

The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Rating Report

The Hub Power Company Limited | PPCP

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Rating History							
Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch		
25-Sep-2019	AA+	A1+	Stable	Preliminary	-		

Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers

The rating reflects the holding company character of Hubco with an exclusive focus on the different dimension of the energy sector. In addition to the investment book, Hubco itself is a large RFO based power plant. Hubco aims to expand generation capacity to boost the country's power generation by utilizing Pakistan's indigenous natural resources. Hubco is setting up new coal power plants (i) China Power Hub Generation Company (CPHGC): 2x660MW coal fired power plant at Hub, (ii) Thar Energy Limited (TEL): 330MW mine-mouth coal fired power plant at Thar and (iii) Thalnova Power: 330MW mine-mouth coal fired power plant at Thar. CPHGC is being developed under a joint venture with China Power International Holdings Limited (CPIHL). Hubco also has investment in Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC). These investments are being funded through a mix of short term and long term debt. The proportion of debt in the funding plan is predominant when compared to fresh equity of PKR 7bln. Hubco has working capital related borrowing as well. Hubco is issuing another commercial paper upto PKR 5bln, which is effectively a replacement of an earlier commercial paper due in Oct-19. The overall debt quantum in the wake of fresh investment is huge. The cash flows of the company can sustain the burden, which will be complemented by expected dividend inflows. The cash flows are taking positive benefit for the enhanced capacity payments, emanating from quarterly indexation. The management has forecasted sizable net cash position, reflecting dividend inflow from subsidiaries; materialization of same is crucial. Hubco pays dividend, which in an eventuality is an available resource, as evidenced by recent history. Hubco has used short term debt instruments and intends to raise borrowing through privately placed sukuk. These streams are already accounted for in the funding plan.

Cash flow streams of Hubco's plants are guaranteed by GoP under the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), subject to adherence to the agreed upon performance benchmarks; this provides comfort to the ratings. Timely completion of new projects, settlement of receivable and payable and maintaining healthy debt service coverages are important.

Disclosure						
Name of Rated Entity	The Hub Power Company Limited PPCP					
Type of Relationship Solicited						
Purpose of the Rating Debt Instrument Rating						
Applicable Criteria	PACRA_Methodology_Debt Instrument_FY19(Jun-19),PACRA_Methodology_IPP_FY19(Jun-19),PACRA_Criteria_Rating Modifiers_FY19(Jun-19)					
Related Research	Sector Study Power(Jan-19)					
Rating Analysts	Faizan Arif faizan.sufi@pacra.com +92-42-35869504					



Power

The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Profile

Plant: The Hub Power Company Limited (Hub Power) consists of four generating units, each comprises of 323 MW gross outputs, with an oil-fired single re-heat boiler. Company has submitted a plan in May-19 to the government to convert furnace oil-fired plant into a coal-fired power plant prior to expiry of Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in 2027.

Tariff: The company negotiated revision in generation tariff with National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) in June 2012. Generation reference tariff (levelized tariff for years 1-25) is US 18.6-cents/ KWh as approved by NEPRA.

Return On Project: The policy IRR of Hub Power, as agreed with NEPRA is 12%.

Ownership

Ownership Structure: Mega Conglomerate Private Limited (19%) is the single largest shareholder, followed by Allied Bank Limited (10%), Fauji Foundation (9%) and National Bank Pakistan (5%). The remaining shareholding is held by various Financial Institutions, Joint Stock Companies and general public.

Stability Stability in the IPPs is drawn from the agreements signed between the company and power purchaser. However, sponsors association with Mega Conglomerate and Fauji Foundation group will continue to provide comfort.

Business Acumen: Mega Conglomerate having a diversified experience with presence in shipping, logistics, real estate development, cement, energy and food sector. Financial Strength: Mega Conglomerate has a strong consolidated asset base of PKR 65bln supported by an equity base of PKR 15bln as at June'18. Consolidated revenue and profit stood at PKR115bln and PKR 1.1bln, respectively. Group's total revenue is PKR 116bln with net profit of PKR 14bln.

Governance

Board Structure: The Company's Board of Directors comprises of eleven Directors, The Board's efficacy is strengthened by the presence of an executive director, the CEO. **Members' Profile:** Directors having strong professional profile along with diversified experience assists the management in terms of strategic guidance and implementation of strong control framework.

Board Effectiveness: For effective oversight of the matters the board has formed three board committees. (i) Board audit Committee (ii) Board Investment Committee and (iii) Board Compensation Committee. The company displays relevant information on website, stock exchange and financial reports in proper way.

