

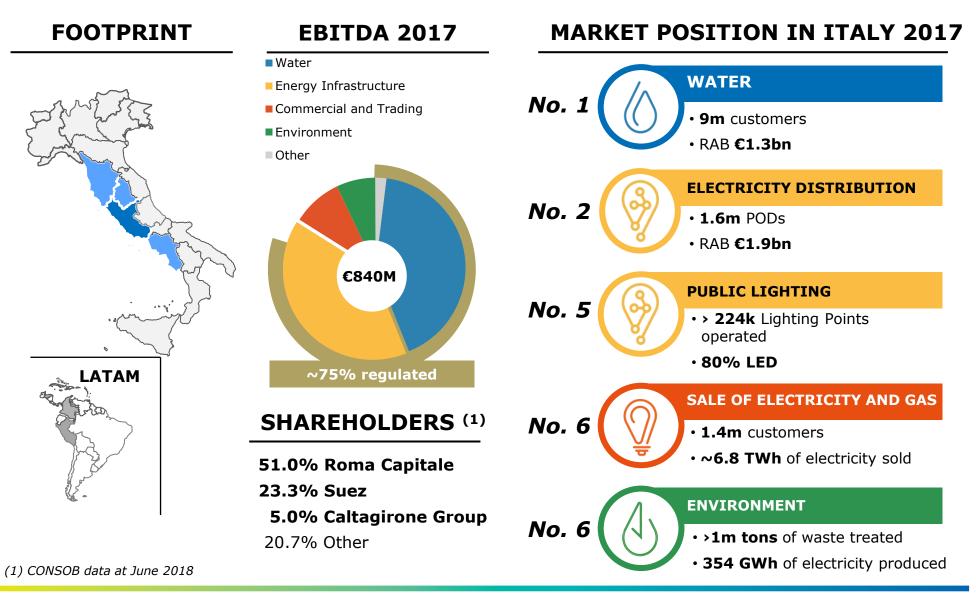
### "Mediobanca's 4th Italian CEO Conference"

Milan, 27 June 2018

## Agenda

<b>!</b>	THE ACEA GROUP TODAY								
	MARKET SCENARIO AND TRENDS								
Ø	NEW BUSINESS PLAN 2018-2022								
	STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS								
	MAIN OPERATING SEGMENTS								
	<b>STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES</b>								
	CLOSING REMARKS								
Ø	APPENDIX								

# THE ACEA GROUP TODAY A market LEADING multiutility



#### acea

#### MARKET SCENARIO AND TRENDS SEGMENT TRENDS expected in the coming years in the Group's core businesses

- WATER gr
- Strong regulatory and government drive to ensure
  - greater industrial development
  - new investment to cut gap in infrastructure and plant and boost network resilience
- Consolidation in the industry backed by leading players

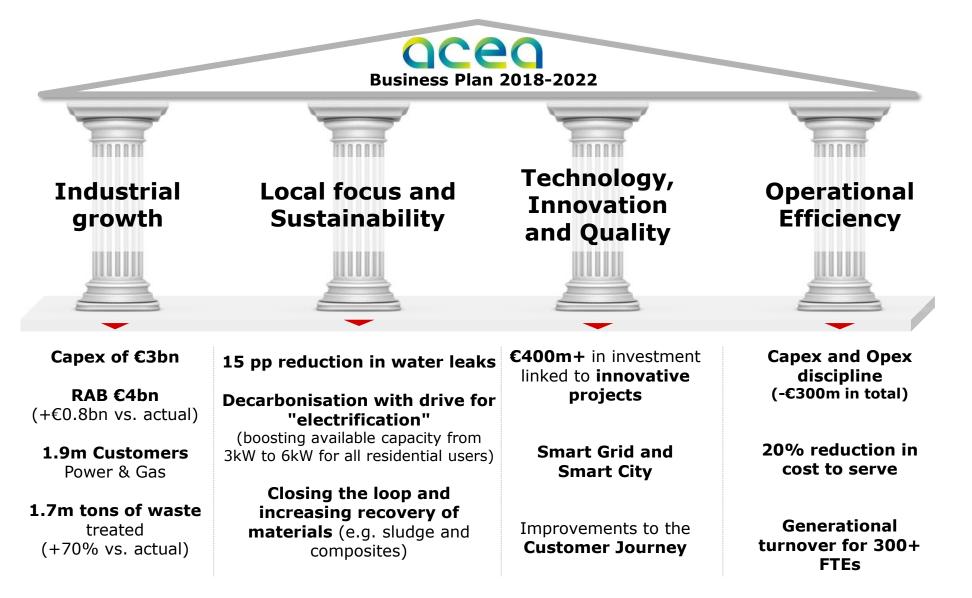


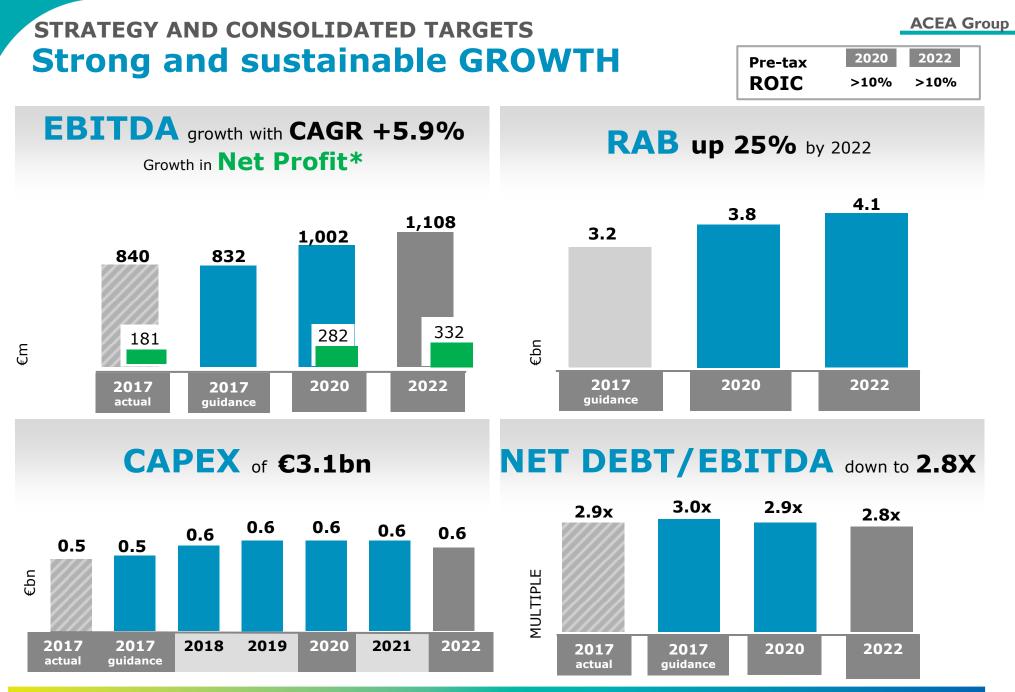
- Key elements of the National Energy Plan 2017
- Decarbonisation by driving electrification and the development of an increasingly "distributed" model
- Increase in energy security to guarantee network flexibility, adequacy and resilience
- **Technology** and **innovation** to enable the "new downstream", making customers more active and aware (e.g. Demand Response)
- Full deregulation of the market and industry consolidation



- **Circular Economy** ("Closing the Loop") in order to recycle and recover materials
- New plant (greenfield and brownfield) to **make up the infrastructure gap**, above all in the treatment of **organic waste** (e.g. biodigesters)

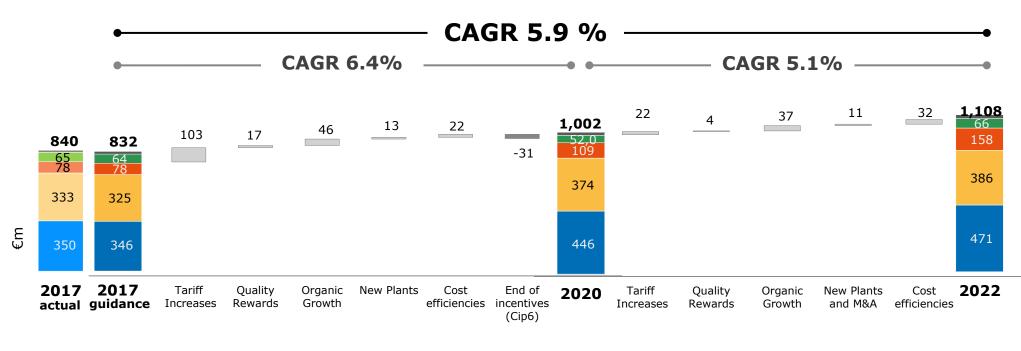
# STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS The Group's new strategic PILLARS





#### STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS

### **EBITDA growth based on solid business rationale**



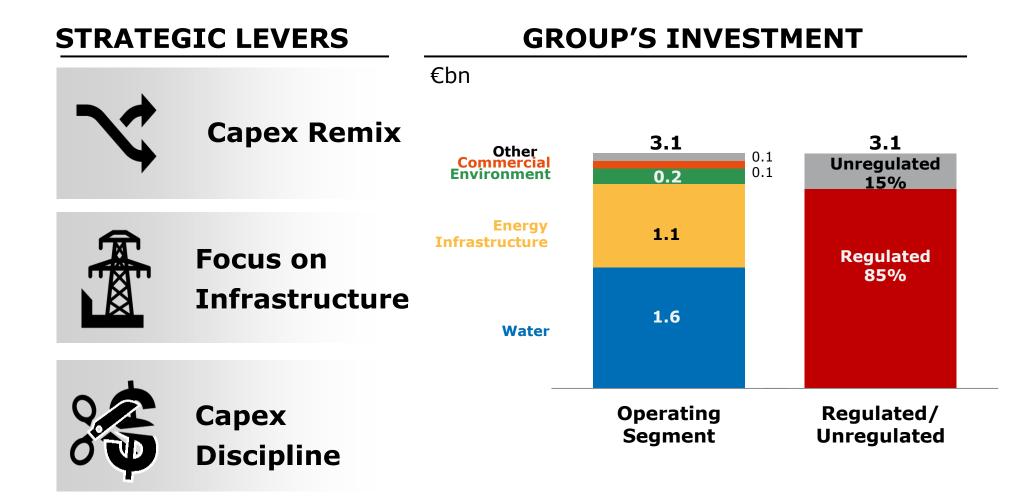
■ Water ■ Energy Infrastructure ■ Commercial & Trading ■ Environment ■ Other

#### **Cross-segment initiatives**

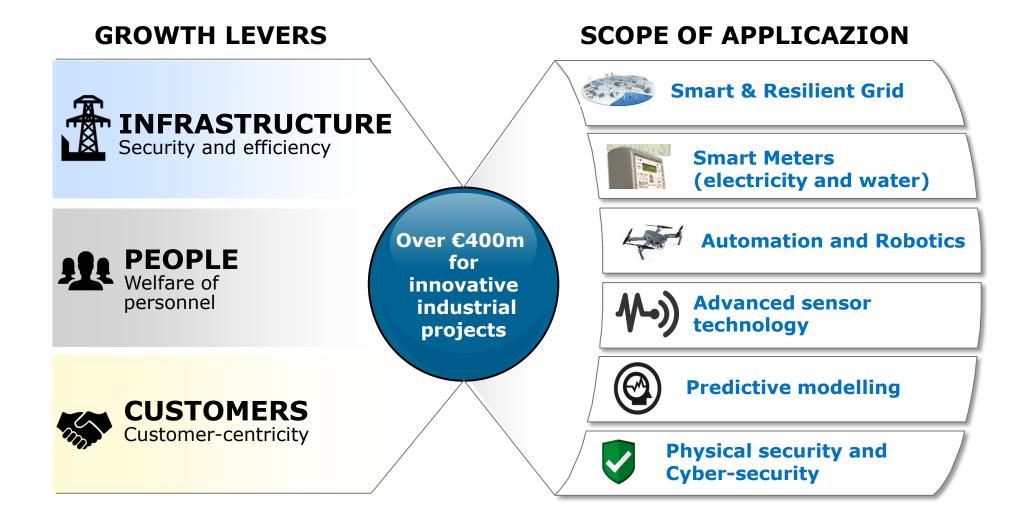
Performance improvements and cost efficiencies + Generational turnover + Tightening up of operations



# strategy and consolidated targets More than €3bn of INVESTMENT



### STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS Over €400m to be invested in INNOVATION

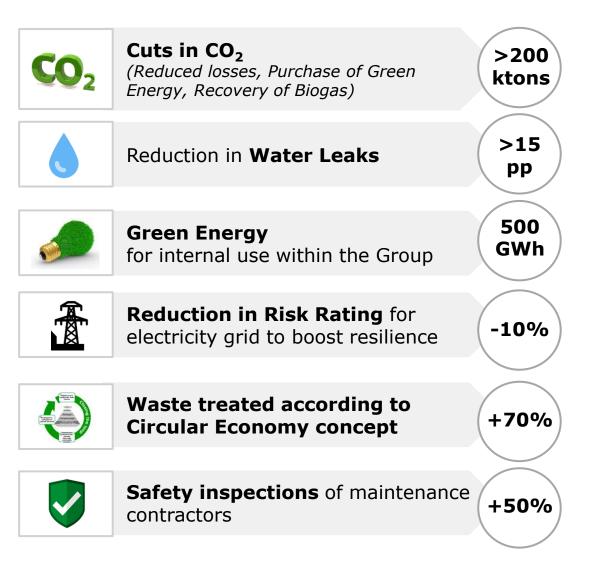


# STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS The new SUSTAINABILITY plan

ACEA Group's Sustainability Plan 2018-2022 with targets associated with investment of approx. €1.3bn

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





### STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS <u>ACEA Group</u> Growing DIVIDENDS, Pay-out above 50%, €0.7bn payable over the plan

# Growing Dividends Pay-out above 50% €0.7bn payable over the plan



### STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS Financial strategy aims to cut cost of debt

<b>Fitch</b> Ratings	Moody's
BBB+	Baa2
Stable outlook	Stable outlook

#### Situation at 31 Dec. 2017

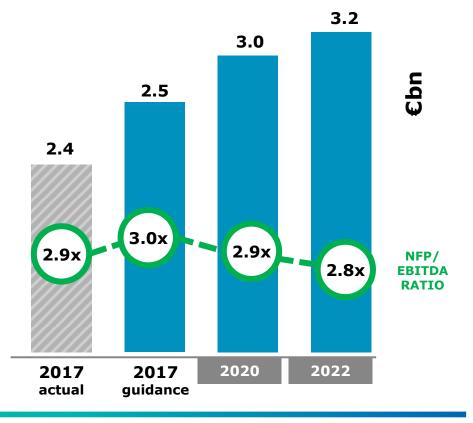
- Average Maturity ~5.3 yrs
- Average cost of debt ~2.6%

February 2018 – **successful placing** of Euro 1 billion **bonds** overall under the EMTN Programme in two tranches:

- > 300 €m, 5 years, rate 3 months Euribor plus 0.37%
- > 700 €m, 9.4 years, fixed rate 1.5%

The "all-in" average cost of debt at 31 March 2018 is 2.27% with an average term to maturity of 5.9 years

## **Net Debt (NFP)** NFP/EBITDA Ratio







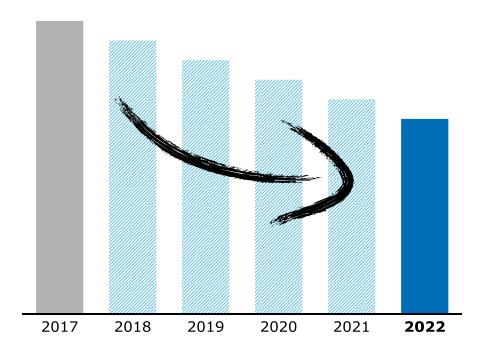


#### WATER INFRASTRUCTURE DRIVE and efficiency improvements

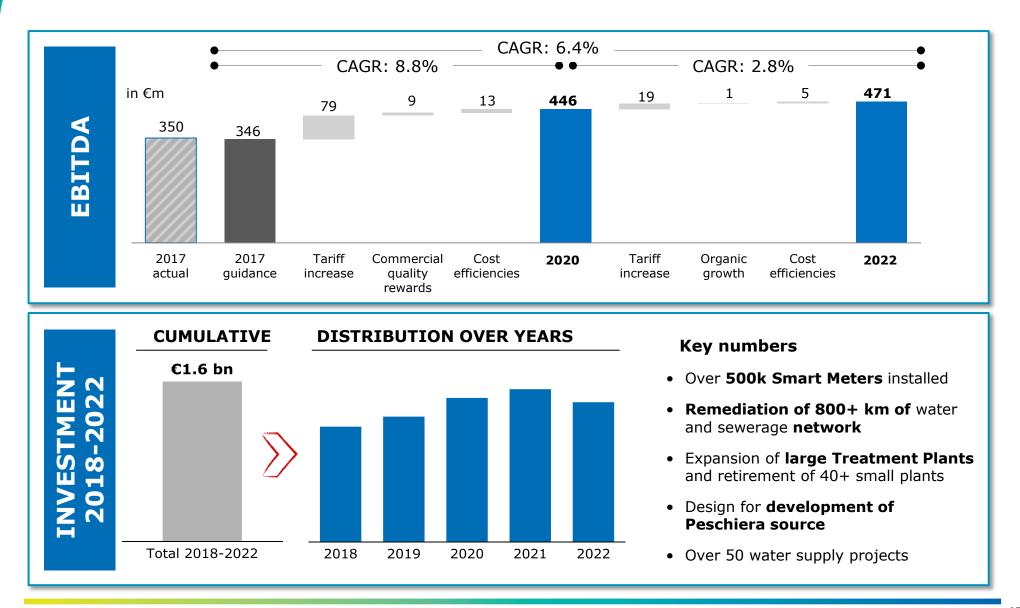
#### Key initiatives included in Plan

- Extraordinary plan to upgrade network, reduce leaks and manage water emergency
- Rationalisation of small treatment plants and development/expansion of large plants
- Rollout of smart meters

## 15 pp cut in Water loss



# BITDA UP 36% and INVESTMENT of €1.6bn





# **ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE** Key Targets for the Segment





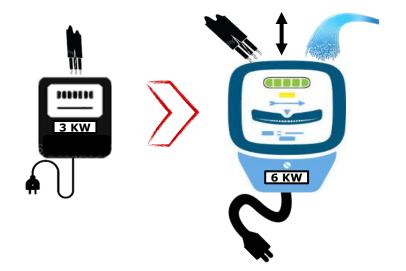
#### ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE **Becoming an advanced DSO to increase network** resilience and enable new services

