

# Report of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The Governance Committee is primarily responsible for corporate governance matters affecting the Company and its subsidiaries. The Governance Committee has four members and is composed entirely of non-employee directors all of whom the Board has determined to be independent pursuant to the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”). The current chair of the Governance Committee is Jean L. Wojtowicz, who is also the Lead Director. The Governance Committee met three times during the past year. At its meetings, the Governance Committee conducted an executive session without management present.

## Scope of Responsibilities

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The Governance Committee has a number of significant responsibilities which are set forth in its charter posted at [www.vectren.com](http://www.vectren.com), including:

- Serving as a conduit for shareholders and other interested parties to communicate with the non-employee members of the Board regarding nominees and other matters affecting Company business;
- Overseeing the succession planning process for the office of chief executive officer, senior management and the primary leadership of the Company’s subsidiaries;
- Monitoring other corporate governance matters, including periodically reviewing the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation as they relate to corporate governance;
- Formulating recommendations concerning the composition, organization and functions of the Board and its committees;
- Overseeing the succession planning process for the Board, including identifying and selecting qualified nominees for election to the Board, as well as assessing the viewpoint, background and demographics of nominees, and whether their presence on the Board would contribute to the overall diversity of the Board;
- Recommending programs for continuing Board member education and development;
- Establishing qualification criteria for service as a member of the Board, including “independence”;
- Assessing the contributions of existing members of the Board for reelection;
- Monitoring the effectiveness and functioning of the Board and its various committees;
- Approving management participation on compensated third party boards of directors; and
- Establishing compensation for non-employee members of the Board.

## 2016 Accomplishments

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Throughout the year, the Governance Committee gathered, assessed, and, as appropriate, acted upon information relating to corporate governance, including governance-related items described in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (“Sarbanes-Oxley”), the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (“Dodd-Frank”), and those regulatory changes affecting listed companies established by the NYSE and SEC. These efforts by the Governance Committee are ongoing. As a result of this continuous oversight, over the past several years, and at the recommendation of the Governance Committee, the Board has allowed the Company’s shareholder rights plan to expire without renewal, declassified the board, adopted a majority Board election standard, established rigorous processes relating to the role of the Lead Director and generally sought to be responsive to public pronouncements regarding good governance practices.

As part of the Governance Committee’s effort to follow best practices with respect to corporate governance matters, during 2016, the Committee continued to evaluate the Board’s role in interacting with the company’s shareholders. In this regard, the full Board, based upon the unanimous recommendation of the Governance Committee, has adopted the principles embodied in the Shareholder Director Exchange (SDX) Protocol, [www.sdxprotocol.com](http://www.sdxprotocol.com), which has established practices for director engagement with institutional shareholders.

As required by its charter, which is posted on the Company’s website at [www.vectren.com](http://www.vectren.com), during the year the Governance Committee conducted an annual review of the Corporate Governance Guidelines applicable to the full Board. Based upon

that review, the Governance Committee concluded that no modifications were currently advisable or necessary. The Corporate Governance Guidelines are posted on the Company's website at [www.vectren.com](http://www.vectren.com).

The Governance Committee is responsible for considering nominees for director, including nominees recommended by shareholders. The policy for director nominations by shareholders is included under "Nomination of Directors by Shareholders" beginning on page 14. The criteria considered by the Governance Committee and the full Board when assessing candidates are contained in the By-Laws and are also set forth in Appendix A of this proxy statement. The criteria considered by the Governance Committee and the Full Board when assessing whether an individual may continue to be a director or re-nominated to serve another term as a director are set forth in Appendix B of this proxy statement.

From time to time, the Lead Director and the Governance Committee receive unsolicited inquiries from individuals interested in serving as a Board member. In the event such inquiries are sent to management, they are then forwarded to the Lead Director. These inquiries are reviewed by the Lead Director in light of the criteria prescribed for director candidates and if the person fails to meet those criteria then no further action is taken by the Lead Director. However, if the person meets those criteria, then the Lead Director will review the submission with the entire Governance Committee. Each inquiry is evaluated on its own merits.

In connection with the 2017 annual meeting, and employing the qualification criteria set forth in the By-Laws, as well as the director retention criteria approved by the Board, the Governance Committee evaluated all of the nominees who are standing for reelection. As a result of that process, the Governance Committee concluded that the full Board should recommend to the shareholders the reelection of the existing directors, with the exception of Mr. Jischke, who is retiring and will not stand for reelection.

During the year, the Governance Committee provided ongoing oversight with respect to each Board member's relationship with the Company and its subsidiaries. This action was required under the "independence" standards for the Board, which were developed by the Governance Committee as required by the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines and approved by the full Board. The director independence standards are set forth and discussed on pages 23-24. Based on these standards, the Board has determined that, with the exception of Mr. Chapman, who is an active employee and serves as the Board chair, president and chief executive officer of the Company, all members of the Board are independent.

