costs ceases to be probable, the assets would be written off as a charge in current period earnings. We had \$1,191 million of regulatory assets and \$1,182 million of regulatory liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014.

Included in the balance of regulatory assets at December 31, 2014 is a regulatory asset of \$485 million for pension benefits. This regulatory asset represents the future recovery of these costs through retail rates as these amounts are charged to earnings. If these costs are disallowed by the ACC, this regulatory asset would be charged to OCI and result in lower future earnings.

See Notes 1 and 3 for more information.

#### Pensions and Other Postretirement Benefit Accounting

Changes in our actuarial assumptions used in calculating our pension and other postretirement benefit liability and expense can have a significant impact on our earnings and financial position. The most relevant actuarial assumptions are the discount rate used to measure our liability and net periodic cost, the expected long-term rate of return on plan assets used to estimate earnings on invested funds over the long-term, the

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mortality assumptions, and the assumed healthcare cost trend rates. We review these assumptions on an annual basis and adjust them as necessary.

The following chart reflects the sensitivities that a change in certain actuarial assumptions would have had on the December 31, 2014 reported pension liability on the Consolidated Balance Sheets and our 2014 reported pension expense, after consideration of amounts capitalized or billed to electric plant participants, on Pinnacle West's Consolidated Statements of Income (dollars in millions):

	Increase (Decrease			
	Impact on	Impact on		
Actuarial Assumption (a)	Pension	Pension		
	Liability	Expense		
Discount rate:				
Increase 1%	\$(349	\$(2	)	
Decrease 1%	427	13		
Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets:				
Increase 1%	_	(11	)	
Decrease 1%	_	11		

<sup>(</sup>a) Each fluctuation assumes that the other assumptions of the calculation are held constant while the rates are changed by one percentage point.

The following chart reflects the sensitivities that a change in certain actuarial assumptions would have had on the December 31, 2014 other postretirement benefit obligation and our 2014 reported other postretirement benefit expense, after consideration of amounts capitalized or billed to electric plant participants, on Pinnacle West's Consolidated Statements of Income (dollars in millions):

Increase (Decrease) Impact on Other Postretirement Benefit Obligation	Impact on Other Postretirement Benefit Expense	
\$(93	) \$(1	)
120	6	
110	10	
(88	) (4	)
_	(4	)
_	4	
	Impact on Other Postretirement Benefit Obligation \$(93) 120	Impact on Other Postretirement Benefit Obligation  \$(93    ) \$(1

<sup>(</sup>a) Each fluctuation assumes that the other assumptions of the calculation are held constant while the rates are changed by one percentage point.

See Note 7 for further details about our pension and other postretirement benefit plans.

<sup>(</sup>b) This assumes a 1% change in the initial and ultimate healthcare cost trend rate.

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#### Fair Value Measurements

We account for derivative instruments, investments held in our nuclear decommissioning trust fund, certain cash equivalents, and plan assets held in our retirement and other benefit plans at fair value on a recurring basis. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. We use inputs, or assumptions that market participants would use, to determine fair market value. We utilize valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The significance of a particular input determines how the instrument is classified in a fair value hierarchy. The determination of fair value sometimes requires subjective and complex judgment. Our assessment of the inputs and the significance of a particular input to fair value measurement may affect the valuation of the instruments and their placement within a fair value hierarchy. Actual results could differ from our estimates of fair value. See Note 1 for a discussion on accounting policies and Note 13 for fair value measurement disclosures.

### OTHER ACCOUNTING MATTERS

During 2014, we adopted new accounting guidance relating to the balance sheet presentation of certain unrecognized tax benefits. In addition, we are currently evaluating new revenue recognition guidance that we will be adopting on January 1, 2017. See Note 2.

#### MARKET AND CREDIT RISKS

### Market Risks

Our operations include managing market risks related to changes in interest rates, commodity prices and investments held by our nuclear decommissioning trust fund and benefit plan assets.

## Interest Rate and Equity Risk

We have exposure to changing interest rates. Changing interest rates will affect interest paid on variable-rate debt and the market value of fixed income securities held by our nuclear decommissioning trust fund (see Note 13 and Note 19) and benefit plan assets. The nuclear decommissioning trust fund and benefit plan assets also have risks associated with the changing market value of their equity and other non-fixed income investments. Nuclear decommissioning and benefit plan costs are recovered in regulated electricity prices.

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The tables below present contractual balances of our consolidated long-term and short-term debt at the expected maturity dates, as well as the fair value of those instruments on December 31, 2014 and 2013. The interest rates presented in the tables below represent the weighted-average interest rates as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

Pinnacle West – C	Consolidated								
	Short-Term	rm Variable-Rate				Fixed-Rate			
	Debt			Long-Terr	n Deb	ot	Long-Tern	n Deb	ot
	Interest			Interest			Interest		
2014	Rates		Amount	Rates		Amount	Rates		Amount
2015	0.40	%	\$147,400	0.03	%	\$32,000	4.32	%	\$351,570
2016				0.04	%	43,580	6.15	%	314,000
2017				0.82	%	157,000			
2018							1.75	%	32,000
2019							8.75	%	500,000
Years thereafter				0.27	%	48,825	4.90	%	
Total			\$147,400			\$281,405			\$3,137,720
Fair value			\$147,400			\$281,405			\$3,557,703
	C1 / T			** · 11 F			E' 1 D 4		
	Short-Term			Variable-F	<b>Rate</b>		Fixed-Rate	•	
	Snort-Term Debt			Variable-k Long-Terr		ot	Long-Tern		ot
						ot			ot
2013	Debt		Amount	Long-Terr		ot Amount	Long-Term		ot Amount
2013 2014	Debt Interest	%		Long-Terr Interest			Long-Tern Interest		Amount
	Debt Interest Rates	%		Long-Terr Interest	n Deb	Amount	Long-Terr Interest Rates	n Deb	Amount \$540,424
2014	Debt Interest Rates	%		Long-Terr Interest Rates	n Deb	Amount \$—	Long-Term Interest Rates 5.58	n Deb %	Amount \$540,424 313,420
2014 2015	Debt Interest Rates	%		Long-Terr Interest Rates — 1.02	n Deb	Amount \$— 157,000	Long-Terr Interest Rates 5.58 4.79	n Deb % %	Amount \$540,424 313,420
2014 2015 2016	Debt Interest Rates	%		Long-Terr Interest Rates — 1.02	n Deb	Amount \$— 157,000	Long-Terr Interest Rates 5.58 4.79	% % %	Amount \$540,424 313,420
2014 2015 2016 2017	Debt Interest Rates	%		Long-Terr Interest Rates — 1.02	n Deb	Amount \$— 157,000	Long-Term Interest Rates 5.58 4.79 6.15	% % %	Amount \$540,424 313,420 314,000
2014 2015 2016 2017 2018	Debt Interest Rates	%		Long-Terr Interest Rates — 1.02	n Deb	Amount \$— 157,000	Long-Terr Interest Rates 5.58 4.79 6.15 — 1.75	% % %	Amount \$540,424 313,420 314,000 — 32,000
2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 Years thereafter	Debt Interest Rates	%	\$153,125 	Long-Terr Interest Rates — 1.02	n Deb	Amount \$— 157,000 43,580 —	Long-Terr Interest Rates 5.58 4.79 6.15 — 1.75	% % %	Amount \$540,424 313,420 314,000 — 32,000 1,940,150
2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 Years thereafter Total	Debt Interest Rates	%	\$153,125     \$153,125	Long-Terr Interest Rates — 1.02	n Deb	Amount \$— 157,000 43,580 — — — \$200,580	Long-Terr Interest Rates 5.58 4.79 6.15 — 1.75	% % %	Amount \$540,424 313,420 314,000 — 32,000 1,940,150 \$3,139,994

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The tables below present contractual balances of APS's long-term debt at the expected maturity dates, as well as the fair value of those instruments on December 31, 2014 and 2013. The interest rates presented in the tables below represent the weighted-average interest rates as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

APS — Consolida	ated								
	Short-Term			Variable-Rate			Fixed-Rate		
	Debt			Long-Term	Deb	ot	Long-Term Debt		
	Interest			Interest			Interest		
2014	Rates		Amount	Rates		Amount	Rates		Amount
2015	0.40	%	\$147,400	0.03	%	\$32,000	4.32	%	\$351,570
2016			_	0.04	%	43,580	6.15	%	314,000
2017	_		_	0.03	%	32,000	_		_
2018	_		_	_		_	1.75	%	32,000
2019	_		_	_		_	8.75	%	500,000
Years thereafter	_		_	0.27	%	48,825	4.90	%	1,940,150
Total			\$147,400			\$156,405			\$3,137,720
Fair value			\$147,400			\$156,405			\$3,557,703
	Short-Term			Variable-Ra	te		Fixed-Rate		
	Debt			Long-Term	Deb	ot	Long-Term	Deb	ot
	Interest			Interest			Interest		
2013	Rates		Amount	Rates		Amount	Rates		Amount
2014	0.23	%	\$153,125	_		<b>\$</b> —	5.58	%	\$540,424
2015				0.03	%	32,000	4.79	%	313,420
2016				0.06	%	43,580	6.15	%	314,000
2017			_	_		_	_		
2018			_	_		_	1.75	%	32,000
Years thereafter			_	_		_	6.12	%	1,940,150
Total			\$153,125			\$75,580			\$3,139,994
Fair value			\$153,125			\$75,580			\$3,378,102

#### Commodity Price Risk

We are exposed to the impact of market fluctuations in the commodity price and transportation costs of electricity and natural gas. Our risk management committee, consisting of officers and key management personnel, oversees company-wide energy risk management activities to ensure compliance with our stated energy risk management policies. We manage risks associated with these market fluctuations by utilizing various commodity instruments that may qualify as derivatives, including futures, forwards, options and swaps. As part of our risk management program, we use such instruments to hedge purchases and sales of electricity and fuels. The changes in market value of such contracts have a high correlation to price changes in the hedged commodities.

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The following table shows the net pretax changes in mark-to-market of our derivative positions in 2014 and 2013 (dollars in millions):

	2014	2013	
Mark-to-market of net positions at beginning of year	\$(73	) \$(122	)
Recognized in earnings (a):			
Change in mark-to-market gains (losses) for future period deliveries		(1	)
Decrease in regulatory asset/liability	(64	) 6	
Recognized in OCI:			
Mark-to-market losses realized during the period	22	44	
Change in valuation techniques	_		
Mark-to-market of net positions at end of year	\$(115	) \$(73	)

(a) Represents the amounts reflected in income after the effect of PSA deferrals.

The table below shows the fair value of maturities of our derivative contracts (dollars in millions) at December 31, 2014 by maturities and by the type of valuation that is performed to calculate the fair values, classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. See Note 1, "Derivative Accounting" and "Fair Value Measurements," for more discussion of our valuation methods.

Source of Fair Value	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Years there- after	Total fair value	
Observable prices provided by other external sources	\$(40	) \$(22	) \$(11	) \$(1	) \$—	\$—	\$(74	)
Prices based on unobservable inputs	(16	) (11	) (5	) (4	) (4	) (1	) (41	)
Total by maturity	\$(56	) \$(33	) \$(16	) \$(5	) \$(4	) \$(1	) \$(115	)

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The table below shows the impact that hypothetical price movements of 10% would have on the market value of our risk management assets and liabilities included on Pinnacle West's Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in millions):

	December 31, 2014 Gain (Loss)			December 31, 2013 Gain (Loss)		
	Price Up 10%	Price Down		` /	Price Down	10%
Mark-to-market changes reported in:	•			•		
Regulatory asset (liability) or OCI (a)						
Electricity	3	(3	)	6	(6	)
Natural gas	29	(29	)	26	(26	)
Total	\$32	\$ (32	)	\$32	\$ (32	)

These contracts are economic hedges of our forecasted purchases of natural gas and electricity. The impact of these hypothetical price movements would substantially offset the impact that these same price movements would have on the physical exposures being hedged. To the extent the amounts are eligible for inclusion in the PSA, the amounts are recorded as either a regulatory asset or liability.

#### Credit Risk

We are exposed to losses in the event of non-performance or non-payment by counterparties. See Note 16 for a discussion of our credit valuation adjustment policy.

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

See "Market and Credit Risks" in Item 7 above for a discussion of quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risks.

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## ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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See Note 12 and S-2 for the selected quarterly financial data (unaudited) required to be presented in this Item.

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MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING (PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION)

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f), for Pinnacle West. Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on our evaluation under the framework in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013), our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2014. The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included herein and also relates to the Company's consolidated financial statements.

February 20, 2015

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#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation Phoenix, Arizona

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014. Our audits also included the financial statement schedules listed in the Index at Item 15. We also have audited the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements and financial statement schedules, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial statement schedules and an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become

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inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such financial statement schedules, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, present fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein. Also, in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Phoenix, Arizona February 20, 2015

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## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(dollars and shares in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Year Ended De	cember 31,	
	2014	2013	2012
OPERATING REVENUES OPERATING EXPENSES	\$3,491,632	\$3,454,628	\$3,301,804
Fuel and purchased power	1,179,829	1,095,709	994,790
Operations and maintenance	908,025	924,727	884,769
Depreciation and amortization	417,358	415,708	404,336
Taxes other than income taxes	172,295	164,167	159,323
Other expenses	2,883	7,994	6,831
Total	2,680,390	2,608,305	2,450,049
OPERATING INCOME	811,242	846,323	851,755
OTHER INCOME (DEDUCTIONS)			
Allowance for equity funds used during construction (Note 1)	30,790	25,581	22,436
Other income (Note 17)	9,608	1,704	1,606
Other expense (Note 17)	(21,746)	(16,024	(19,842)
Total	18,652	11,261	4,200
INTEREST EXPENSE			
Interest charges	200,950	201,888	214,616
Allowance for borrowed funds used during construction (Note 1)	(15,457)	(14,861	(14,971)
Total	185,493	187,027	199,645
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS BEFORE INCOME TAXES	644,401	670,557	656,310
INCOME TAXES INCOME TAXES (Note 4)	220.705	220 501	227 217
	220,705	230,591	237,317
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS LOSS FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS	423,696	439,966	418,993
Net of income tax benefit of \$(3,813) (Note 1)	_	_	(5,829)
NET INCOME	423,696	439,966	413,164
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests (Note 18)	26,101	33,892	31,622
NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS	\$397,595	\$406,074	\$381,542
WEIGHTED-AVERAGE COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING		109,984	100 510
BASIC	110,020	109,984	109,510
WEIGHTED-AVERAGE COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING		110 006	110 527
DILUTED	111,178	110,806	110,527
EARNINGS PER WEIGHTED-AVERAGE COMMON SHARE			
OUTSTANDING			
Income from continuing operations attributable to common	¢2.50	¢2.60	¢2.54
shareholders — basic	\$3.59	\$3.69	\$3.54
Net income attributable to common shareholders — basic	3.59	3.69	3.48
Income from continuing operations attributable to common shareholders — diluted	3.58	3.66	3.50
Net income attributable to common shareholders — diluted	3.58	3.66	3.45
AMOUNTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS		5.00	J.TJ

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## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (dollars in thousands)

	Year Ended De 2014	cember 31, 2013	2012
NET INCOME	\$423,696	\$439,966	\$413,164
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS), NET OF TAX Derivative instruments:			
Net unrealized loss, net of tax benefit (expense) of \$(438), \$140, and \$14,900 (Note 16)	(810)	(213)	(22,763)
Reclassification of net realized loss, net of tax benefit of \$7,932, \$17,472, and \$39,120 (Note 16)	13,483	26,747	59,887
Pension and other postretirement benefits activity, net of tax (expense) benefit of \$1,307, \$(6,156), and \$(651) (Note 7)	(2,761)	9,421	1,031
Total other comprehensive income	9,912	35,955	38,155
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Less: Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests	433,608 26,101	475,921 33,892	451,319 31,622
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS	\$407,507	\$442,029	\$419,697

See Notes to Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(dollars in thousands)