#### Key initiatives included in Plan

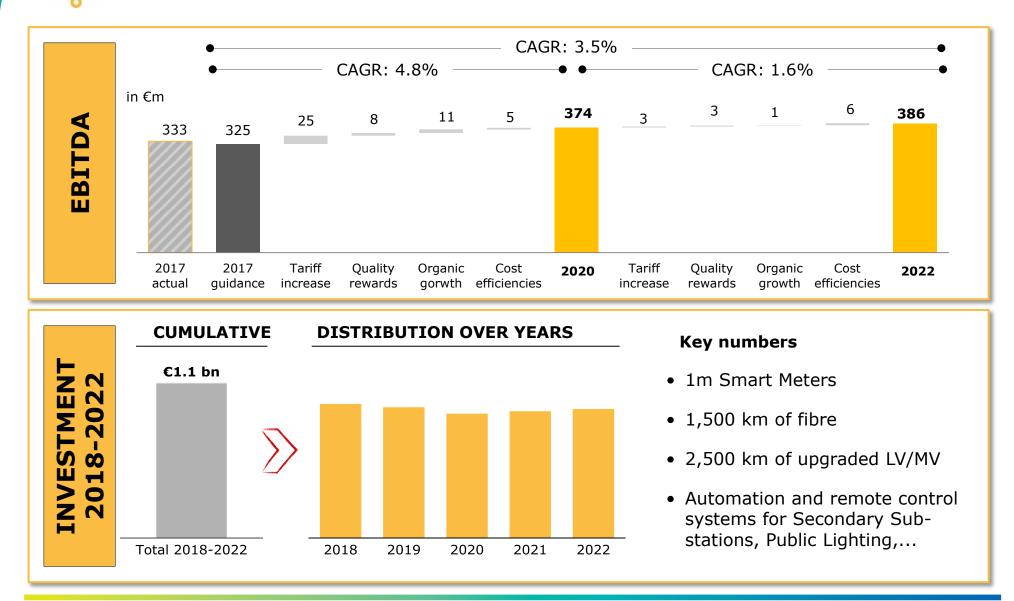
- LV network upgrade to:
  - Increase network resilience
  - Increase capacity to enable electrification (customers up from 3KW to 6KW)
- Rollout of smart grid for city of Rome to enable new services
  - Laying of fibre
  - New 2G meters

To boost resilience and drive electrification

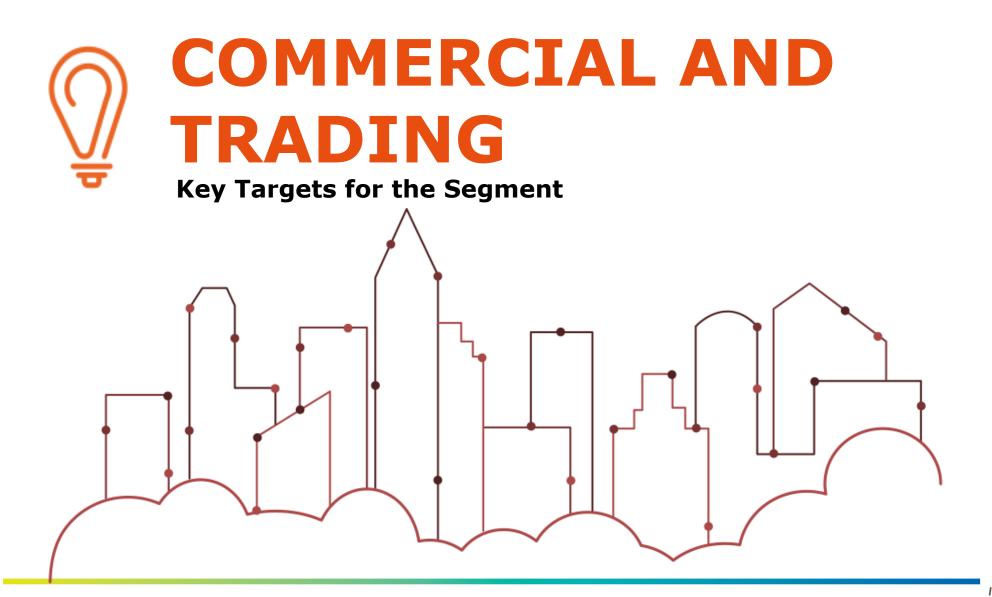
## 1m 2G Smart Meters



#### ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE EBITDA UP 20% AND INVESTMENT OF €1.1BN







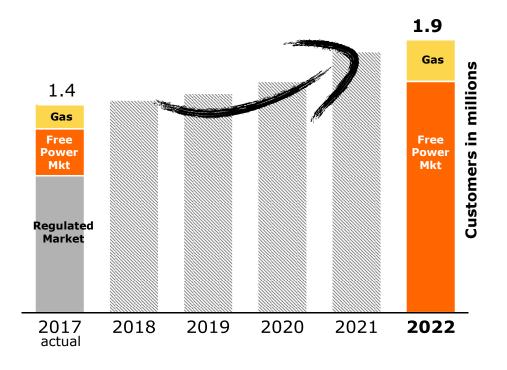


#### COMMERCIAL AND TRADING MARKETING DRIVE and leading role in CONSOLIDATION within the sector

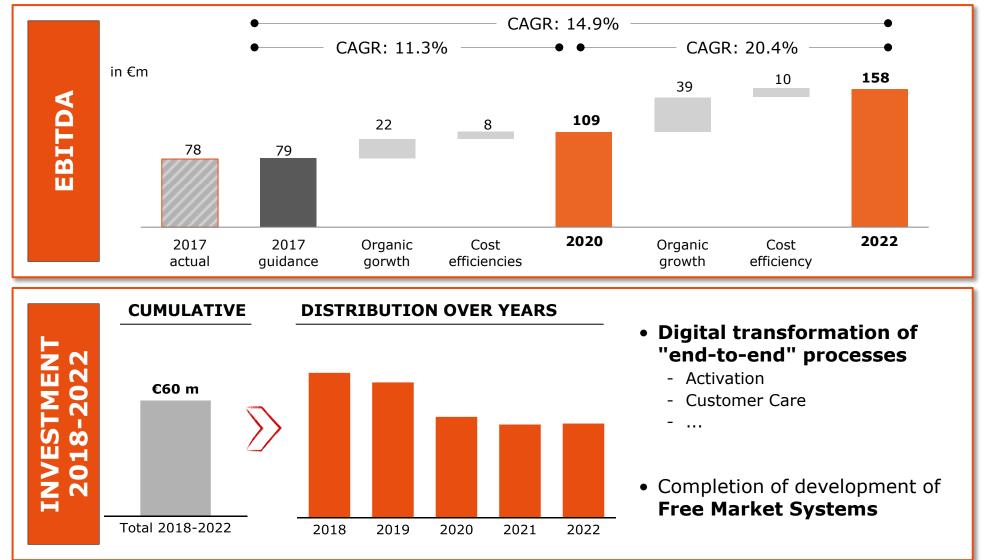
#### Key initiatives included in Plan

- Marketing drive through Digital and Cross Selling channels to play a leading role in consolidation (following the phase-out of the enhanced protection market)
- Performance improvement throughout the Customer Journey (Customer Care, Billing,..) and optimisation of the cost structure (Costs to Serve)
- Improved customer quality and debt collection capabilities

## 33% growth in Number of Customers



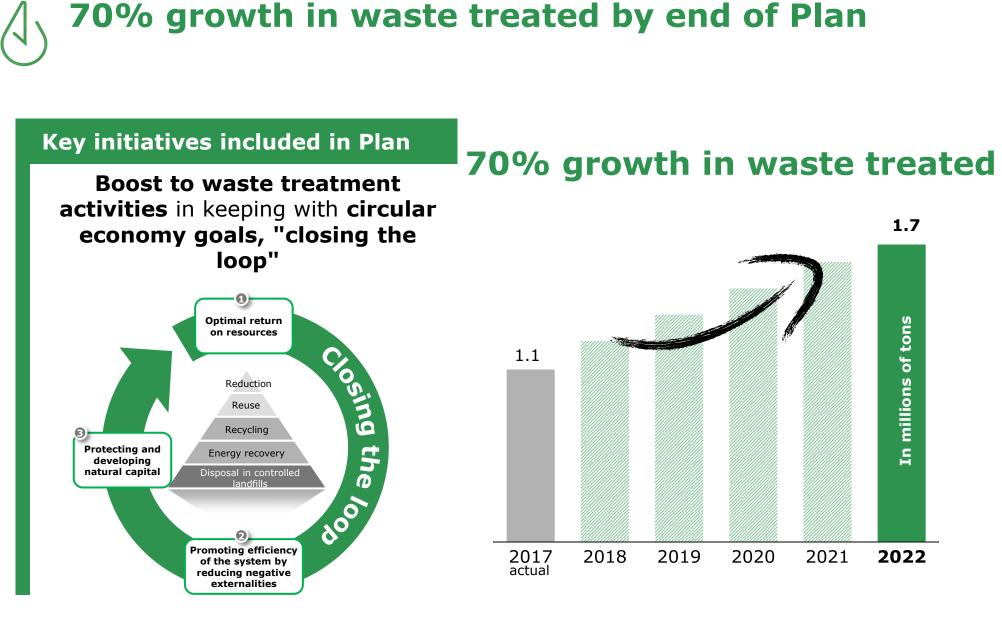
#### COMMERCIAL AND TRADING EBITDA to double by 2022 through increase in customer base and performance improvements







