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## **ESB Team**





Pat Fenion

Group Finance Director



**Gerry Tallon** 

Group Treasurer



**Ted Browne** 

Manager, Investor Relations & Credit Rating

# **Agenda**



**ESB Background and Strategy** 

**Financial Overview** 

**Business Profile** 

**Funding and Liquidity** 

**Outlook & Summary** 



### **ESB Key Credit Strengths**



# Leading Irish Energy Utility



- 95% Irish Government owned
- Markets Ireland and Great Britain
- Owns all networks in ROI and NI<sup>1</sup>
- Irish electricity market: 42% share of generation and 34% share of supply in 2017

# Stable Business Profile



- Regulated electricity networks businesses in Ireland account for approximately twothirds EBITDA and assets
- Supported by established and transparent regulatory frameworks regarded as robust by credit rating agencies<sup>2</sup>

# **Consistent Financial Performance**



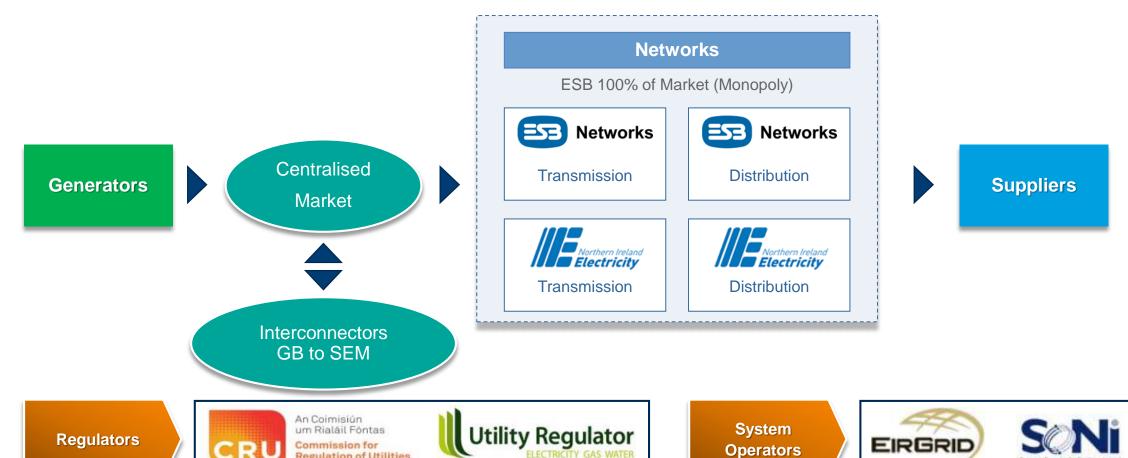
- 2017 EBITDA €1.28bn & Gearing 52%
- Diversified funding and strong liquidity position
- Credit ratings of A- and A3

### **Electricity Industry Structure: Ireland**

Regulation of Utilities



One Single Electricity Market (SEM) - All-Island



### **ESB Overview**





## **ESB - Strategy for a Brighter Future**

#### **ESB's Purpose**

Create a brighter future for our customers by leading the transition to reliable, affordable, low carbon energy

- Meet customers' energy needs through diverse businesses across energy value chain
- Markets Ireland and Great Britain
- Investment focus
  - Smart reliable networks
  - Low carbon energy
  - New business growth potential

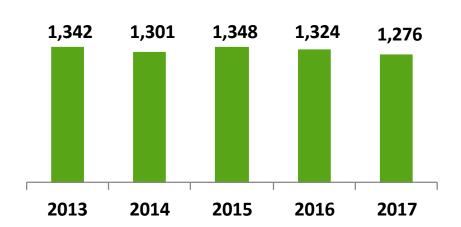




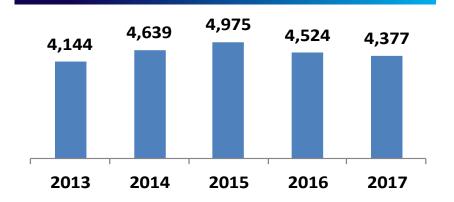
### **Consistent Financial Performance**



