VECTREN UTILITY HOLDINGS INC Form 10-K February 27, 2007

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

### **FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number: 1-16739

### **VECTREN UTILITY HOLDINGS,**

INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

INDIANA

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**35-2104850** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

**One Vectren Square, Evansville, Indiana** (Address of principal executive offices)

**47708** (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **812-491-4000** Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class Name of each exchange on which registered

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

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

**Common - Without Par** 

None

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Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. \*Yes ý No

\*Utility Holdings is a majority owned subsidiary of a well-known seasoned issuer, and well-known seasoned issuer status depends in part on the type of security being registered by the majority-owned subsidiary.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No  $\acute{y}$ 

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 ý. No o.

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer ý

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No  $\acute{y}$ 

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold, or the average bid and asked price of such common equity, as of June 30, 2006, was zero. All shares outstanding of the Registrant's common stock were held by Vectren Corporation.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock - Without Par	<u>10</u>	<u>January 31, 2007</u>
<u>Value</u>		
Class	Number of Shares	Date

### **Omission of Information by Certain Wholly Owned Subsidiaries**

The Registrant is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vectren Corporation and meets the conditions set forth in General Instructions (I)(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-K and is therefore filing with the reduced disclosure format contemplated thereby.

#### **Access to Information**

Vectren Corporation makes available all SEC filings and recent annual reports, including those of Vectren Utility Holdings, Inc., free of charge through its website at www.vectren.com, or by request, directed to Investor Relations at the mailing address, phone number, or email address that follows:

Mailing Address:

Phone Number: Investor Relations Contact:

One Vectren Square Evansville, Indiana 47708

(812) 491-4000

Steven M. Schein Vice President, Investor Relations sschein@vectren.com

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(A) - Omitted or amended as the Registrant is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vectren Corporation and meets the conditions set forth in General Instructions (I)(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-K and is therefore filing with the reduced disclosure format contemplated thereby.

	Definitions
AFUDC: allowance for funds used during construction	MMBTU: millions of British thermal units
APB: Accounting Principles Board	MW: megawatts
EITF: Emerging Issues Task Force	

FASB: Financial Accounting Standards Board	MWh / GWh: megawatt hours / thousands of megawatt hours (gigawatt hours) NOx: nitrogen oxide
FERC: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	OUCC: Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor
IDEM: Indiana Department of Environmental Management	PUCO: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
IURC: Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission	SFAS: Statement of Financial Accounting Standards
MCF / BCF: thousands / billions of cubic feet	USEPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency
MDth / MMDth: thousands / millions of dekatherms	Throughput: combined gas sales and gas transportation volumes

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### PART I

### **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

#### **Description of the Business**

Vectren Utility Holdings, Inc. (Utility Holdings or the Company), an Indiana corporation, was formed on March 31, 2000, to serve as the intermediate holding company for Vectren Corporation's (Vectren) three operating public utilities, Indiana Gas Company, Inc. (Indiana Gas), Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company (SIGECO), and the Ohio operations. Utility Holdings also has assets that provide information technology and other services to the utilities.

Indiana Gas provides energy delivery services to approximately 565,000 natural gas customers located in central and southern Indiana. SIGECO provides energy delivery services to approximately 141,000 electric customers and approximately 112,000 natural gas customers located near Evansville, in southwestern Indiana. SIGECO also owns and operates electric generation to serve its electric customers and optimizes those assets in the wholesale power market. Indiana Gas and SIGECO generally do business as Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana.

The Ohio operations provide energy delivery services to approximately 318,000 natural gas customers located near Dayton in west central Ohio. The Ohio operations are owned as a tenancy in common by Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. (VEDO), a wholly owned subsidiary, (53% ownership) and Indiana Gas (47% ownership). The Ohio operations generally do business as Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio.

Vectren, an Indiana corporation, is an energy holding company headquartered in Evansville, Indiana, and organized on June 10, 1999. Both Vectren and Utility Holdings were exempt from registration pursuant to Section 3(a) (1) and 3(c) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, which was repealed effective February 8, 2006 by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Energy Act). Both Vectren and Utility Holdings are holding companies as defined by the Energy Act.

