

Audax Renovables

EQUITY - SPAINSector: Electric Utilities

Closing price: EUR 1.29 (28 Feb 2024) Report date: 29 Feb 2024 (10:05h) 12m Results 2023
Independent Equity Research

12m Results 2023

Opinion (1): In line

Impact (1): We will maintain our estimates

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Business description

Audax Renovables (ADX) is an independent energy group whose core business is the supply of electricity and gas, focused on the Industrial and SME segment (c. 71% y 29%, respectively of the TWh sold) with an international presence. It has 263MW of installed capacity, 66MW under construction and 626MW of PV at various stages of development.

Market Data

Market Cap (Mn EUR and USD)	568.0	615.4	
EV (Mn EUR and USD) (2)	864.5	936.7	
Shares Outstanding (Mn)	440.3		
-12m (Max/Med/Mín EUR)	1.40 / 1.2	4 / 1.03	
Daily Avg volume (-12m Mn EUR)	0.31		
Rotation ⁽³⁾	13.9		
Factset / Bloomberg	ADX-ES /	ADX SM	
Close fiscal year	31-Dec		

Shareholders Structure (%)

José Elías Navarro	74.9
Indumenta Pueri	5.9
Treasury Stocks	0.2
Free Float	19.0

Relative performance (Base 100)



Stock performance (%)

	-1m	-3m	-12m	-5Y
Absolute	-2.6	3.7	-7.9	-46.7
vs Ibex 35	-3.8	3.0	-14.1	-50.9
vs Ibex Small Cap Index	-1.0	3.8	0.4	-53.8
vs Eurostoxx 50	-7.5	-7.7	-20.1	-64.0
vs Sector benchmark(4)	2.7	11.6	-3.8	-53.7

- (1) The opinion regarding the results is on reported EBITDA with respect to our estimate for the year (12m). The impact reflects whether, due to the results, we envisage a significant revision (>5% 10%, depending on the sector) of our EBITDA estimate (for any of the estimated years).
- (2) Please refer to Appendix 2.
- (3) Rotation is the % of the capitalisation traded 12m.
- (4) vs Stoxx Europe 600 Utilities.

(*) Unless otherwise indicated, all the information contained in this report is based on: The Company, Factset and Lighthouse.

2023 results in line. We are looking for similar EBITDA in 2024e

TOPLINE SLUMP (ANTICIPATED) (-12.9% VS 2022) ON THE BACK OF LOWER PRICES...

ADX reported FY23 revenue of EUR 2.29Bn (-12.9% vs 2022), totally in line with our estimates. The (expected) slump was driven by the drop in energy prices year-on-year (of 53% in electricity and 65% in gas in ADX's operating markets), hitting sales particularly hard in Spain and Portugal, where revenue fell to EUR 733.9Mn (-42% vs 2022). That contraction was partially offset by a better performance in ADX's other markets (EUR 1.56Bn; +14% vs 2022). The volume of energy supplied increased by 5% (vs 2022) to 13.8 TWh.

... BUT THE GROSS MARGIN WIDENED BY 4.8PP VS 2022 (GROSS PROFIT: 236.3MN).

The gross margin widened to 10.3% (gross profit of EUR 236.3Mn; vs 5.5% and 9.7% in 2022 and 9M23, respectively), thanks mainly to stronger earnings in the other European markets (gross profit of EUR 134.3Mn vs EUR 55.0Mn in 2022; +144%). In Spain & Portugal, gross profit increased by 16% to EUR 102.0Mn thanks to the focus on raising the profitability of the customer portfolio.

SHARP GROWTH IN EBITDA TO EUR 96.1MN (VS 54.1MN IN 2022), IN LINE WITH

OUR ESTIMATES. The improvement in the supply business pushed EBITDA to EUR 96.1Mn in 2023. That business accounted for 85% of total EBITDA (vs 58% in 2022), i.e., c.EUR 81.7Mn (vs EUR 31.4Mn in 2022), thanks mainly to the growth in earnings in Netherlands and Hungary (due to a strategic focus on SMEs, astute price setting and entry into the Hungarian gas market).

NET DEBT: EUR 241.3MN (VS EUR 346MN IN 2022). Net debt at year-end stood at EUR 241.3Mn (vs EUR 346Mn and EUR 272Mn at the December 2022 and September 2023 closes, respectively, excluding IFRS 16 and current and non-current borrowings from related parties of EUR 36.3Mn). Which makes a ND/recurring EBITDA 2024e ratio of c.2.4x feasible.

IN SHORT, SIGNIFICANT MARGIN EXPANSION (AS FORESHADOWED). WE ARE LOOKING FOR MORE OF THE SAME IN 2024E. The 2023 results confirm the sharp improvement in profitability observed right throughout 2023. We think the company can defend this level of profitability in 2024e: there is still some upside as the key levers have yet to run their course (focus on more profitable customers, especially in Hungary). Earnings should continue to be a positive catalyst. Our estimates point to EBITDA of c.EUR 101Mn in 2024e and c.EUR 106Mn in 2025e, implying EV/EBITDA multiples of 8.6x and 8.2x, respectively (vs 8.3x and 7.4x for its comps on 2024e and 2025e earnings, respectively).