Financial Transparency: Ernst & Young Ford Rhodes Sidat Hyder is the external auditor of the company. The auditor has given unqualified opinion on company's financial Statement as at 30th June 2018.

Management

Organizational Structure: Hub Power deploys a lean organizational structure. Six functions including Finance, Corporate services, Operations, and Audit report directly to CEO. The company's department – Manufacturing Excellence (MAX) – is responsible for improving the efficiency of the organization. **Management Team:** Mr. Khalid Mansoor is appointed as the CEO of the company, in May 2013 carrying 36 years of experience in Energy & Petrochemical Sectors. He is assisted by a team of experience professionals.

Effectiveness: Hub Power management effectiveness plays a significant role in empowering the organization through positive results, which has made decision making process systematic.

Control Environment: Hub Power has in place an efficient MIS reporting system for its operations. The system generates real-time plant production data, enabling efficient monitoring and timely decision making.

Operational Risk

Power Purchase Agreement: Hub Power's key source of earnings is the revenue generated through sale of electricity to the power purchaser, CPPA-G. The Company will receive the capacity payments if it is at the benchmark availability and is ready to provide electricity, even if no purchase order is placed by Power Purchaser. **Operation And Maintenance:** Hub Power has established a wholly owned subsidiary – Hub Power Services Limited (HPSL) – incorporated to manage the O&M in 2015.

Operation And Maintenance: Hub Power has established a wholly owned subsidiary – Hub Power Services Limited (HPSL) – incorporated to manage the O&M in 2015. **Resource Risk:** Pakistan State Oil (PSO) is responsible for supplying RFO under the Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) for 30 years. HUBCO is protected from fuel transportation issues as the company receives fuel directly from PSO.

Insurance Cover: Hub Power has adequate insurance coverage for property damage and business interruption. The insured values for damages include a property damage cover (up to USD 1,733mln) & business interruption cover (up to USD 398mln).

Performance Risk

Industry Dynamics: Pakistan total power generation is increasing on the back of new power projects under CPEC. Going forward, cheap renewable electricity will be a challenge to viability of thermal power plants. During FY18, there has been a growth of ~30% in the actual power generation. Moreover, there has been an increase of ~18% in the installed capacity as at end-Jun18 to 32.613MW (FY17: 27,703MW).

Generation: During 9MFY19, electricity generation decreased by 82% (9MFY19: 682GWH; 9MFY18: 4,150GWH; FY18: 5,201GWH, FY17: 6,793GWH) with average load factor of 9% (9MFY18: 52%). Generation was lower due to the facet of lower power demand on the back of improving energy mix. Hubco is receiving capacity payments despite having zero or minimal generation in the months of Jan, Feb and March 2019.

Performance Benchmark: During 9MFY19, net profit has decreased owing to higher financing costs partly offset by depreciation of Rupee against USD (9MFY19: PKR 5,841mln; 9MFY18: PKR 6,129mln; FY18: PKR 8,565mln; FY17: PKR 8,256mln). Plant availability during 9MFY19 stood at 84% with load factor of 9% and thermal efficiency of 38.3%.

Financial Risk

Financing Structure Analysis: The Hub Power total project cost was \$1.5blr; with US \$175mln from international and local equity investors, US \$689mln from international banks, and the bulk of the rest coming via US \$589mln subordinated loan provided by the World Bank, JEXIM and ECAs. The project debt remained fully paid by the Company. Liquidity Profile: At 9MFY19, total receivables of the company stood at PKR 68,442mln (FY18: PKR 82,311mln; FY17: PKR 73,662mln). Reduction in receivables is due to recently issued sukuk by GoP for the power sector.

Working Capital Financing: Receivable days have surged to 394 days in FY18 (FY17: 342 days) a facet of delayed payments recovery from CPPA-G. Receivables days as of 9MFY19 stood at 513days. Hubco has used short term debt instruments and intends to raise borrowing through a retail bond. Utilization of short term borrowings as of 9MFY19 stood at 93% (FY18: 73%). Short term debt instruments would act as bridging short-term facility to cover the timing difference between investments and cashflow from government. As of 9MFY19 company's long term equity investment stood at PKR 36bln (FY18: PKR 20bln), company through its wholly owned subsidiary Hub Holdings Limited has made an equity investment of PKR 22bln in China Power Hub Generation Company (CPHGC) and Thal Nova Power Ltd. During the period under review company holds 46% equity stake in CPHGC and 38.3% stake in Thal Nova.

