# Essential Utilities, Inc.

**WTRG**

NYSE; utilities; SIC 4941, Water Supply; CIK 0000078128

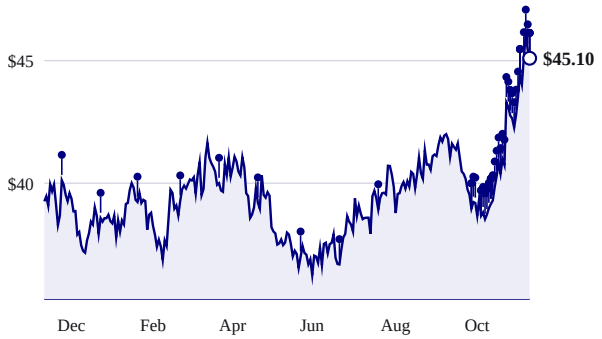
# None

### No letter

6 of 14 inputs computable; 7 are required, with a score in every sleeve

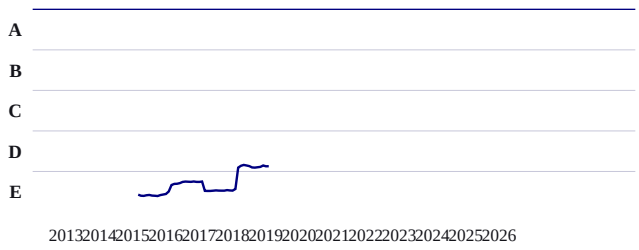
| Scoreboard | |
|---|---|
| **Reliability** | 0.94 AUC<br>filers with over $2.67B assets; 95% interval 0.88 to 0.97; 61 events, 2020 to 2025 |
| **Peer failure rate** | 0.52% a year<br>Item 1.03 bankruptcies, same asset band, 2012 to 2025 |
| **Size band** | over $2.67B assets<br>total assets $19.5B |
| **Standard universe** | inside<br>revenue above $1M and assets above $10M |
| **Warnings** | thin data<br>not computable: distress |
| **Inputs computable** | 6 of 14 |
| **Graded from** | filings received through Feb 26, 2026<br>257 days before the rescan; latest periodic filing 10-Q received Nov 4, 2026 |
| **Last close** | $45.11<br>2026-11-09; market equity $12.9B; no price enters the letter |

**Share price, twelve months to the rescan**




*Split-adjusted close. Each lollipop is a rescan and carries the letter held then.*

**Letter at every rescan, 2012 to 2026**




*Sector percentile at each rescan, stronger toward the top; facts filed by each date only.*

## Business, in the company's words

*opening of Item 1 of the 10-K received Feb 26, 2026*

Essential Utilities, Inc., referred to as "Essential Utilities", "Essential", the "Company", "we", "us", or "our", a Pennsylvania corporation, is the holding company for regulated utilities providing water, wastewater, or natural gas services to an estimated 5.5 million people in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas, Illinois, North Carolina, New Jersey, Indiana, Virginia, and Kentucky under the Aqua and Peoples brands. One of our largest operating subsidiaries, Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., or Aqua Pennsylvania, accounted for approximately 57% of operating revenues and approximately 72% of income for our Regulated Water segment in 2025.

## The fourteen inputs

*lower percentile is stronger; sleeves and inputs within a sleeve carry equal weight*

| Input | Value | Peer median | Percentile, 0 to 100 | Pct | Peers | Period end |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Profitability, sleeve percentile 86.6** | | | | | | |
| Gross profitability | not computable | 17.5% | | | | |
| *one or more required annual facts are missing* | | | | | | |
| Return on invested capital | not computable | 6.0% | | | | |