During the year, the Governance Committee evaluated each Board member's service on committees in light of the applicable qualification requirements, including additional independence and qualification requirements pertinent to certain of the committees. Based upon this evaluation, the Governance Committee made a recommendation to the full Board regarding the composition and leadership of each committee. Thereafter, that recommendation was adopted by the full Board.

During the year, the Governance Committee oversaw a formal communication process to ensure the Board receives adequate information regarding the actions taken by the boards of directors at the Company's wholly-owned subsidiaries. That process requires regular management updates to the Governance Committee regarding such actions.

During the year, the Governance Committee continued with the administration of the succession planning and talent development processes for the Company's management and the primary leadership of the Company's subsidiaries and affiliates. The Governance Committee believes that actively engaging in these efforts is critical to the Company's long-term management continuity preparedness. Succession planning and talent development are ongoing processes applicable to management positions across the Company and are an integral part of the Company's normal personnel planning activities. Presentations are regularly provided to the Governance Committee by both external advisors and members of senior management who are charged with direct responsibility for these efforts. In this regard, over the past three years a number of organizational changes have been made resulting in the promotion of two members of management to executive vice president roles, as well as the reallocation of responsibilities among a number of vice presidents, and the creation of new officer roles for certain functions. The succession planning and talent development processes are ongoing and are intended to enhance the professional development of the persons involved, as well as result in better execution of the Company's strategies and processes. The accomplishment of these outcomes is the subject of continuing oversight by the Governance Committee as it administers these processes. On a regular basis, updates on this subject are provided to the full Board and as part of the executive session segments of Board meetings there is a further opportunity for a discussion of this subject among the independent members of the Board.

During the year, the Governance Committee reviewed the slate of individuals to serve as officers for the Company and recommended that the full Board elect the officers to their respective positions in June of 2016. This review and recommendation was done in light of the Governance Committee's ongoing assessment of the succession planning and talent development processes described above. The Governance Committee also reviewed responsibilities within the management group and determined the individuals who should be deemed to be insiders for purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

During the year, the Governance Committee evaluated the leadership strengths of the Board, and affirmed the previously made determination to continue to consolidate the roles of Board chair and chief executive officer into a single position, as

well as continue the Lead Director position with its attendant role and responsibilities. Mr. Chapman has served as Board chair since the 2011 annual meeting. Ms. Wojtowicz has served as the Lead Director since last year's annual meeting, at which time her predecessor retired from the Board. The organizational structure of the board is discussed more fully on page 15.

Under the oversight of the Governance Committee, formal Board development activities were undertaken during the year. The Board conducted two multi-day development sessions where they heard presentations from various internal and external professionals regarding important issues affecting the Company and its subsidiary companies, including with respect to corporate governance matters, cybersecurity, the state of energy commodity prices, environmental regulations, regulatory and ratemaking matters and other industry developments and trends. Some members of the Board also attended training activities focused on the development of director skills.

The Governance Committee is charged with oversight of compensation for the non-employee members of the Board. Annually, the Governance Committee directs the preparation of an analysis of the continuing market competitiveness of that compensation. During 2016, the Governance Committee had such an analysis prepared by Hay Group, which is also the independent compensation consultant employed by the Compensation Committee. The analysis included a review of the Board's total compensation system, which consists of an annual board retainer, committee chair retainers, and equity grants. The analysis primarily relied upon a review of industry market data, as well as comparative data from the group of companies within the industry peer group that has been used by the Company to measure its performance and used by the Compensation Committee when establishing executive compensation. Based upon the analysis and review of current market data, it was the conclusion of the independent consultant that the compensation provided to outside directors was below both the average and the median for the Company's peer group. In August of 2016, the Governance Committee took action in response to the conclusions reached by the independent compensation consultant and recommended an adjustment to director compensation. That recommendation was adopted by the Board at its September 2016 meeting, with an effective date of January 1, 2017. The specifics of director compensation are more fully discussed on pages 17-19 under the heading "Director Compensation." In 2017, the Governance Committee anticipates another review of the on-going market competitiveness of director compensation to ensure its continued alignment with the marketplace.

As the plan administrator of the Company's At-Risk Plan with respect to compensation for non-employee members of the Board, the Governance Committee authorized annual grants of restricted stock units for directors effective as of January 1, 2017. The grant amounts align with advice received from the independent compensation consultant engaged by the Governance Committee. The role of equity compensation as part of the total compensation provided to non-employee directors is more fully discussed beginning on page 17.

