

# China Power International (2380 HK)

**Buy: Shift towards cleaner energy** 

- CPI to acquire clean energy assets from parent group for RMB5bn; deal valuation looks justified
- Targets over 50% of clean energy assets by 2020; deal financing will be through 1:3 rights issue to raise HKD2bn
- Maintain Buy with unchanged TP of HKD3.0

Asset injection from parent: China Power International (CPI) announced on 9 October the acquisition of certain clean energy assets from its parent group for a total consideration of RMB5bn. The proposed injection will likely increase CPI's attributable capacity by 11.8% and upon completion clean energy will contribute c33% of total capacity. The proposed injection includes 2GW of assets under operation and another 1.9GW under construction, of which management expects 1GW to be operational by end-2017. Based on FY16 financial data, total attributable profit from the proposed assets is RMB410m (excluding Qian Zhan) representing 17% of CPI's total profit for FY16. Upon completion of the asset injection, CPI's parent company SPIC (unlisted) will still have 10GW of unlisted hydro assets and other solar and wind assets. The group's target is that 75% of its assets be listed compared to 30% currently.

**Valuation looks justified:** We calculate the proposed acquisition at 12.1x PE based on FY16 profit and 1.4x PB based on June 2017 net asset value compared to CPI's 9.2x PE and 0.6x PB for FY17e. Although the valuation multiples are slightly higher than CPI, we think the deal looks justified as the majority of the proposed assets are under construction and will contribute to profit upon completion. The ROE of acquired assets is 12% in FY16, which is higher than CPI's 8.7%/6.4% in FY16/17e.

**Rights issue to finance the deal:** CPI intends to finance the deal using a 1:3 rights issue, and targets to raise not less than HKD2bn. The rights issue price has not yet been determined; management aims to complete the issue by end-2017. Upon completion of the proposed asset injection and rights issue, we calculate CPI's 2018/19e EPS will be diluted by 11%. However, with new assets entering operation, we estimate further upside to earnings potential.

**Maintain Buy with unchanged TP of HKD3.0:** We believe higher hydro generation in 2H17 and newly acquired clean-energy assets will help the company generate a stable ROE and maintain a stable dividend pay-out of 50%. The stock is currently trading at FY17e PE of 9.2x and PB of 0.6x, below its historical average and peers. We maintain our Buy rating on CPI with unchanged DCF-based TP of HKD3.0 due to exposure to hydro assets and stable dividend pay-out. Our target price implies a FY18e PB of 0.5x, which we believe is justified by its ROE of 7.5% in 2018e.

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## EQUITIES ELECTRIC UTILITIES

China

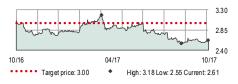
	IN BUY
TARGET PRICE (HKD)	PREVIOUS TARGET (HKD)
SHARE PRICE (HKD) <b>2.61</b> (as of 09 Oct 2017)	upside/downside
MARKET DATA	10.107 Eros floot 150/

Market cap (HKDm)	19,197	Free float	45%
Market cap (USDm)	2,459	BBG	2380 HK
3m ADTV (USDm)	7	RIC	2380.HK

## FINANCIALS AND RATIOS (CNY)

	Year to	12/2016a	12/2017e	12/2018e	12/2019e		
	HSBC EPS	0.32	0.24	0.30	0.31		
	HSBC EPS (prev)	-	•	-	-		
	Change (%)			-	-		
	Consensus EPS	0.37	0.17	0.30	0.31		
	PE (x)	6.9	9.2	7.5	7.2		
	Dividend yield (%)	7.2	4.4	5.4	5.6		
	EV/EBITDA (x)	6.7	8.0	7.1	7.0		
	ROE (%)	8.7	6.4	7.5	7.5		

## 52-WEEK PRICE (HKD)



Source: Thomson Reuters IBES, HSBC estimates

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# **Financials & valuation: China Power International**