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| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *pretax income must exceed the validity floor and imply a 0%-100% tax rate* | | | | | | |
| Accruals ratio | (2.1%) | (5.0%) | 86.6 | 270 | 2025-12-31 | |
| Gross margin stability, five years | not computable | 4.6 pts | | | | |
| *five annual gross margins are required; found 0* | | | | | | |
| **Solvency, sleeve percentile 46.9** | | | | | | |
| Twelve-month failure probability | not computable | 0.05% | | | | |
| *liabilities and a nearby cover-page share count are required at 2026-09-30* | | | | | | |
| Altman Z double-prime | not computable | 1.48 | | | | |
| *one or more required annual facts are missing* | | | | | | |
| Net debt to EBITDA | not computable | 3.60x | | | | |
| *latest aligned inputs end 2018-12-31; latest annual assets end 2025-12-31* | | | | | | |
| Interest coverage | 2.80x | 2.37x | 30.5 | 83 | 2025-12-31 | |
| Current ratio | 0.80x | 1.01x | 63.2 | 281 | 2025-12-31 | |
| **Growth and financing, sleeve percentile 54.7** | | | | | | |
| Revenue growth, three-year compound | 2.6% | 0.7% | 47.3 | 221 | 2025-12-31 | |
| Free cash flow growth, three-year compound | not computable | (11.8%) | | | | |
| *current FCF must be positive and base FCF must exceed $100,000* | | | | | | |
| Reinvestment rate | not computable | 59.0% | | | | |
| *pretax income must exceed the validity floor and imply a 0%-100% tax rate* | | | | | | |
| Asset growth, three years | 7.4% | 6.3% | 49.2 | 245 | 2025-12-31 | |
| Net share issuance, one year | 3.0% | 0.4% | 67.7 | 156 | 2026-02-19 | |

## Warnings

*1 of 7 checks triggered; none of them enters the letter*

| Check | Measured |
|---|---|
| Thin data | 6 of 14 grade factors are computable; minimum is 7 |

## What the price implies

*at the 2026-11-09 close; none of these enters the grade*

| Measure | Value | Peer median | Percentile |
|---|---|---|---|
| Twelve-month price change, skipping the latest month | 4.1% | 6.3% | 43 |
| Distance from 52-week high | (2.1%) | (18.6%) | 92 |
| EBIT to enterprise value | 4.7% | 4.6% | 52 |
| Free cash flow yield | (1.0%) | 1.7% | 37 |
| Book value to price | 0.55 | 0.52 | 53 |
| Sales to price | 0.19 | 0.49 | 9 |
| Composite equity issuance, five years | (0.4%) | (7.0%) | 60 |
| Relative strength against the sector, log excess return | 0.14 | 0.02 | 67 |

## Diagnostics

*shown on every report; none enters the grade*

| Measure | Value |
|---|---|
| **Piotroski F-score None of 9, period end 2025-12-31** | |
| Return on assets above zero | pass |
| Operating cash flow above zero | pass |
| Return on assets improved | fail |
| Operating cash flow exceeds net income | pass |
| Long-term leverage fell | fail |
| Current ratio improved | pass |
| No new shares issued | fail |
| Gross margin improved | fail |
| Asset turnover improved | pass |

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| Cash, filings, liquidity | |
|---|---|
| Cash and equivalents | $9.3M |
| Operating cash flow, four quarters | $1.0B |
| Months of runway | not finite |
| Days since last periodic filing | 6 (10-Q received Nov 4, 2026) |
| Median daily dollar volume, 63 sessions | $94.8M |