#### **Narrative Description of the Business**

The Company segregates its businesses into three operating segments: Gas Utility Services, Electric Utility Services, and Other Operations. The Gas Utility Services segment includes the operations of Indiana Gas, the Ohio operations, and SIGECO's natural gas distribution business and provides natural gas distribution and transportation services to nearly two-thirds of Indiana and to west central Ohio. The Electric Utility Services segment includes the operations of SIGECO's electric transmission and distribution services, which provides electric distribution services primarily to southwestern Indiana, and includes the Company's power generating and marketing operations. The Company collectively refers to its gas and electric operating segments as its regulated operations. In total, these regulated operations supply natural gas and/or electricity to over one million customers. Other Operations primarily provide information technology and other support services to those utility operations.

At December 31, 2006, the Company had \$3.4 billion in total assets, with \$2.0 billion (57%) attributed to the Gas Utility Services, \$1.3 billion (37%) attributed to the Electric Utility Services, and \$0.2 billion (6%) attributed to Other Operations. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2006, was \$91.4 million with \$83.1 million attributed to regulated operations and \$8.3 million attributed to other operations. Net income for the year ended 2005 was \$95.1 million.

For further information, refer to Note 12 regarding the activities and assets of the Company's operating segments in the Company's consolidated financial statements included under "Item 8 Financial Statements and Supplementary Data".

Following is a more detailed description of the Gas Utility Services and Electric Utility Services operating segments. The Company's Other Operations are not significant.

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### **Gas Utility Services**

At December 31, 2006, the Company supplied natural gas service to approximately 995,000 Indiana and Ohio customers, including 909,000 residential, 84,000 commercial, and 2,000 industrial and other contract customers. This represents customer base growth of 0.3% compared to 2005.

The Company's service area contains diversified manufacturing and agriculture-related enterprises. The principal industries served include automotive assembly, parts and accessories, feed, flour and grain processing, metal castings, aluminum products, appliance manufacturing, polycarbonate resin (Lexan®) and plastic products, gypsum products, electrical equipment, metal specialties, glass, steel finishing, pharmaceutical and nutritional products, gasoline and oil products, and coal mining. The largest Indiana communities served are Evansville, Muncie, Anderson, Lafayette, West Lafayette, Bloomington, Terre Haute, Marion, New Albany, Columbus, Jeffersonville, New Castle, and Richmond, and suburban areas surrounding Indianapolis. The largest community served outside of Indiana is Dayton, Ohio.

### Revenues

For the year ended December 31, 2006, gas utility revenues were approximately \$1,232.5 million, of which residential customers accounted for 66%, commercial 28%, and industrial and other contract customers 6%.

The Company receives gas revenues by selling gas directly to customers at approved rates or by transporting gas through its pipelines at approved rates to customers that have purchased gas directly from other producers, brokers, or marketers. Total volumes of gas provided to both sales and transportation customers (throughput) were 182.6 MMDth for the year ended December 31, 2006. Gas transported or sold to residential and commercial customers was 97.7 MMDth representing 53% of throughput. Gas transported or sold to industrial and other contract customers was 84.9 MMDth representing 47% of throughput. Rates for transporting gas generally provide for the same margins earned by selling gas under applicable sales tariffs.

The sale of gas is seasonal and strongly affected by variations in weather conditions. To mitigate seasonal demand, the Company has storage capacity at seven active underground gas storage fields and six liquefied petroleum air-gas manufacturing plants. The Company also contracts with its affiliate, ProLiance Energy, LLC (ProLiance), and with other third party gas service providers to ensure availability of gas. ProLiance is an unconsolidated, nonutility, energy marketing affiliate of Vectren and Citizens Gas and Coke Utility (Citizens Gas). (See Note 4 in the Company's consolidated financial statements included in "Item 8 Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" regarding transactions with ProLiance). Periodically, purchased natural gas is injected into storage. The injected gas is then available to supplement contracted and manufactured volumes during periods of peak requirements. In addition, the Company prepays ProLiance for natural gas delivery services during the seven months prior to the peak heating season. The volume of gas per day that can be delivered during peak demand periods for each utility is located in "Item 2 Properties."

