## Independent Stock Idea

## PDC Energy (PDCE)

 Raise NPV to \$75 on More Shale Oil| Symbol | PDCE |  | Ebitda Next Twelve Months ending 12/31/14 (US\$mm | 338 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Rating |  |  | North American Natural Gas/Ebitda (\%) | 19 |
| Price (\$/sh) | 56.96 |  | Natural Gas and Oil Production/Ebitda (\%) | 100 |
| Pricing Date | $2 / 20 / 14$ |  | Adjusted Reserves/Production NTM | 23.5 |
| Shares (mm) | 37 | EV/Ebitda | 8.0 |  |
| Market Capitalization (\$mm) | 2,100 |  | PV/Ebitda | 9.9 |
| Debt (\$mm) | 600 |  | Undeveloped Reserves (\%) | 28 |
| Enterprise Value (EV) (\$mm) | 2,690 |  | Natural Gas and Oil Ebitda (\$/boe) | 34.70 |
| Present Value (PV) (\$mm) | 3,360 | Present Value Proven Reserves(\$/boe) | 12.60 |  |
| Net Present Value (\$/share) | 75 | Oil and Gas Ebitda Margin (\%) | 63 |  |
| Debt/Present Value | 0.18 | Earnings Next Twelve Months (US\$/sh) | 2.15 |  |
| McDep Ratio - EV/PV | 0.80 | Price/Earnings Next Twelve Months | 26 |  |
| Dividend Yield (\%/year) | 0.0 | Indicated Annual Dividend (US\$/sh) | 0.00 |  |

Note: Estimated cash flow and earnings tied to one-year futures prices for natural gas and oil.
Reported results may vary widely from estimates. Estimated present value per share revised only infrequently. Estimated present value presumes a long-term price for oil of US\$90 a barrel and natural gas, \$6 a million btu. For historical analysis of PDC Energy since 2011 see www.mcdep.com/5petd.htm

## Summary and Recommendation

We raise estimated Net Present Value (NPV) of high-growth shale oil producer PDC Energy (PDCE) to $\$ 75$ a share from $\$ 55$ on a $40 \%$ sequential increase in fourth quarter 2014 production disclosed on February 20 on top of a 50\% increase in yearend 2013 proven reserves disclosed on January 28. Both disclosures exceeded our expectations when we raised NPV to \$55 from \$45 on January 14 (see Meter Reader, January 14, 2014). Otherwise the story is the same as it was a month ago, while the actual results are better. Optimistically, we see stock price appreciating $30 \%$ to NPV and to higher NPV over time. Cautiously, we know that stock price for a small cap shale oil growth stock can be sensitive to unforeseen deviations from a smooth trend. In any case, we are impressed at the progress demonstrated by management in achieving high aspirations.