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$7,604	\$9,526	
Customer and other receivables	297,740	299,904	
Accrued unbilled revenues	100,533	96,796	
Allowance for doubtful accounts	* '	(3,203)	
Materials and supplies (at average cost)	218,889	221,682	
Fossil fuel (at average cost)	37,097	38,028	
Deferred income taxes (Note 4)	122,232	91,152	
Income tax receivable (Note 4)	3,098	135,517	
Assets from risk management activities (Note 16)	13,785	17,169	
Deferred fuel and purchased power regulatory asset (Note 3)	6,926	20,755	
Other regulatory assets (Note 3)	129,808	76,388	
Other current assets	38,817	39,895	
Total current assets	973,435	1,043,609	
INVESTMENTS AND OTHER ASSETS			
Assets from risk management activities (Note 16)	17,620	23,815	
Nuclear decommissioning trust (Notes 13 and 19)	713,866	642,007	
Other assets	54,047	60,875	
Total investments and other assets	785,533	726,697	
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Notes 1, 6 and 9)			
Plant in service and held for future use	15,543,063	15,200,464	
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(5,397,751)	(5,300,219)	
Net	10,145,312	9,900,245	
Construction work in progress	682,807	581,369	
Palo Verde sale leaseback, net of accumulated depreciation of \$229,795 and	101 055	105 105	
\$225,925 (Note 18)	121,255	125,125	
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$489,538 and \$439,703	119,755	157,689	
Nuclear fuel, net of accumulated amortization of \$143,554 and \$146,057	125,201	124,557	
Total property, plant and equipment	11,194,330	10,888,985	
DEFERRED DEBITS			
Regulatory assets (Notes 1, 3 and 4)	1,054,087	711,712	
Assets for other postretirement benefits (Note 7)	152,290	_	
Other	153,857	137,683	
Total deferred debits	1,360,234	849,395	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$14,313,532	\$13,508,686	

See Notes to Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(dollars in thousands)

	December 31, 2014	2013	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$295,211	\$284,516	
Accrued taxes (Note 4)	140,613	130,998	
Accrued interest	52,603	48,351	
Common dividends payable	65,790	62,528	
Short-term borrowings (Note 5)	147,400	153,125	
Current maturities of long-term debt (Note 6)	383,570	540,424	
Customer deposits	72,307	76,101	
Liabilities from risk management activities (Note 16)	59,676	31,892	
Liability for asset retirements (Note 11)	32,462	32,896	
Regulatory liabilities (Note 3)	130,549	99,273	
Other current liabilities	178,962	158,540	
Total current liabilities	1,559,143	1,618,644	
LONG-TERM DEBT LESS CURRENT MATURITIES (Note 6)	3,031,215	2,796,465	
DEFERRED CREDITS AND OTHER			
Deferred income taxes (Note 4)	2,582,636	2,351,882	
Regulatory liabilities (Notes 1, 3, 4 and 7)	1,051,196	801,297	
Liability for asset retirements (Note 11)	358,288	313,833	
Liabilities for pension and other postretirement benefits (Note 7)	453,736	513,628	
Liabilities from risk management activities (Note 16)	50,602	70,315	
Customer advances	123,052	114,480	
Coal mine reclamation	198,292	207,453	
Deferred investment tax credit	178,607	152,361	
Unrecognized tax benefits (Note 4)	19,377	42,209	
Other	188,286	185,659	
Total deferred credits and other	5,204,072	4,753,117	
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (SEE NOTES)			
EQUITY			
Common stock, no par value; authorized 150,000,000 shares, issued 110,649,762 at	2,512,970	2,491,558	
end of 2014 and 110,280,703 at end of 2013	2,312,970	2,491,336	
Treasury stock at cost; 78,400 shares at end of 2014 and 98,944 shares at end of 2013	3 (3,401)	(4,308	)
Total common stock	2,509,569	2,487,250	
Retained earnings	1,926,065	1,785,273	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss:			
Pension and other postretirement benefits (Note 7)	(57,756)	(54,995	)
Derivative instruments (Note 16)	(10,385)	(23,058	)
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss	(68,141)	(78,053	)
Total shareholders' equity	4,367,493	4,194,470	
Noncontrolling interests (Note 18)	151,609	145,990	
Total equity	4,519,102	4,340,460	

\$13,508,686 \$14,313,532

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY
See Notes to Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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# PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (dollars in thousands)

	Year Ended I	December 31,	
	2014	2013	2012
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net Income	\$423,696	\$439,966	\$413,164
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by	,	. ,	,
operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization including nuclear fuel	496,487	492,322	481,262
Deferred fuel and purchased power	(26,927	) 21,678	71,573
Deferred fuel and purchased power amortization	40,757	31,190	(116,716)
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(30,790	) (25,581	) (22,436
Deferred income taxes	159,023	249,296	187,023
Deferred investment tax credit	26,246	52,542	41,579
Change in derivative instruments fair value	339	534	(749)
Changes in current assets and liabilities:			
Customer and other receivables	(52,672	) (44,991	) 14,587
Accrued unbilled revenues	(3,737	) (1,951	) 30,394
Materials, supplies and fossil fuel	3,724	(11,878	) (23,043
Income tax receivable	132,419	(133,094	) (4,043
Other current assets	4,384	(17,913	) (27,352
Accounts payable	(353	) 45,414	(96,600)
Accrued taxes	9,615	6,059	12,736
Other current liabilities	17,892	(7,513	) 23,869
Change in margin and collateral accounts — assets	(343	) 993	2,216
Change in margin and collateral accounts — liabilities	(24,975	) 12,355	137,785
Change in long-term income tax receivable		137,270	(1,756)
Change in unrecognized tax benefits	2,778	(91,425	) (2,583
Change in long-term regulatory liabilities	59,618	64,473	13,539
Change in other long-term assets	(59,344	) (41,757	) 6,872
Change in other long-term liabilities	(78,210	) (24,682	) 29,801
Net cash flow provided by operating activities	1,099,627	1,153,307	1,171,122
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Capital expenditures	(910,634	) (1,016,322	) (889,551 )
Contributions in aid of construction	20,325	41,090	49,876
Allowance for borrowed funds used during construction	(15,457	) (14,861	) (14,971 )
Proceeds from nuclear decommissioning trust sales	356,195	446,025	417,603
Investment in nuclear decommissioning trust	(373,444	) (463,274	) (434,852 )
Other	347	(2,059	) (1,099 )
Net cash flow used for investing activities	(922,668	) (1,009,401	) (872,994 )
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Issuance of long-term debt	731,126	136,307	476,081
Repayment of long-term debt	(652,578	) (122,828	) (654,286 )
Short-term borrowings and payments — net	(5,725	) 60,950	92,175
Dividends paid on common stock	(246,671	) (235,244	) (225,075 )
Common stock equity issuance	15,288	17,319	15,955

Distributions to noncontrolling interests	(20,482	) (17,385	) (10,529	)
Other	161	299	170	
Net cash flow used for financing activities	(178,881	) (160,582	) (305,509	)
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(1,922	) (16,676	) (7,381	)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	9,526	26,202	33,583	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	\$7,604	\$9,526	\$26,202	

See Notes to Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

(dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Common Sto	ck	Treasury S	Stock	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehens Income (Loss)	NT 4 11	ing Total	
<b>.</b>	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount		(LOSS)			
Balance, December 31, 2011	109,356,974	\$2,444,247	(111,161)	\$(4,717)	\$1,534,483	\$ (152,163)	\$108,736	\$3,930,586	<u>.</u> )
Net income					381,542		31,622	413,164	
Other comprehensive income						38,155		38,155	
Dividends on common stock (\$2.67 per share)					(291,923 )			(291,923	)
Issuance of common stock	480,983	22,676						22,676	
Purchase of treasury stock (a) Stock-based	ı		(89,629)	(4,607)				(4,607	)
compensation			105,598	5,113				5,113	
and other Net capital activities by noncontrolling interests Balance,							(10,875 )	(10,875	)
December 31, 2012	109,837,957	2,466,923	(95,192)	(4,211 )	1,624,102	(114,008 )	129,483	4,102,289	
Net income					406,074		33,892	439,966	
Other comprehensive income						35,955		35,955	
Dividends on common stock (\$2.23 per share)					(244,903 )			(244,903	)
Issuance of common stock	442,746	24,635						24,635	
Purchase of treasury stock (a) Stock-based			(174,290)	(9,727)				(9,727	)
compensation and other			170,538	9,630				9,630	

Net capital activities by noncontrolling interests Balance,									(17,385	)	(17,385	)
December 31, 2013	110,280,703	2,491,558	(98,944	) (4,308	3)	1,785,273	(78,053	)	145,990		4,340,460	
Net income Other						397,595			26,101		423,696	
comprehensive							9,912				9,912	
income												
Dividends on common stock (\$2.33 per share)						(256,803	)				(256,803	)
Issuance of common stock	369,059	21,412									21,412	
Purchase of treasury stock (a) Stock-based	)		(139,746	) (7,893	3 )						(7,893	)
compensation and other			160,290	8,800							8,800	
Net capital												
activities by noncontrolling interests									(20,482	)	(20,482	)
Balance,												
December 31, 2014	110,649,762	\$2,512,970	(78,400	) \$(3,4	01)	\$1,926,065	\$ (68,141	)	\$ 151,609	)	\$4,519,102	2

(a) Primarily represents shares of common stock withheld from certain stock awards for tax purposes.

See Notes to Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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## PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Description of Business and Basis of Presentation

Pinnacle West is a holding company that conducts business through its subsidiaries, APS, El Dorado, BCE, and formerly SunCor. APS, our wholly-owned subsidiary, is a vertically-integrated electric utility that provides either retail or wholesale electric service to substantially all of the state of Arizona, with the major exceptions of about one-half of the Phoenix metropolitan area, the Tucson metropolitan area and Mohave County in northwestern Arizona. APS accounts for essentially all of our revenues and earnings, and is expected to continue to do so. El Dorado is an investment firm. BCE is a new subsidiary formed in 2014 that focuses on growth opportunities that leverage the Company's core expertise in the electric energy industry. BCE is currently pursuing transmission opportunities through a joint venture arrangement. SunCor was a developer of residential, commercial and industrial real estate projects and essentially all of these assets were sold in 2009 and 2010. In February 2012, SunCor filed for protection under the United States Bankruptcy Code to complete an orderly liquidation of its business. All activities for SunCor are reported as discontinued operations.

Pinnacle West's Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Pinnacle West and our subsidiaries: APS, El Dorado, BCE, and formerly SunCor. APS's consolidated financial statements include the accounts of APS and certain VIEs relating to the Palo Verde sale leaseback. Intercompany accounts and transactions between the consolidated companies have been eliminated.

We consolidate VIEs for which we are the primary beneficiary. We determine whether we are the primary beneficiary of a VIE through a qualitative analysis that identifies which variable interest holder has the controlling financial interest in the VIE. In performing our primary beneficiary analysis, we consider all relevant facts and circumstances, including the design and activities of the VIE, the terms of the contracts the VIE has entered into, and which parties participated significantly in the design or redesign of the entity. We continually evaluate our primary beneficiary conclusions to determine if changes have occurred which would impact our primary beneficiary assessments. We have determined that APS is the primary beneficiary of certain VIE lessor trusts relating to the Palo Verde sale leaseback, and therefore APS consolidates these entities (see Note 18).

Our consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, except as otherwise disclosed in the notes) that we believe are necessary for the fair presentation of our financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented.

Accounting Records and Use of Estimates

Our accounting records are maintained in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Regulatory Accounting

APS is regulated by the ACC and FERC. The accompanying financial statements reflect the rate-making policies of these commissions. As a result, we capitalize certain costs that would be included as expense in the current period by unregulated companies. Regulatory assets represent incurred costs that have been deferred because they are probable of future recovery in customer rates. Regulatory liabilities generally represent expected future costs that have already been collected from customers.

Management continually assesses whether our regulatory assets are probable of future recovery by considering factors such as changes in the applicable regulatory environment and recent rate orders applicable to APS or other regulated entities in the same jurisdiction. This determination reflects the current political and regulatory climate in Arizona and is subject to change in the future. If future recovery of costs ceases to be probable, the assets would be written off as a charge in current period earnings.

See Note 3 for additional information.

#### **Electric Revenues**

We derive electric revenues primarily from sales of electricity to our regulated Native Load customers. Revenues related to the sale of electricity are generally recorded when service is rendered or electricity is delivered to customers. The billing of electricity sales to individual Native Load customers is based on the reading of their meters, which occurs on a systematic basis throughout the month. Unbilled revenues are estimated by applying an average revenue/kWh by customer class to the number of estimated kWhs delivered but not billed. Differences historically between the actual and estimated unbilled revenues are immaterial. We exclude sales taxes and franchise fees on electric revenues from both revenue and taxes other than income taxes.

Revenues from our Native Load customers and non-derivative instruments are reported on a gross basis on Pinnacle West's Consolidated Statements of Income. In the electricity business, some contracts to purchase energy are netted against other contracts to sell energy. This is called a "book-out" and usually occurs for contracts that have the same terms (quantities and delivery points) and for which power does not flow. We net these book-outs, which reduces both revenues and fuel and purchased power costs.

For the period January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012, electric revenues also include proceeds for line extension payments for new or upgraded service in accordance with the 2009 Settlement Agreement (see Note 3). Effective July 1, 2012, as a result of the 2012 Settlement Agreement, these amounts are now recorded as contributions in aid of construction and are not included in electric revenues.

Some of our cost recovery mechanisms are alternative revenue programs. For alternative revenue programs that meet specified accounting criteria, we recognize revenues when the specific events permitting billing of the additional revenues have been completed.

### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The allowance for doubtful accounts represents our best estimate of existing accounts receivable that will ultimately be uncollectible. The allowance is calculated by applying estimated write-off factors to various classes of outstanding

receivables, including accrued utility revenues. The write-off factors used to estimate uncollectible accounts are based upon consideration of both historical collections experience and management's best estimate of future collections success given the existing collections environment.

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### Property, Plant and Equipment

Utility plant is the term we use to describe the business property and equipment that supports electric service, consisting primarily of generation, transmission and distribution facilities. We report utility plant at its original cost, which includes:

material and labor;

contractor costs;

capitalized leases;

construction overhead costs (where applicable); and

allowance for funds used during construction.

We expense the costs of plant outages, major maintenance and routine maintenance as incurred. We charge retired utility plant to accumulated depreciation. Liabilities associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets are recognized at fair value as incurred and capitalized as part of the related tangible long-lived assets. Accretion of the liability due to the passage of time is an operating expense, and the capitalized cost is depreciated over the useful life of the long-lived asset. See Note 11.

APS records a regulatory liability for the difference between the amount that has been recovered in regulated rates and the amount calculated in accordance with guidance on accounting for asset retirement obligations. APS believes it can recover in regulated rates the costs calculated in accordance with this accounting guidance.

We record depreciation on utility plant on a straight-line basis over the remaining useful life of the related assets. The approximate remaining average useful lives of our utility property at December 31, 2014 were as follows:

- •Fossil plant 19 years;
- •Nuclear plant 28 years;
- •Other generation 25 years;
- •Transmission 38 years;
- •Distribution 33 years; and
- •Other 7 years.

Pursuant to an ACC order, we deferred operating costs in 2013 and 2014 related to APS's acquisition of additional interests in Units 4 and 5 and the related closure of Units 1-3 of Four Corners. See Note 3 for further discussion. These costs were deferred and will be amortized on the depreciation line of the Consolidated Statements of Income.

For the years 2012 through 2014, the depreciation rates ranged from a low of 0.30% to a high of 12.08%. The weighted-average rate was 2.77% for 2014, 3.00% for 2013, and 2.71% for 2012.

Allowance for Funds Used During Construction

AFUDC represents the approximate net composite interest cost of borrowed funds and an allowed return on the equity funds used for construction of regulated utility plant. Both the debt and equity components of AFUDC are non-cash amounts within the Consolidated Statements of Income. Plant

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PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

construction costs, including AFUDC, are recovered in authorized rates through depreciation when completed projects are placed into commercial operation.

AFUDC was calculated by using a composite rate of 8.47% for 2014, 8.56% for 2013, and 8.60% for 2012. APS compounds AFUDC semi-annually and ceases to accrue AFUDC when construction work is completed and the property is placed in service.

### Materials and Supplies

APS values materials, supplies and fossil fuel inventory using a weighted-average cost method. APS materials, supplies and fossil fuel inventories are carried at the lower of weighted-average cost or market, unless evidence indicates that the weighted-average cost (even if in excess of market) will be recovered.

