

## Pembina Pipeline Corp. (PBA)

Updated November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by Aristofanis Papadatos

### **Key Metrics**

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$46	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	7.9%	Volatility Percentile:	20.2%
Fair Value Price:	\$43	5 Year Growth Estimate:	5.0%	Momentum Percentile:	53.5%
% Fair Value:	108%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	-1.5%	<b>Growth Percentile:</b>	41.0%
Dividend Yield:	5.1%	5 Year Price Target	\$54	Valuation Percentile:	49.8%
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	F	Retirement Suitability Score:	D	<b>Total Return Percentile:</b>	56.0%

#### Overview & Current Events

Pembina Pipeline Corporation is based in Calgary, Canada. It has been serving the energy industry of North America with its transportation and midstream services for 65 years. It owns an integrated system of pipelines that transport various hydrocarbon liquids and natural gas products produced primarily in western Canada. The company also has gathering and processing facilities. Pembina has a market cap of C\$24 billion and operates in three segments; Pipelines, Facilities, and Marketing & New Ventures. In 2018, these segments generated 54%, 25% and 21% of the company's total operating profit, respectively. All the figures in this report are in Canadian dollars.

In early November, Pembina reported (11/1/19) financial results for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. Revenue rose only 1% but earnings-per-share increased 10% over last year's quarter thanks to higher terminal revenue and lower general & administrative expenses. Management narrowed its EBITDA guidance for the full year from \$2.85-\$3.05 billion to \$2.95-\$3.05 billion.

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, Pembina agreed to acquire Kinder Morgan Canada and Kinder Morgan's U.S. portion of the Cochin pipeline for \$4.35 billion in an all-stock deal, which will raise the share count of Pembina by about 25 million shares. This acquisition will enhance the fee-based and take-or-pay revenues of Pembina, which will become even more insulated from commodity prices after this deal. The transaction is now expected to close in the first quarter of 2020. Pembina intends to raise its monthly dividend by \$0.01 per share after the completion of the transaction.

#### Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
EPS	\$1.09	\$1.14	\$0.99	\$0.87	\$1.12	\$1.06	\$1.02	\$1.01	\$1.86	\$2.28	\$2.37	\$3.02
DPS	\$1.56	\$1.56	\$1.56	\$1.60	\$1.65	\$1.72	\$1.80	\$1.90	\$2.04	\$2.24	<i>\$2.35</i>	\$2.72
Shares <sup>1</sup>	154	167	168	259	308	328	348	389	432	509	515	<i>670</i>

Pembina achieved record adjusted EBITDA of \$2.835 billion in 2018 and expects adjusted EBITDA growth of 4%-6% for this year. During the last decade, although Pembina has more than tripled its share count, it has grown its earnings-pershare at an 8.5% average annual rate. However, this growth has not been uniform, as the company failed to grow its earnings-per-share from 2009 to 2016. Nevertheless, the company currently enjoys strong business momentum while it has a long backlog of additional growth projects. Thanks to these projects, management expects to grow adjusted cash flow per share by 8%-10% per year and raise the dividend by about 5% per year for the foreseeable future. We have assumed 5% earnings-per-share growth but 3% dividend growth rate beyond this year in order to be on the safe side.

## **Valuation Analysis**

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Now	2024
Avg. P/E		24.3	32.9	41.7	36.5	48.3	37.4	36.4	23.1	19.2	19.4	18.0
Avg. Yld.		5.6%	4.8%	4.4%	4.0%	3.4%	4.7%	5.2%	4.8%	5.1%	5.1%	5.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In millions.

Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.



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Pembina has traded at remarkably high price-to-earnings ratios through much of the last decade. In addition, due to its huge capital expenses on growth projects, the company has posted negative free cash flows in most years so we cannot use cash flows to evaluate the stock. However, the valuation of the stock has returned to normal levels in the last two years, with its earnings multiple currently standing at 19.4. We assume a fair price-to-earnings ratio of 18.0 for the stock. If Pembina reaches our fair value estimate over the next five years, it will incur a -1.5% annualized drag in its returns.

### Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
Payout	143%	137%	158%	184%	147%	162%	176%	188%	110%	98.2%	99.2%	90.1%

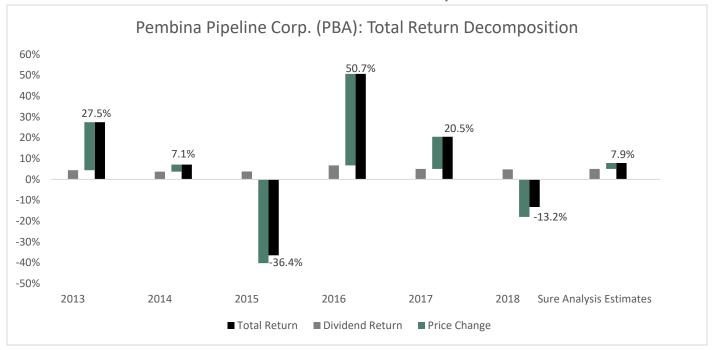
The competitive advantage of Pembina lies in its large scale and its integrated assets in some of the most prolific resource plays in North America. Pembina has steadily increased the fee-based portion of its EBITDA, from 77% in 2015 to 85% in 2018 and an expected 87% this year. It has pursued this strategy in order to secure a reliable and growing dividend, which is the top priority of management. Pembina has raised its dividend for 8 consecutive years and will keep growing its dividend for the foreseeable future, as it has markedly reduced its exposure to commodity prices. Moreover, the company has a much stronger balance sheet than most midstream companies, with its credit rating standing at a strong BBB level. Pembina pays dividends on a monthly basis, which is enticing for income-oriented investors.

While we expect Pembina to grow its dividend by about 3% per year in the upcoming years, investors should be aware that the dividend may come under pressure in the event of a major downturn, such as a recession, due to the elevated payout ratio.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Pembina reported record earnings last year and is poised to continue growing thanks to its long runway of growth projects and its recent acquisitions. However, the stock seems fully valued right now. As a result, we expect a 7.9% average annual return over the next five years and hence we rate the stock as a hold at its current price.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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#### **Income Statement Metrics**