Kurt H. Wulff, CFA

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| PDC Energy, Inc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Next Twelve Months Operating and Financial Estimates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Next |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Twelve |
|  | Q4 | Q3 | Q4 | Year | Q1E | Q2E | Q3E | Q4E | Months |
|  | 12/31/12 | 9/30/13 | 12/31/13 | 2013 | 3/31/14 | 6/30/14 | 9/30/14 | 12/31/14 | 12/31/14 |
| Volume |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Gas (mmcfd) | 90 | 56 | 72 | 57 | 67 | 66 | 66 | 65 | 66 |
| Days | 92 | 92 | 92 | 365 | 90 | 91 | 92 | 92 | 365 |
| Oil (mb) | 788 | 850 | 1,302 | 3,953 | 1,325 | 1,393 | 1,465 | 1,523 | 5,705 |
| Oil (mbd) | 8.6 | 9.2 | 14.2 | 10.8 | 14.7 | 15.3 | 15.9 | 16.6 | 15.6 |
| Total (bcfe) | 13.0 | 10.3 | 14.4 | 44.6 | 14.0 | 14.4 | 14.8 | 15.1 | 58.3 |
| Total (mbd) | 23.6 | 18.6 | 26.1 | 20.4 | 25.9 | 26.4 | 26.9 | 27.4 | 26.6 |
| Price |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Henry Hub (\$/mmbtu) | 3.40 | 3.58 | 3.60 | 3.65 | 5.14 | 4.68 | 4.68 | 4.74 | 4.81 |
| Differential | 0.49 | 0.45 | 0.39 | 0.36 | 0.56 | 0.51 | 0.51 | 0.52 | 0.53 |
| Company (\$/mcf) | 2.91 | 3.13 | 3.21 | 3.29 | 4.58 | 4.17 | 4.17 | 4.22 | 4.29 |
| WTI Cushing (\$/bbl) | 88.18 | 105.83 | 97.46 | 97.98 | 98.57 | 99.86 | 97.39 | 94.89 | 97.68 |
| Differential | 19.56 | 28.26 | 21.35 | 24.40 | 21.59 | 21.88 | 21.34 | 20.79 | 21.46 |
| Company | 68.61 | 77.57 | 76.11 | 73.58 | 76.97 | 77.98 | 76.06 | 74.10 | 76.22 |
| Total (\$/bbl) | 36.05 | 47.92 | 50.05 | 48.38 | 55.63 | 55.77 | 55.27 | 54.80 | 55.36 |
| Revenue (\$mm) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Gas | 24 | 16 | 21 | 69 | 28 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 103 |
| Oil | 54 | 66 | 99 | 291 | 102 | 109 | 111 | 113 | 435 |
| Total | 78 | 82 | 120 | 359 | 130 | 134 | 137 | 138 | 538 |
| Expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lease operating | 18 | 19 | 22 |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| General and administrative | 16 | 16 | 17 |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| Total | 34 | 35 | 39 | 132 | 48 | 50 | 51 | 51 | 200 |
| Ebitda | 44 | 47 | 81 | 227 | 81 | 84 | 86 | 87 | 338 |
| Exploration | 16 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| Deprec., Deplet., \& Amort. | 40 | 31 | 41 | 127 | 41 | 41 | 41 | 41 | 162 |
| Other, incl hedge | 165 | 5 | 1 | 40 | 1 |  |  |  | 1 |
| Ebit | (177) | 9 | 38 | 53 | 38 | 41 | 43 | 44 | 167 |
| Interest | 16 | 13 | 13 | 52 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 52 |
| Ebt | (194) | (4) | 25 | 1 | 25 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 115 |
| Income Tax | (68) | (1) | 9 | 0 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 40 |
| Net Income (\$mm) | (126) | (2) | 16 | 1 | 16 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 75 |
| Per Share (\$) | (4.17) | (0.07) | 0.44 | (0.07) | 0.45 | 0.50 | 0.64 | 0.56 | 2.15 |
| Shares (millions) | 30.2 | 33.4 | 36.8 | (9.8) | 36.8 | 36.8 | 31.0 | 36.0 | 36.8 |
| Ebitda Margin | 56\% | 57\% | 67\% | 63\% | 63\% | 63\% | 63\% | 63\% | 63\% |
| Tax rate | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% |

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| PDC Energy, Inc. |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Functional Cash Flow and Present Value |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Present |  |
| NTM Ebitda |  | Adjusted | PV/ | Value |  |
|  | (US\$mm) | $\underline{R / P}$ | Ebitda | (US\$mm) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| North American Natural Gas | 65 | 26.2 | 13.8 | 900 | 27\% |
| Oil | 273 | 21.7 | 9.0 | 2,460 | 73\% |
|  | 338 | 23.5 | 9.9 | 3,360 | 100\% |
| Debt (US\$mm) |  |  |  |  | 600 |
| Net Present Value (US\$mm) |  |  |  |  | 2,760 |
| Shares (mm) |  |  |  |  | 37 |
| Net Present Value - Standard Estimate (US\$/sh) |  |  |  |  | 75 |
| NPV Approximation by Cash Flow Multiple Depending on Reserve Life (US\$/sh) |  |  |  |  | 89 |

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