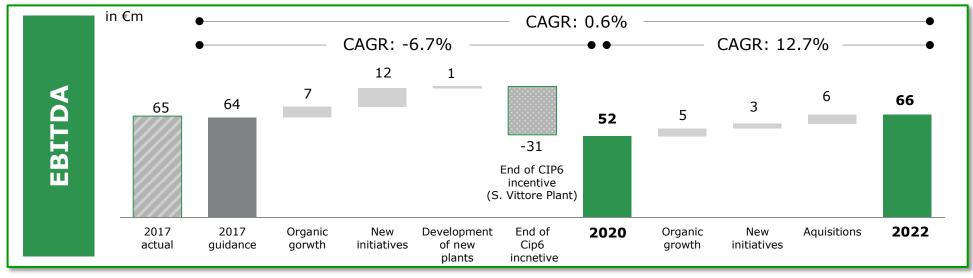


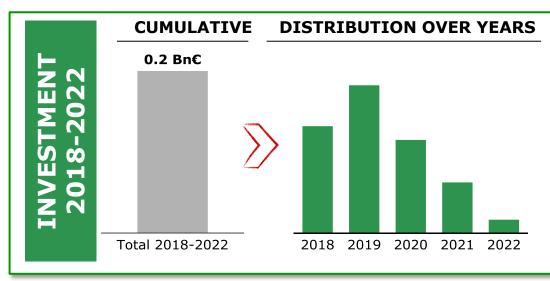


Note: goals proposed by the European Commission, revised upwards by the European Parliament (15 Mar 2017)

ENVIRONMENT

#### ENVIRONMENT Expiry of CIP6 offset by new initiatives and selective acquisitions





- **200 ktons** of additional capacity for existing composting plants
- 250 ktons on developing new initiatives in composting and materials sorting
- 220 ktons linked to acquisition of plants with impact on earnings post-2020



# **STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES**

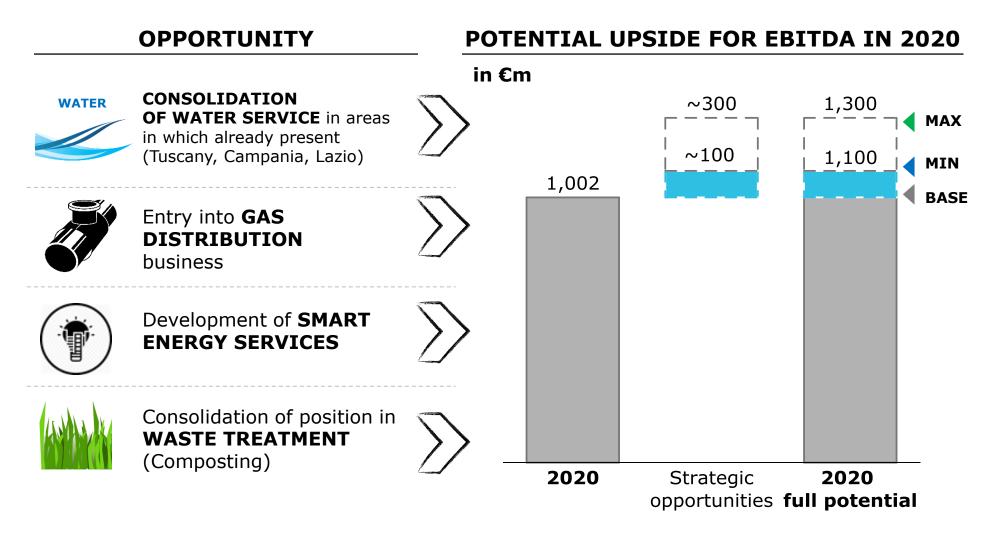
#### **Potential UPSIDE to Business Plan**



### STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES Potential STRATEGIC INITIATIVES that could be implemented in the FIRST THREE YEARS OF PLAN

	OPPORTUNITY	STATE OF PLAY	EBITDA WHEN FULLY IMPLEMENTED	CAPEX/ ACQUISITION COST
WATER	<b>CONSOLIDATION</b> in <b>areas where already</b> <b>present</b> (Tuscany, Campania, Lazio)	Talks with local authorities are in progress with a view to developing businesses and ensuring adequate investment for the benefit of citizens and local communities	€m <b>70 - 200</b>	€m <b>150 - 300</b>
WATER	Increase in capacity of the PESCHIERA source	Start-up of <b>talks with national</b> <b>authorities and those in the local</b> <b>area</b> to agree on financing for the project (Design already included in Plan for 2018-20)	<i>Not calculated</i>	About <b>400</b>
	Entry into <b>GAS</b> DISTRIBUTION market	Initial <b>contacts made with</b> <b>selected operators</b> in areas of interest to Acea Group	10 - 50	80 - 400
	SMART ENERGY SERVICE	Agreements and MoUs being concluded with Industrial and Technology Partners (e.g. Open Fiber)	25 - 50	25+
	Consolidation of position in waste treatment (Composting)	<b>Talks</b> under way with owners of <b>plants in Central Italy</b> regarding potential acquisitions	5 - 10	25-50
		TOTAL	100 - 300	

## STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES ACEA Group Potential UPSIDE in 2020 of between €100m and €300m







#### Organic growth 6% CAGR for EBITDA from 2017 to 2022

€3bn in CAPEX focusing on INFRASTRUCTURE



**Performance IMPROVEMENT** to drive growth with like-forlike workforce and maximise efficiencies, guaranteeing quality and reliability

#### **DPS Growing DIVIDENDS** with a Pay-out >50%



Keeping the Group's **DEBT** under control, with NET DEBT/EBITDA decreasing to **2.8x in 2022** 



**UPSIDE of up to 30%** for EBITDA linked to initiatives already included among **Strategic Opportunities** 

ACEA Group

# **APPENDIX**



# STRATEGY AND CONSOLIDATED TARGETS Main assumptions

Main assumptions		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Exchange	\$/€	1.14	1.18	1.20	1.10	1.00
Brent	\$/Bbl	50.00	52.00	53.00	51.64	52.59
PUN	€/MWh	48.79	51.42	52.63	55.19	56.72
EU-ETS	€/tons CO2	8.19	10.81	13.43	16.05	18.67
CIP6	€/MWh	218.63	218.64	•••••		

ACEA Group

# 1Q 2018 Results



## QI 2018 financial highlights

(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	% change (a/b)	
Consolidated revenue	745.5	725.6	+2.7%	
EBITDA	229.2	214.4	+6.9%	EBITDA guidance 2018: +3%/+5% on 2017 (€840m)
EBIT	127.4	117.2	+8.7%	
Group net profit/(loss)	77.4	65.7	+17.8%	
Сарех	133.0	126.4	+5.2%	Capex guidance 2018: up on 2017

(€m)	31 March 2018 (a)	31 Dec 2017 (b)	31 March 2017 (c)	% Change (a/b)	% Change (a/c)	
Net Debt	2,482.1	2,421.5	2,234.8	+2.5%	+11.1%	-
Invested Capital	4,197.0	4,232.7	4,073.0	-0.8%	+3.0%	

Net Debt guidance 2018: €2.6-2.7bn





EBITDA (€m)							Average Group workfo	orce		
214.4 7.9	11.0	0.3	(0.5)	(0.3)	(1.8)	(1.8)	229.2	<b>QI 2018</b> 5,535	<b>QI 2017</b> 5,498	Change +37

Engineering

and Services

Overseas

Holding

QI 2018

Water

Energy

Infrastructure and Trading

Commercial Environment

QI 2017

## EBITDA and Key quantitative data Q1 2018 financial highlights



#### **EBITDA GROWTH**

Acea ATO2: +€3.8m

The Companies consolidated using equity method +€3.0m

(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	%change (a/b)	Key quantitative data	QI 2018	QI 2017
EBITDA	96.4	88.5	<b>+8.9</b> %			
of which: Profit/(Loss) from companies consolidated using equity method	7.9	4.9	+61.2%	Total volume of water sold (Mm <sup>3</sup> )	105	103
Capex	67.3	56.7	+18.7%			
	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	Change (a-b)			
Average workforce	I,789	1,838	-49			

### EBITDA and Key quantitative data Q1 2018 financial highlights



#### **EBITDA GROWTH**

Distribution +€ 9.0m

Generation +€1.2m – increased hydroelectric and thermoelectric production (completion of Tor di Valle plant)

Public Lighting: LED plan launched in June 2016 (+€0.9m)

(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	% change (a/b)	Key quantitative data	QI 2018	QI 2017
EBITDA	94.4	83.4	+13.2%	<b>Total electricity distributed</b> (GWh)	2,469	2,509
- Distribution	80.7	71.7	+12.6%			
- Generation	14.0	12.8	+9.4%	Number of end users ('000s)	1,626	1,627
- Public Lighting	(0.2)	(1.1)	n.s.	Total electricity produced (GWh)	155	132
Capex	54.4	57.2	<b>-4.9</b> %			
	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	Change (a-b)			
Average workforce	I,380	1,359	+21			

