

### NYSE LISTED

**WTRG** 

Essential

# **First Quarter 2024** May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024



# **Brian Dingerdissen**

Vice President, Investor Relations and Treasury



# **Forward Looking Statement**

This presentation contains in addition to historical information, forward looking statements based on assumptions made by management regarding future circumstances over which the company may have little or no control, that involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions; weather conditions affecting customers' usage or the company's cost of operations; costs arising from changes in regulations; regulatory treatment of rate increase requests; availability and cost of capital; the success of growth initiatives, including pending acquisitions; the ability to generate earnings from capital investment; and other factors discussed in our Form 10-K, which is on file with the SEC. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement.

#### **Non-GAAP** Reconciliation

For reconciliation of non-GAAP financial measures, see the Investor Relations section of the company's Web site at www.essential.co

# **Christopher Franklin**

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer



# **Corporate Updates**





# Solidifying the Strength of Our Board



### Tamara L. Linde

Executive Vice President and General Counsel, PSEG

- Ms. Linde has over 30 years of experience in various roles with responsibilities involving energy, regulatory, legal, risk, environmental, governmental affairs, and transactions
  - Ms. Linde is on the board of Community Foundation of New Jersey, PSEG Foundation and is a Member of the American Arbitration Association / International Centre for Dispute Resolution Council (AAA / ICDR)
- Ms. Linde is a graduate of Seton Hall University from which she holds a bachelor's degree in History and a Juris Doctorate degree from Seton Hall University School of Law



**Key Skills** 

Financial

Regulatory

Leadership

 Mergers & Acquisitions ٠

### **Christopher L. Bruner**

#### Partner, Ernst & Young (Retiring 12/2024)

- Mr. Bruner has over 35 years of experience in various roles with responsibilities involving finance, audit, strategy, mergers and acquisitions
- Mr. Bruner has served on several non-profit boards including member and Chair of Mann Center for the Performing Arts, member and Chair of the Audit Committee of Main Line Health Board, and member and Treasurer of The Union League of Philadelphia
- Mr. Bruner is a graduate of Indiana University from which he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting

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#### **Key Skills**

- Utility Industry
- Legal/Government
- Regulatory
- Leadership
- C-Suite Experience
- Geographic Diversity

Industryleading approach to PFAS mitigation Aqua Started Testing and Addressing PFAS for More than Five Years



Voluntary Reporting of PFAS Test Results in Water Quality Reports Recent Completion of PFAS Treatment Facility in NJ



# **Mike Huwar**

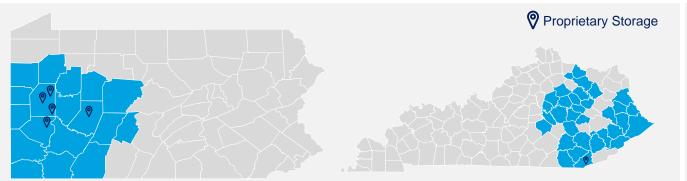
President, Peoples





# Targeting ~10% Rate Base CAGR<sup>1</sup>

#### LOCATED IN CONSTRUCTIVE REGULATORY JURISDICTIONS



**Largest** natural gas distribution company in PA with **\$3.3 billion** of rate base as of year-end 2023

Serving more than 743,000 customers as of year-end 2023 Operations located near plentiful, **low-cost natural gas sources** 

#### **OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

#### **OUTSTANDING HAZARDOUS LEAKAGE RECORD**

Reduction of over 80% of gas leaks outstanding at year end 2023 since 2019

#### LEADING MILE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM IN PA

Large scale modernization program with **peer-leading** replacement cost per mile

#### FOCUSING ON CUSTOMER AFFORDABILITY

Continued value for customers with **annual bills of less than \$1,000** per average household

#### **DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE**

**Peer-group leader** 3-years running within PA PUC<sup>(2)</sup> **customer service performance** report



# Peoples Natural Gas

Overview of Pennsylvania Rate Case Filing

	Case Details	
<b>Filed:</b> 12/29/2023	<b>Revenue:</b> \$671.5M	<b>Equity:</b> 54.67%
Rates Expected: October 2024	<b>Increase:</b> \$156.0M, or 18.7%	<b>ROE:</b> 11.75%
Rate Base through	the Fully-Projected Future Te	st Year as of 9/30/2025:
	\$4.2B up from \$2.1B in last case	)
Significant	\$4.28 up from \$2.18 in last case	
		ast Rate Case

