# Flash Note

Thursday, 21 February 2019



## Power Generation and Distribution Companies

## The Hub Power Company Limited (HUBC)

## Rise in finance cost drags 2QFY19 EPS down to PKR 2.11; No dividend announced

- The Hub Power Company Limited (HUBC) announced financial results for 2QFY19 with earnings clocking in at PKR 2.45bn (EPS PKR 2.11) down by 16%YoY compared to PKR 2.91bn (EPS PKR 2.52) in the same period last year. On sequential basis, earnings are down by 17%QoQ during 2QFY19. This brings total profitability to PKR 5.41bn (EPS PKR 4.67) for 1HFY19, up by +2.0%YoY, compared to PKR 5.30bn (EPS PKR 4.58) in the corresponding period last year.
- Following the pattern of other IPPs, HUBC did not announce any cash dividend for 2QFY19 despite a change in payout policy to half year from previously every quarter. This in our view is primarily due to surge in receivables and short term borrowings due to substantial rise in circular debt along with a) equity requirement of upcoming projects and, b) rise in finance cost due higher short term borrowing and rise in interest rates.
- Net Revenues dropped by 52%YoY to PKR 13.00bn during 2QFY19, likely on the back of lower generation as both Narowal and Hub plant remained closed in Nov-18 with overall load factor of 24% and 6% during 2QFY19 compared to 57% and 71% respectively in the same period last year.
- Gross margins improved by 18.2ppts to 35.19% during 2QFY19 as against 17.03% in similar period last year likely owing to PKR depreciation and lower generation.
- Other income leaped up by +3.7xYoY to PKR 179mn during 2QFY19 compared to PKR 49mn in the corresponding period last year likely owing to increase in markup income due to rise in interest rates.
- Finance cost increased by +42%YoY to PKR 1.61bn during 2QFY19 likely owing to rise in short term borrowings and higher mark up on overdue payments amid rise in interest rates.
- Effective tax stood at 2.96% during 2QFY19 compared to 2.34% (1QFY19: 2.09%) reported in the corresponding period last year.

#### Exhibit:

### **HUBC Financial Highlights (Consolidated)**

| PKR mn                     | 2QFY19 | 2QFY18 | YoY  | 1HFY19 | 1HFY18 | YoY  |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|------|
| Turnover                   | 12,996 | 26,951 | -52% | 30,942 | 54,291 | -43% |
| Operating Costs            | 8,423  | 22,363 | -62% | 21,531 | 45,525 | -53% |
| Gross Profit               | 4,573  | 4,589  | 0%   | 9,411  | 8,766  | 7%   |
| General & Admin expenses   | 362    | 351    | 3%   | 676    | 788    | -14% |
| Other Income               | 179    | 49     | 267% | 230    | 83     | 179% |
| Financing Cost             | 1,613  | 1,139  | 42%  | 2,936  | 2,156  | 36%  |
| PBT                        | 2,635  | 3,085  | -15% | 5,825  | 5,756  | 1%   |
| PAT                        | 2,557  | 3,013  | -15% | 5,681  | 5,562  | 2%   |
| PAT - Attributable to HUBC | 2,447  | 2,914  | -16% | 5,407  | 5,298  | 2%   |
| EPS (PKR)                  | 2.11   | 2.52   |      | 4.67   | 4.58   |      |
| DPS (PKR)                  | -      | 1.50   |      | -      | 3.00   |      |
|                            |        |        |      |        |        |      |

Source: Company Financials & IGI Research

No of Shares: 1,157.15 mn

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