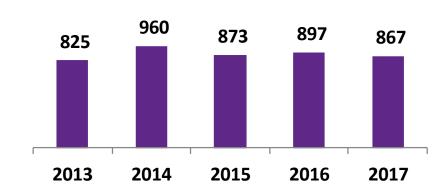
#### EBITDA (€m)



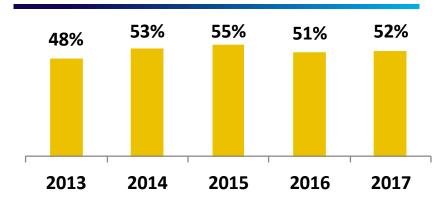
### Net Debt (€m)



### **Capital Expenditure (€m)**



### Gearing (%) <sup>1</sup>



### H1 2018 Highlights



#### Satisfactory performance in challenging generation and supply market conditions

- Operating Profit €244m; Capex €499m; Gearing 53%
- Regulated Networks Businesses in Ireland<sup>1</sup>: 88% operating profit supported by established and transparent regulatory frameworks

#### **Networks**

- ESB Networks (ROI) PR4 2016-20 delivery; Operating profit €181m in line with H1 2017
- NIE Networks (NI) RP6 October 2017-March 2024 delivery; Operating profit €35m is €16m higher than H1 2017

#### **Generation (G&T)**

• Investment in low carbon and renewables; Operating profit €44m is €43m lower than H1 2017 mainly due to lower GB energy margins

### **Supply (Electric Ireland)**

• Competing effectively; Operating profit €18m is €28m lower than H1 2017 mainly due to higher energy costs and timing of price increases

#### **Strong liquidity position**

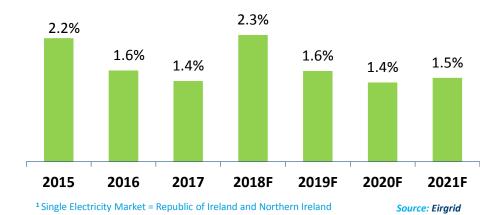
Moody's credit rating A3 and S&P credit rating A- affirmed in May 2018, both with stable outlook



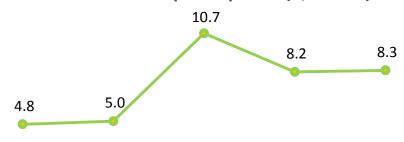
### **Macro Environment**



### SEM<sup>1</sup> System Demand Growth (%)



### GB Base Load Clean Spark Spread (£/ MWh)





Source: Epex & Marex Spectron

#### **Ireland**

- Irish economy performing strongly
- GDP +7.2% 2017 +4.7% 2018 forecast
- SEM Electricity demand growth
- Irish sovereign rating strengthened
  - A+ Stable (S&P ) and A2 Stable (Moody's)

#### UK

- GDP +1.7% 2017 & +1.4% 2018 forecast
- Brexit: Uncertainty persists but prudent financial management protecting ESB's credit metrics; ESB's Networks businesses have no volume risk
- UK Electricity
  - Tight capacity reserve margins

## **Network Regulation Overview in Ireland**



- Revenue determined by ROI and NI Independent Regulators
  - CRU (Republic of Ireland) for ESB Networks
  - Utility Regulator (Northern Ireland) for NIE Networks
- Regulatory framework similar to Ofgem in Great Britain
- Regulatory objectives: Protect customers' interests, while ensuring safe, secure, sustainable Networks at reasonable cost, that earn a fair return
- Multi-year Price / Revenue Control Cycles
  - Allowance for Opex and Capex
  - Allowed real return on Regulated Asset Base (RAB)
  - No volume risk. Inflation adjustment to opex, capex and RAB.
  - Incentives for strategic innovation, customer service and network performance
- Model well established and considered robust by investors and rating agencies