### **Financial statements**

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Year to	12/2016a	12/2017e	12/2018e	12/2019e
Profit & loss summary (CNYm)	)			
Revenue	18,866	19,520	20,655	21,336
EBITDA	7,716	6,894	8,145	8,671
Depreciation & amortisation	-3,282	-3,182	-3,441	-3,737
Operating profit/EBIT	4,434	3,712	4,703	4,934
Net interest	-2,068	-2,166	-2,296	-2,401
PBT	3,994	2,993	3,685	3,842
HSBC PBT	3,994	2,993	3,685	3,842
Taxation	-739	-554	-681	-710
Net profit	2,366	1,773	2,183	2,276
HSBC net profit	2,366	1,773	2,183	2,276
Cash flow summary (CNYm)				
Cash flow from operations	6,117	6,223	6,264	6,772
Capex	-8,571	-9,050	-7,850	-8,600
Cash flow from investment	-8,439	-9,025	-7,830	-8,578
Dividends	-2,343	-709	-873	-910
Change in net debt	4,967	3,512	2,439	2,716
FCF equity	-3,082	-4,250	-2,843	-3,115
Balance sheet summary (CNY	m)			
Intangible fixed assets	835	835	835	835
Tangible fixed assets	70,887	76,755	81,163	86,026
Current assets	6,843	6,208	6,531	6,025
Cash & others	1,809	1,467	1,619	1,001
Total assets	91,187	96,419	101,152	105,508
Operating liabilities	8,246	8,578	8,590	8,627
Gross debt	46,554	49,723	52,313	54,412
Net debt	44,744	48,256	50,695	53,411
Shareholders' funds	27,267	28,331	29,640	31,006
Invested capital	68,510	73,752	78,321	83,258

#### Ratio, growth and per share analysis 12/2040-

Year to	12/2016a	12/2017e	12/2018e	12/2019e
Y-o-y % change				
Revenue	-6.6	3.5	5.8	3.3
EBITDA	-18.7	-10.7	18.2	6.5
Operating profit	-31.3	-16.3	26.7	4.9
PBT	-39.0	-25.1	23.1	4.3
HSBC EPS	-28.7	-25.0	23.1	4.3
Ratios (%)				
Revenue/IC (x)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
ROIC	5.5	4.3	5.0	5.0
ROE	8.7	6.4	7.5	7.5
ROA	5.6	4.5	4.9	4.9
EBITDA margin	40.9	35.3	39.4	40.6
Operating profit margin	23.5	19.0	22.8	23.1
EBITDA/net interest (x)	3.7	3.2	3.5	3.6
Net debt/equity	129.3	132.8	131.8	131.3
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	5.8	7.0	6.2	6.2
CF from operations/net debt	13.7	12.9	12.4	12.7
Per share data (CNY)				
EPS Rep (diluted)	0.32	0.24	0.30	0.31
HSBC EPS (diluted)	0.32	0.24	0.30	0.31
DPS	0.16	0.10	0.12	0.12
Book value	3.71	3.85	4.03	4.22

## Valuation data

Year to	12/2016a	12/2017e	12/2018e	12/2019e
EV/sales	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8
EV/EBITDA	6.7	8.0	7.1	7.0
EV/IC	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
PE*	6.9	9.2	7.5	7.2
PB	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
FCF yield (%)	-44.2	-60.9	-40.8	-44.7
Dividend yield (%)	7.2	4.4	5.4	5.6

\* Based on HSBC EPS (diluted)

## **Issuer information**

Share price (HKD)	2.61	Free float	45%
Target price (HKD)	3.00	Sector	Electric Utilities
Reuters (Equity)	2380.HK	Country	China
Bloomberg (Equity)	2380 HK	Analyst	Summer Huang
Market cap (USDm)	2,459	Contact	+852 2996 6976

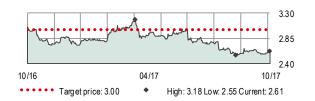
ESG metrics
Environmental Indicators

GHG Intensity (kg/USD)	NA
Energy Intensity (kWh/USD)	NA
CO2 reduction policy	Yes
Social Indicators	
Employee costs as % of sales	10%
Employee turnover (%)	2
Diversity policy	Yes
Source: Company data, HSBC	

## Governance Indicators No. of board members

No. of board members	7
Average board experience (ye	ars) NA
Female board members (%)	0
Board members Independence	e (%) 43

