

November 3, 2023

Company Update

☑ Change in Estimates | ■ Target | ■ Reco

Change in Estimates

	Cur	rent	Prev	/ious
	FY25E	FY26E	FY25E	FY26E
Rating	HC	DLD	Н	DLD
Target Price	2	08	2	08
Sales (Rs. bn)	558	551	558	548
% Chng.	0.0	0.6		
EBITDA (Rs. bn)	45	47	44	44
% Chng.	1.4	7.1		
EPS (Rs.)	19.3	20.6	19.0	19.0
% Chng.	1.6	8.3		

Key Financials - Standalone

Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Sales (Rs. bn)	599	558	551	564
EBITDA (Rs. bn)	49	45	47	48
Margin (%)	8.1	8.0	8.6	8.5
PAT (Rs. bn)	32	29	31	31
EPS (Rs.)	21.6	19.3	20.6	20.8
Gr. (%)	(3.4)	(10.6)	6.5	1.1
DPS (Rs.)	10.0	8.9	9.5	9.6
Yield (%)	5.1	4.6	4.9	4.9
RoE (%)	22.8	18.4	17.8	16.4
RoCE (%)	28.8	23.1	21.9	19.9
EV/Sales (x)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.2
PE (x)	9.1	10.2	9.5	9.4
P/BV (x)	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.5

Key Data	PLNG.BO PLNG IN
52-W High / Low	Rs.254 / Rs.193
Sensex / Nifty	64,364 / 19,231
Market Cap	Rs.294bn/ \$ 3,531m
Shares Outstanding	1,500m
3M Avg. Daily Value	Rs.761.56m

Shareholding Pattern (%)

Promoter's	50.00
Foreign	33.31
Domestic Institution	5.93
Public & Others	10.76
Promoter Pledge (Rs bn)	-

Stock Performance (%)

	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	(18.1)	(17.2)	(3.1)
Relative	(16.6)	(21.3)	(8.4)

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Petronet LNG (PLNG IN)

Rating: HOLD | CMP: Rs196 | TP: Rs208

Oops!...I did it again

Quick Pointers

- The board of Petronet LNG (PLNG IN) approved PDH-PP project with a capital outlay of Rs207bn.
- Our estimate suggests that the project would barely deliver ROCE of 3%, much lower than average ROCE of 24.9% in past decade

The recent announcement of PLNG is not the first time that the management has announced projects that have the potential of sharply eroding its return ratios. The company had a net cash of Rs30b in FY19. Since then, there have been several announcements that have challenged the fundamental nature of its business. The recent board approval (net cash of Rs78bn) is likely to not only strain its balance sheet but also result in incremental ROCE of 3% at current spreads. We have already witnessed the poor performance of two gas based petrochem plants- GAIL & OPaL since past few years. RIL's petrochem performance is different as it has option to process multiple feedstock. We estimate EPS CAGR of 3.3% during FY24-26E. The stock is trading at 10.6x FY25 EPS and 5.1x FY25 EV/EBITDA. We value the stock at 10x FY26 EPS and reiterate our 'Hold' stand with a TP of Rs 208 on the company.

- A slew of announcements that spooked investors: In Feb'19, the company announced that it signed up an MoU with Tellurian, US to invest in its upstream project as well as its upcoming liquefaction project. After much deliberation, the MoU was called off by 2020-end, much to the reprise of the investors. In FY21, the company announced its intent to come up with a petrochem project based on imported propane at Dahej. In FY22, the company formulated its vision 1-5-10-40 with the intention of achieving Rs1tr in revenues in next five years with PAT of Rs100bn at a capital expenditure of Rs400bn. In between, there were announcements of foraying into LNG retailing as well as compressed bio-gas, both with questionable profitability.
- Our estimates suggest meagre 3% ROCE for the Rs207bn PDH-PP plant: Long term (20yrs) PP-P delta stands at USD542/mt. Using that, assuming D/E of 2 and interest cost of meagre 5%, we estimate a ROCE of 3%, compared with last ten years ROCE of 24.9% for PLNG. One just has to look at petrochem plants of GAIL and OPaL to draw conclusions on the fate of petrochem plant in India based on imported feedstock. OPaL has posted negative ROCE in three out of five past years. Maximum ROCE has been 7.2%, that too with nil effective tax rate due to accumulated losses. Similar has been the fate of GAIL's petrochem segment. Even if we exclude the losses in past 10 years, the average post-tax ROCE of the past decade stands at 4.8%.
- Upcoming terminals & domestic supply a major concern: HPCL's Chhara LNG project is mechanically completed awaiting pipeline completion to start operations. Dabhol's breakwater facility is expected to be completed within next few months and the full capacity would be available from next monsoon, if not earlier. Dhamra LNG terminal is also operating at ~50% utilization and has scope for further ramp up. Petronet's own Dahej LNG terminal is expected