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
812	1232	1676	3427	5006	6069	4635	4265	5400	7351
338	279	344	507	787	852	832	1072	1429	1894
41.7%	22.7%	20.5%	14.8%	15.7%	14.0%	18.0%	25.1%	26.5%	25.8%
51	47	62	97	132	156	157	195	236	279
70	63	70	180	171	226	263	293	382	417
217	230	282	410	654	678	651	878	1165	1588
26.7%	18.7%	16.8%	12.0%	13.1%	11.2%	14.0%	20.6%	21.6%	21.6%
162	176	166	225	351	383	406	466	883	1278
20.0%	14.3%	9.9%	6.6%	7.0%	6.3%	8.8%	10.9%	16.4%	17.4%
81	72	-192	-224	-195	-612	-1010	-668	-326	1030
-4	-8	39	75	143	167	199	189	142	464
	812 338 41.7% 51 70 217 26.7% 162 20.0% 81	812 1232   338 279   41.7% 22.7%   51 47   70 63   217 230   26.7% 18.7%   162 176   20.0% 14.3%   81 72	812 1232 1676   338 279 344   41.7% 22.7% 20.5%   51 47 62   70 63 70   217 230 282   26.7% 18.7% 16.8%   162 176 166   20.0% 14.3% 9.9%   81 72 -192	812   1232   1676   3427     338   279   344   507     41.7%   22.7%   20.5%   14.8%     51   47   62   97     70   63   70   180     217   230   282   410     26.7%   18.7%   16.8%   12.0%     162   176   166   225     20.0%   14.3%   9.9%   6.6%     81   72   -192   -224	812   1232   1676   3427   5006     338   279   344   507   787     41.7%   22.7%   20.5%   14.8%   15.7%     51   47   62   97   132     70   63   70   180   171     217   230   282   410   654     26.7%   18.7%   16.8%   12.0%   13.1%     162   176   166   225   351     20.0%   14.3%   9.9%   6.6%   7.0%     81   72   -192   -224   -195	812   1232   1676   3427   5006   6069     338   279   344   507   787   852     41.7%   22.7%   20.5%   14.8%   15.7%   14.0%     51   47   62   97   132   156     70   63   70   180   171   226     217   230   282   410   654   678     26.7%   18.7%   16.8%   12.0%   13.1%   11.2%     162   176   166   225   351   383     20.0%   14.3%   9.9%   6.6%   7.0%   6.3%     81   72   -192   -224   -195   -612	812   1232   1676   3427   5006   6069   4635     338   279   344   507   787   852   832     41.7%   22.7%   20.5%   14.8%   15.7%   14.0%   18.0%     51   47   62   97   132   156   157     70   63   70   180   171   226   263     217   230   282   410   654   678   651     26.7%   18.7%   16.8%   12.0%   13.1%   11.2%   14.0%     162   176   166   225   351   383   406     20.0%   14.3%   9.9%   6.6%   7.0%   6.3%   8.8%     81   72   -192   -224   -195   -612   -1010	812     1232     1676     3427     5006     6069     4635     4265       338     279     344     507     787     852     832     1072       41.7%     22.7%     20.5%     14.8%     15.7%     14.0%     18.0%     25.1%       51     47     62     97     132     156     157     195       70     63     70     180     171     226     263     293       217     230     282     410     654     678     651     878       26.7%     18.7%     16.8%     12.0%     13.1%     11.2%     14.0%     20.6%       162     176     166     225     351     383     406     466       20.0%     14.3%     9.9%     6.6%     7.0%     6.3%     8.8%     10.9%       81     72     -192     -224     -195     -612     -1010     -668	812   1232   1676   3427   5006   6069   4635   4265   5400     338   279   344   507   787   852   832   1072   1429     41.7%   22.7%   20.5%   14.8%   15.7%   14.0%   18.0%   25.1%   26.5%     51   47   62   97   132   156   157   195   236     70   63   70   180   171   226   263   293   382     217   230   282   410   654   678   651   878   1165     26.7%   18.7%   16.8%   12.0%   13.1%   11.2%   14.0%   20.6%   21.6%     162   176   166   225   351   383   406   466   883     20.0%   14.3%   9.9%   6.6%   7.0%   6.3%   8.8%   10.9%   16.4%     81   72   -192   -224   -195   -612   -1010   -668   -326

### **Balance Sheet Metrics**

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Total Assets</b>	2581	2857	3339	8284	9142	11262	12902	15017	25566	26664
Cash & Equivalents	N/A	125	0	27	51	53	28	35	321	157
Accounts Receivable	83	105	117	313	419	154	111	161	177	177
Inventories	19	26	21	108	159	137	120	181	168	198
Goodwill & Int. Ass.	379	245	244	2623	2564	2841	2822	2834	4714	4409
Total Liabilities	1452	1806	2378	4009	3971	4926	5478	6721	11725	12260
Accounts Payable	58	99	141	301	359	444	373	475	465	519
Long-Term Debt	1272	1309	1626	2555	2275	2861	3323	4151	7556	7537
Shareholder's Equity	1129	1051	962	4270	4775	5456	6324	6787	11357	11921
D/E Ratio	1.13	1.25	1.69	0.60	0.44	0.45	0.45	0.50	0.55	0.53

## **Profitability & Per Share Metrics**

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Return on Assets	6.9%	6.5%	5.3%	3.9%	4.0%	3.8%	3.4%	3.3%	4.4%	4.9%
Return on Equity	16.1%	16.1%	16.5%	8.6%	7.8%	7.5%	6.9%	7.1%	9.7%	11.0%
ROIC	7.5%	7.4%	6.7%	4.8%	4.9%	4.6%	4.1%	4.0%	5.2%	5.9%
Shares Out.	154	167	168	259	308	328	348	389	432	509
Revenue/Share	5.27	7.36	9.97	13.21	16.25	18.50	13.32	10.96	12.50	14.44
FCF/Share	0.52	0.43	-1.14	-0.86	-0.63	-1.87	-2.90	-1.72	-0.75	2.02

Note: All figures in millions of Canadian Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.

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