

# Eandis cvba

**Investor Presentation** 

August 2015





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### **Investor Presentation**

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# 1. Executive Summary & Recent Developments



#### **Executive Summary**

- Eandis is a **Belgian distribution grid operator** established in March 2006
- Eandis is **owned by 7 Flemish Distribution System Operators ("DSOs")**, each of them an intermunicipal company, and is entrusted with a number of quasi-government **public service tasks**.
- These DSOs are 100% publicly owned (i.e. municipalities and provinces) since the exit of Electrabel NV on 29 December 2014
- Eandis is the operating arm of the 100% regulated electricity and gas distribution networks owned by the 7 DSOs, authorised in that role by decision of the Flemish energy regulator VREG (24 February 2015)
- Eandis serves around 2,6 million access points for electricity and 1,7 million access points for gas. Its distribution services cover 234 municipalities (approx. 78 % of all Flemish municipalities). Its operating revenue and pre-tax profit (*Eandis Economic Group IFRS*) were respectively 2,8 billion € and 228,3 mio € for 2014.
- The company is of **strategic importance to the Flemish Region** (S&P: AA/F: AA) and its general policy aim of realising Europe's climate and energy objectives
- Moody's identifies Eandis as a government-related issuer given the current ownership by Flemish municipalities and provinces in the DSOs and the high probability of systemic support to the DSOs from the Flemish Region. Eandis's current rating with Moody's is A1 (negative outlook).

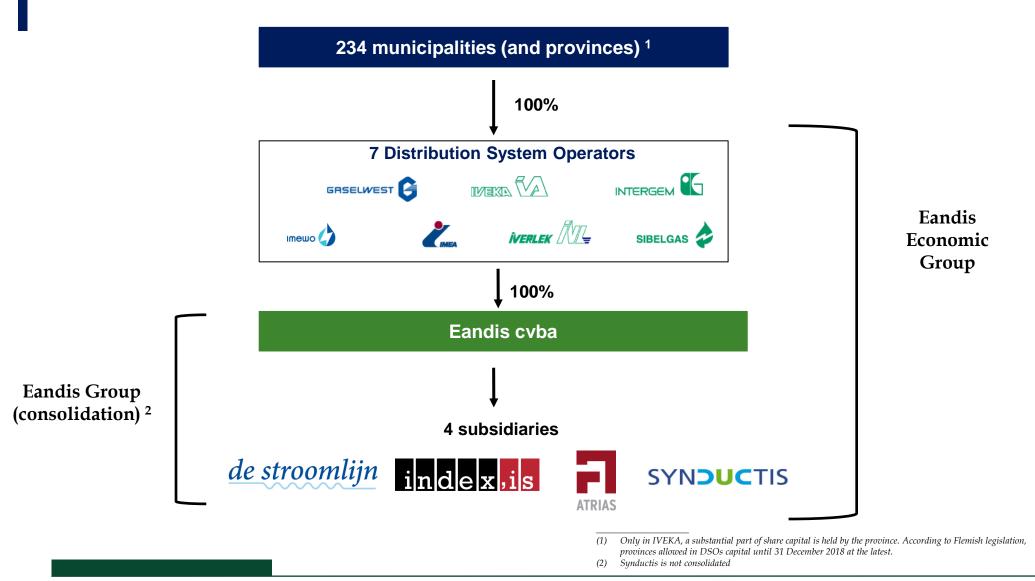


## **Executive Summary**

Strategic Importance to the Flemish Region	<ul> <li>DSOs cover about 78 % of the municipalities of the Flemish region</li> <li>Electricity and natural gas are the two most important energy sources in Flanders/Belgium</li> <li>Local authorities own 100% of the DSOs' share capital since the end of 2014</li> </ul>
Very Favourable Regulatory Environment (Revenue Cap)	<ul> <li>DSOs have a legally based regional monopoly for electricity and gas distribution to residential customers and SMEs</li> <li>Multi-annual tariff mechanism with a 4 year regulatory period along the principles of a revenue cap model, including a fair profit margin as remuneration on invested capital</li> <li>2015 regulatory tariffs approved by the Flemish energy regulator VREG, based on a tariff methodology for the transitory tariff period 2015-2016</li> </ul>
Efficient Operating Scheme	<ul> <li>The association of 7 DSOs under the structure of Eandis allows for an efficient operating scheme and benefits of scale</li> <li>Pooling of operational, financial and management activities; all staff at Eandis</li> </ul>
Strong Cash Flow Visibility	<ul> <li>Predictable revenue streams based on regulatory framework for the DSOs</li> <li>Tariffs are fixed for long periods (up to 4 years as from 2017), although 2015-2016 is a 2-year transitory period</li> </ul>
Legal Monopoly and Low Risk Electricity & Gas Distribution	<ul> <li>Low business risk - DSOs are not involved in the competitive energy generation, trading or sales activities</li> <li>7 DSOs, being Eandis's sole shareholders, own 78% of the distribution network in Flanders</li> <li>Legally, competitors may not participate in distribution activities in the designated operating areas</li> </ul>
Conservative Capital Structure	<ul> <li>Low leverage with equity at 40,2% of RAB (BE-GAAP, as per 31 December 2014),</li> <li>The VREG tariff methodology 2015-2016 recommends DSO balance sheet structure with equity/RAB ratio at 45%</li> <li>Regulator provides for a WACC-based fair profit margin</li> </ul>
Very Favourable Economic Dynamics	<ul> <li>The Flemish region is Belgium's most populated region (6,4 million on 1 Jan 2015 <sup>(1)</sup> – 57,5% of national population)</li> <li>"Flanders is one of the wealthiest regions in Europe. It benefits from a well-diversified economy, skilled workforce and high quality infrastructure." "Guaranteed debt and public-private partnerships commitments are high but represent moderate risks, due to the nature of guaranteed entities (public authorities, social housing companies) and also because of the Flemish Community's prudent risk management policies." (<i>Fitch, 11 April 2014</i>) "[] our view of the "predictable and well-balanced" institutional framework for communities and regions. We also factor in Flanders' very attractive and diversified economy, the community's "very positive" financial management and liquidity, its sound budgetary performance, and very moderate debt. (<i>S&amp;P Research Update 7 March 2014</i>)</li> <li>GDP per inhabitant 34.000 EUR (2013). "Flanders is a prosperous region: () it ranks 5<sup>th</sup> among the benchmark regions in 2010. () Flanders' performance is the result of a high labour productivity: scoring 3<sup>rd</sup> place can be called excellent. () The unemployment rate is among the lowest of the benchmark regions at 4,5% in 2012" (<i>Flanders Outlook 2014, Research Centre of the Government of Flanders, January 2014</i>)</li> </ul>



Eandis Economic Group's Corporate Structure (as from 29 Dec 2014)





### **Corporate Structure for the Eandis Economic Group**

#### Transparent and flexible corporate structure

- flexible decision-making structure allows for maintaining close links with 234 municipalities
- structure allows for a smooth merger of 7 DSOs into 1 DSO
- structure reflects clear bottom-up division of powers within the Eandis Economic Group:

Eandis Board of Directors (16 members): Group's general strategy and policy, financing, Eandis's corporate matters

7 Boards of Directors (48 members): DSO's corporate matters

16 Regional Governing Committees (250 members): only local matters



### **Eandis vs other Belgian distribution grid operators**

#### Eandis versus its peers in Belgium (Infrax, Sibelga, ORES and Resa)<sup>(1)</sup>

Eandis, Sibelga and ORES exclusively operate electricity and gas networks (**regulated activities**); Infrax also operates cable television and sewage systems. Resa (TECTEO Group) is a multi-utility for energy distribution, telecom infrastructure and telecom content, financial investments, ICT services and renewable energies.