### **ESB Networks**



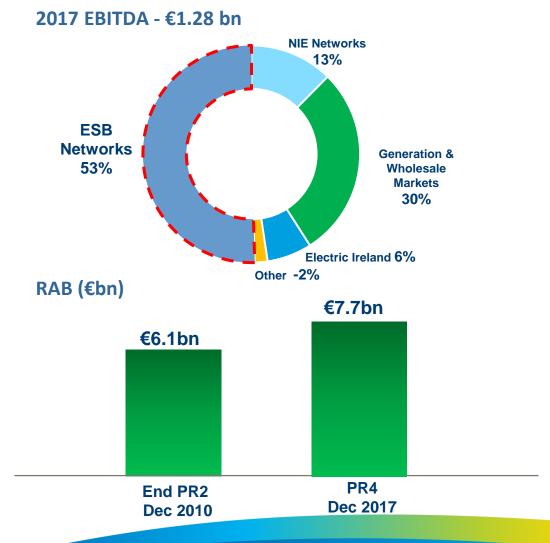
### **Business Description**

- ~53% of Group EBITDA and 56% Group Assets
- Sole owner and operator of distribution network and sole owner of transmission network in Republic of Ireland
- Regulated Asset Base (RAB) 2017 €7.7bn
- Strategy: Smart Reliable Networks
- PR4 Revenue Determination (2016-2020)

Significant Capital Investment

WACC 4.95% pre tax real <sup>1</sup>

FocusPR4 delivery



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WACC pre tax real calculated real pre tax cost of debt and real pre tax cost of equity

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Estimated RAB value end 2017 per CRU published PR4 revenue determination methodology

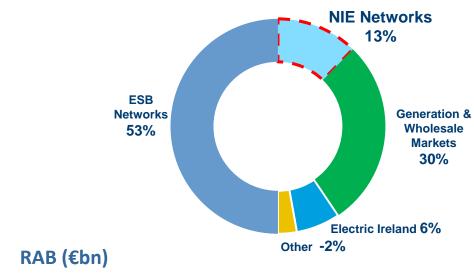
### Northern Ireland Electricity (NIE) Networks

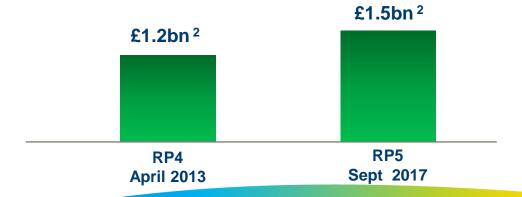


### **Business Description**

- ~13% of Group EBITDA and 16% Group Assets
- Sole owner and operator of distribution network and sole owner of transmission network in Northern Ireland
- Regulated Asset Base 2017 €1.7bn / £1.5bn nominal
- Strategy: Smart Reliable Networks
- RP6 revenue determination (Oct 2017 Mar 2024)
   Revenue visibility to March 2024
- RP6 WACC 3.2% vanilla real <sup>1</sup> (3.8% pre tax real), reflecting low interest rate environment<sup>1</sup>
- FocusRP6 Implementation







Vanilla WACC ACC calculated real pre tax cost of debt and real post tax cost of equity

RAB values are per the UR at the start of RP5 (1st April 2013) and end of RP5 (30 Sept 2017)

## **Generation & Trading (G&T)**



### **Business Description**

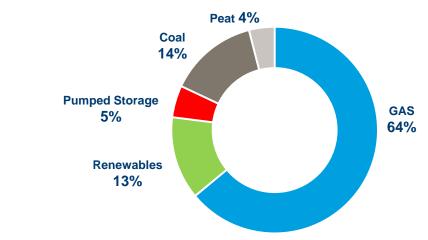
- ~30% of Group EBITDA and 20% Group Assets
- Strategy