Table 1. Pipeline

		Grid	Environment		Under			
MW	Early Stage	Connection	al approval	Backlog	Construction	Operation	Total	%
Spain	0	0	6	210	66	151	433	45%
Portugal	0	0	0	211	0	0	211	22%
Italy	0	170	0	29	0	0	199	21%
France	0	0	0	0	0	12	12	1%
Poland	0	0	0	0	0	34	34	4%
Panama*	0	0	0	0	0	66	66	7%
TOTAL	0	170	6	450	66	263	955	100%

^{*} Audax has a 30% stake in the Panama wind farm (equity accounted)





Appendix 1. Results table

EUR Mn	12m23 Real	12m22	12m23 Real vs 12m22	2023e	12m23 Real vs 2023e
Total Revenues	2,293.2	2,633.0	-12.9%	2,314.8	-0.9%
Gross Margin	236.3	143.8	64.3%	205.0	15.2%
Gross Margin/Revenues	10.3%	5.5%	4.8 p.p.	8.9%	1.4 p.p.
Recurrent EBITDA	99.3	51.7	92.2%	93.5	6.2%
Rec. EBITDA/Revenues	4.3%	2.1%	2.3 p.p.	4.0%	0.3 p.p.
EBITDA	96.1	54.1	77.6%	93.5	2.8%
EBITDA/Revenues	4.2%	2.1%	2.1 p.p.	4.0%	0.2 p.p.
EBIT	75.1	32.3	132.6%	73.0	2.9%
NP	29.0	3.5	n.a.	36.1	-19.7%
Supply points (thousand)	363	387	-6.2%		
Energy supplied (TWh)	13.8	13.1	5.3%		
MW in operation ¹	197	179	10.1%		
Electricity generation (GWh) ¹	279	258	8.1%		
Net Debt	241.3	345.6	-30.2%		

⁽¹⁾ Note 1: Installed capacity (MW) and energy generated (GWh) excluding the wind farm in Panamá (66MW, with a 30% stake; equity accounted).

Appendix 2. EV breakdown at the date of this report

	EUR Mn	Source
Market Cap	568.0	
+ Minority Interests	12.0	12m Results 2023
+ Provisions & Other L/T Liabilities	72.4	12m Results 2023
+ Net financial debt	241.3	12m Results 2023
- Financial Investments +/- Others	29.2	12m Results 2023
Enterprise Value (EV)	864.5	

⁽²⁾ Note 2: Net debt adjusted to strip out the impact of IFRS 16 and debt with related companies on a short-term and long-term basis.



LIGHTHOUSE

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Notes and Reports History

Date of report	Recommendation	Price (EUR)	Target price (EUR)	Period of validity	Reason for report	Analyst
29-Feb-2024	n.a.	1.29	n.a.	n.a.	12m Results 2023	Enrique Andrés Abad, CFA
13-Nov-2023	n.a.	1.12	n.a.	n.a.	9m Results 2023 - Estimates upgrade	Enrique Andrés Abad, CFA
29-Sep-2023	n.a.	1.27	n.a.	n.a.	6m Results 2023	Enrique Andrés Abad, CFA
12-Jun-2023	n.a.	1.25			Small & Micro Caps (Spain)	David López Sánchez
			n.a.	n.a.		•
12-May-2023	n.a.	1.30	n.a.	n.a.	3m Results 2023 - Estimates upgrade	David López Sánchez
27-Feb-2023	n.a.	1.30	n.a.	n.a.	12m Results 2022	David López Sánchez
16-Nov-2022	n.a.	0.89	n.a.	n.a.	9m Results 2022	David López Sánchez
03-Oct-2022	n.a.	0.84	n.a.	n.a.	6m Results 2022	David López Sánchez
13-May-2022	n.a.	1.19	n.a.	n.a.	3m Results 2022	David López Sánchez
01-Mar-2022	n.a.	1.30	n.a.	n.a.	12m Results 2021	David López Sánchez
16-Nov-2021	n.a.	1.30	n.a.	n.a.	9m Results 2021	David López Sánchez
01-Oct-2021	n.a.	1.50	n.a.	n.a.	6m Results 2021	David López Sánchez
14-May-2021	n.a.	1.94	n.a.	n.a.	3m Results 2021	David López Sánchez
02-Mar-2021	n.a.	2.04	n.a.	n.a.	12m Results 2020	David López Sánchez
12-Nov-2020	n.a.	2.07	n.a.	n.a.	9m Results 2020	David López Sánchez
13-Oct-2020	n.a.	2.09	n.a.	n.a.	Estimates downgrade	David López Sánchez
24-Sep-2020	n.a.	1.73	n.a.	n.a.	6m Results 2020	David López Sánchez
14-May-2020	n.a.	1.95	n.a.	n.a.	3m Results 2020	David López Sánchez
28-Feb-2020	n.a.	2.44	n.a.	n.a.	12m Results 2019	David López Sánchez
14-Nov-2019	n.a.	2.13	n.a.	n.a.	9m Results 2019	David López Sánchez
24-Sep-2019	n.a.	1.70	n.a.	n.a.	Initiation of Coverage	David López Sánchez