Eandis is by far the largest E + G operator in Belgium, with an integrated operating area, enabling the company to **maximise benefits of scale** [*Eandis figures as per 31 Dec 2014, others as per 31 Dec 2013*]:

	Eandis	Infrax	Sibelga	ORES	Resa
municipalities served (E/G)	234	93	19	198	73
operating area	Flanders	Flanders	Brussels	Wallonia	Wallonia
employees	4.170	1.588	1.061	2.412	900
connections E	2.616.357	737.024	694.540	1.428.596	651.467 <sup>(2)</sup>
connections G	1.706.223	329.795	502.213	513.499	
Regulated Asset Base 2014 E+G (incl. Net Working Capital) – in m€	8.616,1 <sup>(3</sup> )	1.951	1.125,2	3.387,3	

(1) Source: companies' information (annual reports and websites)

- (2) Aggregate for E and G
- (3) Excl. NWC: 7.840,2 m€



### **Corporate Strategy**



<u>for regulated core activities</u>: operational excellence in delivering high quality services to our customers <u>for non-regulated activities</u>: make active use of opportunities which support our

strategic focus and enhance our strengths [e.g. district heating projects]



#### **Executive Summary** Moody's Corporate Rating for Eandis

A1 (negative outlook)

#### Credit strengths:

- rating underpinned by strong linkage to the region
- 3 notches of rating uplift reflecting high probability of support from the Flemish region if necessary
- transparent and supportive regulatory framework
- new tariff methodology maintains established principles
- low business risk profile of regulated distribution operations

#### **Credit challenges:**

- outlook change follows raising additional debt to pay out Electrabel
- regulatory framework is yet to establish a track record
- weakening of credit metrics due to ongoing capex needs and tariff deficits

#### from: Moody's Rating Action (2 December 2014)

# MOODY'S

#### Rating Action: Moody's affirms Eandis's A1 ratings, negative outlook

#### Global Credit Research - 02 Dec 2014

London, 02 December 2014 – Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) has today affirmed the A1 issuer and senior unsecured debt ratings of Eandis CVBA (Eandis). The (P)A1 senior unsecured programme rating of the company's EUR5.0 billion MTN programme has also been affirmed. Concurrently, Moody's changed the outlook on the ratings to negative from stable. The outlook change follows Eandis's announcement on 25 November 2014 that the exit of Electrabel SA (A3 stable) as a shareholder in the seven distribution system operators (DSOs) would result in Eandis raising additional debt of EUR400 million as the final portion of a total EUR965 million debt amount raised to pay out Electrabel.

#### RATINGS RATIONALE

Eandis's A1 rating reflects Moody's assessment of the credit quality of the seven DSOs that own the company and which the rating agency considers to be of broadly similar credit strength. The A1 rating also reflects a high probability that the Community of Flanders (Aa2 stable) will ultimately support the DSOs if necessary, given the strategic and economic importance of their services for the region. This currently results in a three-notch uplift from the BCA, which is in the high-Baa range.

The DSOs' credit quality is underpinned by the low business risk profile of their regulated electricity and gas distribution operations in the Flemish market, where the DSOs generate materially all of their cash flows. The regulatory framework is supportive and transparent albeit relatively new and untested in the context of peer European regulated assets. The ongoing transition of tariff setting responsibilities from the national to the regional regulators continues to create some uncertainty on cash flow constraints can applie the medium term. but the

#### **Rating history:**

- 12 Oct 2011-13 Mar 2014 : A1 (negative)
- 13 Mar 2014-2 Dec 2014: A1 (stable)
- as from 2 Dec 2014: A1 (negative)



## 2015 YTD Highlights [1]

- 9 January: 61,6 mEUR capital increase at the DSOs
- 23 January: Eandis participates in the Horizon 2020 Lighthouse project (in the Antwerp district Luchtbal): urban renewal project with smart electricity grid and district heating grid
- 30 January: telecom operator **Proximus joins Synductis**, reinforcing the latter's synergy potential
- 3 February: VREG renews the DSOs' license for electricity (valid until 5 September 2026) gas license to be renewed in 2015
- 24 February: VREG allows the DSOs to make use of Eandis's services as operating company for electricity (valid until 5 September 2026) – same procedure for gas in 2015
- 1 March: VREG allows modifications of distribution grid fee electricity to allow for changes in the transmission grid fee (Elia)
- 26 March: Eandis introduces a fleet of 22 gas and CNG vehicles to be used by metering staff, testifying of Eandis's commitment towards CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and sustainable mobility
- April: **Sibelgas** raises capital with 27mEUR, using non-paid out reserves
- 3 June: Board of Directors approves **proposal to fully incorporate Indexis** into Eandis as from 1 January 2016
- 26 June: 2<sup>nd</sup> round of DSOs' capital increase concluded with 29,1mEUR raised (total: 90,7 mEUR)



## 2015 YTD Highlights [2]

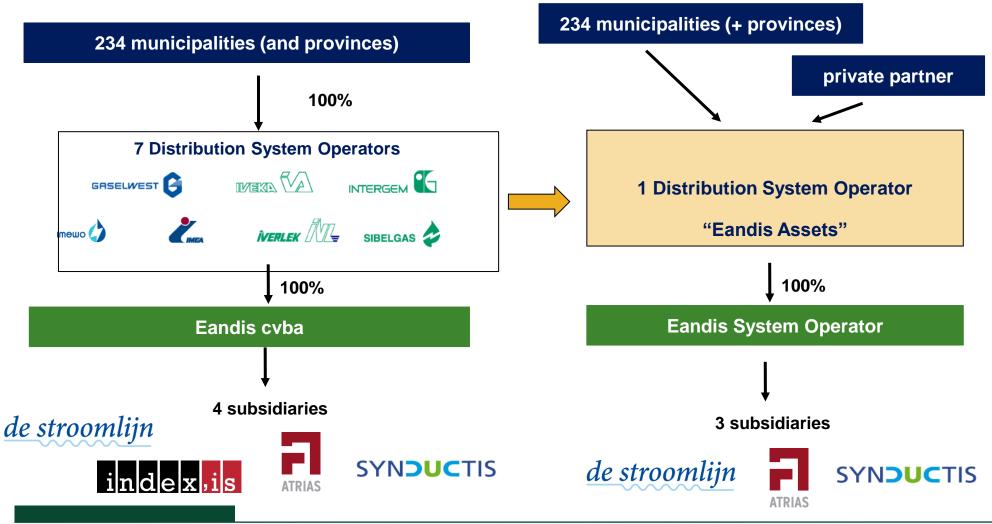
- June: water company **Pidpa** joins Synductis
- 1 July: VREG approves the DSOs' tariff proposals introducing the corporate income tax impact <sup>(1)</sup> into the grid tariffs as from 1 August 2015
- 1 July: Brussels Court of Appeal rules that the regional energy regulators (VREG a.o.) are competent for the establishment of the DSOs' 2010-2014 regulatory balances still to be recovered by the DSOs through the grid tariffs
- 30 July: VREG rejects the DSOs' tariff proposals with recovery of regulatory balances starting on 1 October 2015. VREG proposes such a recovery starting on 1 January 2016
- 19 August: dual **proposal regarding group structure** presented to the Economic Group's governing bodies:
  - merger of 7 DSOs into 1 DSO
  - merged DSO's share capital to be opened up for entry of external partner (once appropriate legal context will be in place)

<sup>(1)</sup> Belgian intermunicipal DSOs are no longer exempt from corporate income tax since 1 January 201.5 due to federal legislation of December 2014,



### Changes to Economic Group's Structure (proposal) as from 2016

**TO BE structure** after implementation of DSO merger, entry of an external partner and integration of Indexis (*current structure on the left*)