### **Gas Purchases**

In 2006, the Company purchased 95,561 MDth volumes of gas at an average cost of \$8.64 per Dth, of which approximately 72% was purchased from ProLiance and 28% was purchased from other third party providers. Vectren received regulatory approval on April 25, 2006 from the IURC for ProLiance to provide natural gas supply services to the Company's Indiana utilities through March 2011. As a result of the June 2005 PUCO order, the Company has established an annual bidding process for VEDO's gas supply and portfolio administration services. Since November 1, 2005, the Company has used a third party provider for these services. Prior to October 31, 2005, ProLiance supplied natural gas to all of the Company's regulated gas utilities. The average cost of gas per Dth purchased for the previous five years was \$8.64 in 2006; \$9.05 in 2005; \$6.92 in 2004; \$6.36 in 2003; and \$4.57 in 2002.

### **Electric Utility Services**

At December 31, 2006, the Company supplied electric service to approximately 141,000 Indiana customers, including 122,000 residential, 18,800 commercial, and 200 industrial and other customers. This represents customer base growth of 1% compared to 2005. In addition, the Company has firm power commitments to four municipalities and has contingency reserve requirements consistent with Reliability First Corp. standards.

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The principal industries served include polycarbonate resin (Lexan®) and plastic products, aluminum smelting and recycling, aluminum sheet products, automotive assembly, steel finishing, appliance manufacturing, pharmaceutical and nutritional products, automotive glass, gasoline and oil products, and coal mining.

### Revenues

For the year ended December 31, 2006, retail and firm wholesale electricity sales totaled 6,004.5 GWh, resulting in revenues of approximately \$392.5 million. Residential customers accounted for 25% of 2006 revenues; commercial 22%; industrial 43%; and municipal and other 10%. In addition, the Company sold 898.3 GWh through optimization activities in 2006, generating revenue, net of purchased power costs, of \$29.7 million.

### **Generating Capacity**

Installed generating capacity as of December 31, 2006, was rated at 1,301 MW. Coal-fired generating units provide 1,006 MW of capacity, and natural gas or oil-fired turbines used for peaking or emergency conditions provide 295 MW.

In addition to its generating capacity, in 2006, the Company had 34 MW available under firm contracts and 62 MW available under interruptible contracts. The Company also had a firm purchase supply contract for a maximum of 73 MW for the cooling season months during 2006. This contract ended at the end of September 2006. Also, under the terms of the consent decree between SIGECO, the Department of Justice and USEPA, the Company discontinued operations of Culley Unit 1 (50 MW) effective December 31, 2006. The Company executed a capacity contract for a maximum of 100 MW for the years 2007-2009.

The Company has interconnections with Louisville Gas and Electric Company, Cinergy Services, Inc., Indianapolis Power & Light Company, Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., Big Rivers Electric Corporation, and the City of Jasper, Indiana, providing the historic ability to simultaneously interchange approximately 500 MW. However, the ability of the Company to effectively utilize the electric transmission grid in order to achieve its desired import/export capability has been, and may continue to be, impacted as a result of the ongoing changes in the operation of the midwestern transmission grid. The Company, as a member of the Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO), has turned over operational control of the interchange facilities and its own transmission assets, like many other Midwestern electric utilities, to MISO. See "Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition" regarding the Company's participation in MISO.

Total load for each of the years 2002 through 2006 at the time of the system summer peak, and the related reserve margin, is presented below in MW.

Date of summer peak load	8/10/2006	7/25/2005	7/13/2004	8/27/2003	8/5/2002
Total load at peak <sup>(1)</sup>	1,325	1,315	1,222	1,272	1,258
Generating capability	1,351	1,351	1,351	1,351	1,351
Firm purchase supply	107	107	105	32	82
Interruptible contracts	62	76	51	95	95
Total power supply capacity	1,520	1,534	1,507	1,478	1,528
Reserve margin at peak	15%	17%	23%	16%	21%

(1) The total load at peak is increased 25 MW in 2006, 2005, 2003, and 2002 from the total load actually experienced. The additional 25 MW represents load that would have been incurred if Summer Cycler program had not been activated. The 25 MW is also included in the interruptible contract portion of the Company's total power supply

capacity in those years. On the date of peak in 2004, Summer Cycler program was not activated.

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The winter peak load for the 2005-2006 season of approximately 935 MW occurred on December 20, 2005. The prior year winter peak load was approximately 932 MW, occurring on January 18, 2005.