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# Increasing Safety and Limiting Risk with Focus on the Customer

#### Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement Plan (LTIIP)



#### **Current Phase of LTIIP**

- Covers from 2021 to 2025
- Targets 870 miles of replacement at \$1.5B of capital investment

#### **Status of Current Phase**

- Peoples has modernized 511 miles<sup>(1)</sup>
- Significant contributor to reduction of CO2 emissions

### Peoples Expects to File for Additional LTIIPs after the Current Phase Ends

### Operational Improvements through Technology Initiatives



#### Safety Improvements

- Advanced metering technology
  - Pilot program in 2024
- Over-pressure protection program
  - Improves detection and response times

#### **Operational Improvements**

Enhancing the tracking and traceability of the systems



### **Daniel Schuller**

EVP, Chief Financial Officer



### Q1 Financial Highlights As of March 31, 2024

(\$ in millions, except per share data)	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Operating Revenues	\$726.5	\$612.1
Purchased Gas	\$256.3	\$129.7
<b>Operations and Maintenance Expense</b>	\$138.0	\$136.9
Operating Income	\$225.5	\$230.7
Net Income	\$191.4	\$265.8
Net Income per Share	\$0.72	\$0.97

#### Revenues

 Lower purchased gas costs and other items were the main drivers of the revenue decrease for the quarter; offset by additional revenues from regulatory recoveries, customer growth from the regulated water segment, and higher regulated natural gas segment and water segment volumes.

#### O&M

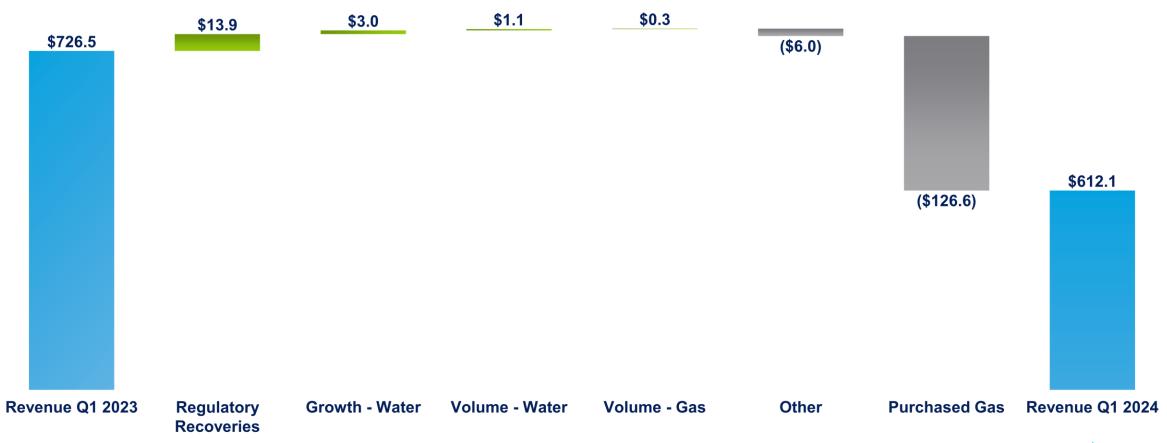
 Decreases in the gas customer rider and other items were the main drivers for the quarter; offset by higher water production costs, employee-related costs, and expenses related to added acquisitions.



# **Operating Revenues**

### Q1 2024 vs. Q1 2023

### **Change in Operating Revenues (millions)**





# **Operations & Maintenance Expenses**

### Q1 2024 vs. Q1 2023

**Change in Operations & Maintenance Expense (millions)** 



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# **Earnings per Common Share**

### Q1 2024 vs. Q1 2023

#### **Change in Earnings Per Share**



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# **Regulatory Activity**

As of May 1, 2024

2024 COMPLETED REGULATORY RECOVERIES

Water segment base rate cases or surcharges in IL, NC, OH and PA with annualized revenue increase of \$13.7 million

Gas segment surcharges in KY and PA with annualized revenue increase of \$1.0 million

#### PENDING REGULATORY RECOVERIES

Water segment base rate cases or surcharges in IL, NJ, TX and VA with requested annualized revenue increase of \$43.2 million

Gas segment base rate case in PA with requested annualized revenue increase of \$156.0 million