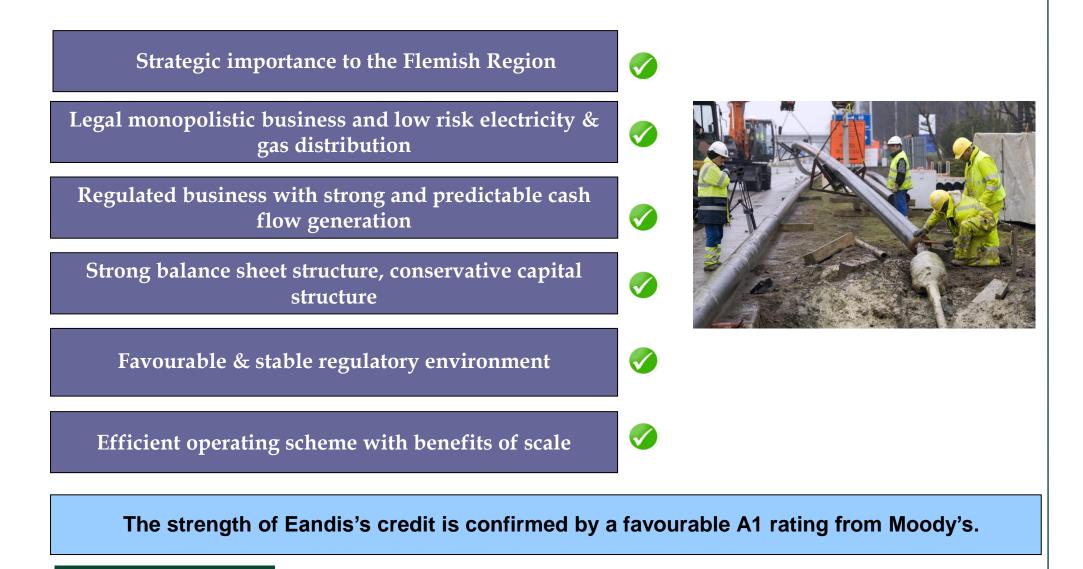


### **Corporate Social Responsibility**

- Strategic focus on sustainability & corporate social responsibility with the overall aim to realize the Flemish climate objectives:
  - Eandis as preferred partner of local authorities in drive towards energy efficiency positive response to Energy Services for Local Authorities (>70% of municipalities started a concrete project)
  - objective: reduction of our own CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with 20% by 2020 (compared to 2008) end 2014: >10% realised
  - **sustainable mobility**:
    - Eandis actively promotes **electric mobility** and the implementation of charging infrastructure
    - Eandis fleet of **22 CNG and natural gas vehicles** for Metering Dept. will grow to 100 vehicles
- Solar panels on HQ (Melle) and office buildings in Sint-Niklaas 5 more sites to follow total generation capacity of 854.000 kWh
- Well-defined and documented Corporate Governance policy: Corporate Governance Charter & Ethical Charter
- Integral risk management and actively pursued risk-based internal auditing
- CSR Report 2014 entitled "sustainability partner for cities and municipalities" [GRI-4 core option] focuses on company's CSR strategy and results see corporate website



## **Investment highlights** Key considerations





# 2. Financial Overview (Economic Group)

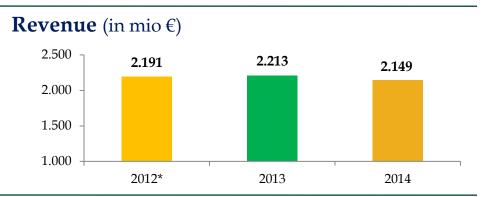
- Summary financials FY 2012-2014
- Summary financials HY 2013-2015
- Capex programme 2014 (actuals)
- Short term financing
- Debt and maturity profile
- Investment programme 2015-2018
- Financing needs and funding 2015-2018
- Financial policies and strategy



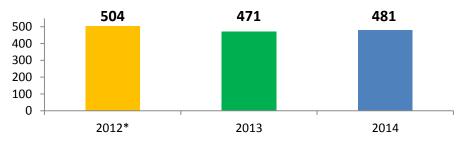
### **Financial Overview**

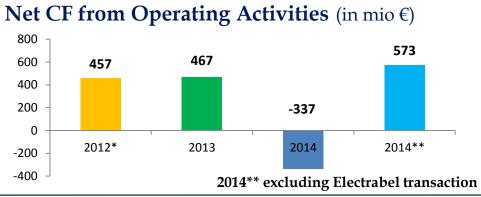
Summary Financials FY 2012-2014 (actuals) for the Economic Group

(in mio €)	2012*	2013	2014
ncome statement			
Revenue	2.191	2.213	2.149
Total Operating Income	2.907	2.956	2.781
Total Operating Expenses	-2.403	-2.484	-2.300
Result from Operations	504	471	481
Net Financial Income/Expense	-203	-143	-253
Profit before Tax	301	328	228
Profit for the period	297	320	417
Other Comprehensive Income	-108	113	-546
Fotal Comprehensive Income	189	433	-129
Balance Sheet			
Current Assets	1.201	1.314	2.306
Non-Current Assets	7.502	7.724	7.855
Fotal Assets	8.702	9.039	10.161
Fotal Equity (attributable to parent)	) 2.778	2.978	2.607
Non-Current Liabilities	4.631	5.041	6.464
Current Liabilities	1.292	1.019	1.089
Total Liabilities	5.923	6.059	7.552
Fotal Equity & Liabilities	8.702	9.039	10.16
Cash Flow Statement			
Net CF from Operating Activities	457	467	-337
Net CF from Operating Activities**			573
Net CF from Investing Activities	-616	-584	-497
Net Cash Flow used in/from Financing Activities	159	116	837
Net Increase/Decrease of Cash + Cash Equivalents	1	-2	2
Cash + Cash Equivalents on 31 Dec	7	5	Q



### **Result from Operations** (in mio €)







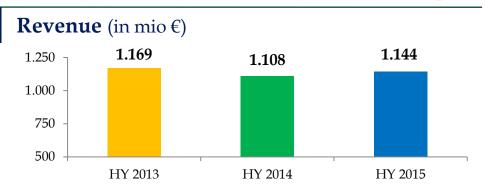
### **Financial Overview**

Summary Financials HY 2013-2015 (actuals) for the Economic Group

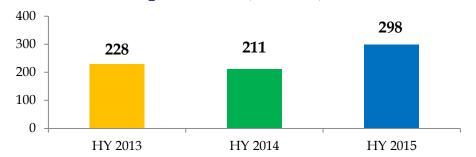
#### **Financials (IFRS)**

(in mio €)	HY 2013	HY 2014	HY 2015
Income statement			
Revenue	1.169	1.108	1.144
Total Operating Income	1.526	1.411	1.314
Total Operating Expenses	-1.298	-1.201	-1.016
Result from Operations	228	211	298
Net Finance Income/Expense	-59	-123	-74
Profit before Tax	170	87	224
Profit for the period	169	85	143
Other Comprehensive Income	83	-21	48
Total Comprehensive Income	251	64	191
Statement of financial position			
Current Assets	1.203	1.695	1.580
Non-Current Assets	7.619	7.793	7.863
Total Assets	8.822	9.488	9.443
Non-Current Liabilities	4.522	5.291	6.288
Current Liabilities	1.297	1.186	1.146
Liabilities	5.820	6.477	7.433
Total equity attributable to owners of the parent	3.002	3.010	2.009
Total Equity and Liabilities	8.822	9.488	9.443
Cash Flow Statement			
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	403	436	1.247
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities	-303	-254	-201
Net Cash Flow used in/from Financing Activities	-101	245	-1.403
Net Increase/Decrease of Cash and Cash Equivalents	-1	427	3
Cash and Cash Equivalents on 30 June	6	433	11

<u>HY 2015 Operational CF</u>\*: excluding the settlement in January 2015 of temporary receivable (910 mEUR) in Eandis on DSOs' municipal shareholders



**Result from Operations** (in mio €)



**Net CF from Operating Activities** (in mio €)

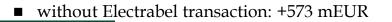




## **Cash Flow from Operating Activities 2014: detail**

#### ■ Net cash flow from operating activities 2014: -337 mEUR

- negative CF due to major change in working capital
- <u>29 December 2014</u>:
  - Electrabel exits from 7 DSOs and Electrabel's 21% share in equity is taken over by DSOs' municipal shareholders
  - this resulted in (i) a <u>temporary</u> receivable (910 mEUR) in Eandis on DSOs' municipal shareholders (as indicated in the FY 2014 accounts) and (ii) a negative impact on working capital and net operational cash flow (as per 31 Dec 2014: -337 mEUR)
- <u>Early 2015</u>:
  - receivable has disappeared due to capital decrease at the DSOs to finance the share transaction
  - working capital increases with 910 mEUR
  - HY 2015 figures for Net CF from Operating Activities & Net CF from Financing Activities impacted by this operation as well
- <u>2014 accounts Net Operational Cash Flow</u>
  - with Electrabel transaction: -337 mEUR

