FDE

FY 2024: Navigating Growth Amidst Market Shifts

Strong core operations and growing renewable energy segments

FDE today reported its full FY'24 results, following the initial reporting of FY'24 revenues in July. Net income was €9.7mm, in line with our estimate, down 19% y/y. Higher electricity sales volumes and contributions from Greenstat were offset by much weaker gas and electricity prices, which normalised after the spike in prices after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. EBITDA fell 26% y/y to €19.7mm, yet FDE maintained a robust sales margin of 63% (down from 68% last year). FDE was also cushioned by its robust hedging programme that helped it navigate a period of volatile electricity and gas prices over the last year. FDE's 49.5%-owned 45 MW solar farm in Bosnia was deconsolidated from revenues, as it did not meet IFRS requirements, which would have otherwise added an extra €2.7mm, reducing the revenue drop to only 9% y/y. For FY'25 FDE has hedged 35-40% of its volumes for at €150/MWh for electricity and €54/MWh for gas.

Immediate pipeline projects are progressing positively

FDE remains committed to its low-carbon energy mandate, aiming to reach over €175mm in revenue by 2030 (>5x the 2024 levels) and generating over €85mm of EBITDA from its current slate of projects. The company is poised to commission a 5.8MW ground-mounted power plant in Norway by the end of 2024. Additionally, the construction of a new 100GWh/year RNG facility in Stavanger is on track to start production by the end of 2025 and is expected to generate an annual EBITDA of €9mm. Concurrently, Greenstat is advancing its 20MW electrolyser project in Agder, with completion targeted by the end of 2026. This project, supported by significant subsidies, aims to deliver the first green hydrogen to the local marine industry by late 2026, projecting an expected annual EBITDA of €10mm. FDE's robust project pipeline includes over 40 projects with a total NPV of more than €375mm and high IRRs of 15-20%+, excluding solar. With the ability to fund up to 90% of capex through debt and subsidies, we believe FDE is well-positioned to achieve favourable equity returns.

Advancements in CHP projects and update on natural hydrogen

In France, FDE's four Combined Heat and Power ("CHP") projects have been delayed due to state approvals; however, recent political shifts, including the appointment of a new energy minister, may accelerate these approvals. Additionally, a 6MW CHP project in Norway is on schedule for 2025, with further plans for another project in France. These initiatives are part of a broader investment strategy, with FDE having already invested ~€10mm in CHP development and planning to spend ~€330mm by 2026 without requiring fresh equity. Separately, FDE is adjusting its strategy for the natural hydrogen project by seeking additional capital investments from partners, rather than solely relying on technical resources and limited financial contributions. The company has already secured a €5mm subsidy for the first phase and is currently negotiating a €7mm grant for the second phase. Currently, we are not assigning any value to the company's natural hydrogen business.

Valuation: risked NAV of €94/sh (+230% from current share price)

Our risked NAV of € 94/sh remains unchanged after the FY'24 results. We had already incorporated the lower energy prices and accounted for FDE's hedging position (see our update on 19th June 2024). Furthermore, we see the current share price discounting only the value of the current production from the Abandoned Mine Methane ("AMM") business; therefore, the strong growth from AMM and potential of CryoPur, Greenstat and Lorraine gas are all sources of upside yet to be fully recognised by the market, in our view. FDE has a strong financial position, with €48mm in cash and net debt at €34mm as of June 2024 and has maintained a solid net debt-to-EBITDA ratio of 1.7x.

GICS Sector	Energy
Ticker	FP:FDE
Market cap 24-Oct-24 (US\$mm)	161
Share price 24-Oct-24 (€)	28.40

NAV summary (€/sh)

Asset	Unrisked	Risked
Cash and other	-9.7	-9.7
AMM	75.1	59.5
Solar	4.1	3.7
Lorraine - Pyrolysis	29.2	14.6
Cryo Pur	39.7	19.8
Green Hydrogen	13.2	6.6
Total NAV	152	94



Source: S&P CapIQ

Anish Kapadia

Research Analyst

T +44 (0) 207 907 8500 E anish@hannam.partners

Roger Bell

Managing Director, Research T +44 (0) 207 907 8534 E <u>rb@hannam.partners</u>

H&P Advisory Ltd 7-10 Chandos Street London W1G 9DQ

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