#### Fair Value Measurements

We account for derivative instruments, investments held in our nuclear decommissioning trust, certain cash equivalents and plan assets held in our retirement and other benefit plans at fair value on a recurring basis. Due to the short-term nature of net accounts receivable, accounts payable, and short-term borrowings, the carrying values of these instruments approximate fair value. Fair value measurements may also be applied on a nonrecurring basis to other assets and liabilities in certain circumstances such as impairments. We also disclose fair value information for our long-term debt, which is carried at amortized cost (see Note 6).

Fair value is the price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market which we can access for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between willing market participants on the measurement date. Inputs to fair value may include observable and unobservable data. We maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value.

We determine fair market value using observable inputs such as actively-quoted prices for identical instruments when available. When actively quoted prices are not available for the identical instruments, we use other observable inputs, such as prices for similar instruments, other corroborative market information, or prices provided by other external sources. For options, long-term contracts and other contracts for which observable price data are not available, we use models and other valuation methods, which may incorporate unobservable inputs to determine fair market value.

The use of models and other valuation methods to determine fair market value often requires subjective and complex judgment. Actual results could differ from the results estimated through application of these methods.

See Note 13 for additional information about fair value measurements.

#### **Derivative Accounting**

We are exposed to the impact of market fluctuations in the commodity price and transportation costs of electricity, natural gas, coal and in interest rates. We manage risks associated with market volatility by utilizing various physical and financial instruments including futures, forwards, options and swaps. As part of our overall risk management program, we may use derivative instruments to hedge purchases and sales of electricity and fuels. The changes in market value of such contracts have a high correlation to price changes in the hedged transactions. We also enter into

derivative instruments for economic hedging purposes. Contracts

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PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

that have the same terms (quantities, delivery points and delivery periods) and for which power does not flow are netted, which reduces both revenues and fuel and purchased power expenses in our Consolidated Statements of Income, but does not impact our financial condition, net income or cash flows.

We account for our derivative contracts in accordance with derivatives and hedging guidance, which requires all derivatives not qualifying for a scope exception to be measured at fair value on the balance sheet as either assets or liabilities. Transactions with counterparties that have master netting arrangements are reported net on the balance sheet. See Note 16 for additional information about our derivative instruments.

## Loss Contingencies and Environmental Liabilities

Pinnacle West and APS are involved in certain legal and environmental matters that arise in the normal course of business. Contingent losses and environmental liabilities are recorded when it is determined that it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. When a range of the probable loss exists and no amount within the range is a better estimate than any other amount, Pinnacle West and APS record a loss contingency at the minimum amount in the range. Unless otherwise required by GAAP, legal fees are expensed as incurred.

#### Retirement Plans and Other Benefits

Pinnacle West sponsors a qualified defined benefit and account balance pension plan for the employees of Pinnacle West and its subsidiaries. We also sponsor an other postretirement benefit plan for the employees of Pinnacle West and its subsidiaries that provides medical and life insurance benefits to retired employees. Pension and other postretirement benefit expense are determined by actuarial valuations, based on assumptions that are evaluated annually. See Note 7 for additional information on pension and other postretirement benefits.

### Nuclear Fuel

APS amortizes nuclear fuel by using the unit-of-production method. The unit-of-production method is based on actual physical usage. APS divides the cost of the fuel by the estimated number of thermal units it expects to produce with that fuel. APS then multiplies that rate by the number of thermal units produced within the current period. This calculation determines the current period nuclear fuel expense.

APS also charges nuclear fuel expense for the interim storage and permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel. The DOE is responsible for the permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel and charged APS \$0.001 per kWh of nuclear generation through August 2014, at which point the DOE suspended the fee. In accordance with a settlement agreement with the DOE in August 2014, we will now accrue a receivable for incurred claims and an offsetting regulatory liability through the settlement period ending December of 2016. See Note 10 for information on spent nuclear fuel disposal costs.

#### **Income Taxes**

Income taxes are provided using the asset and liability approach prescribed by guidance relating to accounting for income taxes. We file our federal income tax return on a consolidated basis, and we file our state income tax returns on a consolidated or unitary basis. In accordance with our intercompany tax sharing agreement, federal and state

income taxes are allocated to each first-tier subsidiary as though each first-tier subsidiary filed a separate income tax return. Any difference between that method and the consolidated (and unitary) income tax liability is attributed to the parent company. The income tax accounts reflect the tax and

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interest associated with management's estimate of the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being realized upon settlement for all known and measurable tax exposures (see Note 4).

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

We consider all highly liquid investments with a remaining maturity of three months or less at acquisition to be cash equivalents.

The following table summarizes supplemental Pinnacle West cash flow information for each of the last three years (dollars in thousands):

	Year ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012		
Cash paid (received) during the period for:					
Income taxes, net of refunds	\$(102,154	) \$18,537	\$2,543		
Interest, net of amounts capitalized	177,074	184,010	200,923		
Significant non-cash investing and financing activities:					
Accrued capital expenditures	\$44,712	\$33,184	\$26,208		
Dividends declared but not paid	65,790	62,528	59,789		
Liabilities assumed relating to acquisition of SCE Four Corners' interest (see Note 3)	_	145,609	_		

## Intangible Assets

We have no goodwill recorded and have separately disclosed other intangible assets, primarily APS's software, on Pinnacle West's Consolidated Balance Sheets. The intangible assets are amortized over their finite useful lives. Amortization expense was \$53 million in 2014, \$53 million in 2013, and \$50 million in 2012. Estimated amortization expense on existing intangible assets over the next five years is \$42 million in 2015, \$32 million in 2016, \$21 million in 2017, \$9 million in 2018, and \$3 million in 2019. At December 31, 2014, the weighted-average remaining amortization period for intangible assets was 6 years.

### Investments

El Dorado accounts for its investments using either the equity method (if significant influence) or the cost method (if less than 20% ownership and no significant influence).

Our investments in the nuclear decommissioning trust fund are accounted for in accordance with guidance on accounting for certain investments in debt and equity securities. See Note 13 and Note 19 for more information on these investments.

## **Business Segments**

Pinnacle West's reportable business segment is our regulated electricity segment, which consists of traditional regulated retail and wholesale electricity businesses (primarily electricity service to Native Load customers) and related activities and includes electricity generation, transmission and distribution. All other segment activities are

insignificant.

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PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Preferred Stock

At December 31, 2014, Pinnacle West had 10 million shares of serial preferred stock authorized with no par value, none of which was outstanding, and APS had 15,535,000 shares of various types of preferred stock authorized with \$25, \$50 and \$100 par values, none of which was outstanding.

## 2. New Accounting Standards

During 2014, we adopted, on a prospective basis, new guidance relating to the presentation of unrecognized tax benefits. This guidance generally requires entities to present unrecognized tax benefits as a reduction to any available deferred tax asset for a net operating loss, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward. Prior to adopting this guidance, we presented unrecognized tax benefits on a gross basis. The adoption of this new guidance changed our balance sheet presentation of unrecognized tax benefits, but did not impact our operating results or cash flows. See Note 4 for details regarding the impacts of adopting this guidance.

In May 2014, new revenue recognition guidance was issued. This guidance provides a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and supersedes most current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific guidance. The new guidance is effective for us on January 1, 2017, and may be adopted using full retrospective application or a simplified transition method that allows entities to record a cumulative effect adjustment in retained earnings at the date of initial application. We are currently evaluating this new guidance and the impacts it may have on our financial statements.

## 3. Regulatory Matters

Retail Rate Case Filing with the Arizona Corporation Commission

On June 1, 2011, APS filed an application with the ACC for a net retail base rate increase of \$95.5 million. APS requested that the increase become effective July 1, 2012. The request would have increased the average retail customer bill by approximately 6.6%. On January 6, 2012, APS and other parties to the general retail rate case entered into the 2012 Settlement Agreement detailing the terms upon which the parties agreed to settle the rate case. On May 15, 2012, the ACC approved the 2012 Settlement Agreement without material modifications.

## Settlement Agreement

The 2012 Settlement Agreement provides for a zero net change in base rates, consisting of: (1) a non-fuel base rate increase of \$116.3 million; (2) a fuel-related base rate decrease of \$153.1 million (to be implemented by a change in the Base Fuel Rate from \$0.03757 to \$0.03207 per kWh); and (3) the transfer of cost recovery for certain renewable energy projects from the RES surcharge to base rates in an estimated amount of \$36.8 million.

APS also agreed not to file its next general rate case before May 31, 2015, and not to request that its next general retail rate increase be effective prior to July 1, 2016. The 2012 Settlement Agreement allows APS to request a change to its base rates during the stay-out period in the event of an extraordinary event that, in the ACC's judgment, requires base rate relief in order to protect the public interest. Nor is APS precluded from seeking rate relief, or any other party to the 2012 Settlement Agreement precluded from petitioning the ACC to

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examine the reasonableness of APS's rates, in the event of significant regulatory developments that materially impact the financial results expected under the terms of the 2012 Settlement Agreement.

Other key provisions of the 2012 Settlement Agreement include the following:

- •An authorized return on common equity of 10.0%;
- •A capital structure comprised of 46.1% debt and 53.9% common equity;
- A test year ended December 31, 2010, adjusted to include plant that is in service as of March 31, 2012;

Deferral for future recovery or refund of property taxes above or below a specified 2010 test year level caused by changes to the Arizona property tax rate as follows:

Deferral of increases in property taxes of 25% in 2012, 50% in 2013 and 75% for 2014 and subsequent years if Arizona property tax rates increase; and

•Deferral of 100% in all years if Arizona property tax rates decrease;

A procedure to allow APS to request rate adjustments prior to its next general rate case related to APS's acquisition of additional interests in Units 4 and 5 and the related closure of Units 1-3 of Four Corners (APS made its filing under this provision on December 30, 2013, see "Four Corners" below);

Implementation of a "Lost Fixed Cost Recovery" rate mechanism to support energy efficiency and distributed renewable generation;

Modifications to the Environmental Improvement Surcharge to allow for the recovery of carrying costs for capital expenditures associated with government-mandated environmental controls, subject to an existing cents per kWh cap on cost recovery that could produce up to approximately \$5 million in revenues annually;

- •Modifications to the PSA, including the elimination of the 90/10 sharing provision;
- A limitation on the use of the RES surcharge and the DSMAC to recoup capital expenditures not required under the terms of the 2009 Settlement Agreement discussed below;
- Allowing a negative credit that existed in the PSA rate to continue until February 2013, rather than being reset on the anticipated July 1, 2012 rate effective date;
- Modification of the TCA to streamline the process for future transmission-related rate changes; and

Implementation of various changes to rate schedules, including the adoption of an experimental "buy-through" rate that could allow certain large commercial and industrial customers to select alternative sources of generation to be supplied by APS.

The 2012 Settlement Agreement was approved by the ACC on May 15, 2012, with new rates effective on July 1, 2012. This accomplished a goal set by the parties to the 2009 Settlement Agreement to process subsequent rate cases within twelve months of sufficiency findings from the ACC staff, which generally occurs within 30 days after the filing of a rate case.

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#### Cost Recovery Mechanisms

APS has received regulatory decisions that allow for more timely recovery of certain costs through the following recovery mechanisms.

Renewable Energy Standard. In 2006, the ACC approved the RES. Under the RES, electric utilities that are regulated by the ACC must supply an increasing percentage of their retail electric energy sales from eligible renewable resources, including solar, wind, biomass, biogas and geothermal technologies. In order to achieve these requirements, the ACC allows APS to include a RES surcharge as part of customer bills to recover the approved amounts for use on renewable energy projects. Each year APS is required to file a five-year implementation plan with the ACC and seek approval for funding the upcoming year's RES budget.

On July 12, 2013, APS filed its annual RES implementation plan, covering the 2014-2018 timeframe and requesting a 2014 RES budget of approximately \$143 million. In a final order dated January 7, 2014, the ACC approved the requested budget. Also in 2013, the ACC conducted a hearing to consider APS's proposal to establish compliance with distributed energy requirements by tracking and recording distributed energy, rather than acquiring and retiring renewable energy credits. On February 6, 2014, the ACC established a proceeding to modify the renewable energy rules to establish a process for compliance with the renewable energy requirement that is not based solely on the use of renewable energy credits. On September 9, 2014, the ACC authorized a rulemaking process to modify the RES rules. The proposed changes would permit the ACC to find that utilities have complied with the distributed energy requirement in light of all available information. The ACC adopted these changes on December 18, 2014. The revised rules are expected to become effective in the second quarter of 2015.

In accordance with the ACC's decision on the 2014 RES plan, on April 15, 2014, APS filed an application with the ACC requesting permission to build an additional 20 MW of APS-owned utility scale solar under the AZ Sun Program. In a subsequent filing, APS also offered an alternative proposal to replace the 20 MW of utility scale solar with 10 MW (approximately 1,500 customers) of APS-owned residential solar that will not be under the AZ Sun Program. On December 19, 2014, the ACC voted that it had no objection to APS implementing its residential rooftop solar program. The first stage of the residential rooftop solar program is to be 8 MW followed by a 2 MW second stage that will only be deployed if coupled with distributed storage. The program will target specific distribution feeders in an effort to maximize potential system benefits, as well as make systems available to limited-income customers who cannot easily install solar through transactions with third parties. The ACC expressly reserved that any determination of prudency of the residential rooftop solar program for rate making purposes shall not be made until the project is fully in service and APS requests cost recovery in a future rate case.

On July 1, 2014, APS filed its 2015 RES implementation plan and proposed a RES budget of approximately \$154 million. On December 31, 2014, the ACC issued a decision approving the 2015 RES implementation plan with minor modifications, including reducing the budget to approximately \$152 million.

Demand Side Management Adjustor Charge. The ACC Electric Energy Efficiency Standards require APS to submit a DSM Plan for review by and approval of the ACC.

On June 1, 2012, APS filed its 2013 DSM Plan. In 2013, the standards required APS to achieve cumulative energy savings equal to 5% of its 2012 retail energy sales. Later in 2012, APS filed a supplement to its plan that included a proposed budget for 2013 of \$87.6 million.

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On March 11, 2014, the ACC issued an order approving APS's 2013 DSM Plan. The ACC approved a budget of \$68.9 million for each of 2013 and 2014. The ACC also approved a Resource Savings Initiative that allows APS to count towards compliance with the ACC Electric Energy Efficiency Standards, savings for improvements to APS's transmission and delivery system, generation and facilities that have been approved through a DSM Plan. Consistent with the ACC's March 11, 2014 order, APS intends to continue its approved DSM programs in 2015.

On June 27, 2013, the ACC voted to open a new docket investigating whether the Electric Energy Efficiency Rules should be modified. The ACC held a series of three workshops in March and April 2014 to investigate methodologies used to determine cost effective energy efficiency programs, cost recovery mechanisms, incentives, and potential changes to the Electric Energy Efficiency and Resource Planning Rules.

On November 4, 2014, the ACC staff issued a request for informal comment on a draft of possible amendments to Arizona's Electric Utility Energy Efficiency Standards. The draft proposed substantial changes to the rules and energy efficiency standards. The ACC accepted written comments and took public comment regarding the possible amendments on December 19, 2014. A formal rule making has not been initiated and there has been no additional action on the draft to date.

PSA Mechanism and Balance. The PSA provides for the adjustment of retail rates to reflect variations in retail fuel and purchased power costs. The PSA is subject to specified parameters and procedures, including the following:

APS records deferrals for recovery or refund to the extent actual retail fuel and purchased power costs vary from the Base Fuel Rate:

an adjustment to the PSA rate is made annually each February 1 (unless otherwise approved by the ACC) and goes into effect automatically unless suspended by the ACC;

the PSA uses a forward-looking estimate of fuel and purchased power costs to set the annual PSA rate, which is reconciled to actual costs experienced for each PSA Year (February 1 through January 31) (see the following bullet point);

the PSA rate includes (a) a "Forward Component," under which APS recovers or refunds differences between expected fuel and purchased power costs for the upcoming calendar year and those embedded in the Base Fuel Rate; (b) a "Historical Component," under which differences between actual fuel and purchased power costs and those recovered through the combination of the Base Fuel Rate and the Forward Component are recovered during the next PSA Year; and (c) a "Transition Component," under which APS may seek mid-year PSA changes due to large variances between actual fuel and purchased power costs and the combination of the Base Fuel Rate and the Forward Component; and

the PSA rate may not be increased or decreased more than \$0.004 per kWh in a year without permission of the ACC.