The Company maintains a 1.5% interest in the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC). The OVEC is comprised of several electric utility companies, including SIGECO, and supplies power requirements to the United States Department of Energy's (DOE) uranium enrichment plant near Portsmouth, Ohio. The participating companies are entitled to receive from OVEC, and are obligated to pay for, any available power in excess of the DOE contract demand. At the present time, the DOE contract demand is essentially zero. Because of this decreased demand, the Company's 1.5% interest in the OVEC makes available approximately 34 MW of capacity, in addition to its generating capacity, for use in other operations. Such generating capacity is included in firm purchase supply in the chart above.

### **Fuel Costs and Purchased Power**

Electric generation for 2006 was fueled by coal (98%) and natural gas (2%). Oil was used only for testing of gas/oil-fired peaking units.

There are substantial coal reserves in the southern Indiana area, and coal for coal-fired generating stations has been supplied from operators of nearby Indiana coal mines, including those owned by Vectren Fuels, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Approximately 3.5 million tons of coal were purchased for generating electricity during 2006, of which approximately 91% was supplied by Vectren Fuels, Inc. from its mines and third party purchases. The average cost of coal consumed in generating electric energy for the years 2002 through 2006 follows:

	Year Ended December 31,								
Avg. Cost Per	2006	,	2005		2004		2003		2002
Ton	\$ 37.51	\$	30.27	\$	27.06	\$	24.91	\$	23.50
MWh	18.44		14.94		13.06		11.93		11.00

The Company also purchases power as needed from the wholesale market to supplement its generation capabilities in periods of peak demand; however, the majority of power purchased through the wholesale market is used to optimize and hedge the Company's sales to other wholesale customers. Volumes purchased in 2006 totaled 434,234 MWh.

### **Competition**

The utility industry has undergone dramatic structural change for several years, resulting in increasing competitive pressures faced by electric and gas utility companies. Currently, several states, including Ohio, have passed legislation allowing electricity customers to choose their electricity supplier in a competitive electricity market and several other states are considering such legislation. At the present time, Indiana has not adopted such legislation. Ohio regulation allows gas customers to choose their commodity supplier. The Company implemented a choice program for its gas customers in Ohio in January 2003. At December 31, 2006, approximately 72,000 customers in Utility Holdings' Ohio service territory purchase natural gas from a supplier other than the utility. Margin earned for transporting natural gas to those customers, who have purchased natural gas from another supplier, are generally the same as those earned by selling gas under Ohio tariffs. Indiana has not adopted any regulation requiring gas choice; however, the Company operates under approved tariffs permitting large volume customers to choose their commodity supplier.

### **Regulatory and Environmental Matters**

See "Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition" regarding the Company's regulated environment and other environmental matters.

### **Personnel**

As of December 31, 2006, the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries had 1,599 employees, of which 828 are subject to collective bargaining arrangements.

In November 2005, the Company reached a four-year agreement with Local 175 of the Utility Workers Union of America, ending October 2009. In September 2005, the Company reached a four-year agreement with Local 135 of the Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen, and Helpers Union, ending September 2009.

In July 2004, the Company reached a three-year labor agreement with Local 702 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, ending June 2007. In January 2004, the Company reached a five-year labor agreement, ending December 2008, with Local 1393 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and United Steelworkers of America Locals 12213 and 7441.

No contracts subject to collective bargaining expired in 2006. The next negotiation will be with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 702, whose contract expires in June of 2007.

## **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

The following factors could cause the Company's operating results and financial condition to be materially adversely affected. New risks may emerge at any time, and the Company cannot predict those risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect the Company's businesses or financial performance.

### The Company is a holding company, and its assets consist primarily of investments in its subsidiaries.

Dividends on the Company's common stock depend on the earnings, financial condition, capital requirements and cash flow of its subsidiaries, Indiana Gas, SIGECO and VEDO, and the distribution or other payment of earnings from those entities to the Company. Should the earnings, financial condition, or capital requirements of, or legal requirements applicable to, them restrict their ability to pay dividends or make other payments to Utility Holdings, the Company's ability to pay dividends to its parent could be adversely affected. Utility Holdings' results of operations, future growth and earnings and dividend goals also will depend on the performance of its subsidiaries.