# **Christopher Franklin**

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer



# **Pending Municipal Transactions**

### ~\$385M of Pending Rate Base is Expected to Generate ~\$19M of Incremental Annual Earnings Potential<sup>(1)</sup>



#### DELCORA

- Wastewater
- 198,000 customers<sup>(2)</sup>
- \$276.5M purchase price



#### **BEAVER FALLS**

- Wastewater
- 7.600 customers<sup>(2)</sup>
- \$41.25M purchase price



#### GREENVILLE

- Wastewater
- •2,300 customers
- \$18.0M purchase price



~\$385.0M **Total Purchase Price** 



#### WESTFIELD HOA

- Wastewater
- 225 customers
- \$0.05M purchase price



#### GREENVILLE

- Water
- 3,000 customers
- \$18.0M purchase price



- Wastewater
- •4,400 customers
- \$30.0M purchase price<sup>(3)</sup>

We are **actively** pursuing acquisition opportunities in most of our states, totaling over 400,000 customers

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This is an illustrative earnings assumption based on an assumed 50% debt / 50% equity capital structure and a hypothetical 10% allowed return on equity.

Essential's estimate of the number of equivalent dwelling units. 2)

3) Subject to evaluation adjustment.

# **Guidance Outlook**

**Growth Targets** 

FY 2024 net income per diluted common share target of \$1.96 - \$2.00<sup>(1)</sup> Regulated utility rate base CAGR of 8% through 2028

**\$1.3 to \$1.4B** infrastructure investment for 2024 Infrastructure investments of ~\$7.2B,weighted towards regulated water through 2028

**Aqua Targets** 

Segment rate base CAGR of approximately 8% through 2028 Segment customer base annual growth rate of between 2 and 3% over the long-term

**Peoples Targets** 

Segment rate base CAGR of approximately 10% through 2028 Segment customer base expected to be stable through 2024

1) As published during YE 2023 Earnings Call in February 2024. Due to the 1Q 2024 results (i.e., gain on sale of the energy plant assets and lower regulated natural gas operating revenues because of the warmer-than-normal weather), we anticipate exceeding this guidance.



# Questions





# **For More Information Contact:**



### **Brian Dingerdissen**

Vice President, Investor Relations and Treasury

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# Appendix



2023 Regulatory Activity Completed

State	Docket Number	Segment	Туре	Requested Annualized Revenue Increase (\$thousands)
		Water	Rate Case	\$1,569
Ohio	22-1094-WW-AIR	Water	Rate Case	\$4,498
	22-1096-ST-AIR	Wastewater	Rate Case	\$352
Indiana		Wastewater	Rate Case	\$134
Illinois		Water	Surcharge	\$1,352
minois		Wastewater	Surcharge	\$567
Virginia	PUR-2022-00113	Wastewater	Surcharge	\$15
	W-218, Sub 573	Water	Rate Case – Year 1	\$9,706
	W-218, Sub 573	Wastewater	Rate Case – Year 1	\$4,294
North	W-218, Sub 573	Water	Rate Case – Year 2 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$2,632
Carolina	W-218, Sub 573	Wastewater	Rate Case – Year 2 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1,111
-	W-218, Sub 573	Water	Rate Case – Year 3 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$2,820
	W-218, Sub 573	Wastewater	Rate Case – Year 3 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1,310
		Gas	Surcharge	\$20,887
	M-2023-3041386	Water	Surcharge	\$867
Pennsylvania	M-2023-3041418	Wastewater	Surcharge	\$63
	M-2023-30343171	Water	Surcharge	\$5,477
	M-2023-3043200	Wastewater	Surcharge	(\$73)
New Jersey	WR22050360	Water	Surcharge	\$2,173
Kentucky	2022-00341	Gas	Surcharge	\$385
Taura	53428	Water	Surcharge	\$6,010
Texas	53428	Wastewater	Surcharge	\$2,378
			Total	\$68,527

Rates effective 1/1/2024.
 Rates effective 1/1/2025.