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to be expanded from 17.5mmtpa to 22.5mmtpa, the utilization of the incremental capacity being under clouds. Additionally, ONGC is expected to add ~10mmscmd incrementally from KG-DWN-98/2. Except Kochi, all LNG terminals have broadly similar tariff. Hence, in addition to the uneconomical expansion in petrochemicals, utilization of Dahej's existing assets are under threat.

Valuation and recommendation: PLNG is trading at 10.6x FY25 EPS and 5.1x FY25 EV/EBITDA. We expect that the petrochemical expansions as well as threat of underutilization would mar the stock performance of the company. We value the company at 10x FY26 EPS and recommend HOLD with a target price of Rs208. Key risks to our assumption would be a) revoking of the petrochemical expansion, and b) any policy which mandates faster adoption of natural gas by industries, thereby increasing demand of LNG.

Exhibit 1: 5yr average of PP-Propane (USD/mt)

2001-2005	2006-2010	2011-2015	2016-2020	2021-2023
316	618	751	424	638

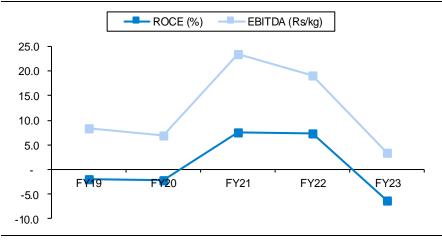
Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 2: ROCE of 3% estimated for the Rs 207bn PDH-PP plant

Particulars	Amount	Remarks
Gross margin (USDmn)	282	Assuming current spread of USD480/mt
Opex (USDmn)	75	assuming an opex of USD100/mt
EBITDA (USDmn)	207	
Exchange rate (Rs/USD)	82	
EBITDA (Rsmn)	16,974	
Depr (Rsmn)	8,400	assuming 25yrs
EBIT (Rsmn)	8,574	
Interest cost	7,000	
PBT	1,574	
Tax rate (%)	25.2	
PAT	396	
ROCE (%)	3.0	

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 3: Dismal ROCE for gas based OPaL

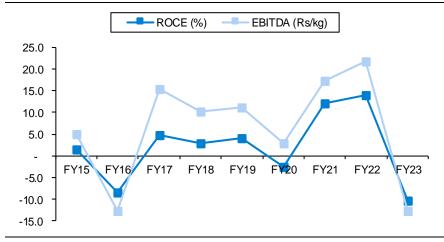


Source: OPaL, PL

1mt of propylene requires 1.2mt of propane. With each 500tmt of PP, meagre 18.6tmt of H2 is produced



Exhibit 4: Similar dismal fate of gas based Pata plant of GAIL



Source: GAIL, PL

Dahej will face severe competition from ramp up of Dhamra and Dabhol (post breakwater completion); tariffs are not very different

Exhibit 5: Dahej's tariff is not significantly cheaper than others (except Kochi)

Regas tariffs (Rs/mmBtu)	FY23
Dahej	56.3
Hazira	65.6
Dabhol	59.9
Kochi	85.0
Ennore	69.7
Mundra	56.2
Dhamra	60.2

Source: Industry, PL

Exhibit 6: Valuation Table

Valuation	Rs
FY26 EPS	20.8
Target P/E	10
Target Price	208

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 7: Valuation Metrics

Company	Rating	TP (Rs)		EPS			P/E ratio)	P/	BV ratio	(x)	EV/EB	BITDA ra	tio (x)		ROE (%))	F	ROCE (%	b)
			FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Petronet LNG	HOLD	208	19.3	20.6	20.8	10.4	9.7	9.6	1.8	1.7	1.5	5.2	4.7	4.3	18.4	17.8	16.4	23.1	21.9	19.9