Under the direction of the Lead Director, who is also the chair of the Governance Committee, the Board has developed a strengths and experiences matrix that is a foundation for the performance evaluation and director succession planning processes to ensure the Board is composed of individuals with the right skills and experiences to oversee the Company's operations. The matrix is regularly evaluated to ensure the identified desired strengths and experiences reflect the Board's current and expected talent needs. As part of this effort, the directors perform a self-evaluation of their respective strengths and experiences, which were then vetted by the Lead Director and Board Chair and discussed with the full board during an executive session segment of a Board meeting.

Early in 2017, the chair of the Governance Committee administered the annual Board performance evaluation process pursuant to which the Board critiqued its performance. It is the policy of the Board to undertake this action in the first quarter of every year. Under the direction of the Lead Director, the annual performance evaluation process entails individual sessions between the Lead Director and each member of the Board during which directors provide commentary with respect to their performance and contributions, as well as the performance and contributions by peer directors, and a full Board performance assessment. The results of these discussions are initially analyzed by the Lead Director. Following that analysis, the Lead Director summarizes the results, including her observations relative to where the Board is situated in light of the strengths and experiences matrix. The comments of individual directors are maintained in strict confidentiality to encourage full and frank commentary on all aspects of the Board's performance. Once this summary is complete, the Lead Director: 1) reviews the results with the Board chair, 2) then she reviews those results with the Governance Committee, and 3) finally, she provides the full Board with the findings and any recommended actions, as well as a summary of the survey results. In response, and under the supervision and direction of the Governance Committee, senior management develops an action plan that is intended to respond to issues raised during this process. The Board's annual performance evaluation is seen as an opportunity to review the past year and consider contributions, successes and opportunities for development. The process is also integral to the execution of the Board succession planning process since the conclusions reached help the Governance Committee and the full Board determine whether and when it is advisable to refresh the composition of the Board. In light of this robust annual performance evaluation process, during the year the Governance Committee and the full Board confirmed the prior determination to not employ a director tenure policy, which would limit the service of valuable Board members. The Board does have a retirement policy pursuant to which, absent a waiver from the independent directors, a director may not remain a Board member longer than the term of office during which he or she turns age 75.

At the February 2017 meeting, the Governance Committee confirmed that all Board committees had complied with their respective charters during 2016. The Governance Committee will continue to oversee any future recommended revisions to Board committee charters to ensure that the apportionment of responsibilities among the committees is appropriate.

## Share Ownership Policy for Non-Employee Directors

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Our Company's share ownership policy requires non-employee directors to meet share ownership targets. The Governance Committee adopted that policy in 2000 and it provides a five-year transition period for non-employee directors to comply with their applicable share ownership targets. The Board expects the covered persons to make ratable progress toward compliance each year. The program includes these key features:

- Participants who are non-employee directors have a share ownership target based on a multiple of five times their annual cash retainer, which calculated as of January 1, 2017, equaled \$400,000. As of February 28, 2017, all of the non-employee directors, excluding Mr. Mullen and Ms. Tanner who are in the transitional five-year compliance period, exceeded the established ownership requirements. The Governance Committee reviews non-employee director stock ownership on an annual basis.
- A participant may count toward his or her target the value of owned shares, phantom units of our stock in our nonqualified deferred compensation plans, and outstanding restricted shares and stock unit awards, with value based on the market price of our common stock.

For non-employee directors who have not met their ownership target at the time a stock unit award is settled under the At-Risk Plan, the above policy provides that the award will be settled in shares of Company common stock (unless such non-employee director previously elected to defer such amounts into the Company's Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan).

In 2016, the Governance Committee, with assistance from the Hay Group, confirmed the reasonableness of the director share ownership guidelines from a market perspective and concluded that they are, in fact, in line with the market. The Governance Committee anticipates reviewing the continuing appropriateness of the guidelines again in 2017.

## Annual Committee Charter Review and Performance Evaluation

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As required by the Governance Committee's charter, during the year, the Committee reviewed its charter and determined that no changes were necessary or advisable. Also, as required by the Governance Committee's charter, the Governance Committee conducted an annual performance evaluation, the results of which have been discussed among the members.

## Director Independence Standards

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In determining director independence, the Board considers broadly all relevant facts and circumstances, including the corporate governance listing standards of the NYSE, which are summarized below. The Board considers the issue not merely from the perspective of the particular director, but also from the perspective of persons or organizations with which the director has an affiliation. An independent director must be free of any relationship with the Company that impairs the director's ability to make independent judgments, including indirectly as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company.

At a minimum, in making the independence determination, the Board applies the following standards, and it also considers any other relationships it deems relevant. A director will not be considered independent if any of the following criteria apply:

1. The director is, or has been within the last three years, an employee of the Company, or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, an executive officer,<sup>1</sup> of the Company.

