ITC Holdings Corp. Form 10-Q August 01, 2012

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

**ACT OF 1934** 

For the Quarterly Period Ended June 30, 2012

OR

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

o ACT OF 1934

Commission File Number: 001-32576

ITC HOLDINGS CORP.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Michigan

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Organization) 27175 Energy Way Novi, MI 48377

(Address Of Principal Executive Offices, Including Zip Code)

(248) 946-3000

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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

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):

Large accelerated filer b Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o

Smaller Reporting Company o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting

company)

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

The number of shares of the Registrant's Common Stock, without par value, outstanding as of July 27, 2012 was 51,501,942.

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#### **DEFINITIONS**

Unless otherwise noted or the context requires, all references in this report to:

ITC Holdings Corp. and its subsidiaries

- "ITC Great Plains" are references to ITC Great Plains, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Grid Development, LLC;
- "ITC Grid Development" are references to ITC Grid Development, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;
- "Green Power Express" are references to Green Power Express LP, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;
- "ITC Holdings" are references to ITC Holdings Corp. and not any of its subsidiaries;
- "ITC Midwest" are references to ITC Midwest LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;
- "ITCTransmission" are references to International Transmission Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;
- "METC" are references to Michigan Electric Transmission Company, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MTH;
- "MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries" are references to ITCTransmission, METC and ITC Midwest together;
- "MTH" are references to Michigan Transco Holdings, LLC, the sole member of METC and an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;
- "Regulated Operating Subsidiaries" are references to ITCTransmission, METC, ITC Midwest and ITC Great Plains together; and
- "We," "our" and "us" are references to ITC Holdings together with all of its subsidiaries.

Other definitions

- "Consumers Energy" are references to Consumers Energy Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CMS Energy Corporation;
- "Detroit Edison" are references to The Detroit Edison Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of DTE Energy Company;
- "Entergy" are references to Entergy Corporation;
- "FERC" are references to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
- "FPA" are references to the Federal Power Act;
- "IP&L" are references to Interstate Power and Light Company, an Alliant Energy Corporation subsidiary;
- "kV" are references to kilovolts (one kilovolt equaling 1,000 volts);
- "kW" are references to kilowatts (one kilowatt equaling 1,000 watts);
- "MISO" are references to the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc., a FERC-approved RTO which oversees the operation of the bulk power transmission system for a substantial portion of the Midwestern United States and Manitoba, Canada, and of which ITCTransmission, METC and ITC Midwest are members;
- "MPSC" are references to the Michigan Public Service Commission;
- "MW" are references to megawatts (one megawatt equaling 1,000,000 watts);
- "NERC" are references to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation;
- "RTO" are references to Regional Transmission Organizations; and
- "SPP" are references to Southwest Power Pool, Inc., a FERC-approved RTO which oversees the operation of the bulk power transmission system for a substantial portion of the South Central United States, and of which ITC Great Plains is a member.

# PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

# ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ITC HOLDINGS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION	(UNAUDITED)

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (U	NAUDITED)	
· ·	June 30,	December 31,
(in thousands, except share data)	2012	2011
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$38,518	\$58,344
Accounts receivable	110,458	76,895
Inventory	35,045	34,855
Deferred income taxes	21,503	20,636
Regulatory assets — revenue accruals, including accrued interest	6,163	6,639
Prepaid assets	19,327	4,128
Other	37	31
Total current assets	231,051	201,528
Property, plant and equipment (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of	•	
\$1,230,248 and \$1,193,164, respectively)	3,798,197	3,415,823
Other assets		
Goodwill	950,163	950,163
Intangible assets (net of accumulated amortization of \$16,828 and \$15,276,	·	,
respectively)	46,113	46,885
Regulatory assets — revenue accruals, including accrued interest	10,940	5,637
Other regulatory assets	170,320	161,987
Deferred financing fees (net of accumulated amortization of \$16,062 and \$14,594,	•	•
respectively)	20,477	20,989
Other	26,963	20,354
Total other assets	1,224,976	1,206,015
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,254,224	\$4,823,366
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$3,234,224	\$4,623,300
Current liabilities		
	\$128,239	\$136,934
Accounts payable	14,300	•
Accrued payroll Accrued interest	•	18,013
	59,844	43,642
Accrued taxes	30,460	25,627
Regulatory liabilities — revenue deferrals, including accrued interest	49,206	46,579
Refundable deposits from generators for transmission network upgrades	59,363	38,805
Other	14,689	5,867
Total current liabilities	356,101	315,467
Accrued pension and postretirement liabilities	41,689	44,923
Deferred income taxes	416,521	373,268
Regulatory liabilities — revenue deferrals, including accrued interest	36,299	50,917
Regulatory liabilities — accrued asset removal costs	80,607	83,934
Refundable deposits from generators for transmission network upgrades	2,296	14,570
Other	43,501	36,373
Long-term debt	2,963,304	2,645,022
Commitments and contingent liabilities (Note 12)		
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	0.70.00	
	950,383	943,444

Common stock, without par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 51,489,481 and 51,323,368 shares issued and outstanding at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively

Retained earnings	383,015	330,816	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(19,492	) (15,368	)
Total stockholders' equity	1,313,906	1,258,892	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$5,254,224	\$4,823,366	

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

# ITC HOLDINGS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)

	Three months June 30,	s ended	Six months e June 30,	nded
(in thousands, except per share data)	2012	2011	2012	2011
OPERATING REVENUES	\$197,375	\$185,098	\$394,088	\$364,484
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Operation and maintenance	30,058	28,837	58,770	55,121
General and administrative	27,876	19,289	50,885	35,869
Depreciation and amortization	25,976	23,352	50,987	46,440
Taxes other than income taxes	15,185	13,556	29,465	27,164
Other operating (income) and expense — net	(203)	(167)	(396)	(316)
Total operating expenses	98,892	84,867	189,711	164,278
OPERATING INCOME	98,483	100,231	204,377	200,206
OTHER EXPENSES (INCOME)				
Interest expense	40,084	36,484	77,994	72,754
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(4,554)	(4,099 )	(10,178)	(7,609)
Other income	(1,226)	(497)	(1,287)	(718)
Other expense	472	1,594	1,058	2,269
Total other expenses (income)	34,776	33,482	67,587	66,696
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	63,707	66,749	136,790	133,510
INCOME TAX PROVISION	21,321	23,753	48,353	48,512
NET INCOME	\$42,386	\$42,996	\$88,437	\$84,998
Basic earnings per common share (Note 8)	\$0.82	\$0.84	\$1.72	\$1.67
Diluted earnings per common share (Note 8)	\$0.81	\$0.83	\$1.70	\$1.64
Dividends declared per common share	\$0.3525	\$0.3350	\$0.7050	\$0.6700
See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (un	naudited).			

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# ITC HOLDINGS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (UNAUDITED)

	Three month June 30,	s ended	Six months June 30,	ended	
(in thousands)	2012	2011	2012	2011	
NET INCOME	\$42,386	\$42,996	\$88,437	\$84,998	
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS					
Amortization of interest rate lock cash flow hedges (net of tax	x				
of \$2 and \$9 for the three months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively, and net of tax of \$12 and \$17 for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively)	22	16	37	32	
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps relating to interest rate					
cash flow hedges (net of tax of \$4,486 and \$1,086 for the three months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively,	(6,973	(1,697	) (4,161	) (983	)
and net of tax of \$2,683 and \$630 for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively)					
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS, NET OF TAX TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	(6,951 ) \$35,435	(1,681 \$41,315	) (4,124 \$84,313	) (951 \$84,047	)
See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (una	audited).				

# ITC HOLDINGS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)

CONDENSED CONSOLIDITIES STATISTICS OF CASTILLO WS (CANTEST)	Six months	ende	ed	
	June 30,			
(in thousands)	2012		2011	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Net income	\$88,437		\$84,998	
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Depreciation and amortization expense	50,987		46,440	
Recognition, refund and collection of revenue accruals and deferrals — including	(16 010	`	10 116	
accrued interest	(16,818	)	18,116	
Deferred income tax expense	30,728		31,421	
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(10,178	)	(7,609	)
Other	6,171		7,554	
Changes in assets and liabilities, exclusive of changes shown separately:				
Accounts receivable	(24,551	)	(16,036	)
Inventory	(190	)	2,537	
Prepaid assets	(15,198	)	(4,034	)
Other current assets	(6	)	2,432	
Accounts payable	(2,437	)	969	
Accrued payroll	(2,187	)	(5,143	)
Accrued interest	16,202		304	
Accrued taxes	5,914		10,292	
Other current liabilities	8,822		(2,012	)
Other non-current assets and liabilities, net	(1,995	)	(2,444	)
Net cash provided by operating activities	133,701		167,785	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Expenditures for property, plant and equipment	(435,745	)	(228,028	)
Proceeds from sale of securities	5,453		3,809	
Purchases of securities	(10,105	)	(7,160	)
Other	(881	)	578	,
Net cash used in investing activities	(441,278	)	(230,801	)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Issuance of long-term debt	100,000		_	
Borrowings under revolving credit agreements	723,350		377,415	
Repayments of revolving credit agreements	(505,300	)	(308,775	)
Issuance of common stock	2,831		15,025	
Dividends on common stock	(36,238	)	(34,189	)
Refundable deposits from generators for transmission network upgrades	22,114		9,054	
Repayment of refundable deposits from generators for transmission network upgrade	•	)	(4,876	)
Other	(5,176		(4,512	)
Net cash provided by financing activities	287,751		49,142	,
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(19,826	)	(13,874	)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS — Beginning of period	58,344	,	95,109	,
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS — End of period	\$38,518		\$81,235	
See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).	+ 2 3,2 1 3		+ 01, <b>2</b> 00	
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# NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

## 1. GENERAL

These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011 included in ITC Holdings' annual report on Form 10-K for such period.

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared using accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") Regulation S-X as they apply to interim financial information. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. These accounting principles require us to use estimates and assumptions that impact the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from our estimates.

The condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited, but in our opinion include all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim period. The interim financial results are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for any other interim period or the fiscal year.

Supplementary Cash Flows Information

	Six months end June 30,	led
(in thousands)	2012	2011
Supplementary cash flows information:		
Interest paid (net of interest capitalized)	\$59,607	\$71,168
Income taxes paid	24,733	14,196
Supplementary non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Additions to property, plant and equipment (a)	\$94,625	\$73,282
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	10,178	7,609

Amounts consist of current liabilities for construction labor and materials that have not been included in investing (a) activities. These amounts have not been paid for as of June 30, 2012 or 2011, respectively, but have been or will be included as a cash outflow from investing activities for expenditures for property, plant and equipment when paid.

## 2. RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

# Presentation of Comprehensive Income

The guidance set forth by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") for the presentation of comprehensive income in financial statements was revised to require entities to report components of comprehensive income in either a continuous statement of comprehensive income or two separate but consecutive statements. This revision became effective for our interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the quarter ended March 31, 2012 and we have included a separate statement of comprehensive income.

# **Balance Sheet Offsetting Requirements**

The FASB created new disclosure requirements regarding the nature of an entity's rights of offset and related arrangements associated with its financial instruments and derivative instruments. The guidance requires entities to disclose, at a minimum, the following information in tabular format, separately for assets and liabilities: (a) the gross amounts of those recognized assets and those recognized liabilities; (b) the amounts offset to determine the net amounts presented in the statement of financial position; (c) the net amounts presented in the statement of financial position; (d) the amounts subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement; and (e) the net amount after deducting the amounts in (d) from the amounts in (c). The disclosure requirements are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods therein, with retrospective application required. The new disclosure requirements are not expected to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

#### Fair Value Disclosures

The FASB amended guidance for fair value measurements and disclosures. The guidance requires additional disclosures relating to fair value measurements categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy, including quantitative information about unobservable inputs, the valuation process used by the entity and the sensitivity of unobservable input measurements. Additionally, entities are required to disclose the level of the fair value hierarchy for assets and liabilities that are not measured at fair value in the balance sheet, but for which disclosure of the fair value is required. We adopted this guidance as of January 1, 2012, which did not have a material impact on our disclosures. See Note 10 to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

## 3. REGULATORY MATTERS

## **ITC Great Plains**

As of June 30, 2012, we have recorded a total of \$14.0 million of regulatory assets for start-up and development expenses incurred by ITC Great Plains, which include certain costs incurred for the KETA Project and the Kansas V-Plan Project prior to construction. During the first quarter of 2011, we received certain regulatory approvals relating to the Kansas V-Plan Project which resulted in the recognition of the Kansas V-Plan Project regulatory asset of \$2.0 million and corresponding reduction to operating expenses, which resulted in net income of \$1.3 million. Subsequent to the initial recognition of the Kansas V-Plan Project regulatory asset in March 2011, we have recorded costs for the Kansas V-Plan Project directly to this regulatory asset. Based on ITC Great Plains' application and the related FERC order, ITC Great Plains will be required to make an additional filing with the FERC under Section 205 of the FPA in order to recover these start-up, development and pre-construction expenses in future rates. If FERC authorization is received, ITC Great Plains will include the Kansas V-Plan Project and KETA Project regulatory assets in its rate base and begin amortizing them over a 10-year period upon the in-service dates. The amortization expense will be included in ITC Great Plains' revenue requirement based on its cost-based formula rate template.