Source: Company, PL



Financials

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Income Statement (Rs bn)	FYCC	EVC 4E	EVest	FV22F
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Net Revenues	599	558	551	564
YoY gr. (%)	38.8	(6.9)	(1.2)	2.4
Cost of Goods Sold	540	500	491	503
Gross Profit	59	57	60	61
Margin (%)	9.9	10.3	10.9	10.8
Employee Cost	2	2	2	2
Other Expenses	9	11	11	11
EBITDA	49	45	47	48
YoY gr. (%)	(7.6)	(8.0)	6.0	1.9
Margin (%)	8.1	8.0	8.6	8.5
Depreciation and Amortization	8	8	9	10
EBIT	41	36	38	38
Margin (%)	6.8	6.5	6.9	6.7
Net Interest	3	3	3	3
Other Income	6	6	6	7
Profit Before Tax	43	39	41	42
Margin (%)	7.2	6.9	7.5	7.4
Total Tax	11	10	10	11
Effective tax rate (%)	25.3	25.2	25.2	25.2
Profit after tax	32	29	31	31
Minority interest	-	-	-	-
Share Profit from Associate	-	-	-	-
Adjusted PAT	32	29	31	31
YoY gr. (%)	(3.4)	(10.6)	6.5	1.1
Margin (%)	5.4	5.2	5.6	5.5
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-
Reported PAT	32	29	31	31
YoY gr. (%)	(3.4)	(10.6)	6.5	1.1
Margin (%)	5.4	5.2	5.6	5.5
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	32	29	31	31
Equity Shares O/s (m)	2	2	2	2
EPS (Rs)	21.6	19.3	20.6	20.8

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs bn)

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs I	on)			
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Non-Current Assets				
Gross Block	111	126	141	156
Tangibles	111	126	141	156
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Acc: Dep / Amortization	46	54	64	74
Tangibles	46	54	64	74
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Net fixed assets	65	72	77	82
Tangibles	65	72	77	82
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Capital Work In Progress	11	9	9	9
Goodwill	-	-	-	-
Non-Current Investments	34	34	34	34
Net Deferred tax assets	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)
Other Non-Current Assets	-	-	-	-
Current Assets				
Investments	-	-	-	-
Inventories	12	10	11	11
Trade receivables	38	34	35	36
Cash & Bank Balance	57	70	80	92
Other Current Assets	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	224	235	253	271
Equity				
Equity Share Capital	15	15	15	15
Other Equity	134	150	166	183
Total Networth	149	165	181	198
Non-Current Liabilities				
Long Term borrowings	-	-	-	-
Provisions	-	-	-	-
Other non current liabilities	-	-	-	-
Current Liabilities				
ST Debt / Current of LT Debt	-	-	-	-
Trade payables	16	14	15	15
Other current liabilities	51	49	50	50
Total Equity & Liabilities	224	235	253	271

Source: Company Data, PL Research



Cash Flow (Rs bn)				
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
PBT	43	39	41	42
Add. Depreciation	8	8	9	10
Add. Interest	3	3	3	3
Less Financial Other Income	6	6	6	7
Add. Other	(1)	(6)	(6)	(7)
Op. profit before WC changes	54	45	47	48
Net Changes-WC	(16)	2	(1)	0
Direct tax	(12)	(10)	(10)	(11)
Net cash from Op. activities	25	37	36	37
Capital expenditures	(11)	(14)	(15)	(15)
Interest / Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
Others	(1)	-	-	-
Net Cash from Invt. activities	(11)	(14)	(15)	(15)
Issue of share cap. / premium	-	-	-	-
Debt changes	0	-	-	-
Dividend paid	(17)	(13)	(14)	(14)
Interest paid	0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Others	(6)	-	-	-
Net cash from Fin. activities	(24)	(17)	(17)	(17)
Net change in cash	(10)	7	4	5
Free Cash Flow	15	24	21	22

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Quarterly Financials (Rs bn)

Y/e Mar	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24
Net Revenue	158	139	117	125
YoY gr. (%)	25.2	24.3	(18.3)	(21.6)
Raw Material Expenses	139	126	103	111
Gross Profit	19	12	14	14
Margin (%)	12.2	8.9	11.6	11.4
EBITDA	17	9	12	12
YoY gr. (%)	(3.3)	(19.3)	11.0	3.6
Margin (%)	10.6	6.8	10.1	9.7
Depreciation / Depletion	2	2	2	2
EBIT	15	8	10	10
Margin (%)	9.4	5.4	8.5	8.1
Net Interest	1	1	1	1
Other Income	2	2	1	2
Profit before Tax	16	8	11	11
Margin (%)	10.1	5.9	9.1	8.8
Total Tax	4	2	3	3
Effective tax rate (%)	25.5	24.9	25.6	25.8
Profit after Tax	12	6	8	8
Minority interest	-	-	-	-
Share Profit from Associates	-	-	-	-
Adjusted PAT	12	6	8	8
YoY gr. (%)	3.2	(18.1)	12.7	9.9
Margin (%)	7.5	4.4	6.8	6.5
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-
Reported PAT	12	6	8	8
YoY gr. (%)	3.2	(18.1)	12.7	9.9
Margin (%)	7.5	4.4	6.8	6.5
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	12	6	8	8
Avg. Shares O/s (m)	2	2	2	2
EPS (Rs)	7.9	4.1	5.3	5.5