## Sources

*every fact behind the inputs; each row links to its filing index on sec.gov*

| # | Concept | XBRL tag | Value | Period end | Received | Form | Accession |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | operating income | us-gaap:OperatingIncomeLoss | $323.2M | 2018-12-31 | 2021-03-01 | 10-K | 21-000081 |
| 2 | pretax income | us-gaap:IncomeLossFromContinuingOperationsBeforeInc... | $178.3M | 2018-12-31 | 2021-03-01 | 10-K | 21-000081 |
| 3 | income tax | us-gaap:IncomeTaxExpenseBenefit | -$13.7M | 2018-12-31 | 2021-03-01 | 10-K | 21-000081 |
| 4 | total debt | us-gaap:LongTermDebtAndCapitalLeaseObligations | $2.6B | 2018-12-31 | 2020-02-28 | 10-K | 20-000005 |
| 5 | book equity | us-gaap:StockholdersEquity | $2.0B | 2018-12-31 | 2020-02-28 | 10-K | 20-000005 |
| 6 | cash | us-gaap:CashAndCashEquivalentsAtCarryingValue | $3.6M | 2018-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 7 | total debt | us-gaap:LongTermDebtAndCapitalLeaseObligations | $2.1B | 2017-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 8 | book equity | us-gaap:StockholdersEquity | $2.0B | 2017-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 9 | cash | us-gaap:CashAndCashEquivalentsAtCarryingValue | $4.2M | 2017-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 10 | net income | us-gaap:NetIncomeLoss | $616.4M | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 11 | operating cash flow | us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities | $1.0B | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 12 | assets | us-gaap:Assets | $19.5B | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 13 | assets | us-gaap:Assets | $18.0B | 2024-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 14 | depreciation amortization | us-gaap:DepreciationDepletionAndAmortization | $146.7M | 2018-12-31 | 2021-03-01 | 10-K | 21-000081 |
| 15 | operating income | us-gaap:OperatingIncomeLoss | $921.0M | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 16 | interest expense | us-gaap:InterestExpense | $329.1M | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 17 | current assets | us-gaap:AssetsCurrent | $610.4M | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 18 | current liabilities | us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent | $764.5M | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 19 | revenue | us-gaap:Revenues | $2.5B | 2025-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 20 | revenue | us-gaap:Revenues | $2.1B | 2024-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 21 | revenue | us-gaap:Revenues | $2.1B | 2023-12-31 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 22 | revenue | us-gaap:Revenues | $2.3B | 2022-12-31 | 2025-02-27 | 10-K | 25-000036 |
| 23 | operating cash flow | us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities | $368.5M | 2018-12-31 | 2021-03-01 | 10-K | 21-000081 |
| 24 | capital expenditure | us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment | $495.7M | 2018-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 25 | operating cash flow | us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities | $381.3M | 2017-12-31 | 2020-02-28 | 10-K | 20-000005 |
| 26 | capital expenditure | us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment | $478.1M | 2017-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 27 | operating cash flow | us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities | $396.2M | 2016-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 28 | capital expenditure | us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment | $383.0M | 2016-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 29 | operating cash flow | us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities | $370.8M | 2015-12-31 | 2018-02-28 | 10-K | 18-000003 |
| 30 | capital expenditure | us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment | $364.7M | 2015-12-31 | 2018-02-28 | 10-K | 18-000003 |
| 31 | current assets | us-gaap:AssetsCurrent | $147.2M | 2018-12-31 | 2020-02-28 | 10-K | 20-000005 |
| 32 | current liabilities | us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent | $399.0M | 2018-12-31 | 2020-02-28 | 10-K | 20-000005 |
| 33 | current assets | us-gaap:AssetsCurrent | $131.2M | 2017-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 34 | current liabilities | us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent | $284.5M | 2017-12-31 | 2019-02-26 | 10-K | 19-000002 |
| 35 | assets | us-gaap:Assets | $16.8B | 2023-12-31 | 2025-02-27 | 10-K | 25-000036 |
| 36 | assets | us-gaap:Assets | $15.7B | 2022-12-31 | 2024-02-29 | 10-K | 24-000047 |
| 37 | shares outstanding | dei:EntityCommonStockSharesOutstanding | 283,117,816 | 2026-02-19 | 2026-02-26 | 10-K | 26-000050 |
| 38 | shares outstanding | dei:EntityCommonStockSharesOutstanding | 274,922,770 | 2025-02-24 | 2025-02-27 | 10-K | 25-000036 |

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