

EQUITY NOTE: PANNERGY NYRT.

Recommendation: BUY (unchanged)

Target price (12M): HUF 1,747 (unchanged)

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Highlights

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PannErgy produced a record 638,049 GJ energy in Q1, which is 5.2% higher YoY, and it is 1.7% higher than the management's plan was for the quarter, primarily due to record heat sales in Győr and higher Miskolc production YoY (the base period had lower-than-average production). The management confirmed the expected fulfilment of the HUF 3.95-4.15bn EBITDA target range for the year. Our forecast number is HUF 4.13bn for 2023 EBITDA, which falls within management's range. We maintain our BUY recommendation with the same target price (HUF 1,747) as before.

Main takeaways from the quarterly production report:

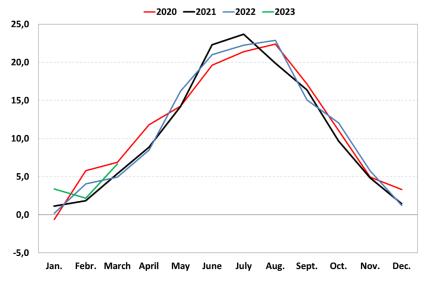
In the first quarter, PannErgy produced a record 638,049 GJ energy, which is 5.2% higher than a year earlier and it is 1.7% higher than the management's plan was for this quarter (627,259 GJ). The good performance was primarily due to weather conditions and ongoing investments into increasing efficiency, operational safety, and capacity expansion.

Regarding the performance of individual sites, Miskolc produced 269,345 GJ in Q1, a 10.9% increase YoY, mainly due to lower-than-average production in the base period (technical and operational intervention needs in relation to the well pump in January 2022). At the same time, production in Győr hit a historic record volume of 359,250 GJ in Q1, a 1.3% increase compared to the previous year. The production report mentions that the improvement can be attributed to: (1) investment activity in recent periods, (2) weather conditions and (3) the commercial agreement with GYŐR-SZOL Zrt., which gives priority to geothermal energy over other alternatives. Overall, the Győr project accounted for ~56% of heat sales volume in Q1, while the Miskolc project for ~42%.

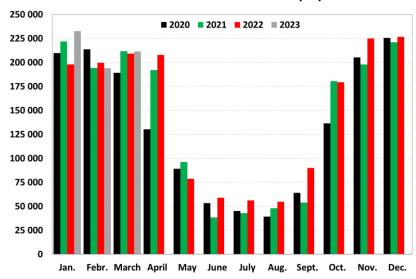
The management confirmed that the company is expected to fulfil the consolidated HUF **3.95-4.15bn** EBITDA target range in **2023** (+12.1% midpoint basis YoY), which was previously published. Our current 2023 EBITDA estimate is HUF 4.13bn, which is in line with management's guidance.



Combined average monthly temperatures (°C) in Miskolc and Győr



Consolidated heat sales (GJ)



Other notable highlights:

- 1) Treasury share transactions: the company has spent (up to 14th April) HUF 600 million on share repurchases, which is 100% of the authorized amount under the program approved last year. Overall, this means that PannErgy purchased under the program 531,900 shares (~2.66% of total shares and ~3.37% of total non-treasury shares) for an average price of HUF 1,127 / share. The program was valid until 13th April 2023 with a limit on share repurchases of HUF 600 million at a price not exceeding HUF 1,400 and 25% of total shares (~21.06% at the moment). The new program proposed by the board would allow to purchase treasury shares up to an amount of HUF 900 million at a price not exceeding HUF 1,670. The period would be almost one year (2 May 2023 13 April 2024).
- 2) **General Meeting:** originally planned for 14 April 2023 has not formed a quorum with respect to the number of attendees. It will be repeated at 9.00 a.m. on 28 (Friday) April 2023 at a different venue (1097 Budapest, Lurdy Konferencia- és Rendezvényközpont, Könyves Kálmán krt. 12-14, 2. room).



Risks surrounding PannErgy's economic activity

1. **Price risk:** The administered price is set at a level that takes into account the cost of doing business and providing a fair profit. However, the administered price setting has inherent risks related to the administrative authority.

Moreover, at the moment PannErgy provides heat at a lower cost than its peers (natural gas). However, if natural gas prices fall significantly, then consumers who do not have mandatory purchase agreement with PannErgy could switch to other sources of heat.

- 2. **Environmental risks:** Extreme weather conditions during the heating season could harm the company's profit target. If the winter season is too short or too cold due to global warming or other extreme weather conditions the costs are higher, as the output from the drilling wells drops.
- 3. **Operational risks:** Maintenance costs increased significantly at the Győr Project in 2016 due to scaling issues concerning the tubing and pumps, and this has reduced production. Although the problem was dealt with, we identify it as a source of risk in the future as well. This could be a risk to our depreciation forecast as well.
- 4. **Improving energy efficiency risk:** It is not necessarily a PannErgy-specific risk, but in the long term, the building of passive houses and the coming investment which increases the energy efficiency of houses and flats could decrease demand for heat.
- 5. **Pandemic risks:** Based on our current knowledge, covid-19 has no material effect on the company. However, the covid crisis and its economic effects may change rapidly and unpredictably in the future. This may pose some unforeseen risks for PannErgy as well.



Notes:

The initiation report, which contains the assumptions of the models used, is available here.

The valuation methodology used in this present equity research note to determine our price targets and recommendations is available here. (Also available in Hungarian)

This investment recommendation has not used proprietary models.

The risk warning, which includes the adequate explanations of the length of time of the investment to which the recommendation relates as well as a sensitivity analysis of the assumptions, is indicated in the part of this recommendation where the length of time and the risks of the investment are presented.

Any information relating to the date and time for the price mentioned in this recommendation is revealed in the part of the recommendation where the given price is indicated.

OTP Bank Plc's recommendations and price targets history for PannErgy in the past twelve months:

Date	Recommendations	Target Price	Publication
18/10/2021	BUY	HUF 1,450	Equity note
17/01/2022	BUY	HUF 1,450	Equity note
18/02/2022	BUY	HUF 1,450	Equity note
26/03/2022	BUY	HUF 1,420	Equity note
19/04/2022	BUY	HUF 1,420	Equity note
19/07/2022	BUY	HUF 1,420	Equity note
02/09/2022	BUY	HUF 1,420	Equity note
06/10/2022	BUY	HUF 1,670	Equity note
15/10/2022	BUY	HUF 1,670	Equity note
23/11/2022	BUY	HUF 1,670	Equity note
02/01/2023	BUY	HUF 1,670	Equity note
18/01/2023	BUY	HUF 1,747	Equity note
27/03/2023	BUY	HUF 1,747	Equity note

Period	Recommendations	Percent of
		recommendation
	BUY	100%
2022Q2	HOLD	0%
	SELL	0%
	BUY	100%
2022Q3	HOLD	0%
	SELL	0%
	BUY	100%
2022Q4	HOLD	0%
	SELL	0%
	BUY	100%
2023Q1	HOLD	0%
	SELL	0%
	BUY	100%
2023Q2	HOLD	0%
	SELL	0%

The list of all recommendations made in the past 12 months is available here.



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