## Order on Formula Rate Protocols

On May 17, 2012, the FERC issued an order pursuant to section 206 of the FPA to determine whether the formula rate protocols under the MISO Tariff are sufficient to ensure just and reasonable rates. The MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries were named in the filing. We do not expect the resolution of this proceeding and its ultimate impact on our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' formula rates will be material to our results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

# Cost-Based Formula Rates with True-Up Mechanism

The transmission rates at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are set annually, using the FERC-approved formula rates, and the rates remain in effect for a one-year period. By completing their formula rate templates on an annual basis, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are able to adjust their transmission rates to reflect changing operational data and financial performance, including the amount of network load on their transmission systems (for our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries), operating expenses and additions to property, plant and equipment when placed in service, among other items. The FERC-approved formula rates do not require further action or FERC filings for the calculated joint zone rates to go into effect, although the rates are subject to legal challenge at the FERC. Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries will continue to use formula rates to calculate their respective annual revenue requirements unless the FERC determines the rates to be unjust and unreasonable or another mechanism is determined by the FERC to be just and reasonable.

Our cost-based formula rate templates include a true-up mechanism, whereby our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries compare their actual revenue requirements to their billed revenues for each year to determine any over- or under-collection of revenue requirements. The over- or under-collection typically results from differences between the projected revenue requirement used to establish the billing rate and actual revenue requirement at each of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries, or from differences between actual and projected monthly peak loads at our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries. Revenue is recognized for services provided during each reporting period based on actual revenue requirements calculated using the formula rate templates. Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries accrue or defer revenues to the extent that the actual revenue requirement for the reporting period is higher or lower, respectively, than the amounts billed relating to that reporting period. The amount of accrued or deferred revenues is reflected in customer bills within two years under the provisions of the formula rate templates.

The current and non-current regulatory assets are recorded on the balance sheet in regulatory assets - revenue accrual, including accrued interest. The current and non-current regulatory liabilities are recorded in regulatory liabilities - revenue deferral, including accrued interest.

The changes in regulatory assets and liabilities (net) associated with our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' formula rate revenue accruals and deferrals, including accrued interest, were as follows during the six months ended June 30, 2012:

(in thousands)	ITCTransmission	n	METC		TTC Midwest		TTC Great Plains		Total	
Balance as of December 31, 2011	\$(56,269	)	\$(20,910	)	\$(6,164	)	\$(1,877	)	\$(85,220	)
Net refunds (collections) of 2010 revenue deferrals and accruals, including interest	15,320		4,745		299		(48	)	20,316	
Net revenue accruals (deferrals) for the six months ended June 30, 2012		)	1,061		3,872		(5,519	)	(2,058	)
Net accrued interest payable for the six months ended June 30, 2012	(883)	)	(310	)	(202	)	(45	)	(1,440	)
Balance as of June 30, 2012	\$(43,304	)	\$(15,414	)	\$(2,195	)	\$(7,489	)	\$(68,402	)

Regulatory assets and liabilities associated with our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' formula rate revenue accruals and deferrals are recorded in our condensed consolidated statement of financial position as follows:

(in thousands)	ITCTransmission	METC	ITC Midwest	ITC Great	Total
Current assets	\$433	\$1	Midwest \$4,597	Plains \$1,132	\$6,163
Current assets	<b>\$433</b>	Φ1	\$4,397	\$1,132	\$0,103
Non-current assets	_	4,304	5,881	755	10,940
Current liabilities	(28,968)	(10,422 )	(7,745)	(2,071	(49,206)
Non-current liabilities	(14,769)	(9,297)	(4,928)	(7,305	(36,299)
Balance as of June 30, 2012	\$(43,304)	\$(15,414)	\$(2,195)	\$(7,489	\$ (68,402)

ITCTransmission's Rate Freeze Revenue Deferral

ITCTransmission's rate freeze revenue deferral resulted from the regulatory authority to bill and collect certain revenue requirements calculated for historical periods. This revenue deferral resulted from the difference between the revenue ITCTransmission would have collected under its cost based formula rate and the actual revenue ITCTransmission received for the period from February 28, 2003 through December 31, 2004. The rate freeze revenue deferral was amortized for ratemaking on a straight-line basis for five years from June 2006 through May 2011 and was included in ITCTransmission's revenue requirement for those periods. Revenues of \$5.0 million relating to the rate freeze revenue deferral were recognized in January through May 2011.

# 4. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

We have recorded intangible assets as a result of the METC acquisition in 2006. The carrying value of these assets was \$41.8 million (net of accumulated amortization of \$16.6 million) as of June 30, 2012.

We have also recorded intangible assets for payments made by ITC Great Plains to certain transmission owners to acquire rights which are required under the SPP tariff to designate ITC Great Plains to build, own and operate projects within the SPP region, including the KETA Project and the Kansas V-Plan Project. The carrying amount of these intangible assets was \$4.3 million (net of accumulated amortization of \$0.2 million) as of June 30, 2012.

During the three months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, we recognized \$0.8 million of amortization expense of our intangible assets and \$1.6 million and \$1.5 million for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. For each of the next five years, we expect the annual amortization of our intangible assets that have been recorded as of June 30, 2012 to be \$3.1 million per year.

# 5. LONG-TERM DEBT

Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

We use derivative financial instruments, including interest rate swap contracts, to manage our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates. The use of these financial instruments mitigates exposure to these risks and the variability of our

operating results. We are not a party to leveraged derivatives and do not enter into derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes. The interest rate swaps listed below manage interest rate risk associated with the forecasted future issuance of fixed-rate debt related to the expected refinancing of the maturing \$267.0 million ITC Holdings 5.25% Senior

Notes due July 15, 2013:

Interest Rate Swaps	Notional Amount	Fixed Rate	Original Term	Effective Date
(amounts in millions)				
September 2010 swap	\$50.0	3.60%	10 years	July 2013
March 2011 swaps	50.0	4.45%	10 years	July 2013
May 2011 swap	25.0	4.20%	10 years	July 2013
August 2011 swaps	50.0	3.80%	10 years	July 2013
Total	\$175.0			

The interest rate swaps call for ITC Holdings to receive interest quarterly at a variable rate equal to LIBOR and to pay interest semi-annually at various fixed rates effective for the 10-year period beginning July 15, 2013 after the agreements have been terminated. The agreements include a mandatory early termination provision and will be terminated no later than the effective date of the interest rate swaps of July 15, 2013. The interest rate swaps have been determined to be highly effective at offsetting changes in the fair value of the forecasted interest cash flows associated with the expected debt issuance attributable to changes in benchmark interest rates from the trade date of the interest rate swaps to the issuance date of the debt obligation. As of June 30, 2012, there has been no material ineffectiveness recorded in the condensed consolidated statement of operations. The interest rate swaps qualify for hedge accounting treatment, whereby any pre-tax gain or loss recognized from the trade date to the effective date for the effective portion of the hedge is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income. These amounts will be accumulated and amortized as a component of interest expense over the life of the forecasted debt. As of June 30, 2012, the fair value of the derivative instruments was a liability of \$31.1 million recorded to other non-current liabilities. None of the interest rate swaps contain credit-risk-related contingent features. Refer to Note 10 for additional fair value information.

# ITC Midwest

ITC Midwest closed on the \$100.0 million of 3.50% First Mortgage Bonds, Series E, due January 2027 on January 19, 2012. The proceeds from the issuance will be used to refinance existing indebtedness, partially fund capital expenditures and for general corporate purposes. All of ITC Midwest's First Mortgage Bonds are issued under its First Mortgage and Deed of Trust, and therefore have the benefit of a first mortgage lien on substantially all of ITC Midwest's property.

On May 31, 2012, ITC Midwest entered into a new unsecured, unguaranteed revolving credit agreement, under which ITC Midwest may borrow up to \$175.0 million. The new revolving credit agreement replaced ITC Midwest's two existing revolving credit agreements, dated January 29, 2008 and February 11, 2011, respectively, which were scheduled to mature on January 29, 2013 and February 11, 2013, respectively.

# **Revolving Credit Agreements**

At June 30, 2012, ITC Holdings and its Regulated Operating Subsidiaries had the following revolving credit facilities available:

(amounts in millions)	Total Available Capacity	Outstanding Balance (a)	Unused Capacity	U	$\mathcal{C}$	Commitme Fee Rate (		Original Term	Date of Maturity
Revolving Credi	t Agreemen	ts:							
ITC Holdings	\$200.0	\$155.6	\$44.4	2.0%	(c)	0.25	%	5 years	May 2016
ITCTransmission	n 100.0	44.8	55.2	1.4%	(d)	0.125	%	5 years	May 2016
METC	100.0	71.4	28.6	1.4%	(e)	0.125	%	5 years	May 2016
ITC Midwest	175.0	66.9	108.1	1.2%	(f)	0.10	%	5 years	May 2017
ITC Great Plains	s 150.0	80.4	69.6	2.0%	(g)	0.30	%	4 years	February 2015
Total	\$725.0	\$419.1	\$305.9						

<sup>(</sup>a) Included within long-term debt.

- Calculation based on the average daily unused commitments, subject to adjustment based on the borrower's credit rating.
- Loan bears interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus an applicable margin of 1.75% or at a base rate, which is defined (c) as the higher of the prime rate, 0.50% above the federal funds rate or 1% above the one month LIBOR, plus an applicable margin of 0.75%, subject to adjustments based on ITC Holdings' credit rating
- Loan bears interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus an applicable margin of 1.15% or at a base rate, which is defined as

the higher of the prime rate, 0.50% above the federal funds rate or 1% above the one month LIBOR, plus an applicable margin of 0.15%, subject to adjustments based on ITCTransmission's credit rating.

Loan bears interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus an applicable margin of 1.15% or at a base rate, which is defined (e) as the higher of the prime rate, 0.50% above the federal funds rate or 1% above the one month LIBOR, plus an applicable margin of 0.15%, subject to adjustments based on METC's credit rating.

Loan bears interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus an applicable margin of 1.00% or at a base rate, which is defined (f) as the higher of prime rate, 0.50% above over the federal funds rate or 1% above the one month LIBOR, plus an applicable margin of 0.00%, subject to adjustments based on ITC Midwest's credit rating.

Loan bears interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus an applicable margin of 1.75%, or at a base rate, which is defined (g) as the higher of prime rate, 0.50% above the federal funds rate or 1% above the one month LIBOR, plus an applicable margin of 0.75%, subject to adjustments based on ITC Great Plains' credit rating.

## Covenants

Our debt instruments contain numerous financial and operating covenants that place significant restrictions on certain transactions, such as incurring additional indebtedness, engaging in sale and lease-back transactions, creating liens or other encumbrances, entering into mergers, consolidations, liquidations or dissolutions, creating or acquiring subsidiaries, selling or otherwise disposing of all or substantially all of our assets and paying dividends. In addition, the covenants require us to meet certain financial ratios, such as maintaining certain debt to capitalization ratios and maintaining certain interest coverage ratios. We are currently in compliance with all debt covenants.