### **EBITDA and Key quantitative data** QI 2018 financial highlights



## Commercial and Trading EBITDA STABLE

**EBITDA** main drivers

(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	%change (alb)	Key quantitative data	QI 2018	QI 2017
EBITDA	23.4	23.1	+1.3%	Total electricity sold (GWh)	1,593	1,813
				Enhanced Protection Market	663	730
				Free Market	930	1,083
Capex	4.1	2.5	+64.0%	PODs for electricity ('000s)	1,204	1,232
	QI 2018	QI 2017	Change	Enhanced Protection Market	880	929
	(a)	(b)	(a-b)	Free Market	324	303
Average	467	476	-9	Total gas sold (Mm <sup>3</sup> )	56	51
workforce				Number of gas customers ('000s)	140	129



361

347

#### EBITDA STABLE

🖿 Iseco: +€0.3m

+14

Aquaser (sludge recovery operations): -€0.7m

<b>(€</b> m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	%change (a/b)	Key quantitative data	QI 2018	QI 2017
EBITDA	14.1	14.6	-3.4%	<b>Treatment and disposal*</b> ('000s of tonnes)	254	274
Capex	4.6	5.5	<b>-16.4%</b>	WTE electricity produced (GWh)	89	87
	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	Change (a-b)			

\* Includes ash disposed of

Average

workforce



Overseas



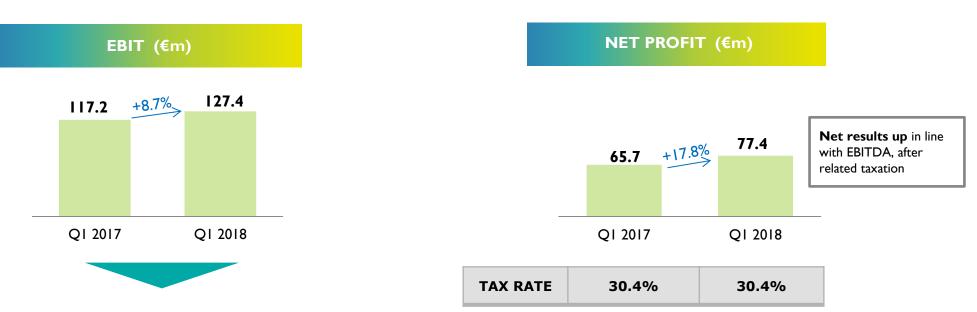
(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	
EBITDA	3.0	3.3	
Capex	0.8	0.9	
	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	Change (a-b)
Average workforce	604	588	+16

(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	
EBITDA	2.2	4.0	
Capex	0.3	0.2	
	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	Change (a-b)
Average workforce	270	311	-41

	5				
(€m)	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)			
EBITDA	(4.2)	(2.4)			
Capex	1.5	3.4			
	QI 2018 (a)	QI 2017 (b)	Change (a-b)		
Average workforce	664	579	+85	-	Primarily due to transfer of Facility Management from Engineering and Services unit.

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# EBIT and Net Profit

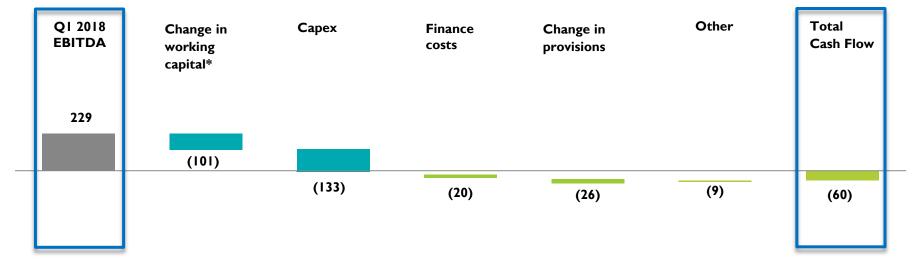


<mark>(€m)</mark>	QI 2018	QI 2017	% change
Depreciation	77.5	68.8	+12.6%
Write-downs	21.1	18.7	+12.8%
Provisions	3.3	9.8	-66.3%
Total	101.9	97.3	+4.7%

Increased depreciation, partly due to increased investment in IT assets with shorter useful lives.
Increased provisions due to first-time adoption of IFRS9
Lower provisions for early retirement and redundancy scheme present in Q1 2017.

# Cash flow

(€m)	Q1 2018	Q1 2017
EBITDA	229	214
Change in working capital	(101)	(153)
CAPEX	(133)	(126)
FREE CASH FLOW	(5)	(65)
Net finance income/(costs)	(20)	(19)
Change in provisions	(26)	(17)
Income tax expense	0	0
Dividends	0	0
Other	(9)	(7)
TOTAL CASH FLOW	(60)	(108)



\* Before provisions for bad debts

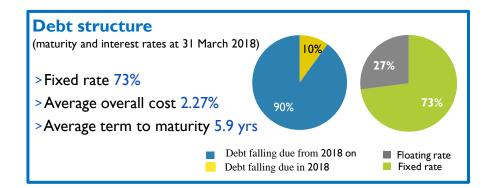
### Net Debt

(€m)	31 March 2018 (a)	31 Dec 2017 (b)	31 March 2017 (c)	Change (a-b)	Change (a-c)
NET DEBT	2,482.1	2,421.5	2,234.8	60.6	247.3
Medium/Long-term	3,540.2	2,706.6	2,726.8	833.6	813.4
Short-term	(1,058.1)	(285.1)	(492.0)	(773.0)	(566.1)

NET DEBT / EQUITY	NET DEBT 31 March 201
31 March 2018	/ LTM EBITDA
I.4x	<b>2.9</b> ×

February 2018 – **successful placing** of Euro I billion **bonds** overall under the EMTN Programme in two tranches:

- > 300 €m, 5 years, rate 3 months Euribor plus 0.37%
- > 700 €m, 9.4 years, fixed rate 1.5%

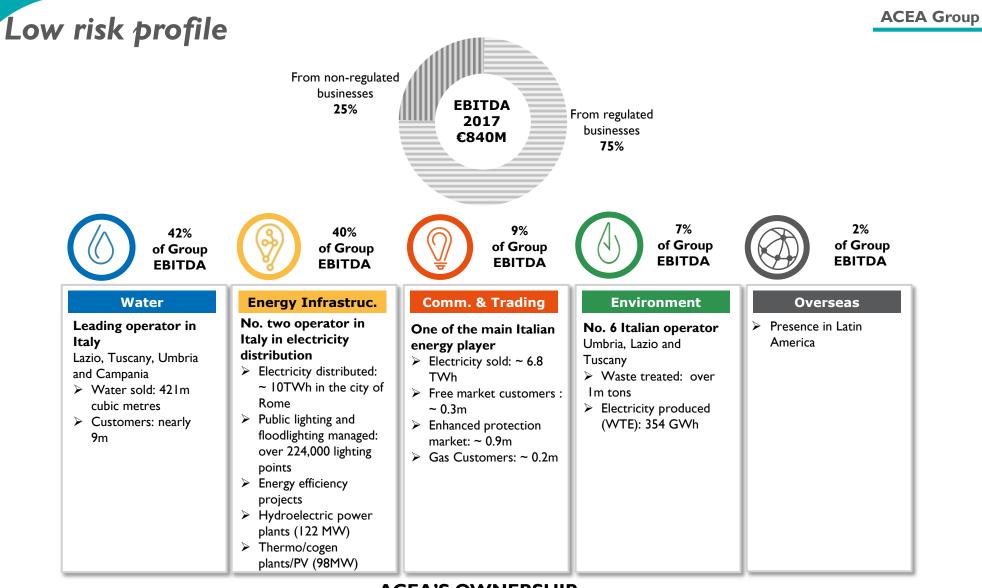




ACEA Group

# 2017 Results





#### **ACEA'S OWNERSHIP**

City of Rome	Suez	Caltagirone Group	Other
51.0%	23.3%	5.0%	20.7%

Source: CONSOB, April 2018

# 2017 financial highlights

(€m)	2017 a	2016 b	% Change a/b	2017* adjusted c	2016* adjusted d	% Change c/d
Consolidated revenue	2,797.0	2,832.4	-1.2%	2,797.0	2,720.9	+2.8%
EBITDA	840.0	896.3	<b>-6.3</b> %	840.0	784.8	+7.0%
EBIT	359.9	525.9	-31.6%	406.2	414.4	-2.0%
Group net profit/(loss)	180.7	262.3	-31.1%	214.5	210.5	+1. <b>9</b> %
Dividend per share (€)	0.63	0.62	+1.6%			
Сарех	532.3	530.7	+0.3%			

\* The adjusted results do not include:

• for 2017, the negative impact – amounting to  $\in$ 46.4m before tax – primarily resulting from reductions in the receivable due from ATAC ( $\in$ 6.4m) and the amount due to Areti from Gala ( $\in$ 15.7m), the write-down of the assets owned by Acea Ambiente and Acea Produzione ( $\in$ 12.2m)

• for 2016, primarily the positive impact (€111.5m before tax) of elimination of the regulatory lag

(€m)	31 Dec 2017 (a)	30 Sep 2017 (b)	31 Dec 2016 (c)	%Change (a/b)	% Change (a/c)
Net Debt	2,421.5	2,487.3	2,126.9	-2.6%	+13.9%
Adjusted Net Debt**	2,325.1	2,428.3	2,126.9	-4.2%	<b>+9.3</b> %
Invested Capital	4,244.9	4,279.9	3,884.9	-0.8%	+9.3%

\*\* Adjusted net debt for 2017 does not include the overall impact, amounting to €96m, of the reduction in amounts due from GALA (€30m) and ATAC (€6m), and the impact of split payments (€60m).