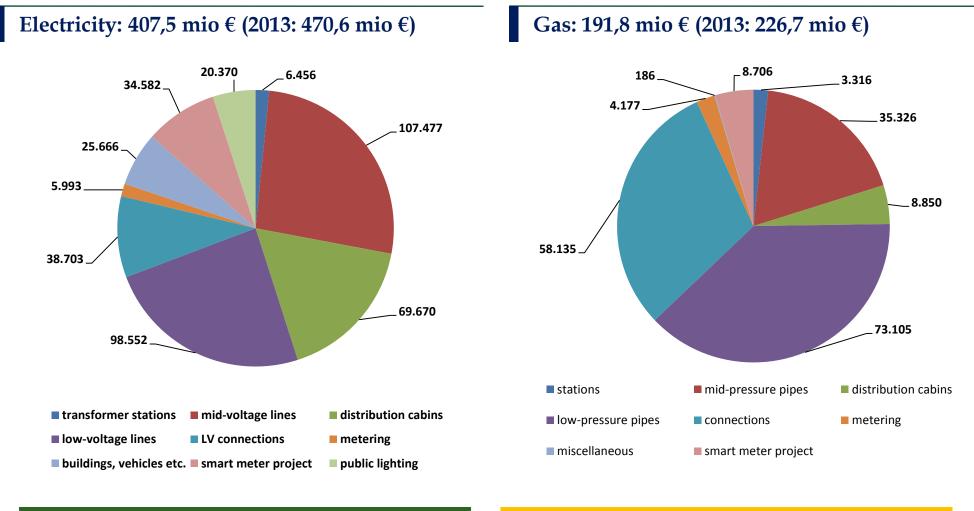


Δ: 910 mEUR



#### **Financial Overview**

Capex Programme 2014 (actuals – gross investments)



#### CAPEX/Total Net Fixed Assets: 7,8% (2013: 9,2%)

2014 investments in district heating: 1,2 mio €



### Short term financing capacity

### Liquidity Facilities (as per 30 June 2015)

CP Programmes ("Thesauriebewijzen")

- Total size programmes: 522 m€
- Outstanding as per date indicated: 101,8 m€

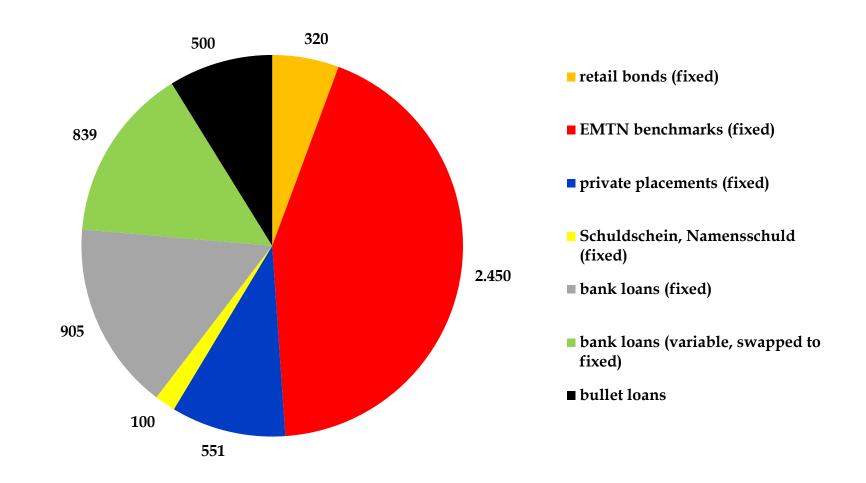


- Bank account: positive balance (4,3 m€)
- Overnight cash facility: 200 m€
  - 57,9 m€ drawn
- Committed
- Total size facilities: 300 m€ (as of 1 Jan 2015)
- Outstanding as per date indicated: 0 €
- Committed



### **Debt Profile (Economic Group)**

LT Debt Profile by Instrument (5.664 m€ outstanding as per 30 June 2015)





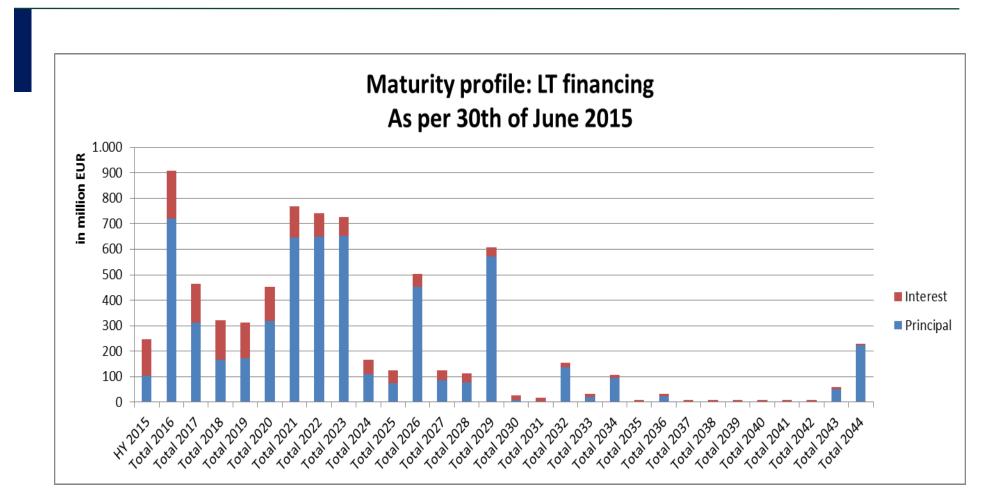
### **Financial Overview**

Eandis's outstanding bonds (as per 30 June 2015): 3.020,5 m€

Issue Date	Amount (m€)	Туре	Maturity	Coupon
23.06.2010	150	Retail	23.06.2017 (7 y)	4,000%
30.12.2010	170	Retail	30.12.2020 (10 y)	4,250%
08.11.2011	500	EMTN benchmark	08.11.2021 (10 y)	4,500%
10.07.2012 a.o.	135,5	EMTN Private Placement	10.07.2032 (20 y)	3,950%
21.09.2012	50	Schuldschein	21.09.2027 (15 y)	3,500%
30.11.2012	500	EMTN benchmark	30.11.2022 (10 y)	2,750%
28.03.2013	54,5	EMTN Private Placement	28.03.2028 (15 y)	3,500%
28.03.2013	20,5	EMTN Private Placement	28.03.2033 (20 y)	3,750%
24.06.2013	50	Namensschuldverschreibung	24.06.2043 (30 y)	3,500%
09.10.2013	500	EMTN benchmark	09.10.2023 (10 y)	2,875%
05.03.2014	52	Private Placement	05.03.2044 (30 y)	3,550%
05.03.2014	23	Private Placement	05.03.2036 (22 y)	3,550%
07.05.2014	550	EMTN benchmark	07.05.2029 (15y)	2,875%
27.10.2014	170	Private Placement	27.10.2044 (30y)	3,000%
27.10.2014	95	Private Placement	27.10.2034 (20y)	2,600%
04.12.2014	400	EMTN sub-benchmark	04.12.2026 (12 y)	1,750%



### Maturity Profile (Economic Group)

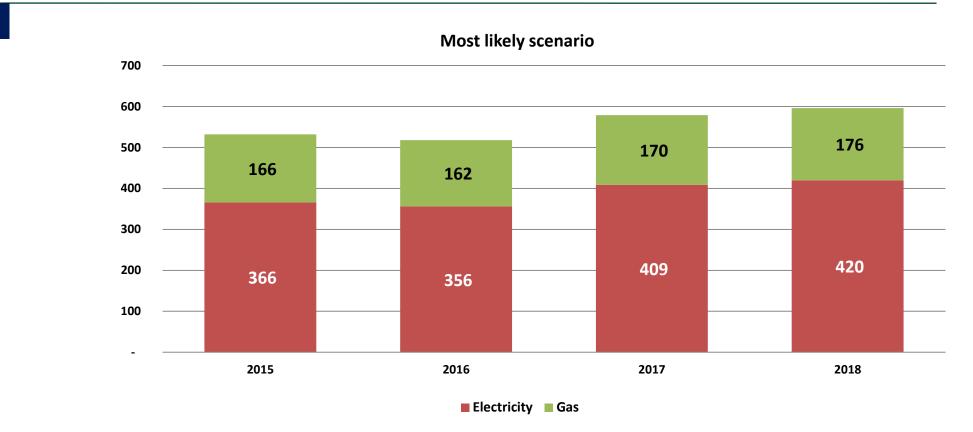


Note: including bank loans



### **Financial overview**

### Investment programme 2015-2018 (net figures – m€)



Most probable investment programme includes impact of FIT on grid investments and a 100 per cent roll-out of smart metering by 2030. All capex programmes validated by VREG.