### The Company operates in an increasingly competitive industry, which may affect its future earnings.

The utility industry has been undergoing dramatic structural change for several years, resulting in increasing competitive pressure faced by electric and gas utility companies. Increased competition may create greater risks to the stability of the Company's earnings generally and may in the future reduce its earnings from retail electric and gas sales. Currently, several states, including Ohio, have passed legislation that allows customers to choose their electricity supplier in a competitive market. Indiana has not enacted such legislation. Ohio regulation also provides for choice of commodity providers for all gas customers. In 2003, the Company implemented this choice for its gas customers in Ohio. Indiana has not adopted any regulation requiring gas choice except for large-volume customers. The Company cannot provide any assurance that increased competition or other changes in legislation, regulation or policies will not have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition or results of operations.

# A significant portion of the Company's gas and electric utility sales are space heating and cooling. Accordingly, its operating results may fluctuate with variability of weather.

The Company's gas and electric utility sales are sensitive to variations in weather conditions. Utility Holdings' forecasts utility sales on the basis of normal weather, which represents a long-term historical average. Since the Company does not have a weather-normalization mechanism for its electric operations or its Ohio natural gas operations, significant variations from normal weather could have a material impact on its earnings. However, the impact of weather on the gas operations in its Indiana territories has been significantly mitigated through the implementation on October 15, 2005, of a normal temperature adjustment mechanism.

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### The Company's gas and electric utility sales are concentrated in the Midwest.

The operations of the Company's regulated utilities are concentrated in central and southern Indiana and west central Ohio and are therefore impacted by changes in the Midwest economy in general and changes in particular industries concentrated in the Midwest. These industries include automotive assembly, parts and accessories, feed, flour and grain processing, metal castings, aluminum products, appliance manufacturing, polycarbonate resin (Lexan®) and plastic products, gypsum products, electrical equipment, metal specialties, glass, steel finishing, pharmaceutical and nutritional products, gasoline and oil products, and coal mining.

# Risks related to the regulation of the Company's businesses, including environmental regulation, could affect the rates the Company charges its customers, its costs and its profitability.

Utility Holdings' businesses are subject to regulation by federal, state and local regulatory authorities. In particular, the Company is subject to regulation by the FERC, the IURC and the PUCO. These authorities regulate many aspects of its transmission and distribution operations, including construction and maintenance of facilities, operations, safety, and the rates that the Company can charge customers and the rate of return that its utilities are authorized to earn. The Company's ability to obtain rate increases to maintain its current authorized rate of return depends upon regulatory discretion, and there can be no assurance that Utility Holdings will be able to obtain rate increases or rate supplements or earn its current authorized rate of return.

In addition, Utility Holdings' operations and properties are subject to extensive environmental regulation pursuant to a variety of federal, state and municipal laws and regulations. These environmental regulations impose, among other things, restrictions, liabilities and obligations in connection with storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of hazardous substances and waste and in connection with spills, releases and emissions of various substances in the environment. Such emissions from electric generating facilities include particulate matter, sulfur dioxide ( $SO_2$ ), nitrogen oxide (NOx), and mercury, among others.

Environmental legislation also requires that facilities, sites and other properties associated with Utility Holdings' operations be operated, maintained, abandoned and reclaimed to the satisfaction of applicable regulatory authorities. The Company's current costs to comply with these laws and regulations are significant to its results of operations and financial condition. In addition, claims against the Company under environmental laws and regulations could result in material costs and liabilities. With the trend toward stricter standards, greater regulation, more extensive permit requirements and an increase in the number and types of assets operated by Utility Holdings subject to environmental regulation, its investment in environmentally compliant equipment, and the costs associated with operating that equipment, have increased and are expected to increase in the future.

Further, there are proposals to address global climate change that would regulate carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  and other greenhouse gases. Any future legislative or regulatory actions taken to address global climate change could adversely affect Utility Holdings' business and results of operations by, for example, requiring changes in, and increased costs related to, the Company's fossil fuel generating plants.

### From time to time, Utility Holdings is subject to material litigation and regulatory proceedings.

The Company may be subject to material litigation and regulatory proceedings from time to time. There can be no assurance that the outcome of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations or financial condition.