### **EBITDA** Ahead of guidance and the Business Plan forecast

EBITDA (€m)						Change in sco consolidation vers			
								2017 EBITDA (€m)	17.1
								• Acque Industriali	0.4
								• GEAL	1.3
	14	56		7	10		840	• TWS	2.7
785	785 14		-20			-12		• Aguas de San Pedro	12.6
								• Acea Gori Servizi	0.1
								Net Debt 31 Dec 2017 (€m)	2.1
2016 adjusted*			Energy Commercial Infrastructure and Trading	Environment Oversea	Overseas	Engineering and Services and	2017	Average Group work	
·			U			Holding		2017	2016
								5,494**	5,048

\* The adjusted figure for 2016 does not include the positive impact of elimination of the regulatory lag

\*\* The figure reflects the change in the scope of consolidation

oceo

ACEA Group



Acea ATO2: +€15.2m (quality bonus €31m)

Acea ATO5: +€2.7m

Change in scope of consolidation

Companies consolidated using equity method -€2.4m

(€m)	<b>2017</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)	%Change (a/b)	Key quantitative data	2017	2016
EBITDA	349.6	336.0	+4.0%			
of which: Profit/(Loss) from companies consolidated using equity method	24.1	26.5	-9.1%	<b>Total volume of water sold</b> (Mm <sup>3</sup> )	421	421
Capex	271.4	227.1	+19.5%			
	<b>2017</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)	<b>Change</b> (a-b)			
Average workforce	1,796	1,818	-22			



EBITDA main drivers

Distribution +€45.5m (adjusted)

Generation +€8.8m (mainly due to increased hydroelectric production)

Public Lighting: LED plan launched in June 2016 (+€1.4m)

(€m)	<b>20   7</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)	<b>2016</b> adjusted* (c)	<b>% change</b> (a/b)	% <b>change</b> (a/c)	Key quantitative data	2017	2016
EBITDA	332.6	388.3	276.8	-14.3%	+20.2%	<b>Total electricity distributed</b> (GWh)	10,040	10,009
- Distribution	287.3	353.3	241.8	-18.7%	+18.8%		1 / 2 /	
- Generation	40.8	32.0	32.0	+27.5%	+27.5%	Number of end users ('000s)	1,626	1,629
- Public Lighting	4.4	3.0	3.0	+46.7%	+46.7%	<b>Total electricity produced</b> (GWh)	426	405
Сарех	209.4	225.8		-7.3%				
		<b>2017</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)		<b>inge</b> -b)			
Average work	force	1,366	1,380	-1	14	-		

\*After adjusting for the positive impact of elimination of the "regulatory lag" (€111.5m)

$\bigcirc$	Commercial and Trading	₽	Recognition, in Q2 2016, of additional revenue of approximately €10m linked to impact of the contract, entered into in March 2016, for the commercialisation of smart meters.
ਚ	EBITDA main drivers	-	Sales activity: lower margins in free market

<b>(€</b> m)	<b>2017</b> (a)	2016 (b)	<b>% Change</b> (a/b)	Key quantitative data	2017	2016
EBITDA	78.1	98.0*	-20.3%	Total Electricity sold (GWh)	6,843	8,316
			2000/0	Enhanced Protection Market	2,652	2,757
				Free Market	4,191	5,559
Capex	19.4	27.4	-29.2%	Number of electricity customers ('000s)	1,213	1,254
-				Enhanced Protection Market	893	959
	<b>2017</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)	<b>% Change</b> (a-b)	Free Market	320	295
	47.4	472		Total Gas sold (Mm <sup>3</sup> )	103	107
Average workforce	474 473		+1	Number of gas customers ('000s)	167	149

\* EBITDA for 2016 includes non-recurring income of approx. €10m



## Greater quantity of electricity sold by the San Vittore plant (first line in operation from 1 October 2016)

Aprilia composting plant fully operational

• Change in scope of consolidation (Acque Industriali and Iseco)

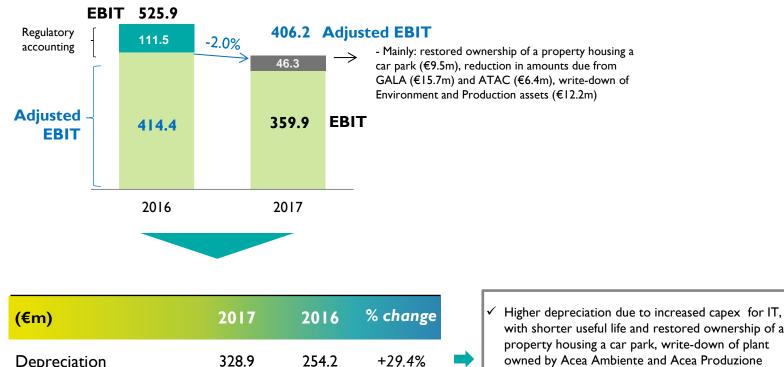
(€m)	<b>2017</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)	<b>% change</b> (a/b)	Key quantitative data	2017	2016
EBITDA	64.5	64.5 57.2 +12.8%		Treatment and disposal*	1,077 822	
				('000s of tonnes)	1,077	ULL
Capex	15.4	34.0	-54.7%	WTE electricity produced (GWh)	354	302
	<b>2017</b> (a)	<b>2016</b> (b)	<b>change</b> (ab)	* Includes ash disposed of		
Average workforce	355	238	+117			



**ACEA Group** 

# EBIT

#### EBIT (€m)



Total	480.I	370.4	+29.6%	-
Provisions	60.8	51.5	+18.1%	_
Write-offs	90.4	64.7	+39.7%	-
Depreciation	328.9	254.2	+29.4%	-

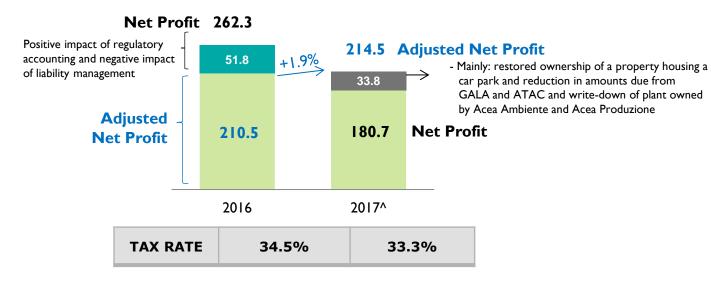
with shorter useful life and restored ownership of a property housing a car park, write-down of plant owned by Acea Ambiente and Acea Produzione

✓ Increased provisions for bad debts and reduction in amounts due from GALA and ATAC

**ACEA Group** 

#### NET PROFIT (€m)

Net profit



<sup>^</sup> Higher depreciation due to increased capex for IT with shorter useful life – after taxation – has reduced net profit by €38m

DIVIDEND HISTORY					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	
DPS (€)	0.45	0.50	0.62	0.63	
Total Dividend (€m)	95.8	106.5	132.0	134.2	
Dividend yield*	4.6%	4.2%	5.2%	4.7%	
Payout**	<b>59</b> %	61%	50%	74%	

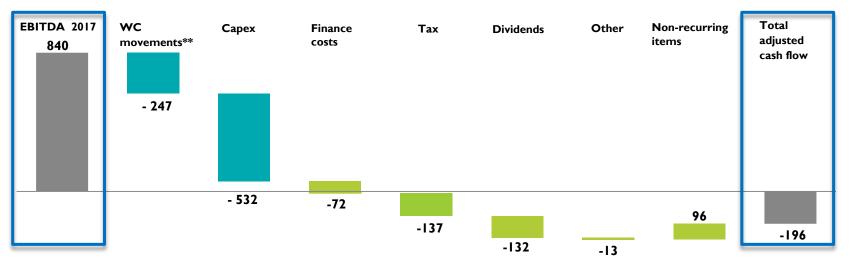
\* Based on average price for the year

\*\* Based on consolidated net profit after non-controlling interests



2017	2016
840	896
(247)	(85)
(532)	(531)
61	281
(72)	(110)
(137)	(110)
(132)	(107)
(13)	(72)
(292)	(117)
(196)	(117)
2,127	2,010
2,421	2,127
2,325	2,127
	840 (247) (532) 61 (72) (137) (132) (13) (292) (196) 2,127 2,421

Net debt fell €66m in Q4 2017,
declining from €2,487m to €2,421m at
31 Dec 2017, due to cash inflow from
Working Capital of ~ €100m

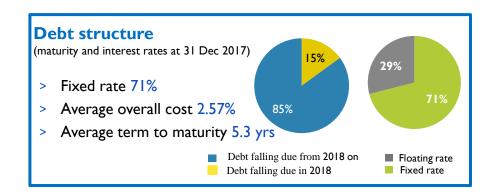


\* Adjusted net debt for 2017 does not include the overall impact, amounting to €96m, of the reduction in amounts due from GALA and ATAC, and the impact of split payments \*\* Before provisions for bad debts

### **Net Debt** Ahead of guidance and beating Business Plan forecast

(€m)	31 Dec 2017 (a)	30 Sep 2017 (b)	31 Dec 2016 (c)	Change (a-b)	Change (a-c)
NET DEBT	2,421.5	2,487.3	2,126.9	(65.8)	294.6
Medium/Long-term	2,706.6	2,475.9	2,743.1	230.7	(36.5)
Short-term	(285.1)	11.4	(616.2)	(296.5)	331.1
Adjusted NET DEBT*	2,325.1	2,428.3	2,126.9	(103.2)	198.2

NET DEBT/EQUITY	NET DEBT/EQUITY	Net Debt/EBITDA	Net Debt/EBITDA
31 Dec. 2017	31 Dec. 2016	31 Dec. 2017	31 Dec. 2016
I.3x	I.2x	2.9x	2.4x



Rating			
	<b>Fitch</b> Ratings	Moody's	
_	BBB+	Baa2	
_	Stable Outlook	Stable Outlook	

\* Adjusted net debt for 2017 does not include the overall impact, amounting to €96m, of the reduction in amounts due from GALA and ATAC and the impact of split payments.