### **Financial overview** Action Plan FIT: clear focus on company-wide productivity

#### • Action Plan FIT launched in June 2013

- FIT aims at 3 components:
  - 1. Clear cut **efficiency and productivity objectives** (2013-2015) for grid investments, staff and other costs: grid investment budgets will be reduced to 'autofinancing'
  - 2. Implementation of **cost efficiency measures** (after a bottom-up analysis within the framework of Operational Excellence)
  - 3. Implementation of a change action plan to reinforce overall cost awareness
- FIT's **financial objectives and preliminary results**: see table below
- **"FIT-Breakthrough"** as follow-up programme, starting in 2016

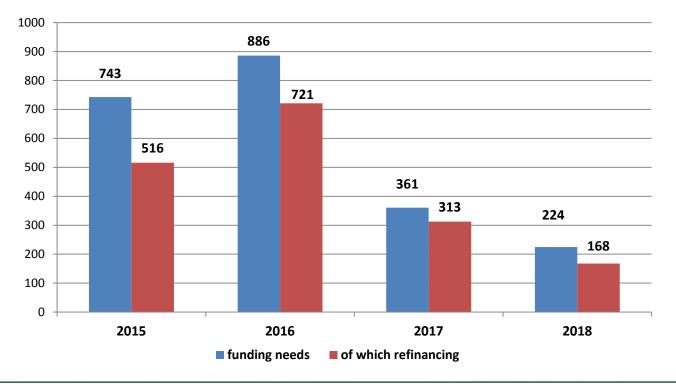
mio €	Actuals 2013	Budget 2014	Actuals 2014	Budget 2016 Autofinancing	Actuals 2014 vs Actuals 2013	Actuals 2014 vs Budget 2016
grid investments	444,4	427,8	390,4	377,2	-12,2%	+3,5%
grid operations	304,9	259,3	249,9	274,6	-18,0%	-9,0%
support dpts – staff	161,2	158,2	154,3	156,2	-4,3%	-1,2%
support dpts - other	354,4	354,7	297,2	348,6	-16,1%	-14,7%
TOTAL	1.264,9	1.200,0	1.091,8	1.156,6	-13,7%	-5,6%



### **Financial overview** Funding Programme 2015-2018 (in mio €)

#### Funding programme 2015-2018:

- investment programme 2015-2018 requires annual net financing of 500-650 m€
- incl. repayments and interest payments under currently outstanding loans and external financing
- incl. proceeds realized from sale of green power & CHP certificates (2015)
- taxes taken into charges



Estimated financing needs per 31 Dec (non-cumulative figures in mio €)



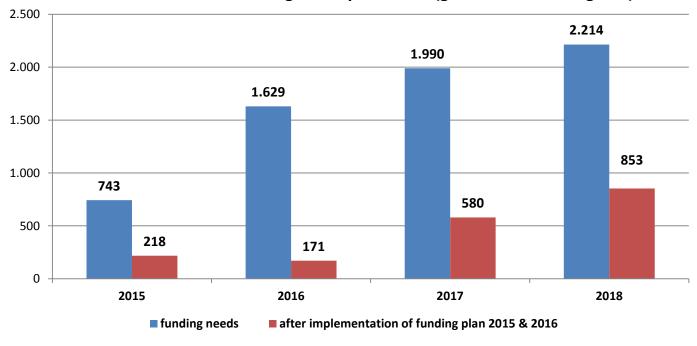
### **Financial overview** Funding Programme 2015-2018 (in mio €)

#### **Funding programme 2015:**

Depending on market conditions and opportunities / approved by Board of Directors (June 2013) through a mix of bank loans, EMTN bonds, retail bonds and/or MTN private placements, capital increase, hybrid bonds, new equity partner in the DSOs.

#### Funding programme 2016-2017:

Details to be decided later



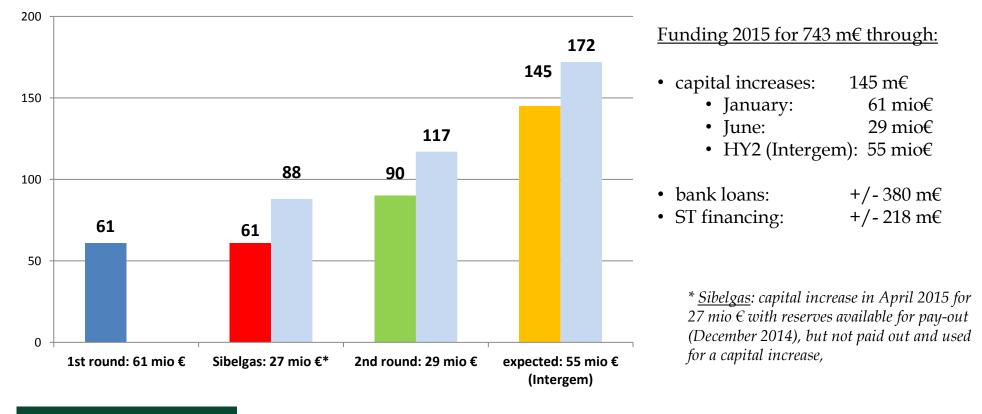
Estimated financing needs per 31 Dec (gross cumulative figures)



### **Financial overview** Funding Programme 2015: detailed (in mio €)

#### **Funding programme 2015:**

Depending on market conditions and opportunities / approved by Board of Directors (June 2015) through a mix of bank loans, EMTN bonds, retail bonds and/or MTN private placements, capital increases, private partner.



**Capital Increases 2015 (cumulative)** 



### **Financial Overview** Financial Policies and Strategy

Operational Basis	<ul> <li>Eandis operates on a cost price basis</li> <li>The DSOs operate in a fully regulated framework</li> <li>Each DSO has its own cost structure for E and G separately, therefore 7 x 2 tariff proposals are introduced</li> <li>All energy suppliers are required in order to receive network access to either (1) provide a letter of credit, (2) obtain a rating, or (3) provide a deposit equal to 3 months upfront network fees</li> </ul>
DSOs' Capital Structure	<ul> <li>The regulator uses a defined regulated capital structure with preponderance for debt to equity</li> <li>Current balance sheet structure at approximately 42,4% equity versus 57,6% debt (BE-GAAP)</li> </ul>
DSOs' Financial Policies	<ul> <li>Dividend payout ratio is fixed at 90%, in accordance with previsions</li> <li>Financial transactions need prior approval by the Board of Directors</li> <li>Funds (bank loans, bonds) borrowed by Eandis solely on behalf of each DSO (= pass through principle)</li> <li>Each DSO guarantees the debt up to a percentage equal to the percentage of its participation in the capital of Eandis</li> </ul>
Funding Currency	<ul> <li>External funding in EUR only (no exchange rate risks)</li> </ul>
Risk Management Policies	<ul> <li>Interest rate swaps are used for hedging purposes only</li> <li>Each transaction must be formally approved</li> </ul>



# 3. Company & Business Overview

- Ownership structure
- Intermunicipalities and DSOs
- Eandis's Network
- Corporate Social Responsibility