### The Company's electric operations are subject to various risks.

The Company's electric generating facilities are subject to operational risks that could result in unscheduled plant outages, unanticipated operation and maintenance expenses and increased purchased power costs. Such operational risks can arise from circumstances such as facility shutdowns due to equipment failure or operator error; interruption of fuel supply or increased prices of fuel as contracts expire; disruptions in the delivery of electricity; inability to comply with regulatory or permit requirements; labor disputes; and natural disasters.

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### Utility Holdings may experience significantly increased gas costs.

Commodity prices for natural gas purchases have increased and become more volatile in recent years. Subject to regulatory approval, Utility Holdings' subsidiaries are allowed recovery of gas costs from their retail customers through commission-approved gas cost adjustment mechanisms. As a result, profit margins on gas sales are not expected to be impacted. Nevertheless, regulators may disallow, and have in the past disallowed, recovery of a portion of gas costs for various reasons, including but limited to, a finding by the regulator that natural gas was not prudently procured, as an example. In addition, it is possible that as a result of this near term change in natural gas commodity prices, the Company's subsidiaries may experience increased interest expense due to higher working capital requirements, increased uncollectible accounts expense and unaccounted for gas and some level of price sensitive reduction in volumes sold or delivered. However, the Company believes that the negative earnings impact on the reduction of price sensitive natural gas volumes sold is significantly mitigated by Indiana and Ohio orders received in the fourth quarter of 2006 that authorize lost margin recovery.

### The impact of MISO participation is uncertain.

Since February 2002 and with the IURC's approval, the Company has been a member of the MISO. The MISO serves the electrical transmission needs of much of the Midwest and maintains operational control over Utility Holdings' electric transmission facilities as well as that of other Midwest utilities.

On April 1, 2005, the MISO energy market commenced operation (the Day 2 energy market). As a result of being a market participant, Utility Holdings now bids its owned generation into the Day Ahead and Real Time markets and procure power for its retail customers at Locational Marginal Pricing (LMP) as determined by the MISO market.

As a result of MISO's operational control over much of the Midwestern electric transmission grid, including Utility Holdings' electric transmission facilities, its continued ability to import power, when necessary, and export power to the wholesale market has been, and may continue to be, impacted. Given the nature of MISO's policies regarding use of transmission facilities, as well as ongoing FERC initiatives and uncertainties around Day 2 energy market operations, it is difficult to predict near term operational impacts. However, it is believed that MISO's regional operation of the transmission system will ultimately lead to reliability improvements within the Midwestern transmission system.

The potential need to expend capital for improvements to the transmission system, both to Utility Holdings' facilities as well as to those facilities of adjacent utilities, over the next several years will become more predictable as MISO completes studies related to regional transmission planning and improvements. Such expenditures may be significant.

### Wholesale power marketing activities may add volatility to earnings.

Utility Holdings' regulated electric utility engages in wholesale power marketing activities that primarily involve asset optimization strategies. These optimization strategies primarily involve the offering of utility-owned or contracted generation into the MISO hourly and real time markets. As part of these strategies, the Company may also execute energy contracts that are integrated with portfolio requirements around power supply and delivery. Projected earnings from wholesale marketing activities may vary based on fluctuating prices for electricity and the amount of electric generating capacity or purchased power available, beyond that needed to meet firm service requirements.

### Catastrophic events could adversely affect the Company's facilities and operations.

Catastrophic events such as fires, earthquakes, explosions, floods, tornados, terrorist acts or other similar occurrences could adversely affect Utility Holdings' facilities and operations.

# Workforce risks could affect Utility Holdings' financial results.

The Company is subject to various workforce risks, including but not limited to, the risk that it will be unable to attract and retain qualified personnel; that it will be unable to effectively transfer the knowledge and expertise of an aging workforce to new personnel as those workers retire; and that it will be unable to reach collective bargaining arrangements with the unions that represent certain of its workers, which could result in work stoppages.

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### <u>Table of Contents</u> A downgrade in the Company's credit rating could negatively affect its ability to access capital.