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of this standard, the term "executive officer" has the same meaning specified for the term "officer" in Rule 16a-1(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

2. The director has received, or has an immediate family member who has received, during any twelve-month period within the last three years, more than \$120,000 in direct compensation from the Company, other than director and committee chair fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service).
3. The director a) is a current partner or employee of a firm that is the Company's internal or external auditor; b) has an immediate family member who is a current partner of such a firm; c) has an immediate family member who is a current employee of such a firm and personally works on the Company's audit; d), or an immediate family member, was within the last three years a partner or employee of such a firm and personally worked on the Company's audit within that time.
4. The director or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, employed as an executive officer of another company at which any of the Company's present executive officers at the same time serves or served on that company's compensation committee.
5. The director is a current employee, or an immediate family member is a current executive officer, of a company that has made payments to, or received payments from, the Company for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million, or 2% of such other company's consolidated gross revenues.

The NYSE listing standards require that the Board affirmatively determine that a director has no material relationship at the Company. In determining whether a particular director satisfied the independence criteria, the Governance Committee considered the following transactions:

- In 2016, the Company had banking relationships with Old National Bank, of which Mr. Jones is President and Chief Executive Officer. The total fees paid for those relationships, which consist of approximately \$76,000, represent a very small percentage of Old National Bank's 2016 revenues. These fees were solely transactional fees and included: \$17,000 in payments for participation in the \$600 million VUHI and Capital Corp. syndicated credit facilities at the level of \$15 million; and \$59,000 for bank account service charges related to provision of the Vectren payroll account, which serves several subsidiary companies, provision of an account processing Vectren South residential customer utility payments, provision of the billings lockbox account for certain Vectren Energy Delivery projects, and provision of the checking account used in connection with a not-for-profit energy payment assistance fund. In addition, Old National Bank purchased approximately \$1.54 million of utility services from the Company, which also did not represent a significant percentage of Old National Bank's revenues or the Company's revenues.
- In 2016, the Company had banking relationships with Fifth Third Bank, of which Ms. Tanner is Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer. The total fees paid for those relationships, which consist of approximately \$285,000, represent a very small percentage of Fifth Third Bank's 2016 revenues. These fees were solely transactional fees and included: \$73,000 in payments for participation in the \$600 million VUHI and Capital Corp. syndicated credit facilities at the level of \$65 million; a \$8,000 payment for provision of a Vectren Corporation letter of credit totaling about \$900,000; and \$73,000 for bank account service charges related to provision of Vectren South operating accounts, which process customer payments and expenses, provision for two temporary operating accounts for expenses related to certain Vectren South air quality capital improvement projects, and provision for three non-utility operating functions: Energy Systems Group, LLC accounts, an Employee Political Action Committee account and an account that supports Vectren's Foundation. Additionally, there are three pension trust funds (Pension Plan for Hourly Employees of Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company; Indiana Gas Company, Inc., Bargaining Unity Retirement Plan; and Vectren Corporation Combined Non-Bargaining Retirement Plan), which, collectively, paid approximately \$131,000 in market-based fees to Fifth Third Bank for the management of a bond fund that is one of 15 funds currently in the trust funds' portfolios and represents 15% of their total assets. Fifth Third Bank also purchased \$590,000 of utility services from the Company, which did not represent a significant percentage of Fifth Third Bank's revenues or the Company's revenues.

## Selection and Evaluation of Director Candidates

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All director candidates must meet the requirements established by the Governance Committee from time to time and the director qualification standards included in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines. Candidates are reviewed in the context of the current composition of the Board, the operating requirements of the Company and the long-term interests of shareholders. As discussed earlier in this report, the Governance Committee utilizes a collective strengths and experiences matrix to continuously assess the composition of the Board to ensure the membership collectively possess the attributes needed to function at a high level. In considering director nominees, the Governance Committee employs a holistic approach to diversity, taking into consideration factors that affect a candidate's life and work experiences, including, racial, ethnic, social, economic, educational, professional, geographic and community experiences. In discharging this responsibility, the

Governance Committee assesses the viewpoint, background and demographics of the candidates. The Governance Committee seeks to create a board that is strong in identity diversity, as well as having a collective knowledge and diversity of skills and experience with respect to accounting and finance, management and leadership, vision and strategy, business operations, business judgment, industry knowledge, corporate governance, public company exposure, technology, legal matters, community relationships and other factors the Governance Committee deems appropriate. When considering a candidate, the Governance Committee looks specifically at the candidate's qualifications in light of the needs of the Board and the Company at that time, given the then current mix of director attributes, including the matters discussed above. Specific selection criteria are set forth in the By-Laws and are also included in Appendix A.

## Commitment

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The Governance Committee is committed to ensuring that the Company implements and follows corporate governance principles that fulfill its responsibilities under its charter and to enhance, where appropriate, the Company's corporate governance practices. The Governance Committee anticipates meeting at least three times in 2017.

### **NOMINATING AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Jean L. Wojtowicz, *Chair*,  
James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr.,  
Patrick K. Mullen, and  
Michael L. Smith