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# 2024 Regulatory Activity Completed As of May 1, 2024

State	Docket Number	Segment	Туре	Requested Annualized Revenue Increase (\$thousands)
Ohio		Water	Rate Case	\$1,627
North Coroling	W-218, Sub 573	Water	Rate Case – Year 2	\$2,632
North Carolina	W-218, Sub 573	Wastewater	Rate Case – Year 2	\$1,111
Pennsylvania		Gas	Surcharge	\$(256)
	M-2023-3045036	Water	Surcharge	\$5,626
	M-2023-3045037	Wastewater	Surcharge	\$142
Illinois		Water	Surcharge	\$1,823
		Wastewater	Surcharge	\$693
Kentucky	2023-00343	Gas	Surcharge	\$1,220
			Total	\$14,618

### Regulatory Activity Pending As of May 1, 2024

State	Docket Number	Segment	Туре	Requested Annualized Revenue Increase (\$thousands)
	22-0044	Water	Rate Case	\$10,741
Illinois	22-0044	Wastewater	Rate Case	\$8,455
Virginia	PUR-2023-00073	Water	Rate Case	\$5,215
Virginia PUR-2	PUR-2023-00073	Wastewater	Rate Case	\$1,696
New Jersey		Water	Rate Case	\$8,328
Pennsylvania	R-2023-3044549	Gas	Rate Case	\$156,024
_		Water	Surcharge	\$4,688
Texas –		Wastewater	Surcharge	\$4,111
			Total	\$199,258

\$199,258

# State by State Comparison of Services

As of December 31, 2023

State	Rate Base (\$000s)	Water Connections	Wastewater Connections	Total Customers
PA	\$4,401,939	456,018	62,161	518,179
IL	\$529,015	69,722	24,408	94,130
ОН	\$520,738	152,788	11,306	164,094
ТХ	\$558,134	74,088	23,454	97,542
NC	\$363,285	86,504	22,869	109,373
NJ	\$259,339	55,775	6,779	62,554
IN	\$130,699	1,448	30,749	32,197
VA	\$115,891	27,253	8,393	35,646
TOTAL	\$6,879,040	923,596	190,119	1,113,715
State	9	Rate Base (\$000s)		Sustomers
PA		\$3,337	,468	703,257
KY		\$192	,327	40,489
TOTAL		\$3,529	,795	743,746

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# **Healthy Balance Sheet Supports Equity Requirements**

### **STABLE CREDIT** RATINGS

# Moody's

Baa2 Baa<sub>2</sub> Issuer

Issuance

S&P Global Ratings

#### Α-BBB+ Issuer

Issuance

### SELECT CREDIT **TARGETS**

**DEBT-TO-CAPITAL RATIO** 50-55%

**DIVIDEND PAYOUT RATIO 60-65%** 

**FFO/NET DEBT RATIO** 12-14%

### **RAISING EQUITY TO SUPPORT** LONG-TERM GOALS

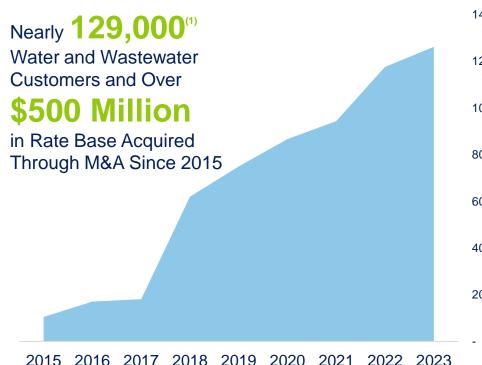
To support long-term targets, Essential expects to raise

### \$250M

through an ATM program in 2024

# **Continued Water and Wastewater Acquisition Success**

### Cumulative Additions of Customers Through Acquisitions Since 2015



140,000	NORTH HEIDELBERG	UNION ROME
	• Wastewater	• Wastewater
120,000	<ul> <li>275 customers</li> <li>\$0.1M purchase price</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5,300 customers<sup>(1)</sup></li> <li>\$25.5M purchase price</li> </ul>
-,	Closed March 31, 2023	Closed June 30, 2023
100,000	ТХ	
80,000 <b>USTOMETS</b>		
B	SOUTHERN OAKS	VILLAGE OF FRANKFORT
60,000 <b>P</b>	• Water	Water/Wastewater
40,000	<ul> <li>740 customers</li> <li>\$3.33M purchase price</li> <li>Closed July 31, 2023</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>711 / 711 customers</li> <li>\$1.4M purchase price</li> <li>Closed July 31, 2023</li> </ul>
20,000	<b>11,025</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$
-	Total Customers	Total
		IUla

PA

#### **2023 Acquisitions**

OH



#### SHENANDOAH

Water3,000 customers

PA

- \$12M purchase price
- Closed July 24, 2023



#### VILLAGE OF LA RUE

- Water
- 290 customers
- \$2.25M purchase price
- Closed July 31, 2023

**\$44.6M** Total Purchase Price

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(1) Essential's estimate of the number of equivalent dwelling units.