The following table shows the current ratings assigned to certain outstanding debt by Moody's and Standard & Poor's:

	Current	Rating
		Standard
	Moody's	& Poor's
Utility Holdings, Indiana Gas and SIGECO senior unsecured debt	Baa1	A-
Utility Holdings commercial paper program	P-2	A-2

The current outlook of both Moody's and Standard and Poor's is stable and are categorized as investment grade. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold securities. The rating is subject to revision or withdrawal at any time, and each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. Standard and Poor's and Moody's lowest level investment grade rating is BBB- and Baa3, respectively.

Utility Holdings may be required to obtain additional permanent financing (1) to fund its capital expenditures, investments and debt security redemptions and maturities and (2) to further strengthen its capital structure and the capital structures of its subsidiaries. If the rating agencies downgrade the Company's credit ratings, particularly below investment grade, or withdraw its ratings, it may significantly limit Utility Holdings' access to the debt capital markets and the commercial paper market, and the Company's borrowing costs would increase. In addition, Utility Holdings would likely be required to pay a higher interest rate in future financings, and its potential pool of investors and funding sources would likely decrease. Finally, there is no assurance that the Company will have access to the equity capital markets to obtain financing when necessary or desirable.

## ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

# **ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

### **Gas Utility Services**

Indiana Gas owns and operates four active gas storage fields located in Indiana covering 58,130 acres of land with an estimated ready delivery from storage capability of 5.6 BCF of gas with maximum peak day delivery capabilities of 145,000 MCF per day. Indiana Gas also owns and operates three liquefied petroleum (propane) air-gas manufacturing plants located in Indiana with the ability to store 1.5 million gallons of propane and manufacture for delivery 33,000 MCF of manufactured gas per day. In addition to its company owned storage and propane capabilities, Indiana Gas has contracted for 17.8 BCF of storage with a maximum peak day delivery capability of 299,717 MMBTU per day. Indiana Gas' gas delivery system includes 12,505 miles of distribution and transmission mains, all of which are in Indiana except for pipeline facilities extending from points in northern Kentucky to points in southern Indiana so that gas may be transported to Indiana and sold or transported by Indiana Gas to ultimate customers in Indiana.

SIGECO owns and operates three underground gas storage fields located in Indiana covering 6,070 acres of land with an estimated ready delivery from storage capability of 6.3 BCF of gas with maximum peak day delivery capabilities of 108,000 MCF per day. In addition to its company owned storage delivery capabilities, SIGECO has contracted for 0.5 BCF of storage with a maximum peak day delivery capability of 19,166 MMBTU per day. SIGECO's gas delivery system includes 3,166 miles of distribution and transmission mains, all of which are located in Indiana.

The Ohio operations own and operate three liquefied petroleum (propane) air-gas manufacturing plants, all of which are located in Ohio. The plants can store .5 million gallons of propane, and the plants can manufacture for delivery

52,187 MCF of manufactured gas per day. In addition to its propane delivery capabilities, the Ohio operations have contracted for 12.0 BCF of storage with a maximum peak day delivery capability of 246,080 MMBTU per day. The Ohio operations' gas delivery system includes 5,356 miles of distribution and transmission mains, all of which are located in Ohio.

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### **Electric Utility Services**

SIGECO's installed generating capacity as of December 31, 2006, was rated at 1,301 MW. SIGECO's coal-fired generating facilities are the Brown Station with two units of 500 MW of combined capacity, located in Posey County approximately eight miles east of Mt. Vernon, Indiana; the Culley Station with two units of 356 MW of combined capacity, and Warrick Unit 4 with 150 MW of capacity. Both the Culley and Warrick Stations are located in Warrick County near Yankeetown, Indiana. SIGECO's gas-fired turbine peaking units are: two 80 MW gas turbines (Brown Unit 3 and Brown Unit 4) located at the Brown Station; two Broadway Avenue Gas Turbines located in Evansville, Indiana with a combined capacity of 115 MW (Broadway Avenue Unit 1, 50 MW and Broadway Avenue Unit 2, 65 MW); and two Northeast Gas Turbines located northeast of Evansville in Vanderburgh County, Indiana with a combined capacity of 20 MW. The Brown Unit 3 and Broadway Avenue Unit 2 turbines are also equipped to burn oil. Total capacity of SIGECO's six gas turbines is 295 MW, and they are generally used only for reserve, peaking, or emergency purposes due to the higher per unit cost of generation. Pursuant to the settlement between the Company, the Department of Justice, and the USEPA, the Company ceased operation of Culley Unit 1, with generating capacity of 50 MW, effective December 31, 2006 and is excluded from the total capacity above.