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The following table shows the changes in the deferred fuel and purchased power regulatory asset for 2014 and 2013 (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	
Beginning balance	\$21	\$73	
Deferred fuel and purchased power costs - current period	27	(21	)
Amounts charged to customers	(41	) (31	)
Ending balance	\$7	\$21	

The PSA rate for the PSA year beginning February 1, 2015 is \$0.000887 per kWh, as compared to \$0.001557 per kWh for the prior year. This new rate is comprised of a forward component of \$0.001131 per kWh and a historical component of \$(0.000244) per kWh. Any uncollected (overcollected) deferrals during the 2015 PSA year will be included in the calculation of the PSA rate for the PSA year beginning February 1, 2016.

Transmission Rates, Transmission Cost Adjustor and Other Transmission Matters. In July 2008, FERC approved an Open Access Transmission Tariff for APS to move from fixed rates to a formula rate-setting methodology in order to more accurately reflect and recover the costs that APS incurs in providing transmission services. A large portion of the rate represents charges for transmission services to serve APS's retail customers ("Retail Transmission Charges"). In order to recover the Retail Transmission Charges, APS was previously required to file an application with, and obtain approval from, the ACC to reflect changes in Retail Transmission Charges through the TCA. Under the terms of the 2012 Settlement Agreement, however, an adjustment to rates to recover the Retail Transmission Charges will be made annually each June 1 and will go into effect automatically unless suspended by the ACC.

The formula rate is updated each year effective June 1 on the basis of APS's actual cost of service, as disclosed in APS's FERC Form 1 report for the previous fiscal year. Items to be updated include actual capital expenditures made as compared with previous projections, transmission revenue credits and other items. The resolution of proposed adjustments can result in significant volatility in the revenues to be collected. APS reviews the proposed formula rate filing amounts with the ACC staff. Any items or adjustments which are not agreed to by APS and the ACC staff can remain in dispute until settled or litigated at FERC. Settlement or litigated resolution of disputed issues could require an extended period of time and could have a significant effect on the Retail Transmission Charge because any adjustment, though applied prospectively, may be calculated to account for previously over- or under-collected amounts.

Effective June 1, 2014, APS's annual wholesale transmission rates for all users of its transmission system increased by approximately \$5.9 million for the twelve-month period beginning June 1, 2014 in accordance with the FERC-approved formula. An adjustment to APS's retail rates to recover FERC-approved transmission charges went into effect automatically on June 1, 2014.

Lost Fixed Cost Recovery Mechanism. The LFCR mechanism permits APS to recover on an after-the-fact basis a portion of its fixed costs that would otherwise have been collected by APS in the kWh sales lost due to APS energy efficiency programs and to distributed generation such as rooftop solar arrays. The fixed costs recoverable by the LFCR mechanism were established in the 2012 Settlement Agreement and amount to approximately 3.1 cents per residential kWh lost and 2.3 cents per non-residential kWh lost. The LFCR adjustment has a year-over-year cap of 1% of retail revenues. Any amounts left unrecovered in a particular year because of this cap can be carried over for

recovery in a future year. The kWh's lost from energy efficiency are based on a third-party evaluation of APS's energy efficiency programs. Distributed generation

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sales losses are determined from the metered output from the distributed generation units or if metering is unavailable, through accepted estimating techniques.

APS filed its first LFCR adjustment on January 15, 2013 and will file for a LFCR adjustment every January thereafter. On February 12, 2013, the ACC approved a LFCR adjustment of \$5.1 million, representing a pro-rated amount for 2012 since the 2012 Settlement Agreement went into effect on July 1, 2012. APS filed its 2014 annual LFCR adjustment on January 15, 2014, requesting a LFCR adjustment of \$25.3 million, effective March 1, 2014. The ACC approved APS's LFCR adjustment without change on March 11, 2014, which became effective April 1, 2014. APS filed its 2015 annual LFCR adjustment on January 15, 2015, requesting an LFCR adjustment of \$38.5 million effective March 1, 2015.

#### Deregulation

On May 9, 2013, the ACC voted to re-examine the facilitation of a deregulated retail electric market in Arizona. The ACC subsequently opened a docket for this matter and received comments from a number of interested parties on the considerations involved in establishing retail electric deregulation in the state. One of these considerations is whether various aspects of a deregulated market, including setting utility rates on a "market" basis, would be consistent with the requirements of the Arizona Constitution. On September 11, 2013, after receiving legal advice from the ACC staff, the ACC voted 4-1 to close the current docket and await full Arizona Constitutional authority before any further examination of this matter. The motion approved by the ACC also included opening one or more new dockets in the future to explore options to offer more rate choices to customers and innovative changes within the existing cost-of-service regulatory model that could include elements of competition. The ACC opened a new docket on November 4, 2013 to explore technological advances and innovative changes within the electric utility industry. A series of workshops in this docket were held in 2014 and another is currently scheduled for February 26, 2015.

#### Net Metering

On July 12, 2013, APS filed an application with the ACC proposing a solution to address the cost shift brought by the current net metering rules. On December 3, 2013, the ACC issued its order on APS's net metering proposal. The ACC instituted a charge on customers who install rooftop solar panels after December 31, 2013, and directed APS to provide quarterly reports on the pace of rooftop solar adoption to assist the ACC in considering further increases. The charge of \$0.70 per kilowatt became effective on January 1, 2014, and is estimated to collect \$4.90 per month from a typical future rooftop solar customer to help pay for their use of the electricity grid.

In making its decision, the ACC determined that the current net metering program creates a cost shift, causing non-solar utility customers to pay higher rates to cover the costs of maintaining the electrical grid. ACC staff and the state's Residential Utility Consumer Office, among other organizations, also agreed that a cost shift exists. The fixed charge does not increase APS's revenue because it is credited to the LFCR, but it will modestly reduce the impact of the cost shift on non-solar customers. The ACC acknowledged that the new charge addresses only a portion of the cost shift. The ACC also required APS to file its next rate case in June 2015, the earliest date contemplated in the 2012 Settlement Agreement.

In May 2014, the ACC began conducting a series of workshops to, among other things, evaluate the role and value of the electric grid as it relates to rooftop solar and other issues regarding net metering.

On July 22, 2014, the ACC Commissioners voted to reopen the December 2013 net metering decision for the limited purpose of deciding whether to eliminate the requirement that APS file its next rate case in June

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2015. The vote included a request that parties comment in the docket about their thoughts on removing the filing date requirement and on the process for the broader discussion regarding rate design. On August 12, 2014, the ACC Commissioners voted to lift the requirement that APS file its next general rate case by June 2015. On September 29, 2014, the staff of the ACC filed in a new docket a proposal for permitting a utility to request ACC approval of its proposed rate design outside of and before a general rate case. On October 20, 2014, APS and other interested stakeholders filed comments to this proposal. No further action has been taken in this docket.

#### Four Corners

On December 30, 2013, APS purchased SCE's 48% ownership interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners. The 2012 Settlement Agreement includes a procedure to allow APS to request rate adjustments prior to its next general rate case related to APS's acquisition of the additional interests in Units 4 and 5 and the related closure of Units 1-3 of Four Corners. APS made its filing under this provision on December 30, 2013. On December 23, 2014, the ACC approved rate adjustments resulting in a revenue increase of \$57.1 million on an annual basis. This includes the deferral for future recovery of all non-fuel operating costs for the acquired SCE interest in Four Corners, net of the non-fuel operating costs savings resulting from the closure of Units 1-3 from the date of closing of the purchase through its inclusion in rates. The 2012 Settlement Agreement also provides for deferral for future recovery of all unrecovered costs incurred in connection with the closure of Units 1-3. The deferral balance related to the acquisition of SCE's interest in Units 4 and 5 and the closure of Units 1-3 was \$77 million as of December 31, 2014 and is being amortized in rates over 10 years.

As part of APS's acquisition of SCE's interest in Units 4 and 5, APS and SCE agreed, via a "Transmission Termination Agreement" that, upon closing of the acquisition, the companies would terminate an existing transmission agreement ("Transmission Agreement") between the parties that provides transmission capacity on a system (the "Arizona Transmission System") for SCE to transmit its portion of the output from Four Corners to California. APS previously submitted a request to FERC related to this termination, which resulted in a FERC order denying rate recovery of \$40 million that APS agreed to pay SCE associated with the termination. APS and SCE negotiated an alternate arrangement under which SCE would assign its 1,555 MW capacity rights over the Arizona Transmission System to third-parties, including 300 MW to APS's marketing and trading group. However, this alternative arrangement was not approved by FERC. In late March 2014, APS and SCE filed requests for rehearing with FERC. Both requests for rehearing were denied on August 14, 2014. Although APS and SCE continue to evaluate potential paths forward, it is possible that the terms of the Transmission Termination Agreement may again control. As we previously disclosed, APS believes that the original denial by FERC of rate recovery under the Transmission Termination Agreement constitutes the failure of a condition that relieves APS of its obligations under that agreement. If APS and SCE were unable to determine a resolution through negotiation, the Transmission Termination Agreement requires that disputes be resolved through arbitration. APS is unable to predict the outcome of this matter if it proceeds to arbitration. If the matter proceeds to arbitration and APS is not successful, APS may be required to record a charge to its results of operations.

#### Cholla

After considering the costs to comply with environmental regulations, on September 11, 2014, APS announced that it will close Cholla Unit 2 by April 2016 and cease burning coal at the other APS-owned units (Units 1 and 3) at the plant by the mid-2020s, if EPA approves a compromise proposal offered by APS to meet required environmental and emissions standards and rules. Previously, APS estimated Cholla Unit 2's end of life to be 2033. APS is currently

recovering depreciation and a return on the net book value of the unit in base rates and plans to seek recovery of all of the unit's retirement-related costs in its next retail rate case.

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If APS closes Cholla Unit 2, APS believes it will be allowed recovery of the remaining net book value of Unit 2 (\$128 million as of December 31, 2014), in addition to a return on its investment. In accordance with GAAP, in the third quarter of 2014, Unit 2's remaining net book value was reclassified from property, plant and equipment to a regulatory asset. If the ACC does not allow full recovery of the remaining net book value of Cholla Unit 2, all or a portion of the regulatory asset will be written off and APS's net income, cash flows, and financial position will be negatively impacted.

Regulatory Assets and Liabilities

The detail of regulatory assets is as follows (dollars in millions):

	Remaining Amortization	December 31,	2014	December 31,	2013
	Period	Current	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
Pension and other postretirement benefits	s (a)	\$	\$485	\$	\$314
Income taxes — AFUDC equity	2044	5	118	4	105
Deferred fuel and purchased power — mark-to-market (Note 16)	2017	51	46	5	29
Transmission vegetation management	2016	9	5	9	14
Coal reclamation	2026	_	7	8	18
Palo Verde VIEs (Note 18)	2046	_	35	_	41
Deferred compensation	2036	_	34	_	34
Deferred fuel and purchased power (b) (c	2)2015	7		21	
Tax expense of Medicare subsidy	2024	2	14	2	15
Loss on reacquired debt	2034	1	16	1	17
Income taxes — investment tax credit ba adjustment	sis 2044	2	46	1	39
Pension and other postretirement benefits deferral	3 2015	4		8	4
Four Corners cost deferral	2024	7	70	_	37
Lost fixed cost recovery	2015	38	_	25	
Transmission cost adjustor	2014	_	_	8	2
Retired power plant costs	2033	10	136	3	18
Deferred property taxes	(d)	_	30	_	11
Other	Various	2	12	2	14
Total regulatory assets (e)		\$138	\$1,054	\$97	\$712

This asset represents the future recovery of pension and other postretirement benefit obligations through retail

- (a) rates. If these costs are disallowed by the ACC, this regulatory asset would be charged to OCI and result in lower future revenues. See Note 7 for further discussion.
- (b) See "Cost Recovery Mechanisms" discussion above.
- (c) Subject to a carrying charge.
- (d) Per the provision of the 2012 Settlement Agreement.

There are no regulatory assets for which the ACC has allowed recovery of costs, but not allowed a return by

(e) exclusion from rate base. FERC rates are set using a formula rate as described in "Transmission Rates, Transmission Cost Adjustor and Other Transmission Matters."

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The detail of regulatory liabilities is as follows (dollars in millions):

	Remaining	December 31, 2014		December 31, 2013	
	Amortization	December 31,	2014	December 51, 2015	
	Period	Current	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
Removal costs	(a)	\$31	\$273	\$28	\$303
Asset retirement obligations	2044	_	296	_	266
Renewable energy standard (b)	2017	25	23	33	15
Income taxes — change in rates	2043	_	72	_	74
Spent nuclear fuel	2047	5	66	6	36
Deferred gains on utility property	2019	2	8	2	10
Income taxes — deferred investment tax credit	2043	4	93	3	79
Demand side management (b)	2015	31	_	27	_
Other postretirement benefits	(c)	32	199	_	_
Other	Various	1	21	_	18
Total regulatory liabilities		\$131	\$1,051	\$99	\$801

<sup>(</sup>a) In accordance with regulatory accounting guidance, APS accrues for removal costs for its regulated assets, even if there is no legal obligation for removal (see Note 11).

- (b) See "Cost Recovery Mechanisms" discussion above.
- (c) See Note 7.

#### 4. Income Taxes

Certain assets and liabilities are reported differently for income tax purposes than they are for financial statement purposes. The tax effect of these differences is recorded as deferred taxes. We calculate deferred taxes using currently enacted income tax rates.

APS has recorded regulatory assets and regulatory liabilities related to income taxes on its Balance Sheets in accordance with accounting guidance for regulated operations. The regulatory assets are for certain temporary differences, primarily the allowance for equity funds used during construction and pension and other postretirement benefits. The regulatory liabilities primarily relate to deferred taxes resulting from investment tax credits ("ITC") and the change in income tax rates.

In accordance with regulatory requirements, APS ITCs are deferred and are amortized over the life of the related property with such amortization applied as a credit to reduce current income tax expense in the statement of income.

During the year ended December 31, 2013, IRS guidance was released which provided clarification regarding an APS tax accounting method change approved by the IRS in the third quarter of 2009. As a result of this guidance, uncertain tax positions decreased \$67 million. Additionally, the IRS finalized the examination of tax returns for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009, which further reduced uncertain tax positions by approximately \$41 million. These reductions in uncertain tax positions were materially offset by an increase in deferred tax liabilities.

Included in the current income tax receivable on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2013 was \$133 million that represented an anticipated IRS refund related to the finalized examinations of tax years ended December

31, 2008 and 2009. Cash related to this refund was received in the first quarter of 2014.

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On September 13, 2013, the U.S. Treasury Department released final income tax regulations on the deduction and capitalization of expenditures related to tangible property. These final regulations apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014. Several of the provisions within the regulations require a tax accounting method change to be filed with the IRS prior to September 15, 2015, resulting in a tax-effected cumulative effect adjustment of approximately \$82 million. The anticipated impact of these final regulations has been accounted for in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2013 and 2014.

Net income associated with the Palo Verde sale leaseback VIEs is not subject to tax (see Note 18). As a result, there is no income tax expense associated with the VIEs recorded on the Consolidated Statements of Income.

The following is a tabular reconciliation of the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits, excluding interest and penalties, at the beginning and end of the year that are included in accrued taxes and unrecognized tax benefits (dollars in thousands):

2012

	2014	2013	2012	
Total unrecognized tax benefits, January 1	\$41,997	\$133,422	\$136,005	
Additions for tax positions of the current year	4,309	3,516	5,167	
Additions for tax positions of prior years	751	13,158		
Reductions for tax positions of prior years for:				
Changes in judgment	(2,282	) (108,099	) (7,729	)
Settlements with taxing authorities				
Lapses of applicable statute of limitations	<del></del>		(21	)
Total unrecognized tax benefits, December 31	\$44,775	\$41,997	\$133,422	

Included in the balances of unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were approximately \$11 million, \$10 million and \$10 million, respectively, of tax positions that, if recognized, would decrease our effective tax rate.

As of the balance sheet date, the tax year ended December 31, 2011 and all subsequent tax years remain subject to examination by the IRS. With a few exceptions, we are no longer subject to state income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2008.