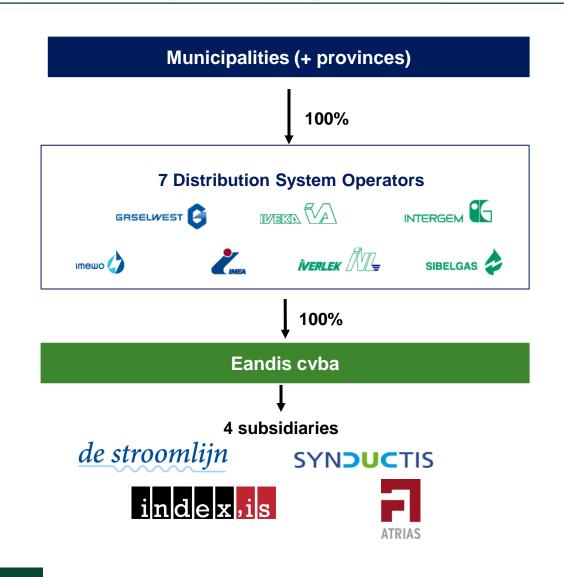
### **Company Overview** Ownership Structure

- Eandis is 100% owned by 7 Flemish DSOs (Gaselwest, IMEA, Intergem, Iverlek, Imewo, Iveka and Sibelgas)
- These DSOs are **100% publicly owned**:
  - i.e. municipalities and provinces
  - Sibelgas: important stake held by IBE/IBG
- Flemish government aims at (1) the possibility of the entry of a private partner (not energy related) in DSOs' capital parliamentary approval for amendment to current decree needed and (2) exit of the provinces
- The current expiry date of the mandate for each DSO is:
  - IVEKA 31 December 2016
  - INTERGEM 14 September 2018
  - IVERLEK 9 November 2019
  - IMEA 9 November 2019
  - IMEWO 9 November 2019
  - GASELWEST 21 March 2023
  - SIBELGAS 25 April 2026
- Expiry date for all Flemish DSOs (incl. Infrax's DSOs) to be set at **9 November 2019** (upcoming Flemish Decree)
- At the end of the mandate expiry of each DSO, the municipalities can decide to extend the DSO mandate for another 18 years. If a municipality should decide not to take part in a prolongation, it is obliged to take over from the DSO/Eandis their relevant assets & liabilities (incl. financial debt), personnel, public service obligations etc.



### **Company Overview**

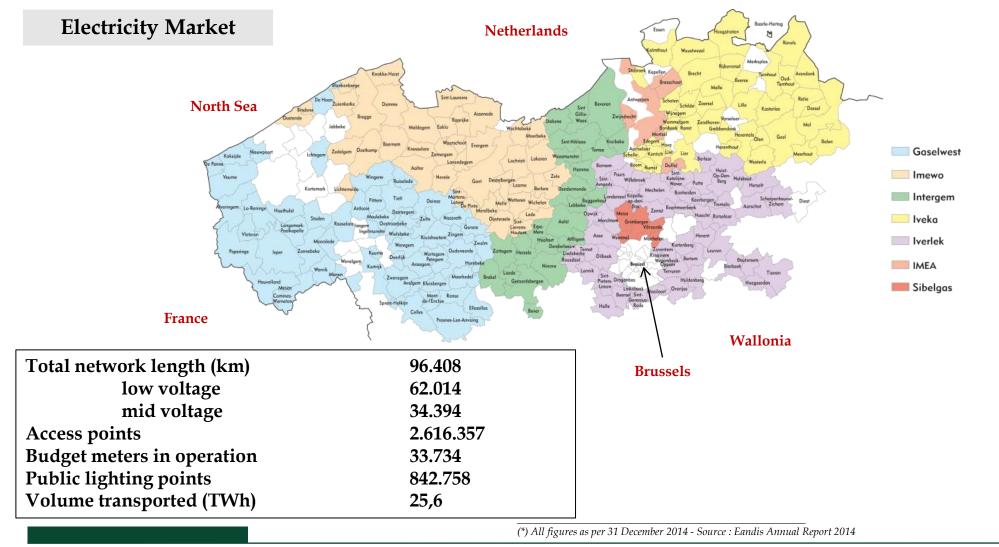
Ownership Structure as per **30 December 2014** 





#### **Business Overview** Eandis' network

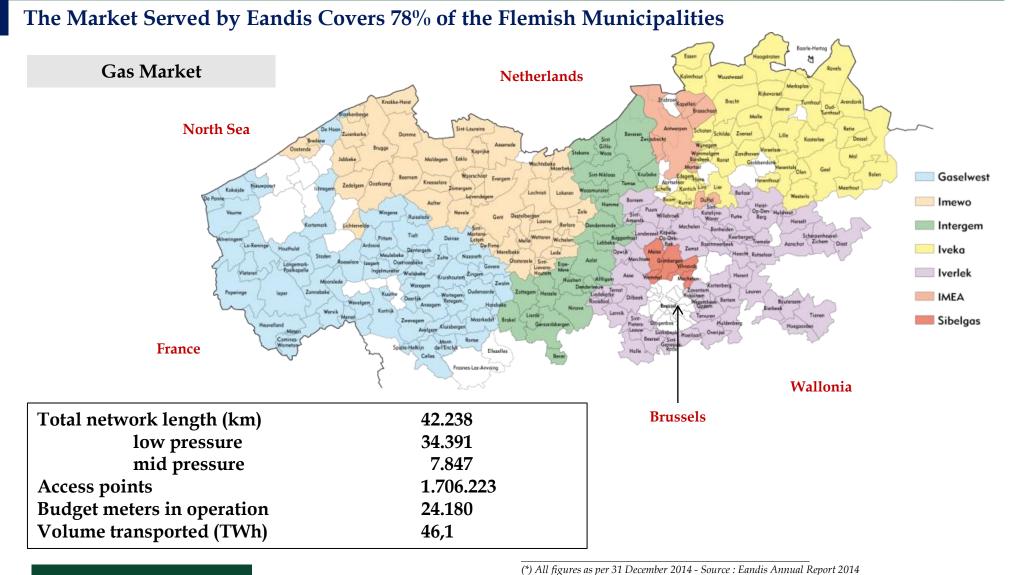
#### The Market Served by Eandis Covers 78% of the Flemish Municipalities





#### **Business Overview** Eandis' network

Eandis' network





# 4. Belgian Energy Market & Regulatory Framework

- Regulatory framework: Purpose & Organisation
- Regulatory framework for Electricity and Gas Distribution
- Tariffs setting Key characteristics
- Tariffs and Fair Beneficiary Margin
- Tariffs and Treatment of Differences between costs and revenues



# **Regulatory Framework**

Purpose and Organisation of the Regulatory Framework in Belgium

#### Purpose

- Organise the energy market in order to
  - Increase generation capacity through import and new generation units
  - Improve competition on the generation side
  - Provide the framework for neutral, technically well integrated and cost efficient networks for gas and electricity transmission and distribution
  - Benchmark cost of energy
  - Reduce costs
  - Permanently monitor the market and if necessary adjust regulations to improve its organisation
  - Have a well functioning retail market
- Take action with a view to **satisfy the climate objectives** 
  - Harmonise the energy policies with environmental policies
  - Promote efficient use of energy
  - Promote use of renewable energy and use of CHP (Combined Heat and Power) units

#### **Areas of Competencies**

- In order to organise the energy market, one federal (<u>CREG</u>) and several regional regulators (Flanders: <u>VREG</u>) were set up in Belgium
- The federal regulator's areas of competence (CREG)
  - Electricity generation (except from renewable sources and combined heat and power systems )
  - Electricity transmission on > 70 kV grids
  - Gas storage and gas transport
  - Tarification for transmission

#### The three regional regulators' areas of competence

- Local distribution of electricity (voltage  $\leq$  70kV)
- Local distribution of natural gas
- Energy production from renewable sources and combined heat and power systems
- Rational use of energy (RUE)
- (Social) public service obligations
- Organization of supply market and supply licenses
- Tarification for distribution (as from 1 July 2014)