# 6. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

ITC Holdings Sales Agency Financing Agreement

On July 27, 2011, ITC Holdings entered into a Sales Agency Financing Agreement with Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. as sales agent (the "SAFA"). Under the terms of the SAFA, ITC Holdings may issue and sell shares of common stock, without par value, from time to time, up to an aggregate sales proceeds amount of \$250.0 million. The SAFA terminates in July 2014, although the agreements relating to the Entergy Transaction generally prohibit us from issuing shares under the SAFA until approximately two years after the closing except under certain limited circumstances. The shares of common stock may be offered in one or more selling periods. Any shares of common stock sold under the SAFA will be offered at market prices prevailing at the time of sale. Moreover, ITC Holdings will specify to the sales agent (i) the aggregate selling price of the shares of common stock to be sold during each selling period, and (ii) the minimum price below which sales may not be made. ITC Holdings will pay a commission equal to a mutually agreed upon rate with its agent, not to exceed 2% of the sales price of all shares of common stock sold through its agent under the SAFA, plus expenses. The shares we would issue under the SAFA have been registered under ITC Holdings' shelf registration statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-163716) filed on December 14, 2009 with the SEC. No shares have been issued under this agreement.

# 7. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

Long-Term Incentive Plan Grants

On May 22, 2012, pursuant to the Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan, we granted 358,160 options to purchase shares of our common stock with an exercise price of \$70.76 per share, which was the closing price of our common stock on the date of grant. The options vest in three equal annual installments with the first installment vesting on May 22, 2013. In addition, on May 22, 2012, we granted 114,862 shares of restricted stock at fair value of \$70.76 per share. Holders of restricted stock have all the rights of a holder of common stock of ITC Holdings, including dividend and voting rights. The restricted stock vests three years after the grant date. The holder of the restricted stock may not sell, transfer or pledge their shares of restricted stock until vesting occurs.

# **Stock Option Exercises**

We issued 70,051 and 543,775 shares of our common stock during the six months ended June 30, 2012 and the year ended December 31, 2011, respectively, due to the exercise of stock options.

#### 8. EARNINGS PER SHARE

We report both basic and diluted earnings per share. A reconciliation of both calculations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 is presented in the following table:

onaca vane 50, 2012 and 2011 to presented in the 10th	Three months ended June 30,		Six months ende June 30,		ed			
(in thousands, except share, per share data and percentages)	2012		2011		2012		2011	
Numerator:	<b>* 10.0</b> 06		<b>4.2</b> 00 c		<b></b>		404000	
Net income	\$42,386		\$42,996		\$88,437		\$84,998	
Less: dividends declared — common shares, restricted shares and deformed stock units (a)	d (18.137	)	(17,182	)	(36,238	)	(34,189	)
shares and deferred stock units (a)		,		,		,		
Undistributed earnings	24,249		25,814		52,199		50,809	
Percentage allocated to common shares (b)	98.7	%	98.2	%	98.7	%	98.2	%
Undistributed earnings — common shares	23,934		25,349		51,520		49,894	
Add: dividends declared — common shares	17,907		16,857		35,758		33,571	
Numerator for basic and diluted earnings per common share	<sup>1</sup> \$41,841		\$42,206		\$87,278		\$83,465	
Denominator:								
Denominator for basic earnings per common share — weighted-average common shares	50,743,576		50,236,721		50,689,888		50,082,531	
Incremental shares for stock options and employee stock purchase plan	748,599		784,659		758,716		787,643	
Denominator for diluted earnings per common share -								
adjusted weighted-average shares and assumed conversion	51,492,175		51,021,380		51,448,604		50,870,174	
Per common share net income:								
Basic	\$0.82		\$0.84		\$1.72		\$1.67	
Diluted	\$0.81		\$0.83		\$1.70		\$1.64	
(a) Includes dividends paid in the form of shares for deferred stock units.								
(b) Weighted-average common shares outstanding	50,743,576		50,236,721		50,689,888		50,082,531	
Weighted-average restricted shares and deferred stock units (participating securities)	678,248		911,487		693,669		896,276	
Total Percentage allocated to common shares	51,421,824 98.7	0/0	51,148,208 98.2	0%	51,383,557 98.7	0%	50,978,807 98.2	%
i creatinge affocated to common situres	70.1	10	70.2	10	70.1	10	70.2	10

Our restricted stock and deferred stock units contain rights to receive nonforfeitable dividends and thus, are participating securities requiring the two-class method of computing earnings per share.

At June 30, 2012 and 2011, we had 2,386,217 and 2,188,814 outstanding stock options, respectively. Stock options are included in the diluted earnings per share calculation using the treasury stock method, unless the effect of including the stock options would be anti-dilutive. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, 572,179 and 218,135 anti-dilutive stock options were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculations, respectively.

# 9. RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND ASSETS HELD IN TRUST Retirement Plan Benefits

We have a qualified retirement plan for eligible employees, comprised of a traditional final average pay plan and a cash balance plan. The traditional final average pay plan is noncontributory, covers select employees, and provides retirement benefits based on the employees' years of benefit service, average final compensation and age at retirement.

The cash balance plan is also noncontributory, covers substantially all employees, and provides retirement benefits based on eligible compensation and interest credits. While we are obligated to fund the retirement plan by contributing the minimum amount required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, it is our practice to contribute the maximum allowable amount as defined by section 404 of the Internal Revenue Code. We contributed \$7.0 million to the defined benefit retirement plan relating to the 2011 plan year in June 2012. We do not expect to make any additional contributions in 2012.

We also have two supplemental nonqualified, noncontributory, retirement benefit plans for selected management employees. The plans provide for benefits that supplement those provided by our other retirement plans. We contributed \$4.7 million to these supplemental nonqualified, noncontributory, retirement benefit plans in June 2012. We do not expect to make any additional contributions in 2012.

Net pension cost includes the following components:

	Three months ended		Six months en	nded
	June 30,		June 30,	
(in thousands)	2012	2011	2012	2011
Service cost	\$1,040	\$894	\$2,080	\$1,792
Interest cost	648	604	1,295	1,229
Expected return on plan assets	(569)	(474)	(1,139)	(948)
Amortization of prior service cost	(11)	(11)	(21)	(21)
Amortization of unrecognized loss	867	591	1,735	1,304
Net pension cost	\$1,975	\$1,604	\$3,950	\$3,356

# Other Postretirement Benefits

We provide certain postretirement health care, dental, and life insurance benefits for employees who may become eligible for these benefits. We contributed \$1.0 million to the postretirement benefit plan relating to the 2011 plan year in June 2012. We expect to contribute up to an additional \$3.4 million to the postretirement benefit plan relating to the 2011 plan year in December 2012.

Net postretirement cost includes the following components:

	Three months ended		Six months ended		
	June 30,		June 30,		
(in thousands)	2012	2011	2012	2011	
Service cost	\$1,359	\$857	\$2,717	\$1,715	
Interest cost	388	322	776	643	
Expected return on plan assets	(254)	(185)	(508)	(369)	
Amortization of prior service cost	31	79	62	157	
Amortization of unrecognized loss	133	56	267	110	
Net postretirement cost	\$1,657	\$1,129	\$3,314	\$2,256	

#### **Defined Contribution Plan**

We also sponsor a defined contribution retirement savings plan. Participation in this plan is available to substantially all employees. We match employee contributions up to certain predefined limits based upon eligible compensation and the employee's contribution rate. The cost of this plan was \$0.5 million for the three months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 and \$1.7 million for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011.

# 10. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The measurement of fair value is based on a three-tier hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include: Level 1, defined as observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; Level 2, defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

Our assets and liabilities measured at fair value subject to the three-tier hierarchy at June 30, 2012, were as follows:

·	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date				
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets	Significant Other Observable Inputs	Significant Unobservable Inputs		
(in thousands)	(Level 1)	(Level 2)	(Level 3)		
Financial assets measured on a recurring basis:					
Cash and cash equivalents — cash equivalents	\$26,115	\$9,268	<b>\$</b> —		
Mutual funds — fixed income securities	20,561	_	_		
Mutual funds — equity securities	1,514		_		
Financial liabilities measured on a recurring basis:					
Interest rate swap derivatives	_	(31,103)	_		
Total	\$48,190	\$(21,835)	<b>\$</b> —		

Our assets and liabilities measured at fair value subject to the three-tier hierarchy at December 31, 2011, were as follows:

Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets	Significant Other Observable Inputs	Significant Unobservable Inputs	
(Level 1)	(Level 2)	(Level 3)	
\$15,004	\$34,246	<b>\$</b> —	
15,551			
1,107			
_	(24,258)		
\$31,662	\$9,988	<b>\$</b> —	
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) \$15,004 15,551 1,107	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) (Level 2)  \$15,004 \$34,246	

As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we held certain assets and liabilities that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis. The assets consist of investments recorded within cash and cash equivalents and other long-term assets, including investments held in a trust associated with our supplemental nonqualified, noncontributory, retirement benefit plans for selected management employees that are classified as trading securities. The liabilities related to derivatives consist of interest rate swaps discussed in Note 5. Our investments included in cash equivalents consist of money market mutual funds and common and collective trusts that are administered similar to money market funds recorded at cost plus accrued interest to approximate fair value. Our mutual funds consist primarily of publicly traded mutual funds for which market prices are readily available. Changes in the observed trading prices and liquidity of money market funds are monitored as additional support for determining fair value, and losses are recorded in earnings if fair value falls below recorded cost. The fair value of our interest rate swap derivatives as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 is determined based on a discounted cash flow method using LIBOR swap rates which are observable at commonly quoted intervals.

We also held non-financial assets that are required to be measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis. These consist of goodwill and intangible assets. We did not record any impairment charges on long-lived assets and no other significant events occurred requiring non-financial assets and liabilities to be measured at fair value (subsequent to initial recognition) during the six months ended June 30, 2012. For additional information on our goodwill and intangible assets, please refer to the notes to the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011 included in our Form 10-K for such period and to Note 4 of this Form 10-Q.

Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fixed Rate Long-Term Debt

Based on the borrowing rates obtained from third party lending institutions currently available for bank loans with similar terms and average maturities, the fair value of our consolidated long-term debt, excluding revolving credit agreements, was \$2,999.7 million and \$2,862.6 million at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. These fair values represent level 2 under the three-tier hierarchy described above. The total book value of our consolidated long-term debt, excluding revolving credit agreements, was \$2,544.2 million and \$2,444.0 million at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

**Revolving Credit Agreements** 

At June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we had a consolidated total of \$419.1 million and \$201.1 million, respectively, outstanding under our revolving credit agreements, which are variable rate loans. The fair value of these loans approximates book value. These fair values represent level 2 under the three-tier hierarchy described above. Trade Accounts Receivables and Payables

As of June 30, 2012, our accounts receivable and accounts payable balances approximate fair value due to their short term nature.

## 11. MICHIGAN CORPORATE INCOME TAX

On May 25, 2011, the Michigan Business Tax ("MBT") was repealed and replaced with the Michigan Corporate Income Tax ("CIT"), effective January 1, 2012. Under the CIT, corporations such as ITC Holdings are taxed at a rate of 6.0% on federal taxable income apportioned to Michigan, subject to certain adjustments. In addition to the traditional income tax, the MBT had also included a modified gross receipts tax and allowed for deductions and credits for certain activities, none of which are part of the CIT. The change in Michigan tax law resulted in a reduction of income tax provision of \$4.6 million during 2011. Additionally, we recorded regulatory assets for this change in tax law. Recovery of the Michigan CIT regulatory asset requires FERC authorization upon us making a filing under Section 205 of the FPA to demonstrate that the costs to be recovered are just and reasonable.

## 12. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

## **Environmental Matters**

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' operations are subject to federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, which impose limitations on the discharge of pollutants into the environment, establish standards for the management, treatment, storage, transportation and disposal of hazardous materials and of solid and hazardous wastes, and impose obligations to investigate and remediate contamination in certain circumstances. Liabilities to investigate or remediate contamination, as well as other liabilities concerning hazardous materials or contamination, such as claims for personal injury or property damage, may arise at many locations, including formerly owned or operated properties and sites where wastes have been treated or disposed of, as well as at properties currently owned or operated by our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries. Such liabilities may arise even where the contamination does not result from noncompliance with applicable environmental laws. Under a number of environmental laws, such liabilities may also be joint and several, meaning that a party can be held responsible for more than its share of the liability involved, or even the entire share. Although environmental requirements generally have become more stringent and compliance with those requirements more expensive, we are not aware of any specific developments that would increase our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' costs for such compliance in a manner that would be expected to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position or liquidity.