In January 2014, we prospectively adopted guidance requiring unrecognized tax benefits to be presented as a reduction to any available deferred income tax asset for a net operating loss, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward. As a result of this guidance, \$26 million of unrecognized tax benefits were recorded as a reduction to net current deferred income tax assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2014.

We reflect interest and penalties, if any, on unrecognized tax benefits in the Consolidated Statements of Income as income tax expense. The amount of interest recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income related to unrecognized tax benefits was a pre-tax expense of \$1 million for 2014, a pre-tax benefit of \$4 million for 2013, and a pre-tax expense of \$4 million for 2012.

The total amount of accrued liabilities for interest recognized in the Consolidated Balance Sheets related to unrecognized tax benefits was less than \$1 million as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 and \$13 million as of December 31, 2012. To the extent that matters are settled favorably, this amount could reverse and decrease our

effective tax rate. Additionally, as of December 31, 2014, we have recognized less

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than \$1 million of interest expense to be paid on the underpayment of income taxes for certain adjustments that we have filed, or will file, with the IRS.

The components of income tax expense are as follows (dollars in thousands):

)
)

The following chart compares pretax income from continuing operations at the 35% federal income tax rate to income tax expense — continuing operations (dollars in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Federal income tax expense at 35% statutory rate	\$225,540	\$234,695	\$229,709
Increases (reductions) in tax expense resulting from:			
State income tax net of federal income tax benefit	18,149	21,387	23,819
Credits and favorable adjustments related to prior years resolved in current year	_	(3,356	) —
Medicare Subsidy Part-D	830	823	483
Allowance for equity funds used during construction (see Note 1)	(8,523	) (6,997	) (6,158
Palo Verde VIE noncontrolling interest (see Note 18)	(9,135	) (11,862	) (11,065 )
Investment tax credit amortization	(4,928	) (3,548	) (2,030
Other	(1,228	) (551	) 2,559
Income tax expense — continuing operations	\$220,705	\$230,591	\$237,317

The following table shows the net deferred income tax liability recognized on the Consolidated Balance Sheets (dollars in thousands):

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	
Current asset	\$122,232	\$91,152	
Long-term liability	(2,582,636)	(2,351,882	)
Deferred income taxes — net	\$(2,460,404)	\$(2,260,730	)

On February 17, 2011, Arizona enacted legislation (H.B. 2001) that included a four-year phase-in of corporate income tax rate reductions beginning in 2014. As a result of these tax rate reductions, Pinnacle West has revised the tax rate

applicable to reversing temporary items in Arizona. In accordance with accounting for

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regulated companies, the benefit of this rate reduction is substantially offset by a regulatory liability. As of December 31, 2014, APS has recorded a regulatory liability of \$74 million, with a corresponding decrease in accumulated deferred income tax liabilities, to reflect the impact of this change in tax law.

On April 4, 2013, New Mexico enacted legislation (H.B. 641) that included a five-year phase-in of corporate income tax rate reductions beginning in 2014. As a result of these tax rate reductions, Pinnacle West has revised the tax rate applicable to reversing temporary items in New Mexico. In accordance with accounting for regulated companies, the benefit of this rate reduction is substantially offset by a regulatory liability. As of December 31, 2014, APS has recorded a regulatory liability of \$2 million, with a corresponding decrease in accumulated deferred income tax liabilities, to reflect the impact of this change in tax law.

The components of the net deferred income tax liability were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	
DEFERRED TAX ASSETS			
Risk management activities	\$57,505	\$44,920	
Regulatory liabilities:			
Asset retirement obligation and removal costs	229,772	235,959	
Unamortized investment tax credits	96,232	82,116	
Other postretirement benefits	90,496	_	
Other	60,409	42,609	
Pension liabilities	205,227	140,773	
Other postretirement liabilities		57,869	
Renewable energy incentives	65,169	65,434	
Credit and loss carryforwards	68,347	133,070	
Other	138,729	148,492	
Total deferred tax assets	1,011,886	951,242	
DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES			
Plant-related	(2,958,369	) (2,903,730	)
Risk management activities	(12,171	) (16,191	)
Other postretirement assets	(59,170	) —	
Regulatory assets:			
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(48,286	) (43,058	)
Deferred fuel and purchased power	(2,498	) (8,282	)
Deferred fuel and purchased power — mark-to-market	(38,187	) (13,343	)
Pension and other postretirement benefits	(191,747	) (129,250	)
Retired power plant costs (see Note 3)	(57,255	) (8,199	)
Other	(99,123	) (85,003	)
Other	(5,484	) (4,916	)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(3,472,290	) (3,211,972	)
Deferred income taxes — net	\$(2,460,404	) \$(2,260,730	)

As of December 31, 2014, the deferred tax assets for credit and loss carryforwards relate primarily to federal general business credits of approximately \$90 million, which first begin to expire in 2031, and other federal and state loss

carryforwards of \$4 million, which first begin to expire in 2019. The credit and loss

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carryforwards amount above has been reduced by \$26 million of unrecognized tax benefits as a result of the guidance adopted in January 2014, as disclosed above.

## 5. Lines of Credit and Short-Term Borrowings

Pinnacle West and APS maintain committed revolving credit facilities in order to enhance liquidity and provide credit support for their commercial paper programs.

The table below presents the consolidated credit facilities and the amounts available and outstanding as of December 31, 2014 (dollars in millions):

Credit Facility	Expiration	Amount	Unused	Commit	ment
	Expiration	Committed	Amount (a)	Fees	
Pinnacle West Revolving Credit Facility	May 2019	\$200	\$200	0.175	%
APS Revolving Credit Facility	May 2019	500	500	0.125	%
APS Revolving Credit Facility	April 2018	500	353	0.125	%
Total		\$1,200	\$1,053		

(a) At December 31, 2014, APS had \$147 million of outstanding commercial paper. Accordingly, at such date, the total combined amount available under its two \$500 million credit facilities was \$853 million.

#### Pinnacle West

On May 9, 2014, Pinnacle West replaced its \$200 million revolving credit facility that would have matured in November 2016, with a new \$200 million facility that matures in May 2019. At December 31, 2014, the facility was available to refinance indebtedness of the Company and for other general corporate purposes, including credit support for its \$200 million commercial paper program. Pinnacle West has the option to increase the amount of the facility up to a maximum of \$300 million upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and with the consent of the lenders. At December 31, 2014, Pinnacle West had no outstanding borrowings under its credit facility, no letters of credit outstanding and no commercial paper borrowings.

#### **APS**

On May 9, 2014, APS refinanced its \$500 million revolving credit facility that would have matured in November 2016, with a new \$500 million facility that matures in May 2019.

At December 31, 2014, APS had two credit facilities totaling \$1 billion, including a \$500 million credit facility that matures in April 2018 and a \$500 million credit facility that matures in May 2019 (see above). APS may increase the amount of each facility up to a maximum of \$700 million upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and with the consent of the lenders. APS will use these facilities to refinance indebtedness and for other general corporate purposes. Interest rates are based on APS's senior unsecured debt credit ratings.

The facilities described above are available to support APS's \$250 million commercial paper program, for bank borrowings or for issuances of letters of credit. At December 31, 2014, APS had no outstanding borrowings or letters of credit under its revolving credit facilities. In addition, APS had commercial paper borrowings of \$147 million at

December 31, 2014.

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The table below presents the consolidated credit facilities and the amounts available and outstanding as of December 31, 2013 (dollars in millions):

Credit Facility Ex	Exmination	Amount	Unused	Commitm	nent
	Expiration	Committed	Amount (a)	Fees	
Pinnacle West Revolving Credit Facility	November 2016	\$200	\$200	0.175	%
APS Revolving Credit Facility	November 2016	500	347	0.125	%
APS Revolving Credit Facility	April 2018	500	500	0.125	%
Total		\$1,200	\$1,047		

At December 31, 2013, APS had \$153 million of outstanding commercial paper. Accordingly, at such date the total combined amount available under its two \$500 million credit facilities was \$847 million.

#### Pinnacle West

At December 31, 2013, the Pinnacle West credit facility, which matures in November 2016, was available to refinance indebtedness of the Company and for other general corporate purposes, including credit support for its \$200 million commercial paper program. Pinnacle West has the option to increase the amount of the facility up to a maximum of \$300 million upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and with the consent of the lenders. At December 31, 2013, Pinnacle West had no outstanding borrowings under its credit facility, no letters of credit and no commercial paper borrowings.

#### **APS**

On April 9, 2013, APS refinanced its \$500 million revolving credit facility that would have matured in February 2015, with a new \$500 million facility. The new revolving credit facility matures in April 2018.

At December 31, 2013, APS had two credit facilities totaling \$1 billion, including a \$500 million credit facility that was refinanced in April 2013 (see above) and a \$500 million credit facility that matures in November 2016. APS may increase the amount of each facility up to a maximum of \$700 million upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and with the consent of the lenders. APS can use these facilities to refinance indebtedness and for other general corporate purposes. Interest rates are based on APS's senior unsecured debt credit ratings.

The facilities described above are available to support APS's \$250 million commercial paper program, for bank borrowings or for issuances of letters of credit. At December 31, 2013, APS had no outstanding borrowings or letters of credit under its revolving credit facilities. In addition, APS had commercial paper borrowings of \$153 million at December 31, 2013.

See "Financial Assurances" in Note 10 for a discussion of APS's separate outstanding letters of credit.

#### **Debt Provisions**

Although provisions in APS's articles of incorporation and ACC financing orders establish maximum amounts of preferred stock and debt that APS may issue, APS does not expect any of these provisions to limit its ability to meet

its capital requirements. On February 6, 2013, the ACC issued a financing order in which, subject to specified parameters and procedures, it (a) approved APS's short-term debt authorization equal to a

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sum of (i) 7% of APS's capitalization, and (ii) \$500 million (which is required to be used for costs relating to purchases of natural gas and power), (b) approved an increase in APS's long-term debt authorization from \$4.2 billion to \$5.1 billion in light of the projected growth of APS and its customer base and the resulting projected financing needs, and (c) authorized APS to enter into derivative financial instruments for the purpose of managing interest rate risk associated with its long- and short-term debt. This financing order is set to expire on December 31, 2017.

#### 6. Long-Term Debt and Liquidity Matters

All of Pinnacle West's and APS's debt is unsecured. The following table presents the components of long-term debt on the Consolidated Balance Sheets outstanding at December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

	Maturity	Interest	December 31,	
	Dates (a)	Rates	2014	2013
APS				
Pollution Control Bonds:				
Variable	2029-2038	(b)	\$156,405	\$75,580
Fixed	2024-2034	0.45%-5.75%	249,300	426,125
Total Pollution Control Bonds			405,705	501,705
Senior unsecured notes	2015-2044	3.35%-8.75%	2,875,000	2,675,000
Palo Verde sale leaseback lessor notes	2015	8.00%	13,420	38,869
Unamortized discount			(9,206)	(8,732)
Unamortized premium			4,866	5,047
Total APS long-term debt			3,289,785	3,211,889
Less current maturities	(d)		383,570	540,424
Total APS long-term debt less current maturities			2,906,215	2,671,465
Pinnacle West				
Term loan	2017	(c)	125,000	125,000
TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT LESS CURRENT			¢2.021.215	¢2.706.465
MATURITIES			\$3,031,215	\$2,796,465

- (a) This schedule does not reflect the timing of redemptions that may occur prior to maturities.
- (b) The weighted-average rate for the variable rate pollution control bonds was 0.03%-0.27% at December 31, 2014 and 0.03%-0.06% at December 31, 2013.
- (c) The weighted-average interest rate was 1.019% at December 31, 2014 and 1.269% at December 31, 2013.
- (d) Current maturities include \$70 million of pollution control bonds expected to be remarketed in 2015 and \$300 million in senior unsecured notes that mature in 2015.

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The following table shows principal payments due on Pinnacle West's and APS's total long-term debt (dollars in millions):

Year	Consolidated Consolidated		
1 eai	Pinnacle West	APS	
2015	\$ 384	\$384	
2016	357	357	
2017	157	32	
2018	32	32	
2019	500	500	
Thereafter	1,989	1,989	
Total	\$ 3,419	\$3,294	

#### Debt Fair Value

Our long-term debt fair value estimates are based on quoted market prices for the same or similar issues, and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. Certain of our debt instruments contain third-party credit enhancements and, in accordance with GAAP, we do not consider the effect of these credit enhancements when determining fair value. The following table represents the estimated fair value of our long-term debt, including current maturities (dollars in millions):

	As of December 31	1. 2014	As of December 31, 2013			
D' 1 W 4	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value		
Pinnacle West	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125		
APS	3,290	3,714	3,212	3,454		
Total	\$3,415	\$3,839	\$3,337	\$3,579		

#### Credit Facilities and Debt Issuances

#### Pinnacle West

On December 31, 2014, Pinnacle West entered into a \$125 million term loan facility that matures December 31, 2017. Pinnacle West used the proceeds to repay and refinance the term loan facility that would have matured in November 2015.

#### **APS**

On July 12, 2013, APS purchased all \$33 million of the Coconino County, Arizona Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 1994 Series A, due 2029. On October 11, 2013, APS purchased all \$32 million of the City of Farmington, New Mexico Pollution Control Revenue Bonds, 1994 Series C, due 2024. On January 15, 2014, both of these series of bonds were canceled and refinanced.

On January 10, 2014, APS issued \$250 million of 4.70% unsecured senior notes that mature on January 15, 2044. The proceeds from the sale were used to repay commercial paper which was used to fund the acquisition of SCE's 48%

ownership interest in each of Units 4 and 5 of Four Corners and to replenish cash used in 2013 to re-acquire the two series of tax-exempt indebtedness.

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On May 1, 2014, APS purchased a total of \$100 million of the Maricopa County, Arizona, Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2009 Series A, D and E, due 2029 in connection with the mandatory tender provisions for this indebtedness. On May 14, 2014, APS remarketed all \$36 million of the 2009 Series A Bonds, which are classified as long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014. We expect to remarket or refinance all \$64 million of the 2009 Series D Bonds and 2009 Series E Bonds within the next twelve months.

On May 30, 2014, APS purchased all \$38 million of the Navajo County, Arizona, Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2009 Series A, due 2034, and on June 1, 2014, APS purchased a total of \$64 million of the Navajo 2009 Series B Bonds and 2009 Series C Bonds, in each case, in connection with the mandatory tender provisions for this indebtedness. On September 23, 2014, APS remarketed all \$38 million of the 2009 Series A Bonds, which are classified as current maturities of long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014. On October 1, 2014, APS remarketed all \$32 million of the 2009 Series C Bonds, which are classified as long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014. We expect to remarket or refinance all \$32 million of the 2009 Series B Bonds within the next twelve months.

On June 1, 2014, APS remarketed all \$13 million of the Coconino County, Arizona Pollution Control Corporation Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2009 Series A, due 2034. These bonds are classified as long-term debt on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014.

On June 18, 2014, APS issued \$250 million of 3.35% unsecured senior notes that mature on June 15, 2024. The net proceeds from the sale were used along with other funds to repay at maturity APS's \$300 million aggregate principal amount of 5.80% senior notes due June 30, 2014.

On January 12, 2015, APS issued \$250 million of 2.20% unsecured senior notes that mature on January 15, 2020. The net proceeds from the sale were used to repay commercial paper borrowings and replenish cash temporarily used to fund capital expenditures.

See "Lines of Credit and Short-Term Borrowings" in Note 5 and "Financial Assurances" in Note 10 for discussion of APS's separate outstanding letters of credit.

#### **Debt Provisions**

Pinnacle West's and APS's debt covenants related to their respective bank financing arrangements include maximum debt to capitalization ratios. Pinnacle West and APS comply with this covenant. For both Pinnacle West and APS, this covenant requires that the ratio of consolidated debt to total consolidated capitalization not exceed 65%. At December 31, 2014, the ratio was approximately 46% for Pinnacle West and 45% for APS. Failure to comply with such covenant levels would result in an event of default which, generally speaking, would require the immediate repayment of the debt subject to the covenants and could cross-default other debt. See further discussion of "cross-default" provisions below.

Neither Pinnacle West's nor APS's financing agreements contain "rating triggers" that would result in an acceleration of the required interest and principal payments in the event of a rating downgrade. However, our bank credit agreements contain a pricing grid in which the interest rates we pay for borrowings thereunder are determined by our current credit ratings.