Transition to low carbon energy Develop energy services

- 5.8 GW: 4.4 GW All-Island and 1.4 GW in GB
- All-Island SEM<sup>1</sup> market share 42% by volume
- Diversified fuel mix: gas, renewables, coal and peat
- SEM¹ portfolio benefits from capacity & quasi regulatory supports
- Investment
   Low carbon and renewables
- Focus

Integrated Single Electricity Market Renewable Investment

#### **2017 Installed Capacity by Fuel Type**



### **SEM Generation Market Share (MWh) 2017**



## **Integrated Single Electricity Market**



- EU Internal Energy Market compliance to align energy trading more closely with EU
- "Go live" 1st Oct 2018
- Capacity payments remain, but lower Capacity auction for 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2018 to 30 Sept 2019
  - 91% of G&T plant 3,295 MW secured contracts
  - Market average price €42.80/kW/pa
  - Next T-1 auction Dec 2018
- Ancillary services market revenue cap increasing from €75m in 2016 to cap €235m by 2020
- Significant energy margin expected to continue from capacity payments and quasi-regulated regulatory supports
- More challenging but ESB portfolio mix advantageous and well positioned with focus on
  - Availing of additional revenue opportunities
  - Cost efficiency
  - Investing in balanced low carbon portfolio of low thermal & renewable generation

### **Broad Indicative Changes**

SEM **I-SEM Energy Energy Payments Payments** Mandatory centralised pool with Centralised market with day ahead, intra-day and balancing ex-post pricing markets **Regulatory Supports Regulatory Supports Capacity Payments Capacity Payments** Competitive auction Availability based **Ancillary Services Ancillary Services** 

### **Customer Solutions**



#### **Business Description**

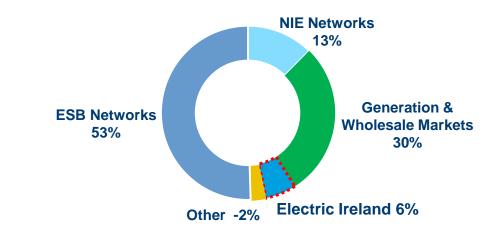
- ~6% of Group EBITDA
- Customer-facing businesses including supply of electricity, gas, energy services, e-transport and wholesale telecoms
- Strategy:

Meet customer energy needs -

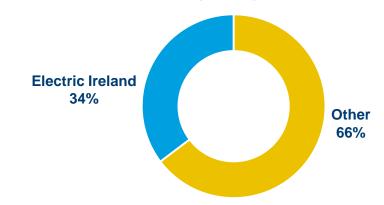
- Competitive Offerings
- Excellent Customer Service
- Innovative and value driven solutions
- Competing effectively
- Irish market share<sup>1</sup> 34% with 1.4m customer accounts
- GB Supply residential market entry under brand "ESB Energy" as long term growth opportunity
- Focus

Meet customer energy needs through value driven solutions at appropriate margins

#### 2017 EBITDA - €1.28 bn



#### **SEM Retail Market Share (MWh) 2017**



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Irish= Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland

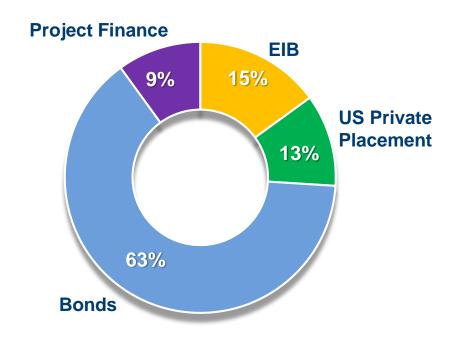


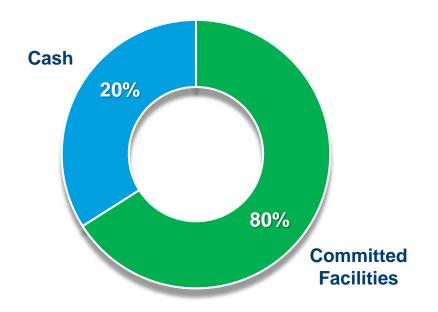
# **ESB Group Debt – Diversified Funding and Strong Liquidity**