# **Regulatory Framework** Distribution Grid Tarification – Transfer of competency

- formal date of transfer: **1 July 2014** VREG replaced the CREG as competent tariff-setting regulator for the Flemish Region appointment by Flemish Decree of 14 March 2014
- no complete set of legislative measures currently in place to accommodate the transfer of competences until Flemish Region takes additional legislative action to repeal/replace the federal legislative framework on distribution tariffs, current (federal) tarification system principles remain applicable
- 30 September 2014: VREG publishes tariff methodology for transitory tariff period 2015/2016,
  - while contesting the procedure leading to the tariff methodology, Eandis/DSOs have nevertheless implemented the 2015 tariffs based on this tariff methodology
  - principles of non-discrimination, stability, transparency, business continuity, efficiency and avoidance of tariff shocks
  - based on a **revenue cap model** ('exogenous' costs excluded), with incentives for non-exogenous costs
  - **RABxWACC-based fair remuneration** for DSO's shareholders
  - still needed for a complete Flemish tarification system : tariff guidelines & tariff structure



# **Regulatory Framework** Towards a Flemish Distribution Grid Tarification

The coalition agreement for the Flemish government (2014-2019) stipulates the following elements with regard to the future distribution grid tariffs in the Flemish region:

- distribution tariffs to be reformed into purely grid-related tariffs per customer segment, reflecting capacity required by the end user
- tariff should **reflect costs** for both off-take and injection
- **balances from previous tariff periods** (partly caused by tariff freeze 2013-2014) to be settled in tariff methodology
- tariff should take into account the **costs for constructing and using the grid**
- **objectifiable differences** will be integrated into the tariffs, e.g. grid density (rural vs urban areas)
- a **possible uniform contribution** for social/ecological public service obligations will be investigated

#### → still to be confirmed in formally approved tariff guidelines



# **Regulatory Framework** Distribution Grid Tarification 2015-2016

- VREG approved the 2015 tariffs E & G (2016 to be approved in 2015) within the context of a transitory tariff period of 2 years; regular 4-year tariff periods to start in 2017-2020
- Basic tarification principles:
  - revenue regulated ('revenue cap' or 'allowed income') for non-exogenous costs:

 $AI_n = AI_{n-1} * [1 + CPI - x + q]$  in which

AI = allowed income

- CPI = consumer price index
- x = efficiency factor (not yet implemented)
- q = quality factor (not yet implemented)
- **RAB x WACC for 2015** with gearing [= debt/(debt+equity)] set at 55%
  - cost of equity at 5,7%, with risk-free rate = 2-year average yield on 10y Belgian OLO & German Bund, equity risk premium at 5,1% (E & G) and β at 0,73 (E & G)
  - cost of debt at 4,1%
  - → **RAB-based WACC at 4,8% (post-tax);** WACC at 6,1% (pre-tax)
- VREG allows for the **recovery of regulatory balances 2008-2009** over 2015-2016; recovery of 2010-2014 regulatory balances still unclear (possibly over a 3-year period starting on 1 January 2016)
- **differences in exogenous costs and volume differences** are settled in the annual tariffs





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# Annexes

### **Company Overview** Organizational Structure: Management Committee (as from 1 Jan 2015)



Walter VAN DEN BOSSCHE, CEO

Chairman Management Committee



Guy COSYNS Customer Operations



Wim DEN ROOVER Network Operations



Jean Pierre HOLLEVOET Network Management



David TERMONT, CFO *Finance,* Administration & ICT



Donald VANBEVEREN Regulation & Strategy



Werner VERLINDEN HR & Organisational Management

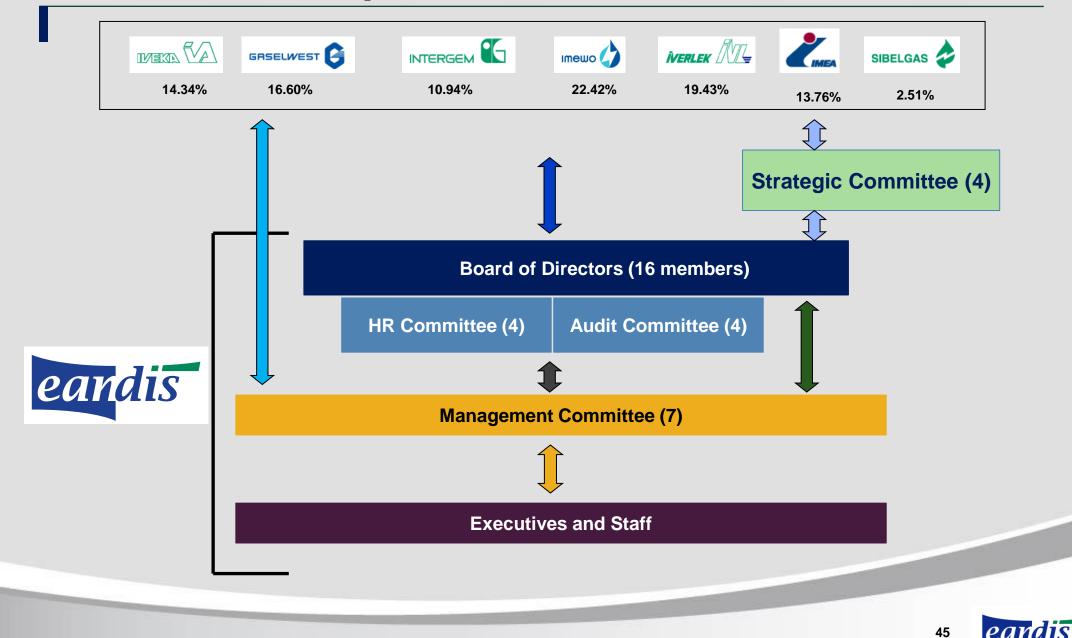
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# **Company Overview**

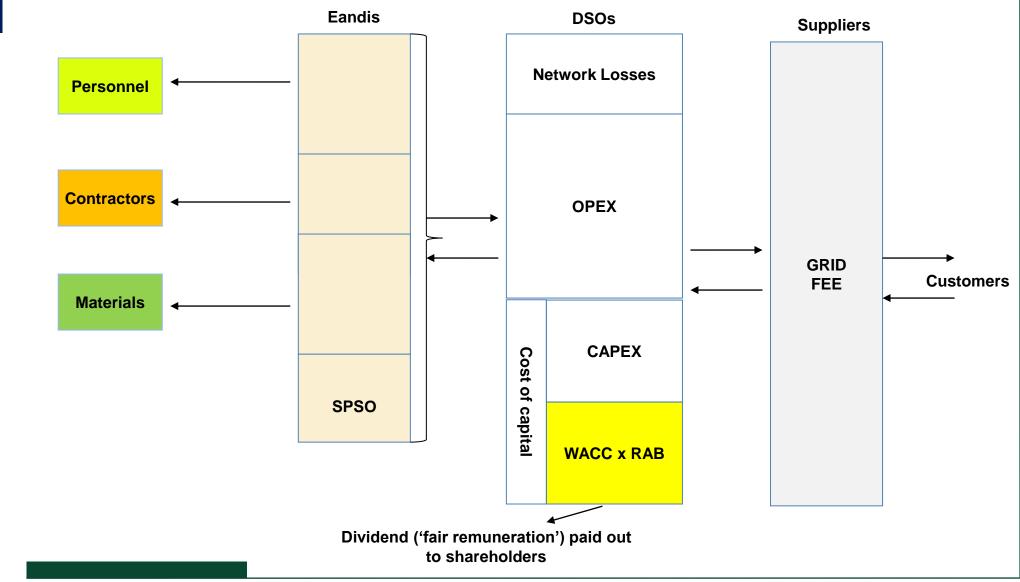
### Corporate Structure: Eandis and 7 DSOs