All of Pinnacle West's loan agreements contain "cross-default" provisions that would result in defaults and the potential acceleration of payment under these loan agreements if Pinnacle West or APS were to default

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under certain other material agreements. All of APS's bank agreements contain "cross-default" provisions that would result in defaults and the potential acceleration of payment under these bank agreements if APS were to default under certain other material agreements. Pinnacle West and APS do not have a material adverse change restriction for credit facility borrowings.

An existing ACC order requires APS to maintain a common equity ratio of at least 40%. As defined in the ACC order, the common equity ratio is total shareholder equity divided by the sum of total shareholder equity and long-term debt, including current maturities of long-term debt. At December 31, 2014, APS was in compliance with this common equity ratio requirement. Its total shareholder equity was approximately \$4.5 billion, and total capitalization was approximately \$8.0 billion. APS would be prohibited from paying dividends if the payment would reduce its total shareholder equity below approximately \$3.2 billion, assuming APS's total capitalization remains the same. Since APS was in compliance with this common equity ratio requirement, this restriction does not materially affect Pinnacle West's ability to meet its ongoing capital requirements.

#### 7. Retirement Plans and Other Benefits

Pinnacle West sponsors a qualified defined benefit and account balance pension plan (The Pinnacle West Capital Corporation Retirement Plan) and a non-qualified supplemental excess benefit retirement plan for the employees of Pinnacle West and its subsidiaries. All new employees participate in the account balance plan. Defined benefit plans specify the amount of benefits a plan participant is to receive using information about the participant. The pension plan covers nearly all employees. The supplemental excess benefit retirement plan covers officers of the Company and highly compensated employees designated for participation by the Board of Directors. Our employees do not contribute to the plans. We calculate the benefits based on age, years of service and pay.

Pinnacle West also sponsors an other postretirement benefit plan (Pinnacle West Capital Corporation Group Life and Medical Plan) for the employees of Pinnacle West and its subsidiaries. This plan provides medical and life insurance benefits to retired employees. Employees must retire to become eligible for these retirement benefits, which are based on years of service and age. For the medical insurance plan, retirees make contributions to cover a portion of the plan costs. For the life insurance plan, retirees do not make contributions. We retain the right to change or eliminate these benefits.

On September 30, 2014, Pinnacle West announced plan design changes to the other postretirement benefit plan, which required an interim remeasurement of the benefit obligation for the plan. Effective January 1, 2015, those eligible retirees and dependents over age 65 and on Medicare can choose to be enrolled in a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA). The Company will provide a subsidy allowing post-65 retirees to purchase a Medicare supplement plan on a private exchange network. The remeasurement of the benefit obligation included updating the assumptions. The remeasurement reduced net periodic benefit costs in 2014 by \$10 million (\$5 million of which reduced expense), which was recognized during the fourth quarter of 2014. The September 30, 2014 remeasurement also resulted in a decrease in Pinnacle West's other postretirement benefit obligation of \$316 million, which was offset by the related regulatory asset and accumulated other comprehensive income. As a result of this reduction, the other postretirement benefit obligation, and related regulatory asset, have been reduced to the extent that Pinnacle West will now reflect an asset for other postretirement benefits and a related regulatory liability with balances at December 31, 2014 of \$152 million and \$231 million, respectively.

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Because of the plan changes, the Company is currently in the process of seeking IRS and regulatory approval to move approximately \$100 million of the other postretirement benefit trust assets into a new trust account to pay for active union employee medical costs.

Pinnacle West uses a December 31 measurement date each year for its pension and other postretirement benefit plans. The market-related value of our plan assets is their fair value at the measurement date. See Note 13 for further discussion of how fair values are determined. Due to subjective and complex judgments, which may be required in determining fair values, actual results could differ from the results estimated through the application of these methods.

A significant portion of the changes in the actuarial gains and losses of our pension and postretirement plans is attributable to APS and therefore is recoverable in rates. Accordingly, these changes are recorded as a regulatory asset or regulatory liability. In its 2009 retail rate case settlement, APS received approval to defer a portion of pension and other postretirement benefit cost increases incurred in 2011 and 2012. We deferred pension and other postretirement benefit costs of approximately \$14 million in 2012 and \$11 million in 2011. Pursuant to an ACC regulatory order, we began amortizing the regulatory asset over 3 years beginning in July 2012. We amortized approximately \$8 million during 2014, \$8 million during 2013, and \$4 million during 2012.

The following table provides details of the plans' net periodic benefit costs and the portion of these costs charged to expense (including administrative costs and excluding amounts capitalized as overhead construction, billed to electric plant participants or charged to the regulatory asset or liability) (dollars in thousands):

	Pension			Other Ben	Other Benefits			
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012		
Service cost-benefits earned during the period	\$53,080	\$64,195	\$63,502	\$18,139	\$23,597	\$27,163		
Interest cost on benefit obligatio	n129,194	112,392	119,586	41,243	41,536	46,467		
Expected return on plan assets	(158,998	) (146,333	) (140,979	) (46,400	) (45,717	) (45,793	)	
Amortization of:								
Transition obligation	_					452		
Prior service cost (credit)	869	1,097	1,143	(9,626	) (179	) (179	)	
Net actuarial loss	10,963	39,852	44,250	1,175	11,310	20,233		
Net periodic benefit cost	\$35,108	\$71,203	\$87,502	\$4,531	\$30,547	\$48,343		
Portion of cost charged to expense	\$21,985	\$38,968	\$36,333	\$6,000	\$18,469	\$19,321		

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The following table shows the plans' changes in the benefit obligations and funded status for the years 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

	Pension		Other Benef	its		
	2014	2013	2014	2013		
Change in Benefit Obligation						
Benefit obligation at January 1	\$2,646,530	\$2,850,846	\$890,418	\$990,418		
Service cost	53,080	64,195	18,139	23,597		
Interest cost	129,194	112,392	41,243	41,536		
Benefit payments	(128,550	) (125,269	) (29,054	) (26,675	)	
Actuarial (gain) loss	378,394	(255,634	) 150,188	(138,458	)	
Plan amendments		_	(388,599	) —		
Benefit obligation at December 31	3,078,648	2,646,530	682,335	890,418		
Change in Plan Assets						
Fair value of plan assets at January 1	2,264,121	2,079,181	748,339	684,221		
Actual return on plan assets	292,992	150,546	105,223	76,995		
Employer contributions	175,000	140,500	770	14,438		
Benefit payments	(116,709	) (106,106	) (19,707	) (27,315	)	
Fair value of plan assets at December 31	2,615,404	2,264,121	834,625	748,339		
Funded Status at December 31	\$(463,244	) \$(382,409	) \$152,290	\$(142,079	)	

The following table shows the projected benefit obligation and the accumulated benefit obligation for pension plans with an accumulated obligation in excess of plan assets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

	2014	2013
Projected benefit obligation	\$3,078,648	\$2,646,530
Accumulated benefit obligation	2,873,741	2,469,889
Fair value of plan assets	2,615,404	2,264,121

The following table shows the amounts recognized on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

	Pension		Other Benefi	ts	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	
Noncurrent asset	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	\$152,290	\$—	
Current liability	(9,508	) (10,860	) —		
Noncurrent liability	(453,736	) (371,549	) —	(142,079	)
Net amount recognized	\$(463,244	) \$(382,409	) \$152,290	\$(142,079	)

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The following table shows the details related to accumulated other comprehensive loss as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

	Pension		Other Benefits			
	2014	2013	2014	2013		
Net actuarial loss	\$577,976	\$344,540	\$148,006	\$57,816		
Prior service cost (credit)	1,203	2,072	(379,269	) (296	)	
APS's portion recorded as a regulatory (asset)	(485,037	) (265,107	230,916	(49,298	`	
liability	(465,057	) (203,107	230,910	(49,290	,	
Income tax expense (benefit)	(36,890	) (32,204	851	(2,528	)	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	\$57,252	\$49,301	\$504	\$5,694		

The following table shows the estimated amounts that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive loss and regulatory assets into net periodic benefit cost in 2015 (dollars in thousands):

	Pension	Other Benefits	
Net actuarial loss	\$28,180	\$5,651	
Prior service cost (credit)	595	(37,968	)
Total amounts estimated to be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive loss (gain) and regulatory assets (liabilities) in 2014	\$28,775	\$(32,317	)

The following table shows the weighted-average assumptions used for both the pension and other benefits to determine benefit obligations and net periodic benefit costs:

	Benefit Obligations		ations		Benefit Co	Benefit Costs					
	As of Dec	emł	per 31,		For the Ye	ears Ended De	December 31,				
	2014		2013		2014			2013		2012	
					January -	October -					
					September	December					
Discount rate – pension	4.02	%	4.88	%	4.88	%4.88	%	4.01	%	4.42	%
Discount rate – other benefits	4.14	%	5.10	%	5.10	%4.41	%	4.20	%	4.59	%
Rate of compensation increase	4.00	%	4.00	%	4.00	%4.00	%	4.00	%	4.00	%
Expected long-term return on	N/A		N/A		6.90	%6.90	%	7.00	%	7.75	%
plan assets - pension						,,,,,,,	, -	, , , ,	, -		,-
Expected long-term return on	N/A		N/A		6.80	%4.25	%	7.00	%	7.75	%
plan assets - other benefits											
Initial healthcare cost trend rate (pre-65 participants)	7.00	%	7.50	%	7.50	%7.50	%	7.50	%	7.50	%
Initial healthcare cost trend rate											
(post-65 participants)	5.00	%	7.50	%	7.50	%5.00	%	7.50	%	7.50	%
Ultimate healthcare cost trend	5.00	0%	5.00	0%	5.00	%5.00	0%	5.00	0%	5.00	%
rate	5.00	70	3.00	70	3.00	70 3.00	70	5.00	70	3.00	70
Number of years to ultimate	4		4		4	4		4		4	
trend rate (pre-65 participants)	•		•		•	•		•		•	
Number of years to ultimate	0		4		4	0		4		4	
trend rate (post-65 participants)											

In selecting the pretax expected long-term rate of return on plan assets, we consider past performance and economic forecasts for the types of investments held by the plan. For 2015, we are assuming a 6.90% long-term rate of return for pension assets and 4.74% (before tax) for other benefit assets, which we believe is reasonable given our asset allocation in relation to historical and expected performance.

In October 2014, the Society of Actuaries' Retirement Plans Experience Committee issued its final reports on its recommended mortality basis ("RP-2014 Mortality Tables Report" and "Mortality Improvement

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Scale MP-2014 Report"). At December 31, 2014, we updated our mortality assumptions using the recommended basis with modifications to better reflect our plan experience and additional data regarding mortality trends. The updated mortality assumptions resulted in a \$67 million increase in Pinnacle West's pension and other postretirement obligations, which was offset by the related regulatory asset, regulatory liability and accumulated other comprehensive income.

In selecting our healthcare trend rates, we consider past performance and forecasts of healthcare costs. A one percentage point change in the assumed initial and ultimate healthcare cost trend rates would have the following effects (dollars in millions):

	1% increase	1% Decreas	e
Effect on other postretirement benefits expense, after consideration of amounts capitalized or billed to electric plant participants	\$10	\$(4	)
Effect on service and interest cost components of net periodic other postretirement benefit costs	12	(9	)
Effect on the accumulated other postretirement benefit obligation	110	(88)	)

1% Increase

1% Dacrasca

#### Plan Assets

The Board of Directors has delegated oversight of the pension and other postretirement benefit plans' assets to an Investment Management Committee ("Committee"). The Committee has adopted investment policy statements ("IPS") for the pension and the other postretirement benefit plans' assets. The investment strategies for these plans include external management of plan assets, and prohibition of investments in Pinnacle West securities.

The overall strategy of the pension plan's IPS is to achieve an adequate level of trust assets relative to the benefit obligations. To achieve this objective, the plan's investment policy provides for mixes of investments including long-term fixed income assets and return-generating assets. The target allocation between return-generating and long-term fixed income assets is defined in the IPS and is a function of the plan's funded status. The plan's funded status is reviewed on at least a monthly basis.

Long-term fixed income assets, also known as liability-hedging assets, are designed to offset changes in the benefit obligations due to changes in interest rates. Long-term fixed income assets consist primarily of fixed income debt securities issued by the U.S. Treasury, other government agencies, and corporations. Long-term fixed income assets may also include interest rate swaps, U.S. Treasury futures and other instruments.

Return-generating assets are intended to provide a reasonable long-term rate of investment return with a prudent level of volatility. Return-generating assets are composed of U.S. equities, international equities, and alternative investments. International equities include investments in both developed and emerging markets. Alternative investments include investments in real estate, private equity and various other strategies. The plan may hold investments in return-generating assets by holding securities in partnerships and common and collective trusts.

Based on the IPS, and given the pension plan's funded status at year-end 2014, the long-term fixed income assets had a target allocation of 58% with a permissible range of 55% to 61% and the return-generating assets had a target allocation of 42% with a permissible range of 39% to 45%. The return-generating assets have additional target allocations, as a percent of total plan assets, of 22% equities in U.S. and other developed markets, 6% equities in emerging markets, and 14% in alternative investments. The pension plan IPS does not provide for a specific mix of

long-term fixed income assets, but does expect the average credit quality of such

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assets to be investment grade. As of December 31, 2014, long-term fixed income assets represented 61% of total pension plan assets, and return-generating assets represented 39% of total pension plan assets.

As of December 31, 2014, the asset allocation for other postretirement benefit plan assets is governed by the IPS for those plans, which provides for different asset allocation target mixes depending on the characteristics of the liability. Some of these asset allocation target mixes vary with the plan's funded status. As of December 31, 2014, investment in fixed income assets represented 43% of the other postretirement benefit plan total assets, and non-fixed income assets represented 57% of the other postretirement benefit plan's assets. Fixed income assets are primarily invested in corporate bonds of investment-grade U.S. issuers, and U.S. Treasuries. Non-fixed income assets are primarily invested in large cap U.S. equities in diverse industries, and international equities in both emerging and developed markets.

See Note 13 for a discussion on the fair value hierarchy and how fair value methodologies are applied. The plans invest directly in fixed income and equity securities, in addition to investing indirectly in fixed income securities, equity securities and real estate through the use of partnerships and common and collective trusts. Equity securities held directly by the plans are valued using quoted active market prices from the published exchange on which the equity security trades, and are classified as Level 1. Fixed income securities issued by the U.S. Treasury held directly by the plans are valued using quoted active market prices, and are classified as Level 1. Fixed income securities issued by corporations, municipalities, and other agencies are primarily valued using quoted inactive market prices, or quoted active market prices for similar securities, or by utilizing calculations which incorporate observable inputs such as yield, maturity and credit quality. These instruments are classified as Level 2.

The common and collective trusts, which are similar to mutual funds, are maintained by banks or investment companies and hold certain investments in accordance with a stated set of objectives (such as tracking the performance of the S&P 500 Index). Common and collective trusts are valued using the concept of net asset value ("NAV"), which is a value derived from the quoted active market prices of the underlying securities. The plans' common and collective real estate trust is valued using NAV, which is derived from the appraised values of the trust's underlying real estate assets. As of December 31, 2014, the plans were able to transact in the common and collective trusts at NAV and accordingly classify these investments as Level 2. Because the trust's shares are offered to a limited group of investors, they are not considered to be traded in an active market.

Investments in partnerships are also valued using the concept of NAV, which is derived from the value of the partnerships' underlying assets. The plan's partnerships holdings relate to investments in high-yield fixed income instruments and assets of privately held portfolio companies. Partnerships are classified as Level 2 if the plan is able to transact in the partnership at the NAV. At December 31, 2014, certain partnerships have been classified as Level 3 due to restrictions that limit the plan's ability to transact in these partnerships at the NAV. Certain partnerships also include funding commitments that may require the plan to contribute up to \$75 million to these partnerships; as of December 31, 2014, \$30 million of these commitments have been funded.

The plans' trustee provides valuation of our plan assets by using pricing services that utilize methodologies described to determine fair market value. We have internal control procedures to ensure this information is consistent with fair value accounting guidance. These procedures include assessing valuations using an independent pricing source, verifying that pricing can be supported by actual recent market transactions, assessing hierarchy classifications, comparing investment returns with benchmarks, and obtaining and reviewing independent audit reports on the trustee's internal operating controls and valuation processes.