**Group Debt 31 December 2017 - €4.8bn** 

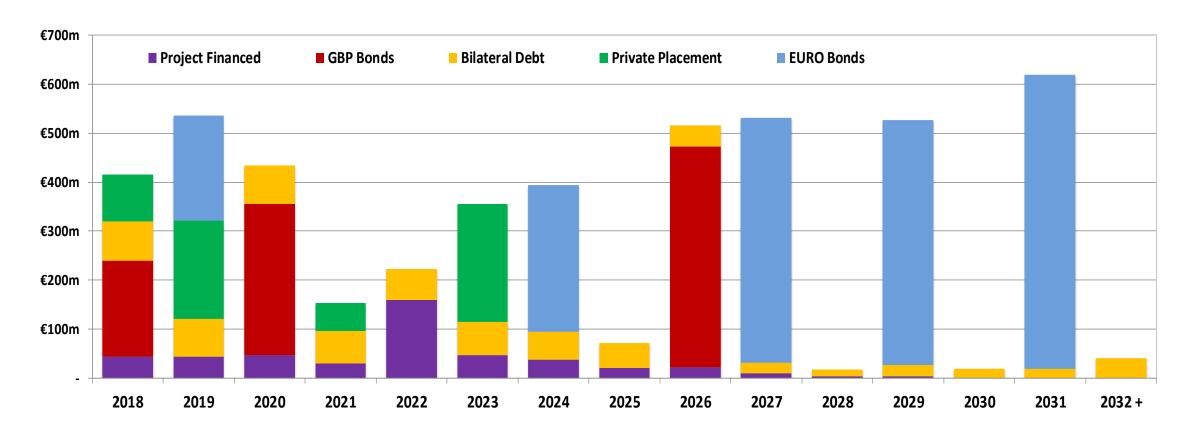
**Available Liquidity - €1.9bn** 





## Repayment Profile – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017





- €1.9bn liquidity December 2017 and EBITDA ~ €1.3bn pa
- NIE Networks £350m bond issued September 2018. Maturity October 2025 with 2.5% coupon

# **Dividend Policy & Pensions**



Dividend Policy	<ul> <li>Dividend Policy agreed in 2013 with Irish Government (95% Shareholder)</li> <li>Target dividend pay-out ratio of 40% of normalised profits after tax</li> <li>Irish Government agreed that sustaining a minimum BBB+ Credit Rating is key ESB policy objective</li> </ul>
Pensions	<ul> <li>ESB DB Pension Scheme does not have a deficit on an ongoing actuarial basis at end 2017</li> <li>NIE Networks DB Pension scheme. Deficit at the end of 2017 and funding plan has been agreed. Any deficit related to pre March 2012 substantially funded by customers through regulatory model</li> </ul>

## **ESB Credit Ratings**



# S&P Global

Ratings

**A-**

(Stable Outlook)

**Long Term Rating** 



**A3** 

(Stable Outlook)

**Long Term Rating** 

Credit ratings with both rating agencies reaffirmed with stable outlooks in May 2018



### Outlook



- Continued growth in Irish economy and SEM electricity demand expected
- Networks
  - ESB Networks (ROI) PR4 2016-20 delivery
  - NIE Networks (NI) RP6 Oct 2017-March 2024 delivery
- Generation (G&T)
  - Integrated Single Electricity Market (I-SEM)
  - Low carbon and renewable investment
- Customer Solution (Electric Ireland and ESB Energy)
  - Meet customer energy needs through value driven solutions at appropriate margins
- Ongoing focus on strategy delivery while maintaining financial strength

Create a brighter future for our customers by leading the transition to low carbon energy

### **ESB Key Credit Strengths**



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# **Consistent Financial Performance**



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### **Contacts**





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