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Poltavaoblenergo

Privatization tender postponed

Yesterday the State Property Fund postponed the privatization tender for a 25%+1 stake of Poltavaoblenergo from April 22 to April 29. The SPF cited an absence of bids – indicating that neither of the company's current private shareholders (Privat and Energy Standard) wished to participate in the tender.

A time to look for new investors?

With the low chance of current block holders participating in the tender, the only way for the State Property Fund to sell its stake in POON (as well as other Privat-controlled companies: PREN, CHEON, LVON and SOEN) is to attract outside investors. We estimate the SPF's chances of doing this as very low. Taking into account that the proposed stakes would not give access to operating control over the companies, among the only candidates with potential interest in the stakes are portfolio investors.

Applying the SPF's methodology to calculate starting prices, we conclude that the starting prices for LVON and CHEON privatizations would be among the most attractive for portfolio investment (refer to the table below).

Starting prices for the Poltavaoblenergo and Prykarpatoblenergo tenders were set three days before the tenders as the 6-month average price of trades on the PFTS:

- o for POON 5.57 per share, or UAH 307.69 mln per stake (24% premium to PFTS offer price)
- o for PREN UAH 8.9 per share, or UAH 230.70 mln per stake (78% premium to PFTS offer price)

Odesaoblenergo: still high chance of being sold

Unlike the Privat-controlled Oblenergos listed above, the privatization of Odesaoblenergo has a high chance of going forward: the main candidate to purchase the state's stake, VS Energy, seems highly interested. The state, with its blocking stake, has been hampering approval of the results of an additional shares issue completed by VS Energy back in early 2007. We expect VS Energy to make an active attempt to trade ODEN shares on the PFTS at low prices – in order to decrease the starting price for the tender (planned to take place on May 19).

Tenders' summary

Implied Starting price Probability EV/S⁰⁸@ Stake for Date of Company Ticker of tender Per Price for starting sale tender Premium to Premium to success share. stake. price PFTS ask our fair value UAH UAH mln Prykarpatoblenergo PREN 25.02% 24-Apr-09 5% 8.9 24% -8% 230.7 1.67 Poltavaoblenergo 5% 78% -17% 307.7 POON 29-Apr-09 1.02 25% + 15.6 Lvivoblenergo LVON 26.98% 29-Apr-09 15% 3.4 -3%* -57% 178.0* 0.62 Chernihivoblenergo 25% + 1 15% 4.0 -11% -55% 119.0* CHEON 14-May-09 0.86 25.01% 80% 3.9 59% -15% 200.0* 0.90 Odesaoblenergo ODEN 19-May-09 Sumyoblenergo 25% + 1 2.9 -53% 0.90 10% 128.4 SOFN 22-May-09 n/a Source: SPF, PFTS, Concorde Capital estimates (*)



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