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The fair value of Pinnacle West's pension plan and other postretirement benefit plan assets at December 31, 2014, by asset category, are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Other (b)	Balance at December 31, 2014
Pension Plan:					
Assets:	<b>4.207</b>	ф	Ф	ф	Φ207
Cash and cash equivalents	\$387	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	\$387
Fixed Income Securities:		1 162 006			1 162 006
Corporate		1,162,096			1,162,096
U.S. Treasury	291,817	112 265	_	_	291,817
Other (a)	_	113,265	_	_	113,265
Equities:	246 297				246 297
U.S. Companies	246,387	_	_	_	246,387
International Companies Common and collective trusts:	18,069	_	_	<del></del>	18,069
		107 226			107 226
U.S. Equities	<del>_</del>	127,336 317,167	_	_	127,336 317,167
International Equities Real estate	<del>_</del>	129,715	_	_	129,715
Partnerships	<del>_</del>	138,337	<del></del>	_	166,266
Short-term investments and other	<del></del>	26,016	21,929	16,883	42,899
Total Pension Plan	 \$556,660	\$2,013,932	<del></del>	\$16,883	\$2,615,404
Other Benefits:	\$330,000	\$2,013,932	\$21,929	\$10,003	\$2,013,404
Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$318	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	\$318
Fixed Income Securities:	φ <i>3</i> 10	φ—	φ—	φ—	Φ310
Corporate		187,961			187,961
U.S. Treasury	130,967	107,701			130,967
Other (a)	130,707	35,291	_		35,291
Equities:		33,271			33,271
U.S. Companies	265,106	_		_	265,106
International Companies	17,813			_	17,813
Common and collective trusts:	17,013				17,013
U.S. Equities		88,258		_	88,258
International Equities		85,746		_	85,746
Real Estate		11,657		_	11,657
Short-term investments and other		7,408		4,100	11,508
Total Other Benefits	\$414,204	\$416,321	<b>\$</b> —	\$4,100	\$834,625
	+ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	÷ .10,021	т	+ .,	· · · · · · · · ·

<sup>(</sup>a) This category consists primarily of debt securities issued by municipalities.

<sup>(</sup>b) Represents plan receivables and payables.

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The fair value of Pinnacle West's pension plan and other postretirement benefit plan assets at December 31, 2013, by asset category, are as follows (dollars in thousands):

asset category, are as rone as (aon	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Other (b)	Balance at December 31, 2013
Pension Plan:					
Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents Fixed Income Securities:	\$504	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	<b>\$</b> —	\$504
Corporate	_	898,621	_		898,621
U.S. Treasury	231,590		_	_	231,590
Other (a)	_	84,011	_	_	84,011
Equities:					
U.S. Companies	239,036		_	_	239,036
International Companies	19,429	_		_	19,429
Common and collective trusts:					
U.S. Equities	_	116,150	_		116,150
International Equities	_	367,551	_		367,551
Fixed Income	_	137,520	_		137,520
Real estate	_	119,739	_	_	119,739
Partnerships	_		8,660	_	8,660
Short-term investments and other	_	41,060	_	250	41,310
Total Pension Plan	\$490,559	\$1,764,652	\$8,660	\$250	\$2,264,121
Other Benefits:					
Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents					
Fixed Income Securities:					
Corporate	\$—	\$153,888	\$	\$—	\$153,888
U.S. Treasury	98,704				98,704
Other (a)	_	27,936	_		27,936
Equities:					
U.S. Companies	252,181		_	_	252,181
International Companies	20,892		_	_	20,892
Common and collective trusts:					
U.S. Equities	_	80,751	_	_	80,751
International Equities	_	92,382	_	_	92,382
Real Estate	_	10,761	_	_	10,761
Short-term investments and other		8,414		2,430	10,844
Total Other Benefits	\$371,777	\$374,132	<b>\$</b> —	\$2,430	\$748,339

<sup>(</sup>a) This category consists primarily of debt securities issued by municipalities.

<sup>(</sup>b) Represents plan receivables and payables.

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The following table shows the changes in fair value for assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in thousands):

Pension		
2014	2013	
\$8,660	\$2,419	
927	(498	)
19,984	7,377	
(1,642	) (638	)
<del></del>		
\$27,929	\$8,660	
	2014 \$8,660 927 19,984 (1,642	2014 2013 \$8,660 \$2,419 927 (498 19,984 7,377 (1,642 ) (638

#### Contributions

Future year contribution amounts are dependent on plan asset performance and plan actuarial assumptions. We made contributions to our pension plan totaling \$175 million in 2014, \$141 million in 2013, and \$65 million in 2012. The minimum contributions for the pension plan are zero for the next three years. We expect to make voluntary contributions totaling up to \$300 million for the next three years (up to \$100 million each year in 2015, 2016, and 2017). With regard to contributions to our other postretirement benefit plans, we made a contribution of \$1 million in 2014, \$14 million in 2013, and \$23 million in 2012. We expect to make contributions of approximately \$1 million in each of the next three years to our other postretirement benefit plans. APS funds its share of the contributions. APS's share of the pension plan contribution was \$175 million in 2014, \$140 million in 2013, and \$64 million in 2012. APS's share of the contributions to the other postretirement benefit plan was \$1 million in 2014, \$14 million in 2013, and \$22 million in 2012.

#### **Estimated Future Benefit Payments**

Benefit payments, which reflect estimated future employee service, for the next five years and the succeeding five years thereafter, are estimated to be as follows (dollars in thousands):

Year	Pension	Other Benefits
2015	\$139,013	\$ 25,134
2016	155,968	27,311
2017	160,080	29,253
2018	167,600	31,258
2019	177,470	33,190
Years 2020-2024	983,557	184,772

Electric plant participants contribute to the above amounts in accordance with their respective participation agreements.

#### **Employee Savings Plan Benefits**

Pinnacle West sponsors a defined contribution savings plan for eligible employees of Pinnacle West and its subsidiaries. In 2014, costs related to APS's employees represented 99% of the total cost of this plan. In a defined contribution savings plan, the benefits a participant receives result from regular contributions participants make to their own individual account, the Company's matching contributions and earnings or losses on their investments.

Under this plan, the Company matches a percentage of the participants' contributions in cash which is then invested in the same investment mix as participants elect to invest their own

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future contributions. Pinnacle West recorded expenses for this plan of approximately \$9 million for 2014, \$9 million for 2013, and \$8 million for 2012.

#### 8. Leases

We lease certain vehicles, land, buildings, equipment and miscellaneous other items through operating rental agreements with varying terms, provisions and expiration dates.

Total lease expense recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income was \$18 million in 2014, \$18 million in 2013, and \$19 million in 2012. APS's lease expense was \$15 million in 2014, \$15 million in 2013, and \$16 million in 2012.

Estimated future minimum lease payments for Pinnacle West's and APS's operating leases, excluding purchased power agreements, are approximately as follows (dollars in millions):

Year	Pinnacle West Consolidated	APS
2015	\$ 18	\$15
2016	6	6
2017	5	5
2018	4	4
2019	3	3
Thereafter	63	62
Total future lease commitments	\$ 99	\$95

In 1986, APS entered into agreements with three separate lessor trust entities in order to sell and lease back interests in Palo Verde Unit 2 and related common facilities. These lessor trust entities have been deemed VIEs for which APS is the primary beneficiary. As the primary beneficiary, APS consolidated these lessor trust entities. The impacts of these sale leaseback transactions are excluded from our lease disclosures as lease accounting is eliminated upon consolidation. See Note 18 for a discussion of VIEs.

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# 9. Jointly-Owned Facilities

APS shares ownership of some of its generating and transmission facilities with other companies. We are responsible for our share of operating costs, as well as for providing our own financing. Our share of operating expenses and utility plant costs related to these facilities is accounted for using proportional consolidation. The following table shows APS's interests in those jointly-owned facilities recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2014 (dollars in thousands):

	Percent Owned			Plant in Service	Accumulated Depreciation	Construction Work in Progress
Generating facilities:						
Palo Verde Units 1 and 3	29.1	%		\$1,734,918	\$1,051,670	\$16,955
Palo Verde Unit 2 (a)	16.8	%		556,472	349,960	13,710
Palo Verde Common	28.0	% (ł	b)	612,190	224,208	68,896
Palo Verde Sale Leaseback		(8	a)	351,050	229,795	_
Four Corners Generating Station	63.0	%		811,648	578,772	33,150
Navajo Generating Station Units 1, 2 and 3	14.0	%		272,208	159,198	2,716
Cholla common facilities (c)	63.3	% (t	b)	155,856	49,954	866
Transmission facilities:						
ANPP 500kV System	33.6	% (	(b)	106,369	35,035	3,731
Navajo Southern System	22.5	% (t	b)	59,994	18,119	1,113
Palo Verde — Yuma 500kV System	18.2	% (t	b)	12,925	4,943	12
Four Corners Switchyards	47.5	% (	(b)	33,034	10,035	386
Phoenix — Mead System	17.1	% (t	b)	39,777	12,843	105
Palo Verde — Estrella 500kV System	50.0	% (t	b)	89,572	16,491	736
Morgan — Pinnacle Peak System	64.4	% (	(b)	130,840	8,970	1,690
Round Valley System	50.0	% (t	b)	497	276	1
Palo Verde — Morgan System	90.0	% (t	b)	_	_	69,377
Hassayampa - North Gila System	80.0	% (ł	b)	8,902	3,634	142,645

<sup>(</sup>a) See Note 18.

# 10. Commitments and Contingencies

Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

Spent Nuclear Fuel and Waste Disposal

On December 19, 2012, APS, acting on behalf of itself and the participant owners of Palo Verde, filed a breach of contract lawsuit against the DOE in the United States Court of Federal Claims. The lawsuit seeks to recover damages incurred due to DOE's breach of the Standard Contract for failing to accept Palo Verde spent nuclear fuel and high level waste from January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2011, as it was required to do pursuant to the terms of the Standard Contract and the NWPA. On August 18, 2014, APS and DOE entered into a settlement agreement, stipulating to a dismissal of the lawsuit and payment of \$57.4 million by DOE to the Palo Verde owners for certain specified costs

<sup>(</sup>b) Weighted-average of interests.

<sup>(</sup>c) PacifiCorp owns Cholla Unit 4 and APS operates the unit for PacifiCorp. The common facilities at Cholla are jointly-owned.

incurred by Palo Verde during the period January 1, 2007

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through June 30, 2011. APS's share of this amount is \$16.7 million. Amounts recovered in the lawsuit and settlement were recorded as adjustments to a regulatory liability and had no impact on current income. In addition, the settlement agreement provides APS with a method for submitting claims and getting recovery for costs incurred through 2016.

#### **Nuclear Insurance**

Public liability for incidents at nuclear power plants is governed by the Price-Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act ("Price-Anderson Act"), which limits the liability of nuclear reactor owners to the amount of insurance available from both commercial sources and an industry retrospective payment plan. In accordance with the Price-Anderson Act, the Palo Verde participants are insured against public liability for a nuclear incident up to \$13.6 billion per occurrence. Palo Verde maintains the maximum available nuclear liability insurance in the amount of \$375 million, which is provided by commercial insurance carriers. The remaining balance of \$13.2 billion of liability coverage is provided through a mandatory industry-wide retrospective assessment program. If losses at any nuclear power plant covered by the program exceed the accumulated funds, APS could be assessed retrospective premium adjustments. The maximum retrospective premium assessment per reactor under the program for each nuclear liability incident is approximately \$127.3 million, subject to an annual limit of \$19 million per incident, to be periodically adjusted for inflation. Based on APS's ownership interest in the three Palo Verde units, APS's maximum potential retrospective premium assessment per incident for all three units is approximately \$111 million, with a maximum annual retrospective premium assessment of approximately \$16.5 million.

The Palo Verde participants maintain "all risk" (including nuclear hazards) insurance for property damage to, and decontamination of, property at Palo Verde in the aggregate amount of \$2.75 billion, a substantial portion of which must first be applied to stabilization and decontamination. APS has also secured insurance against portions of any increased cost of replacement generation or purchased power and business interruption resulting from a sudden and unforeseen accidental outage of any of the three units. The property damage, decontamination, and replacement power coverages are provided by Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited ("NEIL"). APS is subject to retrospective premium assessments under all NEIL policies if NEIL's losses in any policy year exceed accumulated funds. The maximum amount APS could incur under the current NEIL policies totals approximately \$20 million for each retrospective premium assessment declared by NEIL's Board of Directors due to losses. In addition, NEIL policies contain rating triggers that would result in APS providing approximately \$53 million of collateral assurance within 20 business days of a rating downgrade to non-investment grade. The insurance coverage discussed in this and the previous paragraph is subject to certain policy conditions, sublimits and exclusions.

### Fuel and Purchased Power Commitments and Purchase Obligations

APS is party to purchase obligations and various fuel and purchased power contracts with terms expiring between 2015 and 2043 that include required purchase provisions. APS estimates the contract requirements to be approximately \$723 million in 2015; \$747 million in 2016; \$630 million in 2017; \$610 million in 2018; \$583 million in 2019; and \$8.2 billion thereafter. However, these amounts may vary significantly pursuant to certain provisions in such contracts that permit us to decrease required purchases under certain circumstances.

Of the various fuel and purchased power contracts mentioned above, some of those contracts for coal supply include take-or-pay provisions. The current coal contracts with take-or-pay provisions have terms expiring through 2031.

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The following table summarizes our estimated coal take-or-pay commitments (dollars in millions):

	Years En	ded December	r 31,			
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Thereafter
Coal take-or-pay commitments (a)	\$151	\$171	\$195	\$190	\$194	\$2,469

Total take-or-pay commitments are approximately \$3.4 billion. The total net present value of these commitments is approximately \$2.2 billion.

APS may spend more to meet its actual fuel requirements than the minimum purchase obligations in our coal take-or-pay contracts. The following table summarizes actual payments under the coal contracts which include take-or-pay provisions for each of the last three years (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended	Year Ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	2012		
Total payments	\$237	\$188	\$196		

#### Renewable Energy Credits

APS has entered into contracts to purchase renewable energy credits to comply with the RES. APS estimates the contract requirements to be approximately \$46 million in 2015; \$42 million in 2016; \$42 million in 2017; \$42 million in 2018; \$42 million in 2019; and \$448 million thereafter. These amounts do not include purchases of renewable energy credits that are bundled with energy. Also, these amounts do not include purchases of renewable energy credits that are associated with purchased power contracts.

#### Coal Mine Reclamation Obligations

APS must reimburse certain coal providers for amounts incurred for final and contemporaneous coal mine reclamation. We account for contemporaneous reclamation costs as part of the cost of the delivered coal. We utilize site-specific studies of costs expected to be incurred in the future to estimate our final reclamation obligation. These studies utilize various assumptions to estimate the future costs. Based on the most recent reclamation studies, APS recorded an obligation for the coal mine final reclamation of approximately \$198 million at December 31, 2014 and \$207 million at December 31, 2013. Under our current coal supply agreements, we expect to make payments to certain coal providers for the final mine reclamation as follows: \$1 million in 2015; \$15 million in 2016; \$17 million in 2017; \$18 million in 2018; \$19 million in 2019; and \$281 million thereafter. Any amendments to current coal supply agreements may change the timing of the reimbursement.

#### Superfund-Related Matters

Superfund establishes liability for the cleanup of hazardous substances found contaminating the soil, water or air. Those who generated, transported or disposed of hazardous substances at a contaminated site are among those who are PRPs. PRPs may be strictly, and often are jointly and severally, liable for clean-up. On September 3, 2003, EPA advised APS that EPA considers APS to be a PRP in the Motorola 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Superfund Site, OU3 in Phoenix, Arizona. APS has facilities that are within this Superfund site. APS and Pinnacle West have agreed with EPA to

perform certain investigative activities of the APS facilities within OU3. In addition, on September 23, 2009, APS agreed with EPA and one other PRP to voluntarily assist with the funding and management of the site-wide groundwater remedial investigation and feasibility study work

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plan. We estimate that our costs related to this investigation and study will be approximately \$2 million. We anticipate incurring additional expenditures in the future, but because the overall investigation is not complete and ultimate remediation requirements are not yet finalized, at the present time expenditures related to this matter cannot be reasonably estimated.