## **Price relative**



Source: HSBC Note: Priced at close of 09 Oct 2017



HSBC (X)



## Asset injection details

Acquisition No.	Company	Attributab Natural gas	le installeo Wind	d capacity ( Solar	MW) Hydro	Capacity under construction (MW)	2016 net profit RMBm	NAV as of June 2017 RMBm
1	Guangdong Company	780	50	-	-	152	121	894
	Exclude: Qian Zhan						(26)	533
1	Guangxi Company	-	392	20	630	666	283	2,578
1	Sihui Company	-	-	-	-	800	(15)	271
2	Anhui Company	-	-	122	-	76	(1)	194
2	Hubei Company	-	-	-	-	130	(0)	48
2	Shandong Company	-	-	-	-	51	(3)	83
2	Shouxian Company	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	3
	Total	780	442	142	630	1,875	410	3,537
	Acquisition 1 price (RMBm)	4,852						
	Acquisition 2 price (RMBm)	117						
	Total consideration (RMBm)	4,969						
	Implied PE	12.1						
	Implied PB	1.4						
Source: Company	data, HSBC calculations							

## Earnings accretion/dilution

	2018e	2019e
Net profit (RMBm)	2,183	2,276
Share count (m)	7,355	7,355
EPS (RMB)	0.30	0.31
Net profit after acquisition (RMBm)	2,593	2,686
Share count post rights issue (m)	9,807	9,807
EPS (RMB)	0.26	0.27
Accretion/dilution	-11%	-11%
Source: HSBC calculations		

# Valuation and risks

**Valuation:** Our unchanged DCF-based target price of HKD3.0 uses an unchanged WACC of 5.2% based on a 2.5% risk-free rate, a 6.0% equity risk premium, a 1.0 equity beta, an 8.5% cost of equity, a 5% cost of debt, and the HSBC FX team's end-2017e forecast for RMB-HKD of 1.20. We forecast cash flow until 2037e and assume no terminal value. Our target price implies 14.9% upside from current levels. We retain our Buy rating on the stock because we believe the company's exposure to hydro power assets should help it to generate a relatively high ROE, compared with its peers, and maintain a stable dividend pay-out of 50%.

**Downside risks:** Lower-than-expected water flow conditions in Hunan Province – the province is still subject to water flow restrictions and could see utilisation decline under extremely dry weather conditions; lower-than-expected thermal utilisation at its Anhui power plant; and higher than-expected unit fuel costs from losing bargaining power over its mine-mouth coal supply.



# **Disclosure appendix**

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Upside/Downside is the percentage difference between the target price and the share price.

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\*A stock was classified as volatile if its historical volatility had exceeded 40%, if the stock had been listed for less than 12 months (unless it was in an industry or sector where volatility is low) or if the analyst expected significant volatility. However, stocks which we did not consider volatile may in fact also have behaved in such a way. Historical volatility was defined as the past month's average of the daily 365-day moving average volatilities. In order to avoid misleadingly frequent changes in rating, however, volatility had to move 2.5 percentage points past the 40% benchmark in either direction for a stock's status to change.



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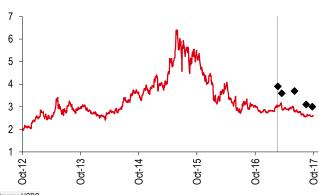
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Hold	42%	(25% of these provided with Investment Banking Services)
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## Share price and rating changes for long-term investment opportunities

China Power International (2380.HK) share price performance HKD Vs HSBC rating history



## Rating & target price history

From	То	Date	Analyst
N/A	Buy	28 Feb 2017	Summer Huang
Target price	Value	Date	Analyst
Price 1	3.90	28 Feb 2017	Summer Huang
Price 2	3.60	24 Mar 2017	Summer Huang
Price 3	3.70	13 Jun 2017	Summer Huang
Price 4	3.10	25 Aug 2017	Summer Huang
Price 5	3.00	02 Oct 2017	Summer Huang
Source: HSBC			

Source: HSBC

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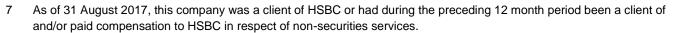
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Source: HSBC				

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