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' assets and operations also involve the use of materials classified as hazardous, toxic or otherwise dangerous. Many of the properties our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries own or operate have been used for many years, and include older facilities and equipment that may be more likely than newer ones to contain or be made from such materials. Some of these properties include aboveground or underground storage tanks and associated piping. Some of them also include large electrical equipment filled with mineral oil, which may contain or previously have contained PCBs. Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' facilities and equipment are often situated close to or on property owned by others so that, if they are the source of contamination, other's property may be affected. For example, aboveground and underground transmission lines sometimes traverse properties that our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries do not own, and, at some of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' transmission

stations, transmission assets (owned or operated by our Regulated Operating

Subsidiaries) and distribution assets (owned or operated by our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' transmission customer) are commingled.

Some properties in which our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries have an ownership interest or at which they operate are, and others are suspected of being, affected by environmental contamination. Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are not aware of any pending or threatened claims against them with respect to environmental contamination, or of any investigation or remediation of contamination at any properties, that entail costs likely to materially affect them. Some facilities and properties are located near environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands.

Claims have been made or threatened against electric utilities for bodily injury, disease or other damages allegedly related to exposure to electromagnetic fields associated with electric transmission and distribution lines. While our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries do not believe that a causal link between electromagnetic field exposure and injury has been generally established and accepted in the scientific community, if such a relationship is established or accepted, the liabilities and costs imposed on our business could be significant. We are not aware of any pending or threatened claims against our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries for bodily injury, disease or other damages allegedly related to exposure to electromagnetic fields and electric transmission and distribution lines that entail costs likely to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial position or liquidity.

# Litigation

We are involved in certain legal proceedings before various courts, governmental agencies and mediation panels concerning matters arising in the ordinary course of business. These proceedings include certain contract disputes, regulatory matters and pending judicial matters. We cannot predict the final disposition of such proceedings. We regularly review legal matters and record provisions for claims that are considered probable of loss. The resolution of pending proceedings is not expected to have a material effect on our operations or consolidated financial statements in the period in which they are resolved.

Michigan Sales and Use Tax Audit

The Michigan Department of Treasury conducted a sales and use tax audit of ITCTransmission for the audit period April 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008 and has denied ITCTransmission's use of the industrial processing exemption from use tax it has taken beginning January 1, 2007. ITCTransmission has certain administrative and judicial appeal rights.

ITCTransmission believes that its utilization of the industrial processing exemption is appropriate and intends to defend itself against the denial of such exemption. However, it is reasonably possible that the assessment of additional use tax could be sustained after all administrative appeals and litigation have been exhausted.

The amount of use tax liability associated with the exemptions taken by ITCTransmission through June 30, 2012 is estimated to be approximately \$11.3 million, which includes approximately \$3.7 million assessed for the audit period April 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008, including interest. In the event it becomes appropriate to record additional use tax liability relating to this matter, ITCTransmission would record the additional use tax primarily as an increase to the cost of property, plant and equipment, as the majority of purchases for which the exemption was taken relate to equipment purchases associated with capital projects. METC has also taken the industrial processing exemption, estimated to be approximately \$11.3 million for periods still subject to audit since 2006. These higher use tax expenses would be passed on to ITCTransmission's and METC's customers as the amounts are included as components of net revenue requirements and resulting rates.

# FERC Audit of ITC Midwest

Certain staff of the FERC ("FERC audit staff") have conducted an audit of ITC Midwest's compliance with certain of the FERC's regulations and the conditions established in the 2007 FERC order approving the acquisition of the transmission assets of IP&L by ITC Midwest. On September 30, 2011, the FERC issued an order that identified certain findings and recommendations of FERC audit staff relating to specific aspects of the accounting treatment for the acquisition which requires adjustments to ITC Midwest's annual revenue requirement calculations and corresponding refunds. On October 31, 2011, ITC Holdings and ITC Midwest filed a request for hearing with the FERC to contest the findings relating to the accounting treatment for the acquisition, which was granted. On May 11, 2012, FERC issued an order that upheld the FERC audit staff position regarding the accounting treatment for the

acquisition. As a result, ITC Midwest filed a compliance plan in July 2012 that calculates the effect on its revenue requirements.

ITCTransmission and METC have applied an accounting treatment for their respective acquisitions similar to ITC Midwest, and ITCTransmission and METC expect to file compliance plans with FERC subsequent to FERC accepting the refund methodology in the ITC Midwest compliance plan. As a result of the FERC order, ITC Midwest, ITCTransmission and METC

recorded an aggregate estimated liability for the refund and related interest of \$13.0 million during the second quarter. The estimate of the regulatory liability was recorded primarily in other current liabilities and consisted of a reduction in revenues of \$11.0 million, a reduction of AFUDC equity of \$0.9 million and an increase in interest expense of \$1.1 million accrued through June 30, 2012 in these condensed consolidated financial statements, which resulted in a total reduction of net income of \$8.4 million after tax for the three and six months ended June 30, 2012. The refund amounts are limited to 2010 and earlier periods and remain subject to FERC acceptance. We do not believe the ultimate resolution of this matter will differ materially from the estimates recorded during the second quarter of 2012. ITC Midwest Project Commitment

In the Minnesota regulatory proceeding to approve ITC Midwest's December 2007 acquisition of the transmission assets of IP&L, ITC Midwest agreed to build a certain project in Iowa, the 345 kV Salem-Hazelton line, and made a commitment to use commercially reasonable best efforts to complete the project prior to December 31, 2011. In the event ITC Midwest is found to have failed to meet this commitment, the allowed 12.38% rate of return on the actual equity portion of its capital structure would be reduced to 10.39% until such time as ITC Midwest completes the project, and ITC Midwest would refund with interest any amounts collected since the close date of the transaction that exceeded what would have been collected if the 10.39% return on equity had been used. Certain regulatory approvals were needed from the Iowa Utilities Board ("IUB") before construction of the project could commence, but due to the IUB's case schedule, these approvals were not received until the second quarter of 2011. As a result of the delay in the receipt of the necessary regulatory approvals, the project was not completed by December 31, 2011. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission is monitoring the status of the project, and ITC Midwest is providing it with periodic status updates about the project and other information about transmission system conditions, as requested at a May 3, 2012 hearing. We believe we used commercially reasonable best efforts to meet the December 31, 2011 deadline and will continue to pursue completion of the project using our commercially reasonable best efforts. Therefore, we believe the likelihood of any material effect from this matter is remote.

# Nonconsolidated Variable Interest Entity

In April 2012, we executed a new agreement with Utility Lines Construction Services, Inc. ("ULCS"), which is a division of Asplundh Tree Expert Co., to perform the majority of maintenance for all of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries. The agreement between us and ULCS contains a variable component related to a cost-plus arrangement which is a consideration for consolidation; however, we are not the primary beneficiary of the variable interest under the agreement. Additionally, we are not subject to risk of loss from ULCS' operations and have not provided, nor will we provide, any significant financial support other than contractual payments. We have evaluated the agreement for possible consolidation, including review of qualitative factors such as the length and terms of the agreement, and have concluded that ULCS is not required to be consolidated in our condensed consolidated financial statements.

## 13. ENTERGY TRANSACTION

As of December 4, 2011, Entergy and ITC Holdings executed definitive agreements under which Entergy will divest and then merge its electric transmission business with a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings ("Entergy Transaction"). Entergy's electric transmission business consists of approximately 15,700 miles of interconnected transmission lines at voltages of 69 kV and above and associated substations across its utility service territory in the Mid-South.

The terms of the transaction agreements call for Entergy to divest its electric transmission business to a newly-formed entity, Mid South TransCo LLC ("Mid South TransCo"), and Mid South TransCo's subsidiaries, and distribute the equity interests in Mid South TransCo to Entergy's shareholders in the form of a tax-free spin-off. Mid South TransCo will then merge with a newly-created merger subsidiary of ITC Holdings in an all-stock, Reverse Morris Trust transaction, and will survive the merger as a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings. Prior to the merger, we expect to effectuate a recapitalization, which may take the form of a one-time special dividend to ITC Holdings' pre-merger shareholders, a repurchase of ITC Holdings common stock from its shareholders, or a combination of a special dividend and share repurchase. The merger will result in shareholders of Entergy receiving approximately 50.1% of the shares of pro forma ITC Holdings in exchange for their shares of Mid South TransCo, with existing shareholders of ITC Holdings owning the remaining approximately 49.9% of the combined company. In addition, Entergy will receive gross cash proceeds of \$1.775 billion from indebtedness that will be incurred by Mid South TransCo and its

subsidiaries prior to the merger and assumed under the acquisition. Completion of the transaction is expected in 2013 subject to the satisfaction of certain closing conditions, including the receipt of necessary approvals of Entergy's retail regulators, the FERC and ITC Holdings' shareholders.

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, we expensed external legal, advisory and financial services fees of \$4.1 million and \$6.5 million, respectively, and certain internal labor and related costs of approximately \$2.0 million and \$3.5 million, respectively, related to the Entergy Transaction recorded primarily within general and administrative expenses. The external and internal costs related to the Entergy Transaction are not included as components of revenue requirement at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries as they were incurred at ITC Holdings.

## 14. SEGMENT INFORMATION

We identify reportable segments based on the criteria set forth by the FASB regarding disclosures about segments of an enterprise, including the regulatory environment of our subsidiaries and the business activities performed to earn revenues and incur expenses. The following tables show our financial information by reportable segment:

	Three months ended	r	Six months e	nded
OPERATING REVENUES:	June 30,		June 30,	
(in thousands)	2012 2011		2012	2011
Regulated Operating Subsidiaries	\$197,396 \$185,115		\$394,129	\$364,518
ITC Holdings and other	152 91		304	192
Intercompany eliminations	(173 ) (108	)	(345)	(226)
Total Operating Revenues	\$197,375 \$185,098		\$394,088	\$364,484
	Three months ended		Six months e	nded
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES:	June 30,		June 30,	
(in thousands)	2012 2011		2012	2011
Regulated Operating Subsidiaries	\$94,294 \$89,424		\$195,218	\$179,939
ITC Holdings and other	(30,587 ) (22,675	)	(58,428)	(46,429 )
Total Income Before Income Taxes	\$63,707 \$66,749		\$136,790	\$133,510
	Three months ended		Six months e	nded
NET INCOME:	June 30,		June 30,	
(in thousands)	2012 2011		2012	2011
Regulated Operating Subsidiaries (a)	\$58,564 \$52,814		\$121,039	\$108,533
ITC Holdings and other	42,386 42,996		88,437	84,998
Intercompany eliminations	(58,564 ) (52,814	)	(121,039)	(108,533)
Total Net Income	\$42,386 \$42,996		\$88,437	\$84,998
TOTAL ASSETS:			June 30,	December
TOTAL ASSETS.			June 30,	31,
(in thousands)			2012	2011
Regulated Operating Subsidiaries			\$5,158,935	\$4,711,274
ITC Holdings and other			3,054,374	2,845,182
Reconciliations / Intercompany Eliminations (b)			(2,959,085)	(2,733,090)
Total Assets			\$5,254,224	\$4,823,366

In December 2011, MTH was converted into a limited liability company which is treated as a corporation for tax purposes. Prior to December 31, 2011, METC was organized as a single-member limited liability company that was a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes. METC was treated as a branch of MTH, which was taxed as a multiple-partner limited partnership for federal income tax purposes. Since METC and MTH, its immediate

<sup>(</sup>a) parent, filed as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, they were exempt from federal income taxes. As a result, METC did not record a provision for federal income taxes in its statements of operations or record amounts for federal deferred income tax assets or liabilities on its statements of financial position prior to December 31, 2011. METC now records federal and state income taxes since the operating entity is no longer held by a partnership. The Regulated Operating Subsidiaries segment includes the allocation of taxes for METC for all periods presented.

<sup>(</sup>b) Reconciliation of total assets results primarily from differences in the netting of deferred tax assets and liabilities at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries as compared to the classification in our condensed consolidated statements of

financial position.

# ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT UNDER THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995 Our reports, filings and other public announcements contain certain statements that describe our management's beliefs concerning future business conditions, plans and prospects, growth opportunities and the outlook for our business and the electric transmission industry based upon information currently available. Such statements are "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Wherever possible, we have identified these forward-looking statements by words such as "will," "may," "anticipates," "believes," "intends," "estimates," "expects," "projects" and similar phrases. These forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions our management believes are reasonable. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause our actual results, performance and achievements to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these statements, including, among others, the risks and uncertainties listed in Item 1A Risk Factors of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 and the following:

Certain elements of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' cost recovery through rates can be challenged, which could result in lowered rates and/or refunds of amounts previously collected and thus have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. We have also made certain commitments to federal and state regulators with respect to, among other things, our rates in connection with recent acquisitions (including ITC Midwest's acquisition of IP&L's electric transmission assets) that could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' actual capital expenditures may be lower than planned, which would decrease expected rate base and therefore our revenues and earnings. In addition, we expect to invest in strategic development opportunities to improve the efficiency and reliability of the transmission grid, but we cannot assure you that we will be able to initiate or complete any of these investments.

The regulations to which we are subject may limit our ability to raise capital and/or pursue acquisitions, development opportunities or other transactions or may subject us to liabilities.

Changes in federal energy laws, regulations or policies could impact cash flows and could reduce the dividends we may be able to pay our stockholders.

If the amounts billed for transmission service for our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' transmission systems are lower than expected, the timing of collection of our revenues would be delayed.

Each of our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries depends on its primary customer for a substantial portion of its revenues, and any material failure by those primary customers to make payments for transmission services would adversely affect our revenues and our ability to service our debt obligations and affect our ability to pay dividends. A significant amount of the land on which our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' assets are located is subject to easements, mineral rights and other similar encumbrances. As a result, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries must comply with the provisions of various easements, mineral rights and other similar encumbrances, which may adversely impact their ability to complete construction projects in a timely manner.

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries contract with third parties to provide services for certain aspects of their businesses. If any of these agreements are terminated, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries may face a shortage of labor or replacement contractors to provide the services formerly provided by these third parties.

Hazards associated with high-voltage electricity transmission may result in suspension of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' operations or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are subject to environmental regulations and to laws that can give rise to substantial liabilities from environmental contamination.

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are subject to various regulatory requirements, including reliability standards; contract filing requirements; reporting, recordkeeping and accounting requirements; and transaction approval requirements. Violations of these requirements, whether intentional or unintentional, may result in penalties that, under some circumstances, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

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Acts of war, terrorist attacks and threats, including cyber attacks or threats, or the escalation of military activity in response to such attacks or otherwise may negatively affect our business, financial condition and cash flows.

ITC Holdings is a holding company with no operations, and unless we receive dividends or other payments from our subsidiaries, we may be unable to pay dividends and fulfill our other cash obligations.

We are highly leveraged and our dependence on debt may limit our ability to fulfill our debt obligations and/or to obtain additional financing.

Certain provisions in our debt instruments limit our financial flexibility.

Adverse changes in our credit ratings may negatively affect us.

Provisions in our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws, Michigan corporate law and our debt agreements may impede efforts by our shareholders to change the direction or management of our company.

Provisions in our Articles of Incorporation restrict market participants from voting or owning 5% or more of the outstanding shares of our capital stock.

We may be unable to satisfy the conditions or obtain the approvals required to complete the Entergy Transaction or such approvals may contain material restrictions or conditions.

If completed, the Entergy Transaction may not be successful or achieve its anticipated benefits.

The merger agreement contains provisions that may discourage other companies from trying to acquire us.

Failure to complete the Entergy Transaction could adversely affect the market price of ITC Holdings common stock as well as our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Investors holding shares of ITC Holdings common stock immediately prior to the completion of the Entergy Transaction will, in the aggregate, have a significantly reduced ownership and voting interest in us after the Entergy Transaction and will exercise less influence over management.

We are required to abide by potentially significant restrictions which could limit our ability to undertake certain corporate actions (such as the issuance of ITC Holdings common stock or the undertaking of a merger or consolidation) that otherwise could be advantageous.

Other risk factors discussed herein and listed from time to time in our public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

Because our forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions that are subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control or are subject to change, actual results could be materially different and any or all of our forward-looking statements may turn out to be wrong. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made and can be affected by assumptions we might make or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many factors mentioned in our discussion in this report will be important in determining future results. Consequently, we cannot assure you that our expectations or forecasts expressed in such forward-looking statements will be achieved. Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update any of our forward-looking or other statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

# **OVERVIEW**

Through our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries, we operate high-voltage systems in Michigan's Lower Peninsula and portions of Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma that transmit electricity from generating stations to local distribution facilities connected to our systems. Our business strategy is to operate, maintain and invest in transmission infrastructure in order to enhance system integrity and reliability, to reduce transmission constraints and to allow new generating resources to interconnect to our transmission systems. We also are pursuing development projects not within our existing systems, which are also intended to improve overall grid reliability, reduce transmission constraints and facilitate interconnections of new generating resources, as well as enhance competitive wholesale electricity markets.

As electric transmission utilities with rates regulated by the FERC, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries earn revenues through tariff rates charged for the use of their electric transmission systems by our customers, which include investor-owned utilities, municipalities, cooperatives, power marketers and alternative energy suppliers. As independent transmission companies, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are subject to rate regulation only by the FERC. The rates charged by our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are established using cost-based formula rate templates as discussed in Note 3 to the condensed consolidated financial statements under "— Cost-Based Formula Rates with True-Up Mechanism."

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' primary operating responsibilities include maintaining, improving and expanding their transmission systems to meet their customers' ongoing needs, scheduling outages on system elements to allow for maintenance and construction, maintaining appropriate system voltages and monitoring flows over transmission lines and other facilities to ensure physical limits are not exceeded.

We derive nearly all of our revenues from providing electric transmission service over our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' transmission systems to investor-owned utilities such as Detroit Edison, Consumers Energy and IP&L, and to other entities such as alternative electricity suppliers, power marketers and other wholesale customers that provide electricity to end-use consumers and from transaction-based capacity reservations on our transmission systems.

Significant recent matters that influenced our financial position and results of operations and cash flows for the six months ended June 30, 2012 or may affect future results include:

Our capital investment of \$429.2 million at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries (\$104.9 million, \$84.6 million, \$182.2 million and \$57.5 million at ITCTransmission, METC, ITC Midwest and ITC Great Plains, respectively) for the six months ended June 30, 2012, resulting primarily from our focus on improving system reliability and interconnecting new generating resources; and

Debt issuances and borrowings under our revolving credit agreements in 2012 and 2011 to fund capital investment at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries, resulting in higher interest expense; and

Final recognition of revenues for the ITCTransmission rate freeze revenue deferral in May 2011, described below under "Cost-Based Formula Rates with True-Up Mechanism — ITCTransmission's Rate Freeze Revenue Deferral"; and The proposed transaction with Entergy in which Entergy will divest and merge its electric transmission business with a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings ("Entergy Transaction") as discussed below under "Capital Project Updates and Other Recent Developments." For the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, we expensed external legal, advisory and financial services fees of \$4.1 million and \$6.5 million, respectively, and certain internal labor costs of approximately \$2.0 million and \$3.5 million, respectively, related to the Entergy Transaction recorded within general and administrative expenses. Certain amounts of the external costs are not expected to be deductible for income tax purposes. The external and internal costs related to the Entergy Transaction are not included as components of revenue requirement as they were incurred at ITC Holdings. The transaction fees are expected to continue to be significant until the transaction is consummated. Completion of the transaction is anticipated to occur in 2013; and Recognition of the estimated refund obligation at our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries for the FERC audit of ITC Midwest, as discussed in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements under "Commitments and Contingent Liabilities — FERC Audit of ITC Midwest."

These items are discussed in more detail throughout Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Capital Project Updates and Other Recent Developments

Thumb Loop Project

The Thumb Loop Project is located in ITCTransmission's region and consists of a 140-mile, double-circuit 345 kV transmission line and related substations that will serve as the backbone of the transmission system needed to accommodate future wind development projects in the Michigan counties of Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac and St. Clair. Construction activities commenced for the Thumb Loop Project in April 2012. Through June 30, 2012, ITCTransmission has invested \$58.4 million in the Thumb Loop Project. We estimate ITCTransmission will invest approximately \$510 million to complete construction of the project.

**ITC Great Plains** 

**KETA Project** 

The KETA Project is a 225 mile transmission line that will run between Spearville, Kansas and Axtell, Nebraska. The portion of the transmission line that ITC Great Plains is responsible for constructing will run approximately 174 miles and the first phase was completed in June 2012. Through June 30, 2012, ITC Great Plains has invested \$134.9 million in the KETA Project. We estimate ITC Great Plains will invest approximately \$160 million to complete construction of its portion of the project.

Kansas V-Plan Project

The Kansas V-Plan Project is a 200 mile long transmission line that will run between Spearville and Wichita, Kansas. ITC Great Plains is responsible for constructing approximately a 120 mile portion of the project from Spearville to Medicine Lodge, Kansas. Through June 30, 2012, ITC Great Plains has invested \$16.7 million in the Kansas V-Plan Project. We estimate that ITC Great Plains will invest approximately \$300 million to complete construction of its portion of the project.

Regulatory Assets

As of June 30, 2012, we have recorded a total of \$14.0 million of regulatory assets for start-up and development expenses incurred by ITC Great Plains, which include certain costs incurred for the KETA Project and the Kansas V-Plan Project prior to construction. In March 2011, we recognized the Kansas V-Plan Project regulatory asset of \$2.0 million and corresponding reduction to operating expenses, which resulted in net income of \$1.3 million. Based on ITC Great Plains' application and the related FERC order, ITC Great Plains will be required to make an additional filing with the FERC under Section 205 of the FPA in order to recover these start-up, development and pre-construction expenses in future rates.

North Central Region Development

The Green Power Express project consists of transmission line segments that would facilitate the movement of power from the Dakotas, Minnesota and Iowa to Midwest load centers that demand energy. After the announcement of the Green Power Express project, MISO undertook its Regional Generation Outlet Study ("RGOS") to promote investments in new regional transmission infrastructure and implemented its Multi-Value Project ("MVP") cost allocation methodology. MISO's RGOS and MVP processes provide a channel for the Green Power Express project, or its underlying segments, to move forward through the planning approval process as MVPs. In December 2011, MISO approved the first portfolio of MVPs identified through the RGOS which includes portions of four MVPs that we intend to build, own and operate. The four MVPs are located in south central Minnesota, portions of Iowa, southwest Wisconsin, and northeast Missouri.

Green Power Express has certain FERC-authorized transmission investment incentives, including the establishment of a regulatory asset for start-up and development costs of Green Power Express and certain pre-construction costs for the project to be recovered pursuant to a future FERC filing. The amount of future capital expenditures by Green Power Express, if any, is currently unknown.

The total development expenses through June 30, 2012 at Green Power Express that may be recoverable through regulatory assets were approximately \$5.5 million, which have been recorded to expenses in the periods in which they were incurred. If in a future reporting period it becomes probable that future revenues will result from the authorization to recover these development expenses, we will recognize the regulatory assets. No regulatory assets or construction work in progress for Green Power Express have been recorded as of June 30, 2012.

**Entergy Transaction** 

As of December 4, 2011, Entergy and ITC Holdings executed definitive agreements under which Entergy will divest and then merge its electric transmission business with a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings. Entergy's electric transmission business consists of approximately 15,700 miles of interconnected transmission lines at voltages of 69 kV and above and associated substations across its utility service territory in the mid-south.

The Entergy Transaction would expand our network across the entire middle of the continental United States from the Great Lakes to the Gulf Coast. It will approximately double our asset base, add sizable new markets to our operating and development portfolio, and diversify and enhance growth prospects through an expanded footprint.

