

Unitil Corporation
Earnings
Conference Call
Third Quarter 2017

Financial and
Other Information - October 26, 2017

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This presentation contains "forward-looking statements" made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include statements regarding Unitil Corporation's ("Unitil") financial condition, results of operations, capital expenditures, business strategy, regulatory strategy, market opportunities, and other plans and objectives. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential" or "continue", the negative of such terms, or other comparable terminology.

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Our mission is to provide energy for life—safely, reliably, cost-effectively and responsibly—to a growing number of customers with a high-performing workforce

# **Gas and Electric Utility Service Areas** Gas **Granite State Pipeline**

### **About Unitil**

Natural gas and electric distribution utility with **operations in three states** serving ~185,000 customers

Growing operations and customer base

Regulated gas and electric rate base

Robust natural gas system expansion

Constructive regulation

We provide **energy for life**, safely and reliably delivering natural gas and electricity in New England

# Q3 2017 Financial Results

- Third quarter 2017 Net Income of \$2.3 million, or \$0.16 per share
  - Decrease of \$1.2 million, or \$0.09 per share, compared to 2016
  - Decrease driven by mild summer weather and higher operating expenses, partially offset by higher natural gas sales margins and customer growth
- Year-to-date 2017 Net Income of \$17.8 million, or \$1.27 per share
  - Increase of \$0.9 million, or \$0.06 per share, compared to 2016
  - Increase driven by higher natural gas and electric sales margins and customer growth

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
(in millions excluding EPS)	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Net Income	\$2.3	\$3.5	\$17.8	\$16.9
Earnings Per Share	\$0.16	\$0.25	\$1.27	\$1.21

# **Key Operations Highlights**

### Targeted Area Buildout (TAB)

- Cities of Saco and Sanford, Maine
- Combined market potential of 3,000 customers

### • Gas Infrastructure Replacement

 On-going cast iron replacement programs (tracked by regulatory mechanisms); New Hampshire program complete by end of 2017

#### Electric Substations

 Placed in service new distribution substation in Concord, New Hampshire, culminating multi-year investment of ~\$25 million in two new substations

### • Fitchburg, MA 1.3 MW Solar Project

Investment of \$3.5 million operational by Q4 2017

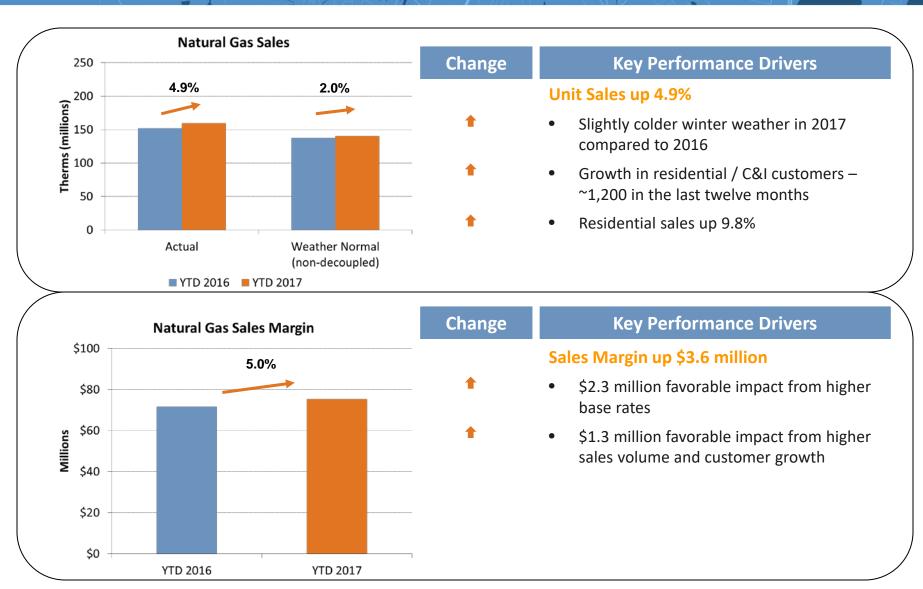
### Regulation

- Filed for \$10.7 million of base rate relief for NH and ME gas divisions; \$1.6 million temporary rate relief awarded to NH division on August 1, 2017
- Electric grid modernization initiatives in MA and NH supporting new investment in the electric distribution system