On August 6, 2013, RID filed a lawsuit in Arizona District Court against APS and 24 other defendants, alleging that RID's groundwater wells were contaminated by the release of hazardous substances from facilities owned or operated by the defendants. The lawsuit also alleges that, under Superfund laws, the defendants are jointly and severally liable to RID. The allegations against APS arise out of APS's current and former ownership of facilities in and around OU3. We are unable to predict the outcome of this matter; however, we do not expect the outcome to have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

#### Southwest Power Outage

Regulatory. On September 8, 2011 at approximately 3:30 PM, a 500 kV transmission line running between the Hassayampa and North Gila substations in southwestern Arizona tripped out of service due to a fault that occurred at a switchyard operated by APS. Approximately ten minutes after the transmission line went off-line, generation and transmission resources for the Yuma area were lost, resulting in approximately 69,700 APS customers losing service.

Within the same time period that APS's Yuma customers lost service, a series of transmission and generation disruptions occurred across the systems of several utilities that resulted in outages affecting portions of southern Arizona, southern California and northern Mexico. A total of approximately 7,900 MW of firm load and 2.7 million customers were reported to have been affected. Service to all affected APS customers was restored by 9:15 PM on September 8. Service to customers affected by the wider regional outages was restored by approximately 3:25 AM on September 9.

FERC and NERC conducted a joint inquiry into the outages and, on May 1, 2012, they issued a report (the "Joint Report") with their analysis and conclusions as to the causes of the events. The report included recommendations to help industry operators prevent similar outages in the future, including increased data sharing and coordination among the western utilities and entities responsible for bulk electric system reliability coordination. The Joint Report did not address potential reliability violations or an assessment of responsibility of the parties involved.

On January 22, 2014, following non-public preliminary investigations, FERC Staff issued a Notice of Alleged Violations naming six entities involved in the event, including APS. FERC Staff alleged that each of the named entities violated varying numbers of NERC Reliability Standards. APS was alleged to have violated seven Reliability Standard Requirements. The allegations of violations were preliminary determinations by FERC Staff and did not constitute findings by FERC itself that any violations had occurred.

On July 7, 2014, FERC approved a Stipulation and Consent Agreement among FERC's Office of Enforcement, NERC and APS which resolves all civil and administrative disputes within the jurisdiction of FERC concerning the September 8 event, including FERC's and NERC's investigations. In the settlement, APS neither admitted nor denied alleged violations of four Reliability Standard Requirements. APS agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$3.25 million, of which \$2 million is to be paid in equal parts to the Department of the Treasury and NERC and \$1.25 million will be credited as a partial civil penalty offset in exchange for APS completing certain reliability enhancements.

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Litigation. On September 6, 2013, a purported consumer class action complaint was filed in Federal District Court in San Diego, California, naming APS and Pinnacle West as defendants and seeking damages for loss of perishable inventory and sales as a result of interruption of electrical service. APS and Pinnacle West filed a motion to dismiss, which the court granted on December 9, 2013. On January 13, 2014, the plaintiffs appealed the lower court's decision. The appeal is now fully briefed and pending before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. We are unable to predict the outcome of this matter.

#### Clean Air Act Citizen Lawsuit

On October 4, 2011, Earthjustice, on behalf of several environmental organizations, filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico against APS and the other Four Corners participants alleging violations of the NSR provisions of the Clean Air Act. Subsequent to filing its original Complaint, on January 6, 2012, Earthjustice filed a First Amended Complaint adding claims for violations of the Clean Air Act's NSPS program. Among other things, the environmental plaintiffs seek to have the court enjoin operations at Four Corners until APS applies for and obtains any required NSR permits and complies with the NSPS. The plaintiffs further request the court to order the payment of civil penalties, including a beneficial mitigation project. On April 2, 2012, APS and the other Four Corners participants filed motions to dismiss. The case is being held in abeyance while the parties seek to negotiate a settlement. On March 30, 2013, upon joint motion of the parties, the court issued an order deeming the motions to dismiss withdrawn without prejudice during pendency of the stay. At such time as the stay is lifted, APS and the other Four Corners participants may reinstate their motions to dismiss. We are unable to predict the outcome of this matter.

#### **Environmental Matters**

APS is subject to numerous environmental laws and regulations affecting many aspects of its present and future operations, including air emissions, water quality, wastewater discharges, solid waste, hazardous waste, and CCRs. These laws and regulations can change from time to time, imposing new obligations on APS resulting in increased capital, operating, and other costs. Associated capital expenditures or operating costs could be material. APS intends to seek recovery of any such environmental compliance costs through our rates, but cannot predict whether it will obtain such recovery. The following proposed and final rules involve material compliance costs to APS.

Regional Haze Rules. APS has received the final rulemaking imposing new requirements on Four Corners, Cholla and the Navajo Plant. EPA and ADEQ will require these plants to install pollution control equipment that constitutes the BART to lessen the impacts of emissions on visibility surrounding the plants. Based on EPA's final standards, APS estimates that its 63% share of the cost of these controls for Four Corners Units 4 and 5 would be at least \$350 million. In addition, APS and El Paso entered into an asset purchase agreement providing for the purchase by APS, or an affiliate of APS, of El Paso's 7% interest in Four Corners Units 4 and 5, which would increase our share of the cost of these controls by approximately \$40 million. APS estimates that its share of costs for upgrades at the Navajo Plant, based on EPA's FIP proposal, could be up to approximately \$200 million. In October 2014, a coalition of environmental groups, an Indian tribe and others filed petitions for review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit asking the Court to review EPA's final BART rule for the Navajo Plant. We cannot predict the outcome of this review process. As described under "Regional Haze Rules - Cholla" below, APS filed a Petition for Review of EPA's rule as it applies to Cholla, which, if not successful, would require installation of SCR controls with a cost to APS of approximately \$200 million. However, in September 2014, APS met with EPA to propose a

compromise BART strategy wherein, pending certain regulatory approvals, APS would permanently close Cholla Unit 2 by

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April 2016 and cease burning coal at Units 1 and 3 by the mid-2020s. (See Note 3 for details related to the resulting regulatory asset.) APS made the proposal with the understanding that additional emission control equipment is unlikely to be required in the future because retiring and converting the units as contemplated in the proposal is more cost effective than, and will result in increased visibility improvement over, the current BART requirements for NOx imposed on the Cholla units under EPA's BART FIP. Because APS's proposal involves state and federal rule-making processes, APS is unable to predict when or whether it may ultimately be approved.

Mercury and Air Toxic Standards. In 2011, EPA issued rules establishing maximum achievable control technology standards to regulate emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants from fossil-fired plants. APS estimates that the cost for the remaining equipment necessary to meet these standards is approximately \$130 million for Cholla, which would be avoided if EPA approves APS's compromise proposal discussed above. No additional equipment is needed for Four Corners Units 4 and 5 to comply with these rules. SRP, the operating agent for the Navajo Plant, is still evaluating compliance options under the rules.

Coal Combustion Waste. On December 19, 2014, EPA issued its final regulations governing the handling and disposal of CCR, such as fly ash and bottom ash. The rule regulates CCR as a non-hazardous waste under Subtitle D of RCRA and establishes national minimum criteria for existing and new CCR landfills and surface impoundments and all lateral expansions consisting of location restrictions, design and operating criteria, groundwater monitoring and corrective action, closure requirements and post closure care, and recordkeeping, notification, and Internet posting requirements. The rule generally requires any existing unlined CCR surface impoundment that is contaminating groundwater above a regulated constituent's groundwater protection standard to stop receiving CCR and either retrofit or close, and further requires the closure of any CCR landfill or surface impoundment that cannot meet the applicable performance criteria for location restrictions or structural integrity.

Because the Subtitle D rule is self-implementing, the CCR standards apply directly to the regulated facility, and facilities are directly responsible for ensuring that their operations comply with the rule's requirements. While EPA has chosen to regulate the disposal of CCR in landfills and surface impoundments as non-hazardous waste under the final rule, the agency makes clear that it will continue to evaluate any risks associated with CCR disposal and leaves open the possibility that it may regulate CCR as a hazardous waste under RCRA Subtitle C in the future.

APS currently disposes of CCR in ash ponds and dry storage areas at Cholla and Four Corners. APS estimates that its share of incremental costs to comply with the CCR rule for Four Corners is approximately \$15 million, and its share of incremental costs for Cholla is approximately \$85 million. The Navajo Plant currently disposes of CCR in a dry landfill storage area. At this time, SRP, the operating agent for the Navajo Plant, is analyzing the operations that would be covered by the rule and any resulting compliance costs.

Other future environmental rules that could involve material compliance costs include those related to effluent limitations, the ozone national ambient air quality standard, GHG emissions (such as the EPA's proposed "Clean Power Plan" rule issued in accordance with President Obama's Climate Action Plan), and other rules or matters involving the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, ESA, the Navajo Nation, and water supplies for our power plants. The financial impact of complying with these and other future environmental rules could jeopardize the economic viability of our coal plants or the willingness or ability of power plant participants to fund any required equipment upgrades or continue their participation in these plants. The economics of continuing to own certain resources, particularly our coal plants, may deteriorate, warranting early retirement of those plants, which may result in asset impairments. APS would seek recovery in rates for

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the book value of any remaining investments in the plants as well as other costs related to early retirement, but cannot predict whether it would obtain such recovery.

#### Regional Haze Rules — Cholla

APS believes that EPA's final rule as it applies to Cholla is unsupported and that EPA had no basis for disapproving Arizona's SIP and promulgating a FIP that is inconsistent with the state's considered BART determinations under the regional haze program. Accordingly, on February 1, 2013, APS filed a Petition for Review of the final BART rule in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Briefing in the case was completed in February 2014; the court scheduled oral argument for March 9, 2015.

#### New Mexico Tax Matter

On May 23, 2013, the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department issued a notice of assessment for coal severance surtax, penalty, and interest totaling approximately \$30 million related to coal supplied under the coal supply agreement for Four Corners (the "Assessment"). APS's share of the Assessment is approximately \$12 million. For procedural reasons, on behalf of the Four Corners co-owners, including APS, the coal supplier made a partial payment of the Assessment and immediately filed a refund claim with respect to that partial payment in August 2013. The New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department denied the refund claim. On December 19, 2013, the coal supplier and APS, on its own behalf and as operating agent for Four Corners, filed a complaint with the New Mexico District Court contesting both the validity of the Assessment and the refund claim denial. We cannot predict the timing or outcome of this litigation; however, we do not expect the outcome to have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

#### Financial Assurances

APS has entered into various agreements that require letters of credit for financial assurance purposes. At December 31, 2014, approximately \$109 million of letters of credit were outstanding to support existing pollution control bonds of a similar amount. The letters of credit are available to fund the payment of principal and interest of such debt obligations. These letters of credit will expire in 2015, 2016, and 2017. APS has also entered into letters of credit to support certain equity participants in the Palo Verde sale leaseback transactions (see Note 18 for further details on the Palo Verde sale leaseback transactions). These letters of credit will expire on December 31, 2015, and totaled approximately \$23 million at December 31, 2014. Additionally, APS has issued letters of credit to support collateral obligations under a natural gas tolling contract entered into with a third party. At December 31, 2014, that letter of credit totaled \$5 million and will expire in 2015.

We enter into agreements that include indemnification provisions relating to liabilities arising from or related to certain of our agreements. Most significantly, APS has agreed to indemnify the equity participants and other parties in the Palo Verde sale leaseback transactions with respect to certain tax matters. Generally, a maximum obligation is not explicitly stated in the indemnification provisions and, therefore, the overall maximum amount of the obligation under such indemnification provisions cannot be reasonably estimated. Based on historical experience and evaluation of the specific indemnities, we do not believe that any material loss related to such indemnification provisions is likely.

Pinnacle West has issued parental guarantees and has provided indemnification under certain surety bonds for APS which were not material at December 31, 2014.

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#### 11. Asset Retirement Obligations

APS has asset retirement obligations for its Palo Verde nuclear facilities and certain other generation, transmission and distribution assets.

The Palo Verde asset retirement obligation primarily relates to final plant decommissioning. This obligation is based on the NRC's requirements for disposal of radiated property or plant and agreements APS reached with the ACC for final decommissioning of the plant. The non-nuclear generation asset retirement obligations primarily relate to requirements for removing portions of those plants at the end of the plant life or lease term and coal ash pond closures. Some of APS's transmission and distribution assets have asset retirement obligations because they are subject to right of way and easement agreements that require final removal. These agreements have a history of uninterrupted renewal that APS expects to continue. As a result, APS cannot reasonably estimate the fair value of the asset retirement obligation related to such transmission and distribution assets. Additionally, APS has aquifer protection permits for some of its generation sites that require the closure of certain facilities at those sites.

In 2014, an update to the 2013 decommissioning study was completed for Palo Verde nuclear generation facility to incorporate additional spent fuel related charges resulting in an increase to the ARO in the amount of \$20 million. Also in 2014, an updated Four Corners Units 1-3 coal-fired power plant decommissioning study was finalized, which resulted in an increase to the ARO of \$24 million. In addition, Four Corners spent \$30 million in actual decommissioning costs. Finally, in 2014 APS also recognized an ARO related to a new solar facility on leased property that requires the land to be returned to its original condition upon decommissioning of the plant, which resulted in an increase to the ARO of \$6 million.

In 2013, a decommissioning study with updated cash flow estimates was completed for Palo Verde, which resulted in a decrease of \$52 million. Also in 2013, APS finalized the transaction to acquire SCE's interest in Four Corners. As part of that transaction, APS assumed SCE's asset retirement obligation resulting in an increase to the ARO of \$34 million. In addition, on December 30, 2013, APS also retired Four Corners Units 1-3 and began decommissioning activities. Finally, Four Corners spent \$12 million in actual decommissioning costs. An update was made to the timing of the Units 1-3 decommissioning cash flows to coincide with the expected decommissioning activities. This update resulted in a decrease to the ARO of \$4 million.

The following schedule shows the change in our asset retirement obligations for 2014 and 2013 (dollars in millions):

	2014	2013	
Asset retirement obligations at the beginning of year	\$347	\$357	
Changes attributable to:			
Accretion expense	24	24	
Settlements	(30	) (12	)
Assumed SCE's obligation		34	
Estimated cash flow revisions	44	(56	)
Newly incurred obligation	6		
Asset retirement obligations at the end of year	\$391	\$347	

As mentioned above, decommissioning activities for Four Corners Units 1-3 began in January 2014; and, \$32 million of the total ARO at December 31, 2014, was classified as a current liability on the balance sheet. At December 31, 2013, \$33 million of the total ARO of \$347 million was classified as a current liability on the balance sheet.

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In accordance with regulatory accounting, APS accrues removal costs for its regulated utility assets, even if there is no legal obligation for removal. See detail of regulatory liabilities in Note 3.

# 12. Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

Consolidated quarterly financial information for 2014 and 2013 is provided in the tables below (dollars in thousands, except per share amounts). Weather conditions cause significant seasonal fluctuations in our revenues; therefore, results for interim periods do not necessarily represent results expected for the year.

	2014 Quarter	2014			
	March 31,	June 30,	Sept. 30,	Dec. 31,	Total
Operating revenues	\$686,251	\$906,264	\$1,172,667	\$726,450	\$3,491,632
Operations and maintenance	212,882	211,222	223,418	260,503	908,025
Operating income	75,170	254,113	421,775	60,184	811,242
Income taxes	6,405	74,540	134,753	5,007	220,705
Income from continuing operations	24,691	141,384	248,086	9,535	423,696
Net income attributable to common shareholders	15,766	132,458	243,961	5,410	397,595
Earnings Per Share:					
Net income attributable to common shareholders — Basic	\$0.14	\$1.20	\$2.20	\$0.05	\$3.59
Net income attributable to common shareholders — Diluted	0.14	1.19	2.20	0.05	3.58
	2013 Quarter	Ended			2013
	March 31,	June 30,	Sept. 30,	Dec. 31,	Total
Operating revenues	\$686,652	\$915,822	\$1,152,392	\$699,762	\$3,454,628
Operations and maintenance	223,250	229,300	233,323	238,854	924,727
Operating income	86,923	259,812	415,688	83,900	846,323
Income taxes	12,469	77,043	131,912	9,167	230,591
Income from continuing operations	32,836	139,598			