Cash Flow Analysis: During the review period, despite improvement in Free cash flows of the company, the debt coverage ratio has declined significantly (9MFY19: 0.6x; FY18: 2.1x; FY17: 1.5x) on account of increased interest expense. Free cash flows as of 9MFY19 stood at PKR 8,324mln (FY18: PKR 10,478mln; FY17: PKR 13,381mln). Capitalization: Hub Power leverage increased on the back recently issued commercial papers to finance equity investment in coal based power plants (Debt: equity; 9MFY19:

71%; FY18: 65%; FY17: 59%; FY16: 57%). Further drawdown from availed facility to invest equity in its subsidiary may cause leveraging to increase further.

About the Instrument

Hubco is in a process of issuing another unsecured, privately placed commercial paper upto PKR 5,000mln to finance Company's working capital requirements. Instrument will be issued at discounted value. The Commercial Paper, having a tenor of six months, carries a profit rate of 6MK + 150 bps. The redemption of the instrument will be in bullet at the time of maturity.



Power Financials (Summary)

The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

The Hub Power Company Limited (Hubco) BALANCE SHEET	31-Mar-19	30-Jun-18	PKRmli 30-Jun-17
DALANCE SHEET	9M	Annual	
	9111	Ainiuai	Annual
Non-Current Assets	14,172	15,477	17,440
Investments (Others)	36,215	20,679	11,174
Current Assets	82,022	100,462	86,369
Inventory	3,493	7,643	4,746
Trade Receivables	68,442	82,684	73,662
Other Current Assets	9,785	9,708	6,737
Cash & Bank Balances	302	427	1,223
Total Assets	132,409	136,617	114,983
Debt	54,947	36,424	27,867
Short-term	32,578	21,776	20,091
Long-term (Incl. Current Maturity of long-term debt)	22,369	14,648	7,777
Other Short term liabilities (inclusive of trade payables)	55,040	80,367	67,630
Other Long term Liabilities	-	-	-
Shareholder's Equity	22,423	19,827	19,486
Total Liabilities & Equity	132,409	136,617	114,983
INCOME STATEMENT	31-Mar-19	30-Jun-18	30-Jun-17
Turnover	27,771	76,676	78,590
Gross Profit	8,438	9,803	9,317
Other Operating Expense	(547)	(900)	(615
Other Income	1,029	2,119	1,480
Financial Charges	(2,993)	(2,248)	(1,784
Taxation	(86)	(209)	(142
Profit from discontinued operations	-	-	-
Net Income	5,841	8,565	8,256
Cashflow Statement	31-Mar-19	30-Jun-18	30-Jun-17
Free Cashflow from Operations (FCFO)	8,324	10,478	13,381
Net Cash changes in Working Capital	(6,310)	(1,385)	(7,321
Net Cash from Operating Activities	(647)	6,939	3,317
Net Cash from Investing Activities	(14,647)	(7,305)	(224
Net Cash from Financing Activities	15,169	(430)	(8,709
Cash transferred to NEL	-	-	3,558
Net Cash generated during the period	(125)	(796)	(2,058
Ratio Analysis	31-Mar-19	30-Jun-18	30-Jun-17
Performance			
Turnover Growth	-51.5%	-2.4%	-9.1%
Gross Margin	30.4%	12.8%	11.9%
	21.0%	11.2%	10.5%
Net Margin	111.4%	46.9%	39.19
ROE			
ROE Coverages			
ROE Coverages Debt Service Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest+CMLTD)	2.5	2.5	
ROE Coverages Debt Service Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest+CMLTD) Interest Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest)	2.5 2.8	4.7	7.
ROE Coverages Debt Service Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest+CMLTD) Interest Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest) FCFO post WC / Gross Interest +CMLTD	2.5		7.
ROE Coverages Debt Service Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest+CMLTD) Interest Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest) FCFO post WC / Gross Interest +CMLTD Liquidity	2.5 2.8	4.7 2.1	7.
ROE Coverages Debt Service Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest+CMLTD) Interest Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest) FCFO post WC / Gross Interest +CMLTD Liquidity Short Term Borrowings Coverage	2.5 2.8 0.6 n.a.	4.7 2.1 0.4	7 1.: 0.•
ROE Coverages Debt Service Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest+CMLTD) Interest Coverage (X) (FCFO/Gross Interest) FCFO post WC / Gross Interest +CMLTD Liquidity	2.5 2.8 0.6	4.7 2.1	3. 7. 1. 0. 22. 58.9%

The Hub Power Company Limited (Hubco)



Debt Instrument Rating Scale & Definitions

Credit rating reflects forward-looking opinion on credit worthiness of underlying instrument; more specifically it covers relative ability to honor financial obligations. The primary factor being captured on the rating scale is relative likelihood of default.