## Regulatory framework - Water

- Electricity distribution



#### TARIFF REGIME FOR SECOND REGULATORY PERIOD 2016-2019

#### ARERA Resolution 664/2015 - Water Tariff Regime for the second regulatory period (WTR-2)

The tariff regime for the **four-year period 2016-2019 (the second regulatory period)** is based on a matrix chart with 6 different **regulatory framework** depending on the ratio of required capex to the value of existing infrastructure, eventual changes in the operator's objectives or operations (consolidation, significant improvements in service quality) and the value of the operator's opex per inhabitant served compared with the estimated average opex for the sector as a whole in 2014.

Key points in the Resolution are set out below:

- The duration of the regulatory period has been set at four years, with biennial revision (for the years 2018-2019) of the value of the RAB, the components subject to adjustment and opex, taking into account any accounting and inflation adjustments, in addition to certain of the parameters used in calculating the cost of debt (see the next slide that provides details of the content of Resolution 918/17, which has established rules and procedures for the biennial revision).
- > Allowed revenues are based on **full cost recovery** subject to efficiency and capped in terms of tariff growth.
- A cap on annual tariff increases (tariff multiplier) ranging from 5.5% to 9%, depending on the regulatory framework approved by local authorities.
- > A "sharing" mechanism, based on a regulatory framework that penalises the least efficient operators.
- Introduction of a system of rewards and penalties linked to the contractually required quality standards. The reward component is excluded from any tariff caps.
- The possibility of recognising a cost component relating to the cost of upgrading to meet the contractually required quality standards (Opex<sub>Qc</sub>), if not already included in the existing Service Charter (recognition does not permit the recognition of rewards at local level).
- The mechanism for recognising a portion of late payment costs has been defined, taking into account the varying impact of this problem throughout the country (the maximum recognised cost, calculated on the basis of annual turnover, has been set at 2.1% in the North, 3.8% in Central Italy and 7.1% in the South and providing incentives for the adoption of efficient credit management solutions.
- The "\u03c6" parameter, on which determination of the component intended to pre-finance the cost of new investment (FNI), may be selected within a range of 0.4-0.8.
- > The distinction between upgradeable opex and endogenous opex has been retained. Costs linked to the expansion of operations and/or significant improvements in service quality are also allowed for.
- Based on the parameters established (\*) in the resolution, the sum of the assessed cost of debt and tax expense in the water sector amounts to 5.4% for the years 2016 and 2017 (compared with 6.1% for the regulatory period 2014-2015 and 6.4% for the period 2012-2013).
- > The **1% time-lag for the cost of debt** has been confirmed, offsetting the cost resulting from the time lag between the year in which capex takes place and the year in which the related tariff increase is granted.
- \* The **ERP** (Equity Risk Premium) is **4%** (compared with 5.5% for the electricity sector).
  - The real RF (Risk Free) rate is 0.5%, determined on the basis of yields on 10-year euro area government bonds with ratings of at least "AA" (in line with the electricity sector).
  - The WRP (Water Risk Premium) is 1.5% (compared with a CRP Country Risk Premium of 1% used in the electricity sector).

#### ARERA Resolution 918/2017 – Biennial revision of tariff arrangements for integrated water services (2018-2019)

Determination 918/2017, approved at the end of December, sets out not only the rules and procedures for the biennial revision provided for in Resolution 664/2015, but also the amendments and additions made necessary by determinations that during 2017 have served to complete the regulatory framework for water systems (the regulation of **technical quality**, approval of the **integrated text on charges**, regulation of the **social bonus for water**).

Without modifying the WTR-2 tariff regime introduced by Resolution 664/2015, which remains in force, the principal provisions of the latest Resolution with an impact on the period 2018-2019 are detailed below:

- Accounting and monetary adjustment of recognised costs: tariff determinations are to be updated on the basis of the 2016 accounts (for the 2018 tariff) and 2017 accounts (for the 2019 tariff); the inflation adjustment for opex in 2017 and 2018 has also been set (inflation rate for 2017 = -0.10% and for 2018 = 0.70%), as have the cost of fixed investment (deflator 2017=1.003 deflator 2018=0.998 deflator 2019= 1).
- Cost of electricity: the sector's average cost of electricity supplies has been revised down to €0.1585 per kWh (a reduction from the amount used in tariff determinations for 2016-2017), included in the calculation of the recognised cost for the years 2018-2019 and in determining adjustments for the previous two years.
- Wholesale cost of water: extension of the method of computation applied to the previous two years to the years 2018 and 2019, overriding the rolling cap regulation provided for in WTR-2 from 2018. As regards the adjustments for 2016-2017, the failure of the WTR-2 regime to recognise the increased costs incurred for the wholesale supply of water in concessions hit by water emergency has also been overridden.
- Opex<sub>QC</sub> adjustments: recovery (only if to the end user's advantage) of the gap between quantification of the component included in tariff determinations for 2016 and 2017 and the costs effectively incurred by the operator;
- ERC (Environmental and Resource Costs): the range of costs to be classed as ERC has been expended, taking into account additional opex that may result from the need to comply with the new technical quality targets.
- > The component intended to **pre-finance the cost of new investment (FNI)**: the obligation to use the related provisions solely to finance new investment has been introduced.

## Water: regulation

#### **TARIFF REGIME FOR SECOND REGULATORY PERIOD 2016-2019**

#### ARERA Resolution 918/2017 – Biennial revision of tariff arrangements for integrated water services (2018-2019)

#### > Technical quality:

- Review of scheduled works based on the operator's starting point for technical quality (taking 2016 as the base year) and the achievement of the targets set by the new technical quality regime introduced by Resolution 917/2017)
- Introduction of rewards/penalties linked to the technical quality of the integrated water service. Rewards and penalties will be quantified in 2020 based on performances in 2018 (base year 2016) and 2019 (base year 2018). The reward component is excluded from any tariff caps. Provisions must be made in 2020 for any penalties imposed;
- The possibility of recognising additional costs for Opex QT linked to improvements in technical quality (which, unlike contractually required quality standards, do not affect application of the incentive mechanism based on rewards and penalties).
- Universal access to water: in keeping with the provisions of Resolution 897/2017, the resolution includes a specific cost component dubbed OP<sub>social</sub> should the Concession Authority decide to introduce or continue with an additional bonus compared with the one applied nationally (social bonus), which is instead covered by a specific tariff component (UI3) introduced from 1 January 2018.
- Change in the parameters for the cost of debt and tax expense: the real RF rate (0.5%) and Kd (2.8%) have been confirmed, whilst the WRP has been revised (1.7%); the tax rate (tc) used in calculating the tax shield for the cost of debt has also been revised (down from 27.5% to 24%) and, as a result, parameter T representing the total tax rate has been revised (down from 34.2 to 31.9%).

Based on the changes introduced to the parameters included in Resolution 918/2017, the sum of the assessed **cost of debt and tax expense in the water sector amounts to 5.3%** <u>for the years 2018</u> <u>and 2019</u> (2016-2017 5.4%).

Details are provided in the following slide, which also provides a comparison with the Electricity sector).

#### SECTOR REGULATION WITH AN IMPACT ON TARIFFS IN THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD 2016-2019

#### **INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPONENT LINKED TO CONTRACTUALLY REQUIRED QUALITY**

AEEGSI Resolution **655/2015** established contractually required specific and overall quality standards for the water service, setting maximum response times and minimum quality standards for the services to be provided to end users. These are the same throughout the country.

Compensation was automatically due to end users in the event of failure to meet the specific quality standards. Failure to meet overall standards for two years running could result in the imposition of a fine. The determination, fully effective from 1 January 2017, also established the procedures for recording, reporting and checking the data relating to services provided by the operator at end users' request.