The terms of the transaction agreements call for Entergy to divest its electric transmission business to a newly-formed entity, Mid South TransCo LLC ("Mid South TransCo"), and Mid South TransCo's subsidiaries, and distribute the equity interests in Mid South TransCo to Entergy's shareholders in the form of a tax-free spin-off. Mid South TransCo will then

merge with a newly-created merger subsidiary of ITC Holdings in an all-stock, Reverse Morris Trust transaction, and will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings. Prior to the merger, we expect to effectuate a recapitalization of approximately \$700 million, which may take the form of a one-time special dividend to ITC Holdings' pre-merger shareholders, a repurchase of ITC Holdings common stock from its shareholders, or a combination of a special dividend and share repurchase. The merger will result in shareholders of Entergy receiving approximately 50.1% of the shares of pro forma ITC Holdings in exchange for their shares of Mid South TransCo, with existing shareholders of ITC Holdings owning the remaining approximately 49.9% of the combined company. In addition, Entergy will receive gross cash proceeds of \$1.775 billion from indebtedness that will be incurred by Mid South TransCo and its subsidiaries prior to the merger. This indebtedness will be assumed by us upon completion of the transaction.

Completion of the Entergy Transaction is expected in 2013 subject to the satisfaction of certain closing conditions, including receipt of the necessary approvals of Entergy's retail regulators, the FERC and ITC Holdings' shareholders. There can be no assurance the Entergy Transaction will be consummated. See "Item 1A Risk Factors — We may be unable to satisfy the conditions or obtain the approvals required to complete the Entergy Transaction or such approvals may contain material restrictions or conditions" of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

#### Cost-Based Formula Rates with True-Up Mechanism

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries calculate their revenue requirements using cost-based formula rate templates and are effective without the need to file rate cases with the FERC, although the rates are subject to legal challenge at the FERC. Under these formula rate templates, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries recover expenses and earn a return on and recover investments in property, plant and equipment on a current rather than a lagging basis. The formula rate templates utilize forecasted expenses, property, plant and equipment, point-to-point revenues, network load at our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries and other items for the upcoming calendar year to establish projected revenue requirements for each of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries that are used as the basis for billing for service on their systems from January 1 to December 31 of that year. Our cost-based formula rate templates include a true-up mechanism, whereby our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries compare their actual revenue requirements to their billed revenues for each year to determine any over- or under-collection of revenue. The over- or under-collection typically results from differences between the projected revenue requirement used as the basis for billing and actual revenue requirement at each of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries, or from differences between actual and projected monthly peak loads at our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries. In the event billed revenues in a given year are more or less than actual revenue requirements, which are calculated primarily using information from that year's FERC Form No. 1, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries will refund or collect additional revenues, with interest, within a two-year period such that customers pay only the amounts that correspond to actual revenue requirements for that given period. This annual true-up ensures that our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries recover their allowed costs and earn their allowed returns.

#### ITCTransmission's Rate Freeze Revenue Deferral

ITCTransmission's rate freeze revenue deferral resulted from the regulatory authority to bill and collect certain revenue requirements calculated for historical periods. This revenue deferral resulted from the difference between the revenue ITCTransmission would have collected under its cost based formula rate and the actual revenue ITCTransmission received for the period from February 28, 2003 through December 31, 2004. The rate freeze revenue deferral was amortized for ratemaking on a straight-line basis for five years from June 2006 through May 2011 and was included in ITCTransmission's revenue requirement for those periods. Revenues of \$5.0 million relating to the rate freeze revenue deferral were recognized in January through May 2011 which resulted in a reduction to after-tax net income of approximately \$1.3 million and \$3.2 million in the three and six months ended June 30, 2012, respectively, compared to 2011.

Revenue Accruals — Effects of Monthly Peak Loads

For our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries, monthly peak loads are used for billing network revenues, which currently is the largest component of our operating revenues. One of the primary factors that impacts the revenue accrual/deferral at our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries is actual monthly peak loads experienced as compared

to those forecasted in establishing the annual network transmission rate. Under their formula rates that contain a true-up mechanism, our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries accrue or defer revenues to the extent that their actual revenue requirement for the reporting period is higher or lower, respectively, than the amounts billed relating to that reporting period. For example, to the extent that amounts billed are less than the revenue requirement for a reporting period, a revenue accrual is recorded for the difference. To the extent that amounts billed are more than the revenue requirement for a reporting period, a revenue deferral is recorded for the difference. Although monthly peak loads do not impact operating revenues recognized, network load affects cash flows

from transmission service. The monthly peak load of our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries is affected by many variables, but is generally impacted by weather and economic conditions and is seasonally shaped with higher load in the summer months when cooling demand is higher.

The following table sets forth the monthly peak loads during the last three calendar years.

Monthly Peak Load (in MW) (a)

2012				2011				2010		
		ITMTETEAGSmi	C ssion dwest			ITCMEARC	ITC mission Midwe	st		ITC ITCVITATION Midwest
7,264	6,145	2,7	189	7,326	6,045		2,777	7,255	5,947	2,838
6,919	5,754	2,5	84	7,261	6,058		2,854	6,998	5,800	2,782
6,926	5,709	2,4	137	6,946	5,715		2,520	6,620	5,376	2,517
6,319	5,083	2,2	264	6,483	5,416		2,458	6,501	5,112	2,425
8,947	6,461	2,6	665	10,119	7,239		2,773	9,412	7,240	3,052
11,676	8,627	3,4	159	11,488	8,231		3,403	9,722	7,128	3,207
				12,321	9,389		3,621	11,451	8,498	3,422
				11,158	8,538		3,614	11,082	8,422	3,399
r				11,288	7,966		3,466	10,817	7,353	2,804
				6,642	5,479		2,559	6,725	5,414	2,447
r				7,101	6,061		2,556	6,930	5,734	2,674
•				7,206	6,071		2,734	7,824	6,526	2,928
				105,339	82,208		35,335	101,337	78,550	34,495
	7,264 6,919 6,926 6,319 8,947	7,264 6,145 6,919 5,754 6,926 5,709 6,319 5,083 8,947 6,461 11,676 8,627	7,264 6,145 2,7 6,919 5,754 2,5 6,926 5,709 2,4 6,319 5,083 2,2 8,947 6,461 2,6 11,676 8,627 3,4	7,264 6,145 2,789 6,919 5,754 2,584 6,926 5,709 2,437 6,319 5,083 2,264 8,947 6,461 2,665 11,676 8,627 3,459	7,264 6,145 2,789 7,326 6,919 5,754 2,584 7,261 6,926 5,709 2,437 6,946 6,319 5,083 2,264 6,483 8,947 6,461 2,665 10,119 11,676 8,627 3,459 11,488 12,321 11,158 r 11,288 6,642 r 7,101 7,206	TINTERGS Mission Midwest  7,264 6,145 6,919 5,754 2,584 7,261 6,058 6,926 5,709 2,437 6,946 5,715 6,319 5,083 2,264 6,483 5,416 8,947 6,461 2,665 10,119 7,239 11,676 8,627 3,459 11,488 8,231 12,321 9,389 11,158 8,538  r 11,288 7,966 6,642 5,479 7,101 6,061 7,206 6,071	TIMIERG Smission Midwest  7,264 6,145 6,919 5,754 2,584 7,261 6,058 6,926 5,709 2,437 6,946 5,715 6,319 5,083 2,264 6,483 5,416 8,947 6,461 2,665 10,119 7,239 11,676 8,627 3,459 11,488 8,231 12,321 9,389 11,158 8,538 r 11,288 7,966 6,642 5,479 7,101 6,061 7,206 6,071	TIMETEGS mission Midwest  7,264 6,145 6,919 5,754 6,926 5,709 6,319 5,083 8,947 6,461 11,676 8,627  7,326 6,045 2,789 2,437 6,946 5,715 2,520 2,437 6,946 5,715 2,520 1,11676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,627 1,1676 8,538 1,614 1,288 7,966 6,642 5,479 2,559 1,101 6,061 2,556 1,2734	TIMIERG Smission   Midwest   TIC   TITC   TITC   Midwest     7,264   6,145   2,789   7,326   6,045   2,777   7,255     6,919   5,754   2,584   7,261   6,058   2,854   6,998     6,926   5,709   2,437   6,946   5,715   2,520   6,620     6,319   5,083   2,264   6,483   5,416   2,458   6,501     8,947   6,461   2,665   10,119   7,239   2,773   9,412     11,676   8,627   3,459   11,488   8,231   3,403   9,722     12,321   9,389   3,621   11,451     11,158   8,538   3,614   11,082     11,288   7,966   3,466   10,817     6,642   5,479   2,559   6,725     7,101   6,061   2,556   6,930     7,206   6,071   2,734   7,824     11,284   7,824   1,082     11,284   7,206   6,071   2,734   7,824     12,324   7,824   7,824     13,264   7,206   7,206   7,206   7,206     13,265   7,206   7,206   7,206     14,265   7,206   7,206     15,265   7,206   7,206     15,265   7,206   7,206     15,265	TIMTERGS   TTC   TTC

Our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are each part of a joint rate zone. The load data presented is for all transmission owners in the respective joint rate zone and is used for billing network revenues. Each of our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries makes up the most significant portion of the rates or revenue requirement billed to network load within their respective joint rate zone.

## Capital Investment and Operating Results Trends

We expect a general trend of increases in revenues and earnings for our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries over the long term. The primary factor that is expected to continue to increase our actual revenue requirements in future years is our anticipated capital investment in excess of depreciation as a result of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' long-term capital investment programs to improve reliability and interconnect new generating resources, as well as the Entergy Transaction. In addition, our capital investment efforts relating to development initiatives are based on establishing an ongoing pipeline of projects that will position us for long-term growth. Investments in property, plant and equipment, when placed in service upon completion of a capital project, are added to the rate base of our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries. Additionally, construction work in progress balances for our KETA Project and Kansas V-Plan Project are included in rate base prior to being placed in service, and are expected to result in significant revenues in 2012 compared to 2011.

Our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries strive for high reliability of their systems and to improve accessibility to generation sources of choice, including renewable sources. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 requires the FERC to implement mandatory electric transmission reliability standards to be enforced by an Electric Reliability Organization. Effective June 2007, the FERC approved mandatory adoption of certain reliability standards and approved enforcement actions for violators, including fines of up to \$1.0 million per day. The NERC was assigned the responsibility of developing and enforcing these mandatory reliability standards. We continually assess our transmission systems against standards established by the NERC, as well as the standards of applicable regional entities under the NERC that have been delegated certain authority for the purpose of proposing and enforcing reliability standards. We believe we meet the applicable standards in all material respects, although further investment in our transmission systems and an increase in maintenance activities will likely be needed to maintain compliance, improve reliability and address any new standards that may be promulgated.

On October 7, 2010, the NERC issued a recommendation for transmission owners to inspect their transmission systems in order to verify their facility ratings methodology is based on actual field conditions. Each of our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries is undertaking a program to assess its system as a response to the recommendation. There are likely to be costs associated with the assessment and potential system modifications to mitigate instances where actual field conditions necessitate a facility rating that is unacceptable to the reliable operation of the transmission system. The costs and timing for any mitigation will be determined after the assessment is completed, and the appropriate mitigation is planned and may result

in significant operating expenses and/or capital investment. These operating expenses and capital investments would be recovered through higher revenue requirements under the cost-based formula rates of our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries.

We also assess our transmission systems against our own planning criteria that are filed annually with the FERC. Based on our planning studies, we see needs to make capital investments to (1) rebuild existing property, plant and equipment; (2) upgrade the system to address demographic changes that have impacted transmission load and the changing role that transmission plays in meeting the needs of the wholesale market, including accommodating the siting of new generation or to increase import capacity to meet changes in peak electrical demand; (3) relieve congestion in the transmission systems; and (4) achieve state and federal policy goals, such as renewable generation portfolio standards. The following table shows our expected and actual capital investment for each of the Regulated Operating Subsidiaries:

		Actual Capital	Forecasted Capital
	Five-Year Capital	Investment for the	Investment for the
(in millions)	Investment Program	six months ended	year ending
Operating Subsidiary	2012-2016 (a)	June 30, 2012 (b)	December 31, 2012
ITCTransmission	\$739	\$104.9	\$195 — 215
METC	581	84.6	145 - 160
ITC Midwest	1,128	182.2	315 - 335
ITC Great Plains (c)	343	57.5	95 — 110
Development (d)	1,390		
Total	\$4,181	\$429.2	\$750 — 820

The current five-year capital investment program does not include anticipated expenditures related to the Entergy (a) Transaction. The investments in property, plant and equipment would be expected to increase significantly upon closing of that transaction.