		primary factor being captured on the	he rating scale is relative	likelihoo	od of d	lefault.			
	Loi	ng Term Ratings				Short Term	Ratings		
	Highest credit quality. Low	vest expectation of credit risk. Indicate	e exceptionally strong		A1+	The highest capacity	for timely repayment.		
AAA		timely payment of financial commitme			A1		acity for timely yment.		
AA+ AA AA-	capacity for timely payment	Very low expectation of credit risk. I of financial commitments. This capaci ulnerable to foreseeable events.		A2	may be susceptible	for timely repayment. This to adverse changes in or financial conditions.			
A+ A A-	A financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be vulnerable					A3 An adequate capacity for timely repayment. Suc capacity is susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.			
A-					В	ely repayment is more se changes in business,			
BBB+ BBB BBB-	BBB payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in					C An inadequate capacity to ensure time repayment.			
BB+ BB BB-	developing, particularly as a	of credit risk developing. There is a por result of adverse economic or busines alternatives may be available to allow to be met.	s changes over time;						
B+ B B-	commitments are currently	ed margin of safety remains against cre being met; however, capacity for cor ined, favorable business and economi	ntinued payment is						
CCC CC CC CC CC CC CC CC CC CC CC CC CC									
D	OI	bligations are currently in default.							
Outlook (Stable, Positive, Negative, Developing) Indicates the potential and direction of a rating over the intermediate term in response to trends in economic and/or fundamental business/financial conditions. It is not necessarily a precursor to a rating change. 'Stable' outlook means a rating is not likely to change. 'Positive' means it may be raised. 'Negative' means it may be lowered. Where the trends have conflicting elements, the outlook may be described as 'Developing'.		Rating Watch Alerts to the possibility of a rating change subsequent to, or in anticipation of, a) some material identifiable event and/or b) deviation from expected trend. But it does not mean that a rating change is inevitable. A watch should be resolved within foreseeable future, but may continue if underlying circumstances are not settled. Rating Watch may accompany Outlook of the respective opinion.	Suspension It is not possible to update an opinion due to lack of requisite information. Opinion should be resumed in foreseeable future. However, if this does not happen within six (6) months, the rating should be considered withdrawn.	on a) t b) ces the de the rat defau impr	termina stion bt inst ing ren onths, lts., or/ actical	A rating is withdrawn ation of rating mandate, of underlying entity, c) rument is redeemed, d) mains suspended for six e) the entity/issuer /and f) PACRA finds it to surveill the opinion of requisite information.	Harmonization A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.		

Disclaimer: PACRA's ratings are an assessment of the credit standing of entities/issue in Pakistan. They do not take into account the potential transfer / convertibility risk that may exist for foreign currency creditors. PACRA's opinion is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold a security, in as much as it does not comment on the security's market price or suitability for a particular investor.

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(1) Rating is just an opinion about the creditworthiness of the entity and does not constitute recommendation to buy, hold or sell any security of the entity rated or to buy, hold or sell the security rated, as the case may be | Chapter III; 14-3-(x)

2) Conflict of Interest

i. The Rating Team or any of their family members have no interest in this rating | Chapter III; 12-2-(j)

ii. PACRA, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee, and their family members, do not have any conflict of interest relating to the rating done by them | Chapter III; 12-2-(e) & (k)

iii. The analyst is not a substantial shareholder of the customer being rated by PACRA [Annexure F; d-(ii)] Explanation: for the purpose of above clause, the term "family members" shall include only those family members who are dependent on the analyst and members of the rating committee

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(4) PACRA does not disclose or discuss with outside parties or make improper use of the non-public information which has come to its knowledge during business relationship with the customer | Chapter III; 10-7-(d)

(5) PACRA does not make proposals or recommendations regarding the activities of rated entities that could impact a credit rating of entity subject to rating | Chapter III; 10-7-(k)

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(6) PACRA fulfills its obligations in a fair, efficient, transparent and ethical manner and renders high standards of services in performing its functions and obligations; | Chapter III; 11-A-(a)

(7) PACRA uses due care in preparation of this Rating Report. Our information has been obtained from sources we consider to be reliable but its accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed. PACRA does not, in every instance, independently verifies or validates information received in the rating process or in preparing this Rating Report.