# **Regulatory Framework**

Cash Cycle





# **Company Overview** Intermunicipalities and DSOs

### **Intermunicipalities - Overview**

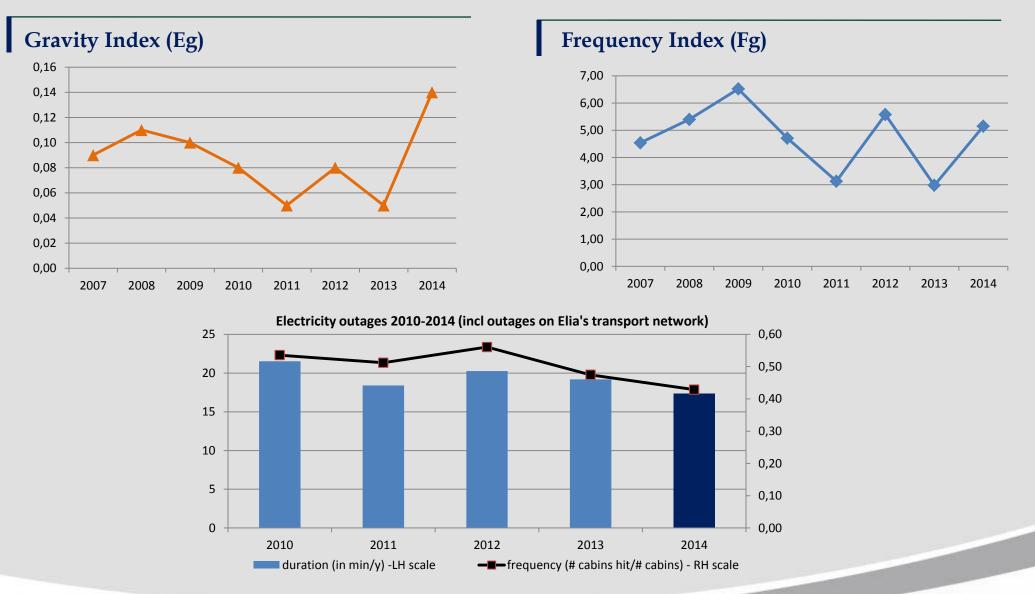
- In Belgium, municipalities are in charge of the provision of several public services covering, among others, waste management, water management, environment, energy distribution.
- The municipalities may **organise** these tasks in two ways
  - Through a "municipal company" (also called "regie") in which each municipality organises the service with its own personnel and financial resources
  - Through an association of several municipalities, (also called "intermunicipality") in which several municipalities are associated to provide a common service
- Legal status of **companies of public law**
- In Flanders, intermunicipalities are governed by the Flemish Decree of 6 July 2001. All items not explicitly covered by this decree are covered by the corporate rules for a "cooperative company" ("cvba")

#### **DSOs - Overview**

- Most municipalities have chosen to organise their mission of electricity and gas distribution system operator ("DSO") through intermunicipal associations
- The actions of the intermunicipal DSOs being public law companies - do not have a commercial character, thus the Belgian Act of 8 August 1997 on bankruptcy does not apply
- In view of their mission entrusted by public shareholders, the intermunicipal DSOs perform a public service in an environment driven by principles of equality, continuity, regularity of service in relation to its suppliers and customers, rather than by principles of pure economic profit
- Each intermunicipal DSO holds a legal monopolistic position for the area covered by its network
- Each intermunicipal DSO owns **its proper grid** infrastructure
- Each intermunicipal DSO is appointed by the regional regulator VREG for a **renewable term of 12 years**: ownership of network (or rights of use) is prerequisite for obtaining such a licence – licence for E was renewed in HY2 2014, for G to be renewed in 2015

# Eandis: safety & reliability

Industrial accidents (2007-2014) / electricity outages (2010-2014)



#### Source: Eandis figures

Eg= # days lost due to industrial accidents x 1000/# hours worked / Fg= # industrial accidents resulting in days lost x 1000/# hours worked





- Activity: call centre for distribution network related issues
- Shareholders: Eandis (64,03%), multi-service company Farys<sup>(1)</sup> (32,98%) and Synductis (2,99%)
- 7 members (of which 4 for Eandis, incl. Chairman David Termont) ■ Board:
- Staff: 249<sup>(2)</sup> on 3 sites (Mechelen, Ghent and Ypres)
- Works at **cost price** (no margin/profit) for its shareholders
- Consolidated according to the integral method

#### Financials 2014 (BE-GAAP)

- Balance sheet total: € 4.093.778 •
- Share capital: € 257.700
- Debt: € 3.836.078 of which € 3.785.028 < 1 year / no LT debt)
- Turnover: € 12.323.300





- Activity: metering related (IT-)services supporting the processes in the free energy market, esp. metering data transmission between market parties (suppliers and distributors)
- Shareholders: Eandis (70%) and its Walloon counterpart ORES (30%)
- Board: 6 members (of which 3 for Eandis, incl. Chairman Guy Cosyns)
- Staff 49 (on 31 December 2014)
- Works at **cost price** (no margin/profit) for its shareholders
- Consolidated according to the integral method
- Operations and staff will be completely integrated into Eandis (1 January 2016) Indexis will then cease to exist
- Financials 2014 (BE-GAAP)
  - Balance sheet total:  $\in 10.394.603$
  - Share capital: € 3.216.131
  - Debt: € 7.107.163 (of which € 7.104.948 < 1 year / no LT debt)
  - Turnover: € 19.312.418



# Eandis's subsidiary: Atrias cvba

Shareholders: all Belgian distribution grid operators
 Eandis: 25% of share capital



- Board: 12 members (of which 3 for Eandis, incl. Chairman Walter Van den Bossche)
- Staff: 15 (on 31 December 2014)
- Established: 9 May 2011
- Operates on a federal scale (the whole of Belgium) for reasons of economies of scale
- Atrias has developed MIG-6 (Message Implementation Guide, smart-ready) and is charged with the development of a clearing house application by the start of 2018
- Works at **cost price** (no margin/profit) for its shareholders
- Consolidated in Eandis according to the equity method
- Financials 2014 (BE-GAAP)
  - Balance sheet total:  $\bigcirc$  12.598.464
  - Share capital:  $\in 18.600$
  - Debt: € 12.579.864 (of which € 12.570.211 < 1 year / no LT debt)
  - Turnover: € 5.754.047



# Eandis's subsidiary: Synductis cvba



- Date of establishment: 21 December 2012
- Shareholders: Eandis (33,33%), Farys (44,95%), Proximus (16,67%), IWVA (2,26%) and IWVB (2,79%) water company Pidpa joined in June 2015 open for other utilities
- Board: 5 members (of which 2 for Eandis, incl. Chairman Geert Versnick)
- Staff: none, all operations by staff delegated by shareholders
- Synductis detects synergies between utilities carrying out infrastructure works in the public domain (energy, water, telecom, sewage a.o.), thus reducing hindrance for the general public and realising cost efficiencies for the utilities
- Works at **cost price** (no margin/profit) for its shareholders
- No consolidation for fiscal year 2014
- <u>Financials 2014 (BE-GAAP)</u>
  - Balance sheet total: € 1.209.942
  - Share capital:  $\in$  18.600
  - Debt: € 1.191.342 (all debt < 1 year / no LT debt)
  - Turnover: € 1.833.923



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# **Regulatory Framework**

### Public Services Obligations: socio-economic, technical, ecological

- <u>**RUE</u>** (Rational Use of Energy, 'REG' in Dutch)</u>
  - DSOs are required to **reduce primary energy use**
  - DSOs draw up compulsory annual RUE Action Plans, to be ratified by the VREG
- <u>certificate mechanism</u>
  - DSOs are compelled to buy green power certificates and CHP certificates at a predetermined price from the generators DSOs can sell these certificates at (lower) market prices in an auction procedure
- <u>SPSO</u> (Social Public Service Obligations, 'SODV' in Dutch)
  - Goal : to ensure **minimum and continuous supply of electricity and gas** to any household in Flanders
    - social supplier for customers dropped by commercial suppliers
    - cut-offs from grid connection only allowed in well-defined circumstances (fraud, disused premises etc.)
    - free electricity of 100 kWh per residence + 100 kWh per family member (abolished as from 1 January 2016)
    - special conditions for protected customers e.g. free installation of a budget meter
- <u>global service obligations</u>
  - right of connection to the gas and electricity network (Flemish Government Decision, 19 November 2010)
  - DSOs' annual **investment plans** to be ratified by VREG
  - supplier of last resort in case a supplier defaults (no legal document as yet, intermediary system currently in place)

DSOs are crucial in implementing the Flemish Government's public service / social welfare policies. In addition, supplier of last resort indicates the confidence of the Flemish Government in the DSOs' networks.