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Kev	Financial	Metrics
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,				
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Per Share(Rs)				
EPS	21.6	19.3	20.6	20.8
CEPS	26.7	24.9	26.8	27.8
BVPS	99.6	109.9	121.0	132.1
FCF	9.7	15.9	14.1	14.8
DPS	10.0	8.9	9.5	9.6
Return Ratio(%)				
RoCE	28.8	23.1	21.9	19.9
ROIC	24.4	21.9	21.9	21.1
RoE	22.8	18.4	17.8	16.4
Balance Sheet				
Net Debt : Equity (x)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.5)
Net Working Capital (Days)	2	0	1	1
Valuation(x)				
PER	9.1	10.2	9.5	9.4
P/B	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.5
P/CEPS	26.4	24.6	26.6	27.5
EV/EBITDA	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.2
EV/Sales	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Dividend Yield (%)	5.1	4.6	4.9	4.9
0 0 0 0	,			

Source: Company Data, PL Research

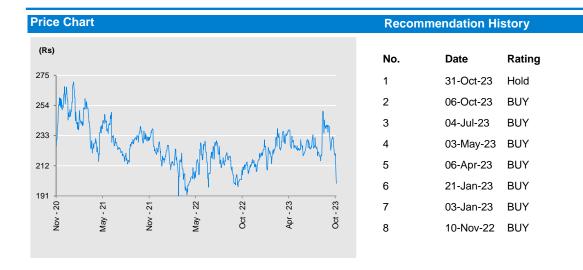
Key Operating Metrics

Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Sales Volume (Tbtu)	473.0	495.4	495.4	545.9
Regas Volume (Tbtu)	278.0	369.0	369.0	369.0
Dahej Tariff (Rs/mmBtu)	57.7	60.6	63.7	66.9
Kochi Tariff (Rs/mmBtu)	81.0	84.0	85.1	85.1

Source: Company Data, PL Research

TP (Rs.) Share Price (Rs.)





Analyst	Coverage	Un	iverse
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	t Coverage Universe			
Sr. No.	Company Name	Rating	TP (Rs)	Share Price (Rs)
1	Aarti Industries	Hold	472	489
2	Bayer Cropscience	Accumulate	4,720	5,270
3	Bharat Petroleum Corporation	Hold	365	347
4	Bharti Airtel	Accumulate	936	926
5	Clean Science and Technology	Hold	1,368	1,374
6	Deepak Nitrite	Reduce	1,854	2,125
7	Dhanuka Agritech	BUY	950	854
8	Fine Organic Industries	Hold	4,252	4,303
9	GAIL (India)	BUY	139	120
10	Godrej Agrovet	Hold	420	515
11	Gujarat Fluorochemicals	Accumulate	3,230	2,846
12	Gujarat Gas	Accumulate	480	425
13	Gujarat State Petronet	BUY	327	290
14	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation	Hold	263	258
15	Indian Oil Corporation	Hold	94	92
16	Indraprastha Gas	Hold	406	390
17	Insecticides India	Accumulate	550	514
18	Jubilant Ingrevia	Hold	433	412
19	Laxmi Organic Industries	Reduce	220	254
20	Mahanagar Gas	Hold	1,065	1,015
21	Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals	Hold	94	96
22	Navin Fluorine International	BUY	4,007	3,430
23	NOCIL	Hold	228	226
24	Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	BUY	202	181
25	Oil India	BUY	341	296
26	P.I. Industries	BUY	4,850	3,421
27	Petronet LNG	Hold	208	202
28	Rallis India	Reduce	190	217
29	Reliance Industries	BUY	2,618	2,266

PL's Recommendation Nomenclature (Absolute Performance)

 Buy
 : > 15%

 Accumulate
 : 5% to 15%

 Hold
 : +5% to -5%

 Reduce
 : -5% to -15%

 Sell
 : < -15%</td>

Not Rated (NR) : No specific call on the stock
Under Review (UR) : Rating likely to change shortly



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