Capital investment amounts differ from cash expenditures for property, plant and equipment included in our condensed consolidated statements of cash flows due in part to differences in construction costs incurred compared

<sup>(</sup>b) to cash paid during that period, as well as payments for major equipment inventory that are included in cash expenditures but not included in capital investment until transferred to construction work in progress, among other factors.

ITC Great Plains' investment program includes the KETA Project, Kansas V-Plan Project and Hugo-to-Valliant Project.

<sup>(</sup>d) Includes expenditures to construct various development projects such as our portions of the four MISO MVPs. Investments in property, plant and equipment could vary due to, among other things, the impact of actual loads, forecasted loads, regional economic conditions, weather conditions, union strikes, labor shortages, material and equipment prices and availability, our ability to obtain financing for such expenditures, if necessary, limitations on the amount of construction that can be undertaken on our systems at any one time, regulatory approvals for reasons relating to rate construct, environmental, siting, regional planning, cost recovery or other issues or as a result of legal proceedings and variances between estimated and actual costs of construction contracts awarded. In addition, investments in transmission network upgrades for generator interconnection projects could change from prior estimates significantly due to changes in the MISO queue for generation projects, the generator's potential failure to meet the various criteria of Attachment FF of the MISO tariff for the project to qualify as a refundable network upgrade, and other factors beyond our control.

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Results of Operations and Variances

Results of Operations	Three months ended June 30, Increase						Percentage Six months ended increase June 30,			ended	Increase		Percentage increase			
(in thousands)	2012		2011		(decrease	(:	(decreas	e)	2012	2011	(	(decrease)	)	(decreas	se)	
OPERATING REVENUES OPERATING	\$197,375	5	\$185,098	}	\$12,277		6.6	%	\$394,088	\$364,484	\$	\$29,604		8.1	%	
EXPENSES Operation and maintenance	30,058		28,837		1,221		4.2	%	58,770	55,121	3	3,649		6.6	%	
General and administrative	27,876		19,289		8,587		44.5	%	50,885	35,869	1	15,016		41.9	%	
Depreciation and amortization	25,976		23,352		2,624		11.2	%	50,987	46,440	4	1,547		9.8	%	
Taxes other than income taxes	15,185		13,556		1,629		12.0	%	29,465	27,164	2	2,301		8.5	%	
Other operating (income) and expenses — net	(203	)	(167	)	(36	)	21.6	%	(396 )	(316)	) (	[80	)	25.3	%	
Total operating expenses	98,892		84,867		14,025		16.5	%	189,711	164,278	2	25,433		15.5	%	
OPERATING INCOME OTHER EXPENSES	98,483		100,231		(1,748	)	(1.7	)%	204,377	200,206	4	1,171		2.1	%	
(INCOME)																
Interest expense Allowance for equity	40,084		36,484		3,600		9.9	%	77,994	72,754	5	5,240		7.2	%	
funds used during construction	(4,554	)	(4,099	)	(455	)	11.1	%	(10,178)	(7,609)	(	(2,569	)	33.8	%	
Other income Other expense	(1,226 472	)	(497 1,594	)	•	-	146.7 (70.4		(1,287 ) 1,058	(718 ) 2,269	•	. ,	_	79.2 (53.4	% )%	
Total other expenses (income)	34,776		33,482		1,294		3.9	%	67,587	66,696	8	391		1.3	%	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	63,707		66,749		(3,042	)	(4.6	)%	136,790	133,510	3	3,280		2.5	%	
INCOME TAX PROVISION	21,321		23,753		(2,432	)	(10.2	)%	48,353	48,512	(	[159]	)	(0.3	)%	
NET INCOME Operating Revenues	\$42,386		\$42,996		\$(610	)	(1.4	)%	\$88,437	\$84,998	\$	\$3,439		4.0	%	

Operating Revenues

Three months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three months ended June 30, 2011

The following table sets forth the components of and changes in operating revenues:

								Percent	age
	2012			2011			Increase	increase	e
(in thousands)	Amount	Percent	age	Amount	Percent	age	(decrease)	(decrea	se)
Network revenues	\$156,453	79.3	%	\$153,947	83.2	%	\$2,506	1.6	%
Regional cost sharing revenues	29,240	14.8	%	20,433	11.0	%	8,807	43.1	%
Point-to-point	4,462	2.3	%	3,990	2.1	%	472	11.8	%
Scheduling, control and dispatch	3,704	1.9	%	3,838	2.1	%	(134	) (3.5	)%

Other	3,516	1.7	% 2,890	1.6	% 626	21.7	%
Total	\$197,375	100.0	% \$185,098	100.0	% \$12,277	6.6	%

Network revenues increased due primarily to higher revenue requirements at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries during the three months ended June 30, 2012 as compared to the same period in 2011. Higher net revenue requirements were due primarily to higher rate bases associated with higher balances of property, plant and equipment in-service and higher recoverable expenses due to higher operating expenses, partially offset by the final amortization of the ITCTransmission rate freeze revenue deferral in May 2011 and the recognition of the FERC audit refund totaling \$11.0 million during the second quarter of 2012 as discussed in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements under "Commitments and Contingent Liabilities — FERC Audit of ITC Midwest." Regional cost sharing revenues increased due primarily to additional capital projects that have been identified by MISO as eligible for regional cost sharing and these projects being placed in-service. We continue to receive regional cost sharing revenues and the amounts could increase in the near future, including revenues associated with projects that have been or are expected to be approved for regional cost sharing.

Six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to six months ended June 30, 2011 The following table sets forth the components of and changes in operating revenues:

								Percent	tage
	2012			2011			Increase	increas	e
(in thousands)	Amount	Percenta	age	Amount	Percenta	age	(decrease)	(decrea	se)
Network revenues	\$319,609	81.1	%	\$306,427	84.1	%	\$13,182	4.3	%
Regional cost sharing revenues	54,716	13.9	%	40,039	11.0	%	14,677	36.7	%
Point-to-point	8,587	2.2	%	7,711	2.1	%	876	11.4	%
Scheduling, control and dispatch	7,079	1.8	%	6,828	1.9	%	251	3.7	%
Other	4,097	1.0	%	3,479	0.9	%	618	17.8	%
Total	\$394,088	100.0	%	\$364,484	100.0	%	\$29,604	8.1	%

Network revenues increased due primarily to higher revenue requirements at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries during the six months ended June 30, 2012 as compared to the same period in 2011. Higher net revenue requirements were due primarily to higher rate bases associated with higher balances of property, plant and equipment in-service and higher recoverable expenses due to higher operating expenses, partially offset by the final amortization of the ITCTransmission rate freeze revenue deferral in May 2011 and the recognition of the FERC audit refund totaling \$11.0 million during the second quarter of 2012 as discussed in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements under "Commitments and Contingent Liabilities — FERC Audit of ITC Midwest."

Regional cost sharing revenues increased due primarily to additional capital projects that have been identified by MISO as eligible for regional cost sharing and these projects being placed in-service. We continue to receive regional cost sharing revenues and the amounts could increase in the near future, including revenues associated with projects that have been or are expected to be approved for regional cost sharing.

Operating revenues for the six months ended June 30, 2012 include the network revenue accruals (deferrals) and regional cost sharing revenue accruals (deferrals) as calculated below:

							Total
					ITC	ITC Great	net revenue
Line	Item	ITCTransmission	on	METC	Midwest	Plains	deferrals
	(in thousands)						
1	Estimated net revenue requirement (a)	\$ 118,784		\$97,013	\$114,407	\$425	
2	Network revenues billed (b)	119,264		92,461	111,711	499	
3	Network revenue accruals (deferrals) (line 1 — line 2)	(480	)	4,552	2,696	(74)	
4	Regional cost sharing revenue accruals (deferrals) (c)	(992	)	(3,491 )	1,176	(5,445)	
5	Total net revenue accruals (deferrals) (line 3 + line 4)	\$ (1,472	)	\$1,061	\$3,872	\$(5,519)	\$(2,058)

The calculation of net revenue requirement for our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries is described in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 under "Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition

<sup>(</sup>a) and Results of Operations — Cost-Based Formula Rates with True-Up Mechanism — Revenue Requirement Calculation." The amount is estimated for each reporting period until such time as FERC Form No. 1's are completed for our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries.

<sup>(</sup>b) Network revenues billed at our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries are calculated based on the joint zone monthly network peak load multiplied by their effective monthly network rates for 2012 of \$2.188 per kW/month, \$2.409 per kW/month and \$6.797 per kW/month applicable to ITCTransmission, METC and ITC Midwest, respectively, adjusted for the actual number of days in the month less amounts recovered or refunded associated with our MISO Regulated Operating Subsidiaries 2010 true-up adjustments. The rates for 2012 include amounts for the collection and refund of the 2010 revenue accruals and deferrals and related accrued interest and the

revenues billed in 2012 associated with the 2010 revenue accruals and deferrals are not included in these amounts. Our rates at ITC Great Plains are billed ratably each month based on its annual projected net revenue requirement. Regional cost sharing revenues are subject to a separate true-up mechanism whereby our Regulated Operating (c) Subsidiaries accrue or defer revenues for any over- or under-recovery. The related revenue accruals or deferrals associated with regional cost sharing revenues are included in the regional cost sharing revenue amounts.

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**Operating Expenses** 

Operation and maintenance expenses

Three months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three months ended June 30, 2011

Operation and maintenance expenses increased due to higher vegetation management requirements of \$3.9 million, partially offset by a \$1.2 million decrease due to lower relay work for certain preventative maintenance activities and a \$0.9 million reduction in substation maintenance expenses.

Six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to six months ended June 30, 2011

Operation and maintenance expenses increased due to higher vegetation management requirements of \$6.1 million and higher NERC compliance activities associated with surveying transmission overhead lines of \$1.7 million. These increases were partially offset by a \$1.7 million decrease due to lower relay work for certain preventative maintenance activities and \$1.0 million due to reduced substation maintenance expenses.

General and administrative expenses

Three months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three months ended June 30, 2011

General and administrative expenses increased due to higher professional advisory and consulting services related to legal, advisory and financial services fees for the Entergy Transaction of \$4.1 million, higher compensation-related expenses of \$2.7 million and higher general business expenses of \$1.1 million primarily related to increased information technology support.

Six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to six months ended June 30, 2011

General and administrative expenses increased due to higher professional advisory and consulting services related to legal, advisory and financial services fees for the Entergy Transaction of \$6.5 million, higher general business expenses of \$2.9 million primarily related to increased information technology support, \$2.8 million due to higher compensation-related expenses and \$2.1 million due to the recognition of the Kansas V-Plan Project regulatory asset which reduced expenses in 2011 and did not reoccur in 2012.

Depreciation and amortization expenses

Three and six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three and six months ended June 30, 2011

Depreciation and amortization expenses increased due primarily to a higher depreciable base resulting from property, plant and equipment additions.

Taxes other than income taxes

Three and six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three and six months ended June 30, 2011

Taxes other than income taxes increased due to higher property tax expenses due primarily to our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries' 2011 capital additions, which are included in the assessments for 2012 personal property taxes.

Other Expenses (Income)

Three months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three months ended June 30, 2011

Interest expense increased due primarily to additional interest expense associated with an increase in borrowing levels under our revolving credit agreements as well as the recognition of interest expense related to the FERC audit refund during the second quarter of 2012 as discussed in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements under "Commitments and Contingent Liabilities — FERC Audit of ITC Midwest."

Allowance for Equity Funds Used During Construction ("AFUDC equity") increased due primarily to higher capital expenditures during the period.

Six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to six months ended June 30, 2011

Interest expense increased due primarily to additional interest expense associated with an increase in borrowing levels under our revolving credit agreements in addition to the issuance of ITC Midwest's \$100.0 million of 3.50% First Mortgage Bonds, Series E, due January 2027 in January 2012 as well as the recognition of interest expense related to the FERC audit refund during the second quarter of 2012 as discussed in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements under "Commitments and Contingent Liabilities — FERC Audit of ITC Midwest."

AFUDC equity increased due primarily to higher capital expenditures during the period.