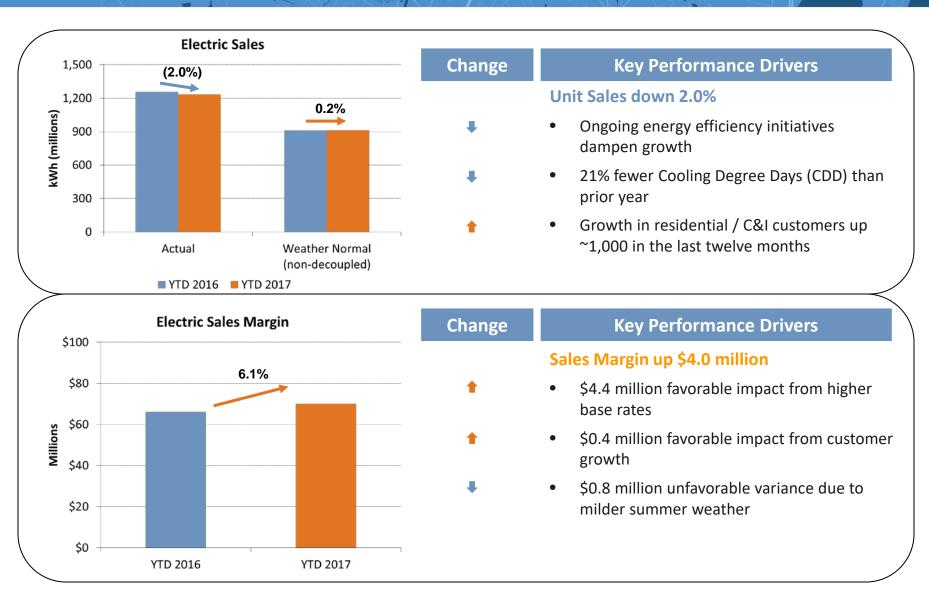




# Gas Units Sales & Margin

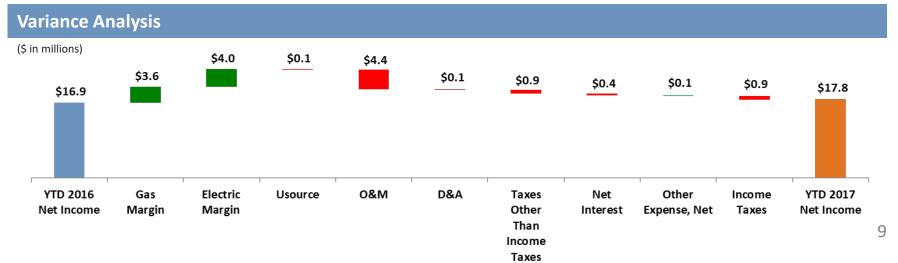


# Electric Units Sales & Margin



### YTD Variance: 2017 vs 2016

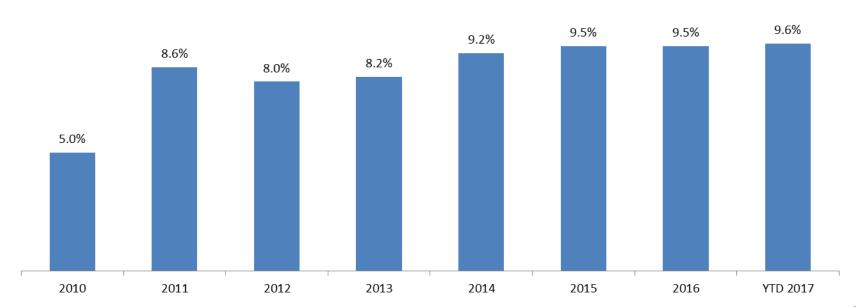
- Net Income up \$0.9 million, or 5.3%
- Gas margin up \$3.6 million, or 5.0%
- Electric margin up \$4.0 million, or 6.1%
- O&M increase of \$4.4 million, or 9.1%; reflecting higher compensation and benefit costs of \$1.1 million, higher vegetation management costs (recoverable in electric rates) of \$1.5 million, higher regulation costs of \$0.7 million (reflected in cost-reconciling rates), and higher system maintenance costs of \$1.1 million
- D&A increase of \$0.1 million, or 0.3%, reflecting higher utility plant in service, net of lower storm amortization costs
- Taxes other than income taxes increase of \$0.9 million, or 6.1% primarily reflecting higher property taxes on higher levels of utility plant in service
- Net Interest expense increase of \$0.4 million, or 2.4%, reflecting higher levels of short-term debt, partially offset by higher net interest income on regulatory assets/liabilities and repayment of higher cost long-term debt
- Income taxes up by \$0.9 million reflecting higher pre-tax earnings in the current period



# Regulatory Overview

- Constructive regulatory environment, supporting investment and growth
- Long-term rate plans or cost trackers established across all utility subsidiaries
- Recently filed for \$10.7 million of base rate relief for New Hampshire and Maine gas divisions; \$1.6 million temporary relief awarded for New Hampshire division on August 1, 2017.

