# Market Data 52-week high/low SAR 21. 12/16.10 Market Cap SAR 70,665 mln Shares Outstanding 4,167 mln Free-float 18.76% 12-month ADTV 881,795 Bloomberg Code SECO AB



# Topline Grows an Impressive 13% Y/Y

August 21, 2024

Upside to Target Price	6.1%	Rating	Neutral	
Expected Dividend Yield	4.2%	Last Price	SAR 16.96	
Expected Total Return	10.3%	12-mth target	SAR 18.00	

SEC	2Q2024	2Q2023	Y/Y	1Q2024	Q/Q	RC Estimate
Operating Revenue	22,379	19,718	13%	15,858	41%	20,309
Gross Profit	5,167	6,055	(15%)	2,140	141%	6,295
Gross Margins	23%	31%		14%		31%
Operating Profit	5,589	5,834	(4%)	2,019	177%	6,100
Net Profit*	4,345	4,017	8%	897	384%	4,845

(All figures are in SAR mln)

- Saudi Electricity's topline grew by an impressive +13% Y/Y to SAR 22.4 bln in 2Q, however, this could not be fully translated into the bottomline, which rose by +8% Y/Y. Higher required revenues (due to an increase in regulatory WACC) in conjunction with a rising regulated asset base (+4.5% to SAR 214 bln) were the primary drivers. At the same time, rising power demand (+6.1%) coupled with a continued growth in the subscriber's base (+165k new subscribers) in addition to new revenues from development projects to construct substations and transmission lines for customers helped in pushing up revenues.
- Gross profit declined by -15% Y/Y to SAR 5.2 bln as gross margins declined to 23% versus 31% last year. +48% Y/Y rise in purchased power and +28% growth in operations and maintenance expense are culprits. Capex for 1H2024 has now increased by +63% Y/Y to SAR 25.1 bln on account of generation, transmission, distribution and general projects as SEC invests in infrastructure to meet higher demand. EBITDA declined up -2.3% Y/Y to SAR 10.5 bln.
- Net profit for 2Q came in at SAR 4.3 bln, up +8% Y/Y but missed our SAR 4.8 bln forecast largely due to lower margins. Besides the rise in revenues, decline in finance costs, lower provisions and an increase in other income due to a one-off settlement with a supplier led to the +8% growth in bottomline. Post Mudaraba instrument, SEC recorded a profit of SAR 2.2 bln for the quarter. We trim out target price to SAR 18.00 from SAR 20.00 and maintain our Neutral rating.

### **Muhammad Faisal Potrik**





<sup>\*</sup> Before deducting Mudaraba Instrument.

## Disclaimer

# Stock Rating

Buy	Neutral	Sell	Not Rated
Expected Total Return Greater than +15%	Expected Total Return between -15% and +15%	Expected Total Return less than -15%	Under Review/ Restricted

The expected percentage returns are indicative, stock recommendations also incorporate relevant qualitative factors For any feedback on our reports, please contact research@riyadcapital.com

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