#### **REWARDS AND ADDITIONAL COSTS**

1. Art. 2 of Resolution 655/2015 grants concession authorities the option of encouraging the achievement of quality standards higher than the minimum standards applied nationally. This may be done at the proposal of the Operator. In recognising such outperformance, the authority also quantifies the bonus, which in any event may not exceed a certain cap linked to the operator's operational efficiency versus the national average. In fact the bonus is higher, the more the operator is efficient compared with the national average operating cost per customer served, set by the Authority at €109 per customer. **The reward is not subject to any tariff cap.** 

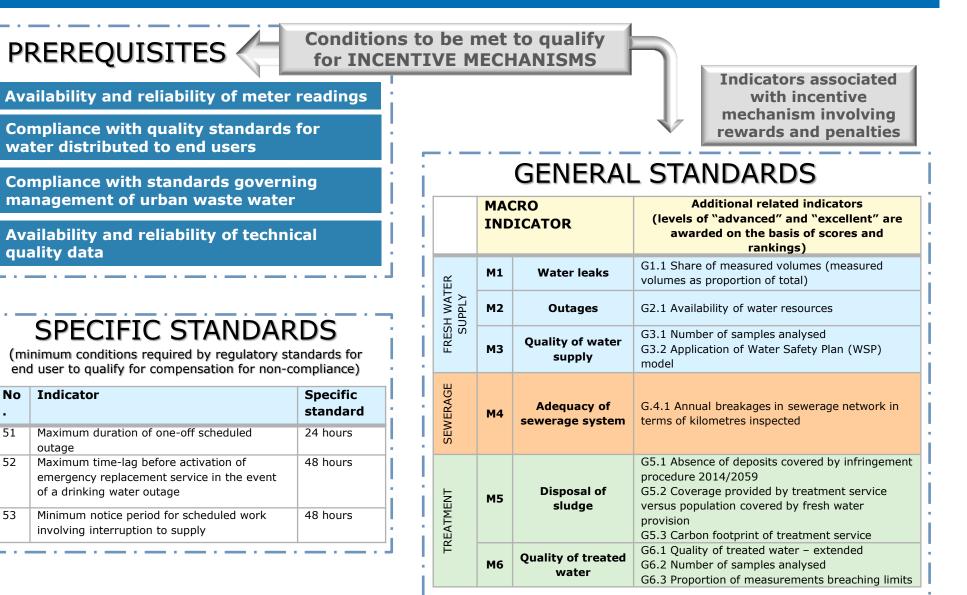
2. If the standards set out in the operator's Service Charter are less demanding than the minimum standards required by the regulator, the Concession Authority may submit a reasoned proposal to recognise an **additional tariff component** ( $Opex_{QC}$ ) to adjust for the minimum standards. For the related standards, recognition of this component precludes the award of any bonus.

## Water: regulation

#### Resolution 917/2017 – Technical quality

(1/2)

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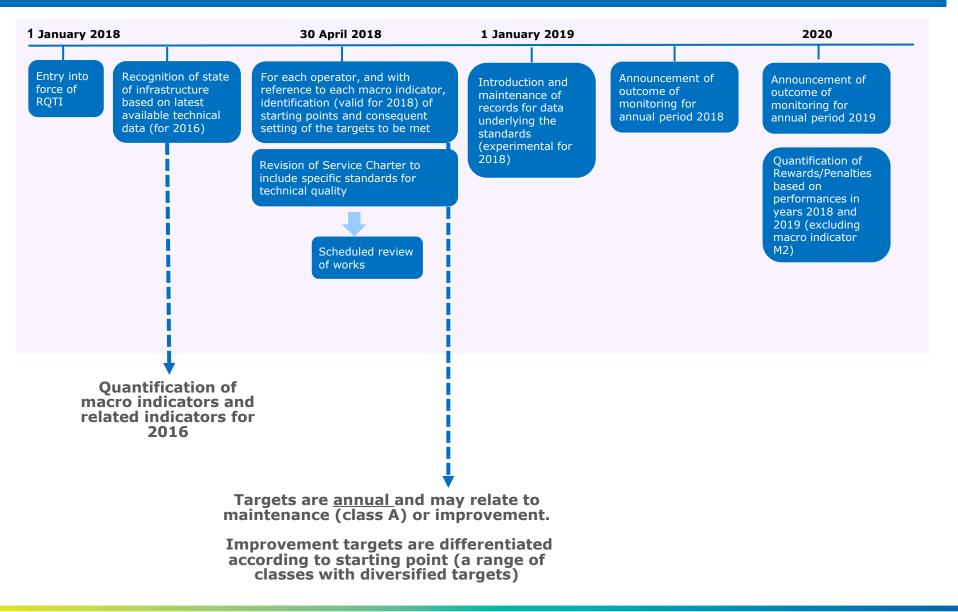


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## Water: regulation

#### **Resolution 917/2017 – Technical quality**

(2/2)



### Energy Infrastructure: electricity distribution Totex

#### **CONSULTATION DOCUMENT: 683/2017**

With regard to the second sub-period of the regulatory period 2020-2023, the regulator intends to adopt a **Totex**-based approach, introducing innovative elements into price regulation with respect to the past. The initial approach was described in Consultation Document 683/2017, as follows:

- Focus on total expenditure, represented by the sum of opex and capex;
- A forward-looking approach with ex ante approval, by the regulator, of the entity's expected objectives and outputs and presented in Business
  Plans. In this way, the regulator, after conducting a process of cost assessment and benchmarking, identifies the «baseline totex» and the
  performance of the «glide path»;
- Application of menu regulation with the introduction of incentive schemes, involving use of an IQI (Information Quality Incentives) matrix, encouraging operators to include expenditure forecasts when presenting their business plans that (i) as realistic as possible and (ii) as close as possible to the «baseline totex» arrived at by the regulator.

To allow for gradual implementation, the regulator has applied certain elements of continuity:

- > capital at the time of transferring to the totex approach is managed using the same criteria;
- > opex do not change substantially as they are already subject to an *ex ante* regime.

Under the totex approach, total expenditure is divided into two parts based on a percentage allocation established *ex ante* by the regulator on the basis of the optimal level of capitalisation for the entity and proposals from operators, in addition to historical trends; the two parts are defined as follows:

- «fast money», the part funded through revenue in the year;
- «slow money» which will increase invested capital for regulatory purposes and on the basis of which, as under the current tariff regime, the
  return on capital and depreciation are calculated (the latter applied to a group of assets with a single useful life);

Key points covered by the consultation document and thus that remain open regard:

- Business plans that form the basis for the totex process over a time horizon of 5/10 years; the plans should contain two sections: i) a section about the entity, describing its business objectives with earnings and financial indicators; ii) and one dealing with stakeholders, describing stakeholder engagement, their vision, points of view and expected objectives;
- Baseline Totex and the glide path for total expenditure: the regulator's ability to correctly assess the future recognition of costs is key to the effectiveness of the entire «totex» approach, without which the process could result in situations of overspending or underspending;
- The mechanism for managing uncertainties which, using a suitable system of controls and checks, enables, for example, changes to be made to the entity's revenue streams in the reference period through re-opening mechanisms; on the other hand, a number of initiatives, given their particular or exceptional nature, may be excluded from application of the approach based on *ex ante* cost recognition and, once identified, will continue to generate a return on the basis of *ex post* models of recognition;
- Incentive schemes, divided into two types: i) incentives that result from the adoption of menu regulation and from the application of the IQI Information Quality Incentives matrix; ii) incentives devised specifically to achieve predetermined output/performance targets.

The regulator has given each operator an estimated period of time to complete the necessary activities and for the rollout of the regime, equal to approximately 30 months. At the moment, the Consultation Document provides for application in the sub-period 2020-2023, *«in relation to electricity distribution, whilst guaranteeing adequate coverage throughout the country, and providing for application to the national grid»*. In relation to the sixth regulatory period, application *«also to distributors serving over 300,000 offtake points»*.

### **Energy Infrastructure: electricity distribution regulation ACEA Group**

#### **REGULATORY PERIOD: 2016-2023 (8 YEARS)**

#### ARERA Resolutions: 654/2015 Tariff general framework

#### 583/2015 WACC 646/2015 Quality of electricity distribution and metering service and output based regulation

The Regulator has extended the **duration of the regulatory period to eight years**, dividing it into two sub-periods, each lasting four years. In the second sub-period (**2020-2023**), a **Totex**-based approach will be introduced.

Key points in the Resolutions are set out below:

- No exposure to energy volumes: tariff not linked to changes in consumption
- **Opex** calculated on **2014 costs**.
- Progressive approach to the extension of asset lives: life for MV and LV lines and offtake points built after 2007 extended from 30 to 35 years; the life of HV lines has been increased from 40 to 45 years.
- Price cap: 1.9% (distribution), 1% (metering). The potential achieved extra-efficiencies in the 3rd and 4th regulatory periods are to be shared 50-50 with the consumer by 2019.
- Greater selectivity applied to capex, with particular attention paid to service quality.
- Year t-1 capex included in year t RAB (time-lag reduction from 2 to 1 year).
- Confirmation of the determination of **net working capital** with reference to parameters based on net fixed assets, applying a **lower percentage (0.1%)** than the one applied in previous regulatory periods (1%).
- Quality of service: stable incentive mechanisms on frequency and duration of outages.

#### **ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION**

#### WACC Electricity distribution: 5.6% (compared with the previous 6.4%)

WACC regulatory period: 6 years (2016-2021). The WACC is fixed for **three years** (2016-2018), in 2019 WACC mid term review already defined for all main parameters

#### **ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION**

WACC Electricity transmission: 5.3% (compared with the previous 6.3%)

#### **GAS GRIDS**

WACC Gas transmission: 5.4% (compared with the previous 6.3%);

WACC Gas distribution: 6.1% (compared with the previous 6.9%);

**WACC Storage: 6.5%** (compared with the previous 6.0%).

The WACC is fixed for two years (2016-2017) for the transmission service.

# Disclaimer

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PURSUANT TO ART. 154-BIS, PAR. 2, OF THE LEGISLATIVE DECREE N. 58 OF FEBRUARY 24, 1998, THE EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE OF PREPARING THE CORPORATE ACCOUNTING DOCUMENTS AT ACEA, GIUSEPPE GOLA - CFO OF THE COMPANY - DECLARES THAT THE ACCOUNTING INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN CORRESPOND TO DOCUMENT RESULTS, BOOKS AND ACCOUNTING RECORDS.