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(9) PACRA ensures before commencement of the rating process that an analyst or employee has not had a recent employment or other significant business or personal relationship with the rated entity that may cause or may be perceived as causing a conflict of interest; | Chapter III; 11-A-(r) (10) PACRA maintains principal of integrity in seeking rating business | Chapter III; 11-A-(u)

(11) PACRA promptly investigates, in the event of a misconduct or a breach of the policies, procedures and controls, and takes appropriate steps to rectify any weaknesses to prevent any recurrence along with suitable punitive action against the responsible employee(s) | Chapter III; 11-B-(m)

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(12) PACRA receives compensation from the entity being rated or any third party for the rating services it offers. The receipt of this compensation has no influence on PACRA's opinions or other analytical processes. In all instances, PACRA is committed to preserving the objectivity, integrity and independence of its ratings. Our relationship is governed by two distinct mandates i) rating mandate - signed with the entity being rated or issuer of the debt instrument, and fee mandate - signed with the payer, which can be different from the entity

(13) PACRA does not provide consultancy/advisory services or other services to any of its customers or to any of its customers' associated companies and associated undertakings that is being rated or has been rated by it during the preceding three years unless it has adequate mechanism in place ensuring that provision of such services does not lead to a conflict of interest situation with its rating activities; | Chapter III; 12-2-(d)

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(16) PACRA ensures that the analysts or any of their family members shall not buy or sell or engage in any transaction in any security which falls in the analyst's area of primary analytical responsibility. This clause shall, however, not be applicable on investment in securities through collective investment schemes. | Chapter III; 12-2-(1)

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(18) PACRA monitors all the outstanding ratings continuously and any potential change therein due to any event associated with the issuer, the security arrangement, the industry etc., is disseminated to the market, immediately and in effective manner, after appropriate consultation with the entity/issuer; | Chapter III | 18-(a)

(19) PACRA reviews all the outstanding ratings on semi-annual basis or as and when required by any creditor or upon the occurrence of such an event which requires to do so; | Chapter III | 18-(b)

(20) PACRA initiates immediate review of the outstanding rating upon becoming aware of any information that may reasonably be expected to result in downgrading of the rating; | Chapter III | 18-(c)

(21) PACRA engages with the issuer and the debt securities trustee, to remain updated on all information pertaining to the rating of the entity/instrument; | Chapter III | 18-(d)

Probability of Default

(22) PACRA's Rating Scale reflects the expectation of credit risk. The highest rating has the lowest relative likelihood of default (i.e, probability). PACRA's transition studies capture the historical performance behavior of a specific rating notch. Transition behavior of the assigned rating can be obtained from PACRA's Transition Study available at our website. (www.pacra.com). However, actual transition of rating may not follow the pattern observed in the past | Chapter III | 14-(f-VII)

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Regulatory and Supplementary Disclosure

Nature of Instrument	Size of Issue (PKR)	Tenor	Secu	rity	Quantum of Security	Nature of Assets	Trustee	Book Value of Assets		
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Unsecured privately placed Short Term CP	PKR 4,655.3mln	6 months	Unsecured		N/A	N/A	Bank Alfalah Limitd and Arif Habib Limited	N/A		
		Hub Power	Company Limit	ed- Privately Pl	aced Commercial Pa	per				
Name of Issuer	The Hub Power Comp	oany Limited (HUBC	CO)			-				
Issue size	PKR 4655.3mln at Discount									
Issue Month	September-19									
Tenor	Up to six months from	Up to six months from the date of Drawdown								
Maturity	25-Mar-19									
Profit Rate	6 months KIBOR plus 150 bps per annum									
Principal Repayment										
Security	Unsecured									
	Hub	Power Company	Ltd- Privately I	Placed Commer	cial Paper Redemp	tion Schedule				
Due Date Principal	Opening Principal	Principal Repayment	Due Date Markup/ Profit	Markup/Profit Rate		ie Markup/Profit Installment Payment Payable		Principal Outstanding		
	PKR ir	ı mln		Base	Spread		PKR in mln			
	5,000,000,000									
25-Sep-19	4,655,349,738			13.90%	1.50%			4,655,349,738		
25-Oct-19	4,710,479,516			13.90%	1.50%		-	4,710,479,516		
25-Nov-19	4,768,132,909			13.90%	1.50%		-	4,768,132,909		
25-Dec-19	4,824,598,293			13.90%	1.50%		-	4,824,598,293		
25-Jan-20	4,883,648,431			13.90%	1.50%		-	4,883,648,431		
25-Feb-20	4,943,421,306			13.90%	1.50%		-	4,943,421,306		
25-Mar-20	5,000,000,000	5,000,000,000	25-Mar-20	13.90%	1.50%	344,650,262	5,000,000,000	-		