### **Return on Equity**



# Long-Term Financings

- On July 14, 2017 Northern Utilities, Fitchburg and Granite State, entered into agreements to issue and sell \$90 million collectively of Senior Unsecured Notes (Notes) through a private placement marketing process to institutional investors
- Financings driven by capital expenditures and sinking fund retirements of higher cost debt
  - Total sinking fund retirements of \$66 million from 2017-2019

#### Northern Utilities

- \$20 million of Notes due 2027 at 3.52%
- \$30 million of Notes due 2047 at 4.32%

### Fitchburg

- \$10 million of Notes due 2027 at 3.52%
- \$15 million of Notes due 2047 at 4.32%

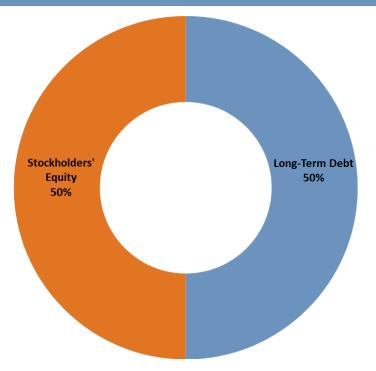
#### Granite State

- \$15 million of Notes due 2027 at 3.72%
- Anticipated funding November 1, 2017; net proceeds will be used to refinance higher cost long-term debt maturing later in 2017, to repay short-term debt and for general corporate purposes

# **Strong Capitalization**

- Standard and Poor's issuer rating of BBB+ across Unitil Corporation and its subsidiaries
- Moody's issuer rating of Baa2 (Unitil Corporation and Granite State) and Baa1 (Unitil Energy, Fitchburg, and Northern Utilities)
- September 30, 2017 equity capitalization of 50%

### September 30, 2017 Capitalization



# 2017 Return on Equity

### **Subsidiary Q3 2017 Return on Equity**

(\$ in millions)	Weighted Average Common	09/17 LTM ROE <sup>(1)</sup>
Company	Equity	
Northern Utilities (New Hampshire)	\$155.2	7.6%
Northern Utilities (Maine)	¥133.2	
Unitil Energy	\$78.7	9.8%
Fitchburg (Electric)	A-7.2 4	0.204
Fitchburg (Gas)	\$73.4	8.2%
Granite State	\$13.3	10.0%
Unitil Corporation	\$292.6	9.6%

(1) ROE calculated by dividing last twelve months GAAP Net Income by Weighted-Average Common Equity

**Authorized ROE Range of 9.5%-9.8%** 

### **Rate Plans and Cost Trackers**

#### Northern Utilities (Maine and New Hampshire Gas)

- Capital tracker adjustment in Maine of \$1.1 million effective May 1, 2017
- Recently filed base rate cases at both divisions in Q2 2017 with long-term capital cost tracker mechanisms

#### **Unitil Energy (New Hampshire Electric)**

- \$4.1 million settlement agreement approved April 20, 2017
- Three-year rate plan recovering 80% of plant additions first year step adjustment of \$0.9 million effective May 1, 2017

#### Fitchburg (Massachusetts Electric)

- \$2.1 million base rate increase effective May 1, 2016
- Long-term capital tracker to provide estimated rate adjustments of ~\$0.3 million effective January 1 annually

#### Fitchburg (Massachusetts Gas)

- \$1.6 million base rate increase effective May 1, 2016
- Long-term pipe replacement capital tracker provides estimated rate adjustments averaging ~\$0.6 million effective May 1 annually

#### **Granite State (FERC Pipeline)**

 Capital tracker adjustment of ~\$0.2 million effective August 1, 2017

# Key Investment Highlights



- Regulatory local distribution utility business model
- Diversified natural gas and electric sales
- Growing operations and customer base
  - Regulated rate base growth
  - Robust natural gas system expansion
  - Constructive rate plans and cost trackers
- Dividend strength
- Experienced management team