**Income Tax Provision** 

Three months ended June 30, 2012 compared to three months ended June 30, 2011

Our effective tax rates for the three months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 were 33.5% and 35.6%, respectively. Our effective tax rate differs from our 35% statutory federal income tax rate due primarily to state income taxes as well as the tax effects of AFUDC equity which reduces the effective tax rate. The amount of income tax expense relating to AFUDC equity is recognized as a regulatory asset and not included in the income tax provision. We recorded a state income tax provision of less than \$0.1 million (net of federal deductibility) during the three months ended June 30, 2012, compared to a state income tax provision of \$1.4 million (net of federal deductibility) for the three months ended June 30, 2011.

Six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to six months ended June 30, 2011

Our effective tax rates for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 were 35.3% and 36.3%, respectively. Our effective tax rate differs from our 35% statutory federal income tax rate due primarily to state income taxes as well as the tax effects of AFUDC equity which reduces the effective tax rate. The amount of income tax expense relating to AFUDC equity is recognized as a regulatory asset and not included in the income tax provision. We recorded a state income tax provision of \$2.4 million (net of federal deductibility) during the six months ended June 30, 2012, compared to a state income tax provision of \$3.6 million (net of federal deductibility) for the six months ended June 30, 2011.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We expect to fund our future capital requirements with cash from operations, our existing cash and cash equivalents and amounts available under our revolving credit agreements (described in Note 5 to the condensed consolidated financial statements). In addition, we may from time to time secure debt and equity funding in the capital markets, although we can provide no assurance that we will be able to obtain financing on favorable terms or at all. We expect that our capital requirements will arise principally from our need to:

Fund capital expenditures at our Regulated Operating Subsidiaries and, following the close of the Entergy

Transaction, capital expenditures at the subsidiaries of Mid South TransCo. Our plans with regard to property, plant and equipment investments are described in detail above under "— Capital Investment and Operating Results Trends."

Fund business development expenses and related capital expenditures. We are pursuing development activities for transmission projects which will continue to result in the incurrence of development expenses and could result in significant capital expenditures.

Fund working capital requirements.

Fund our debt service requirements. We expect our interest payments to increase each year as a result of additional debt we expect to incur to fund our capital expenditures.

Fund dividends or any recapitalization to holders of our common stock.

Fund contributions to our retirement plans, as described in Note 9 to the condensed consolidated financial statements. In addition to the expected capital requirements above, any adverse determinations relating to the contingencies described in Note 12 to the condensed consolidated financial statements would result in additional capital requirements.

We believe that we have sufficient capital resources to meet our currently anticipated short-term needs. We rely on both internal and external sources of liquidity to provide working capital and to fund capital investments. We expect to continue to utilize our revolving credit agreements and our cash and cash equivalents as needed to meet our short-term cash requirements. In May 2012, we entered into a new revolving credit agreement at ITC Midwest for \$175.0 million as described in Note 5 to the condensed consolidated financial statements, which increased our

borrowing capacity by \$59.0 million. During 2011, we

entered into new revolving credit agreements at ITC Holdings, ITC Great Plains, ITCTransmission and METC in the amount of \$200.0 million, \$150.0 million, \$100.0 million and \$100.0 million, respectively. As of June 30, 2012, we had consolidated indebtedness under our revolving credit agreements of \$419.1 million, with unused capacity under the agreements of \$305.9 million.

For our long-term capital requirements, including the funding of the anticipated \$700 million recapitalization in connection with the Entergy Transaction, we expect that we will need to obtain additional debt financing. Certain of our capital projects could be delayed in the event we experience difficulties in accessing capital. We expect to be able to obtain such additional financing as needed in amounts and upon terms that will be reasonably satisfactory to us. Credit Ratings

Credit ratings by nationally recognized statistical rating agencies are an important component of our liquidity profile. Credit ratings relate to our ability to issue debt securities and the cost to borrow money, and should not be viewed as an indication of future stock performance or a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold securities. Ratings are subject to revision or withdrawal at any time and each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. Our current credit ratings are displayed in the following table. An explanation of these ratings may be obtained from the respective rating agency.

	Issuer	Issuance	Standard and Poor's Ratings Services (a)	Moody's Investor Service, Inc. (b)
ITC Holdings	Senior Unsecured Notes		BBB	Baa2
ITCTransmission	First Mortgage Bonds		A	A1
METC	Senior Secured Notes		A	A1
ITC Midwest	First Mortgage Bonds		A	A1
ITC Great Plains	<b>Unsecured Credit Facility</b>		BBB+	Baa1

On December 5, 2011, Standard and Poor's Financial Services upgraded the credit ratings of ITC Holdings, (a) ITCTransmission, METC, ITC Midwest and ITC Great Plains debt. All of the ratings have a stable outlook.

#### Covenants

Our debt instruments include senior notes, secured notes, first mortgage bonds and revolving credit agreements containing numerous financial and operating covenants that place significant restrictions, which are described in Note 5 to the condensed consolidated financial statements and in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. We are currently in compliance with all debt covenants and in the event of a downgrade in our credit ratings, none of the covenants would be directly impacted, although the borrowing costs under our revolving credit agreements would increase.

#### Cash Flows From Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$133.7 million and \$167.8 million for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The decrease in cash provided by operating activities was due primarily to an increase in payments of operating expense of \$23.3 million, including legal, advisory and financial services fees for the Entergy Transaction, and higher income taxes paid of \$10.5 million during the six months ended June 30, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011. These decreases were partially offset by a decrease in interest payments (net of interest capitalized) of \$11.6 million.

#### Cash Flows From Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities was \$441.3 million and \$230.8 million for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The increase in cash used in investing activities was due primarily to higher investments in property, plant and equipment as we executed our capital investment plan described under "— Overview — Capital Investment and Operating Results Trends."

Moody's Investor Service, Inc. updated their credit opinions on April 20, 2012 and made no changes to the credit ratings. All of the ratings have a stable outlook.

#### Cash Flows From Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$287.8 million and \$49.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The increase in cash provided by financing activities was due primarily to the proceeds of \$100.0 million received from the issuance of ITC Midwest's 3.50% First Mortgage Bonds, Series E, the net increase of \$149.4 million in amounts outstanding under our revolving credit agreements as well as an increase of \$4.1 million in net proceeds associated with refundable deposits for transmission network upgrades. These increases were partially offset by a decrease of \$12.2 million due to the issuance of common stock upon exercise of outstanding options during the six months ended June 30, 2012 as compared to the same period in 2011.

#### **CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

Our contractual obligations are described in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. There have been no material changes to that information during the six months ended June 30, 2012, other than amounts borrowed under our revolving credit agreements as described in Note 5 to the condensed consolidated financial statements and the issuance on January 19, 2012 of \$100.0 million of 3.50% First Mortgage Bonds, Series E, due January 2027 that, as previously disclosed in the 2011 Form 10-K, ITC Midwest had committed to issue in November 2011 and which were not included in the contractual obligations table as of December 31, 2011.

#### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Our condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). The preparation of these condensed consolidated financial statements requires the application of appropriate technical accounting rules and guidance, as well as the use of estimates. The application of these policies necessarily involves judgments regarding future events. These estimates and judgments, in and of themselves, could materially impact the condensed consolidated financial statements and disclosures based on varying assumptions, as future events rarely develop exactly as forecasted, and even the best estimates routinely require adjustment. The accounting policies discussed in "Item 7 — Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Critical Accounting Policies" in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 are considered by management to be the most important to an understanding of the consolidated financial statements because of their significance to the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations or because their application places the most significant demands on management's judgment and estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. There have been no material changes to that information during the six months ended June 30, 2012.

#### RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

See Note 2 to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

# ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

# Fixed Rate Long-Term Debt

Based on the borrowing rates currently available for bank loans with similar terms and average maturities, the fair value of our consolidated long-term debt, excluding revolving credit agreements, was \$2,999.7 million at June 30, 2012. The total book value of our consolidated long-term debt, excluding revolving credit agreements, was \$2,544.2 million at June 30, 2012. We performed an analysis calculating the impact of changes in interest rates on the fair value of long-term debt, excluding revolving credit agreements, at June 30, 2012. An increase in interest rates of 10% (from 7.0% to 7.7%, for example) at June 30, 2012 would decrease the fair value of debt by \$69.3 million, and a decrease in interest rates of 10% at June 30, 2012 would increase the fair value of debt by \$73.6 million at that date.

#### **Revolving Credit Agreements**

At June 30, 2012, we had a consolidated total of \$419.1 million outstanding under our revolving credit agreements, which are variable rate loans and fair value approximates book value. A 10% increase or decrease in borrowing rates under the revolving credit agreements compared to the weighted average rates in effect at June 30, 2012 would increase or decrease the total interest expense by \$0.7 million, respectively, for an annual period on a constant borrowing level of \$419.1 million.

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Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

We use derivative financial instruments, including interest rate swap contracts, to manage our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates. The use of these financial instruments mitigates exposure to these risks and the variability of our operating results. We are not a party to leveraged derivatives and do not enter into derivative financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes. The interest rate swaps manage interest rate risk associated with the forecasted future issuance of fixed-rate debt related to the expected refinancing of the \$267.0 million ITC Holdings 5.25% Senior Notes, due July 15, 2013, prior to its maturity.

Other

As described in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, we are subject to commodity price risk from market price fluctuations, and to credit risk primarily with Detroit Edison, Consumers Energy and IP&L, our primary customers. There have been no material changes in these risks during the six months ended June 30, 2012.

## ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that material information required to be disclosed in our reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required financial disclosure. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that a control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, with a company have been detected.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15 of the Exchange Act. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective, at the reasonable assurance level.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the three months ended June 30, 2012 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

For information regarding risk factors affecting us, see "Item 1A Risk Factors" of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. There have been no material changes to the risk factors set forth therein.

#### ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALE OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The following table sets forth the repurchases of common stock for the quarter ended June 30, 2012:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (a)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan or Program (b)	Maximum Number or Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (b)
April 2012	1,404	\$77.19	_	_
May 2012	39,793	69.06	_	_
June 2012	677	69.09	_	_
Total	41,874	\$69.33	_	_

<sup>(</sup>a) Shares acquired were delivered to us by employees as payment of tax withholding obligations due to us upon the vesting of restricted stock.

#### ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

In June 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") revised guidance on the presentation of comprehensive income in financial statements. Entities are required to report components of comprehensive income in either a continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. We adopted this standard as of January 1, 2012 and present net income and comprehensive income in a continuous statement. The table below reflects the retrospective application of this guidance for each of the three years ended December 31. The retrospective application did not have a material impact on our results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

	Year ended	December 31,	
(in thousands)	2011	2010	2009
NET INCOME	\$171,685	\$145,678	\$130,900
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Amortization of interest rate lock cash flow hedges (net of tax of \$1, \$34			
and \$34 for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively)	97	64	64
Unrealized gain (loss) on interest rate swaps relating to interest rate cash			
flow hedges (net of tax of \$10,705 and \$1,211 for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively)	(16,653	) 1,889	_
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS), NET OF TAX	(16,556	) 1,953	64
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	\$155,129	\$147,631	\$130,964

The revised FASB guidance also had an effect on and was adopted for our Schedule 1 — Condensed Financial Information of Registrant for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 as of January 1, 2012. The retroactive application of this guidance to Schedule 1 for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 resulted in the same effect as the table above for the consolidated financial statements.

<sup>(</sup>b) We do not have a publicly announced share repurchase plan.

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# ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

The following exhibits are filed as part of this report (unless otherwise noted to be previously filed, and therefore incorporated herein by reference). Our SEC file number is 001-32576.

Exhibit No.	Description of Document ITC Midwest Revolving Credit Agreement dated as of May 31, 2012 (filed with Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 1, 2012)
10.104	Form of Stock Option Agreement for Executive Officers under Second Amended and Restated 2006 LTIP (May 2012)
10.105	Form of Restricted Stock Award Agreement for Executive Officers under Second Amended and Restated 2006 LTIP (May 2012)
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Database
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase

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#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Dated: August 1, 2012

## ITC HOLDINGS CORP.

By: /s/ Joseph L. Welch Joseph L. Welch President and Chief Executive Officer (duly authorized officer)

By: /s/ Cameron M. Bready
Cameron M. Bready
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(principal financial officer and principal accounting officer)