SIGECO's transmission system consists of 894 circuit miles of 138,000 and 69,000 volt lines. The transmission system also includes 30 substations with an installed capacity of 5,057 megavolt amperes (Mva). The electric distribution system includes 4,199 pole miles of lower voltage overhead lines and 331 trench miles of conduit containing 1,833 miles of underground distribution cable. The distribution system also includes 99 distribution substations with an installed capacity of 2,010 Mva and 52,449 distribution transformers with an installed capacity of 2,448 Mva.

SIGECO owns utility property outside of Indiana approximating nine miles of 138,000 volt electric transmission line which is located in Kentucky and which interconnects with Louisville Gas and Electric Company's transmission system at Cloverport, Kentucky.

### **Property Serving as Collateral**

SIGECO's properties are subject to the lien of the First Mortgage Indenture dated as of April 1, 1932, between SIGECO and Bankers Trust Company, as Trustee, and Deutsche Bank, as successor Trustee, as supplemented by various supplemental indentures.

### **ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is party to various legal proceedings arising in the normal course of business. In the opinion of management, there are no legal proceedings pending against the Company that are likely to have a material adverse effect on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. See the notes to the consolidated financial statements regarding commitments and contingencies, environmental matters, and rate and regulatory matters. The consolidated financial statements are included in "Item 8 Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

### ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

No matters were submitted during the fourth quarter to a vote of security holders.

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# PART II

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

### Common Stock

Market Price

All of the outstanding shares of Utility Holdings' common stock are owned by Vectren. Utility Holdings' common stock is not traded. There are no outstanding options or warrants to purchase Utility Holdings' common equity or securities convertible into Utility Holdings' common equity. Additionally, Utility Holdings has no plans to publicly offer its common equity securities.

### **Dividends Paid to Parent**

During 2006, Utility Holdings paid dividends to its parent company of \$18.7 million in each of the first, second and third quarters, and \$19.4 million in the fourth quarter.

During 2005, Utility Holdings paid dividends to its parent company of \$20.0 million in each of the first, second and third quarters, and \$20.7 million in the fourth quarter.

On January 31, 2007, the board of directors declared a \$19.1 million dividend, payable to Vectren on February 28, 2007.

Dividends on shares of common stock are payable at the discretion of the board of directors out of legally available funds. Future payments of dividends, and the amounts of these dividends, will depend on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements, and other factors.

### **Debt Security**

The Company's 7 ¼% Senior Notes, due October 15, 2031, which were called in October 2006, previously traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "AVU." The high and low sales prices for the Company's publicly traded debt security as reported on the New York Stock Exchange are shown in the following table for the periods indicated.

	Price	Rang	ge		Price	je	
<u>2006</u>	High		Low	<u>2005</u>	High		Low
First Quarter	\$ 25.59	\$	25.00	First Quarter \$	26.74	\$	25.44
				Second			
Second Quarter	26.00		24.72	Quarter	26.30		25.40
				Third			
Third Quarter	25.40		24.81	Quarter	26.35		25.05
				Fourth			
Fourth Quarter	-		-	Quarter	25.80		25.00
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### ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected financial data is derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and should be read in conjunction with those financial statements and notes thereto contained in this Form 10-K.

	Year Ended December 31,									
(In millions)		2006		2005		2004		2003		2002
<b>Operating Data:</b>										
Operating revenues	\$	1,656.5	\$	1,781.8	\$	1,498.0	\$	1,448.8	\$	1,236.9
Operating income		209.0		216.6		196.3		197.2		207.7
Net income		91.4		95.1		83.1		85.6		97.1
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>										
Total assets	\$	3,440.8	\$	3,391.2	\$	3,147.7	\$	2,925.1	\$	2,780.4
Redeemable preferred stock		-		-		0.1		0.2		0.3
Long-term debt - net of current										
maturities										
& debt subject to tender		1,025.3		997.8		941.3		960.5		841.2
Common shareholder's equity		1,056.7		1,023.8		985.4		979.8		768.6

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

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunct