

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER CO INC  
Form PRE 14A  
February 26, 2019  
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**SCHEDULE 14A**

**(Rule 14a-101)**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT**

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities**

**Exchange Act of 1934**

**(Amendment No. )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement  
(as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only**

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-12.

**American Electric Power Company, Inc.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER CO INC - Form PRE 14A

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

- (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
- (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
- (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
- (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
- (5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

- (1) Amount Previously Paid:
- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:

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**Notice of 2019 Annual Meeting   Proxy Statement**

**American Electric Power**

1 Riverside Plaza

Columbus, OH 43215

**Nicholas K. Akins**

Chairman of the Board and  
Chief Executive Officer

March 13, 2019

Dear Shareholders:

This year's annual meeting of shareholders will be held at The Omni Hotel, 900 North Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, Texas on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time.

Your Board of Directors and I cordially invite you to attend. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. Only shareholders who owned shares on the record date, February 25, 2019, are entitled to vote and attend the meeting. To attend the meeting, you will need to present an admission ticket or the notice you received. If your shares are registered in your name, and you received your proxy materials by mail, your admission ticket is attached to your proxy card. A map and directions are printed on the admission ticket. If your shares are registered in your name and you received your proxy materials electronically via the Internet, you will need to print an admission ticket after you vote by clicking on the Options button. If you hold shares through an account with a bank or broker, you will need to contact them and request a legal proxy, or bring a copy of your statement to the meeting that shows that you owned the shares on the record date. Each ticket will admit a shareholder and one guest.

We are mailing to many of our shareholders a notice of Internet availability instead of a paper copy of the proxy materials. The notice contains instructions on how to access those documents over the Internet. The notice also contains instructions on how shareholders can receive a paper copy of our proxy materials, including this proxy statement, our 2018 Annual Report and a form of proxy card or voting instruction card.

During the course of the meeting there will be the usual time for discussion of the items on the agenda and for questions regarding AEP's affairs. Directors and officers will be available to talk individually with shareholders before and after the meeting.

**Your vote is very important. Shareholders of record can vote in any one of the following three ways:**

**By Internet, at [www.envisionreports.com/AEP](http://www.envisionreports.com/AEP)**

**By toll-free telephone at 800-652-8683**

**By completing and mailing your proxy card if you receive paper copies of the proxy materials  
If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record, you will receive instructions  
from the holder of record that you must follow in order for you to vote your shares.**

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Investor Relations, American Electric Power Company, 1  
Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The telephone number is 800-237-2667.

Sincerely,

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**NOTICE OF 2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

**American Electric Power Company, Inc.**

**1 Riverside Plaza**

**Columbus, Ohio 43215**

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TIME</b>              | 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time on Tuesday, April 23, 2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>PLACE</b>             | The Omni Hotel<br><br>900 North Shoreline Blvd<br><br>Corpus Christi, TX                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>ITEMS OF BUSINESS</b> | (1) To elect the 13 directors named herein to hold office until the next annual meeting and until their successors are duly elected.<br>(2) To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the year 2019.<br>(3) To approve an amendment to the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights.<br>(4) To hold an advisory vote on executive compensation.                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>RECORD DATE</b>       | Only shareholders of record at the close of business on February 25, 2019 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting or any adjournment thereof.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>ANNUAL REPORT</b>     | Appendix A to this proxy statement has AEP's audited financial statements, management's discussion and analysis of results of operations and financial condition and the report of the independent registered public accounting firm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>PROXY VOTING</b>      | It is important that your shares be represented and voted at the meeting. Please vote in one of these ways:<br>(1) <b>MARK, SIGN, DATE AND PROMPTLY RETURN</b> your proxy card if you receive paper copies of the proxy materials.<br>(2) <b>CALL TOLL-FREE</b> by telephone at 800-652-8683.<br>(3) <b>VISIT THE WEB SITE</b> shown on the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials to vote via the Internet.<br><br>If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record, please follow the instructions from the holder of record in order to vote your |

shares.

Any proxy may be revoked at any time before your shares are voted at the meeting.

March 13, 2019

David M. Feinberg

*Secretary*

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### **Proxy Statement**

March 13, 2019

### **Proxy and Voting Information**

A notice of Internet availability of proxy materials or paper copy of this proxy statement, our 2018 Annual Report and a form of proxy or voting instruction card is first being mailed or made available to shareholders on or about March 13, 2019, in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of American Electric Power Company, Inc., 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215, for the annual meeting of shareholders to be held on April 23, 2019 in Corpus Christi, Texas.

We use the terms AEP, the Company, we, our and us in this proxy statement to refer to American Electric Power Company, Inc. and, where applicable, its subsidiaries. All references to years, unless otherwise noted, refer to our fiscal year, which ends on December 31.

**Who Can Vote.** Only the holders of shares of AEP common stock at the close of business on the record date, February 25, 2019, are entitled to vote at the meeting. Each such holder has one vote for each share held on all matters to come before the meeting. On that date, there were 493,287,558 shares of AEP common stock, \$6.50 par value, outstanding.

**How You Can Vote.** Shareholders of record can give proxies by (i) mailing their signed proxy cards; (ii) calling a toll-free telephone number; or (iii) using the Internet. The telephone and Internet voting procedures are designed to authenticate shareholders' identities, to allow shareholders to give their voting instructions and to confirm that shareholders' instructions have been properly recorded. Instructions for shareholders of record who wish to use the telephone or Internet voting procedures are set forth on the proxy card or the website shown on the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials.

If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record, you will receive instructions from the holder of record that you must follow in order for you to vote your shares.

When proxies are signed and returned, the shares represented thereby will be voted by the persons named on the proxy card or by their substitutes in accordance with shareholders' directions. If a proxy card is signed and returned without choices marked, it will be voted for the nominees for directors listed on the card and as recommended by the Board of Directors with respect to other matters. The proxies of shareholders who are participants in the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan include both the shares registered in their names and the whole shares held in their plan accounts on February 25, 2019.

**Revocation of Proxies.** A shareholder giving a proxy may revoke it at any time before it is voted at the meeting by voting again after the date of the proxy being revoked or by attending the meeting and voting in person.

**How Votes are Counted.** The presence of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, present in person or represented by proxy, is necessary to constitute a quorum. Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining a quorum. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the broker does not have discretionary voting power for that particular item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner.

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Under New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) rules, the proposal to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm is considered a discretionary item. This means that brokerage firms may vote in their discretion on this matter on behalf of their clients who have not furnished voting instructions. The proposals to elect directors, to amend the Restated

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Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights and the advisory vote on executive compensation are non-discretionary matters. That means that brokerage firms may not use their discretion to vote on such matters without express voting instructions from their clients.

The Company has implemented a majority voting standard for the election of directors in uncontested elections. The election of directors at the Annual Meeting is an uncontested election, so for a nominee to be elected to the Board, the number of votes cast for the nominee's election must exceed the number of votes cast against his or her election. If a nominee who is an incumbent does not receive a greater number of votes for his or her election than against such election, he or she will be required to tender his or her resignation for the Board's consideration of whether to accept such resignation in accordance with our Bylaws.

The following table summarizes the Board's voting recommendations for each proposal, the vote required for each proposal to pass, and the effect of abstentions and uninstructed shares on each proposal.

| <b>Item</b>                                                                                                                                              | <b>Board Recommendation</b> | <b>Voting Standard</b>                          | <b>Abstentions</b>                         | <b>Broker Non-Votes</b>                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>Item 1</b> Election of Directors                                                                                                                      | FOR                         | Majority of votes cast for each Director        | No effect                                  | No effect                                  |
| <b>Item 2</b> Ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for 2019 <sup>(1)</sup> | FOR                         | Majority of shares voted                        | No effect                                  | Discretionary voting by broker permitted   |
| <b>Item 3</b> Amendment to the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights.                                           | FOR                         | Majority of outstanding shares entitled to vote | Same effect as vote against <sup>(2)</sup> | Same effect as vote against <sup>(2)</sup> |
| <b>Item 4</b> Advisory vote to approve executive compensation (Say on Pay) <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                | FOR                         | Majority of shares voted                        | No effect                                  | No effect                                  |

<sup>(1)</sup> As advisory votes, the proposals to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for 2019 and to approve executive compensation are not binding upon the Company. However, the Board, the Audit Committee and the Human Resources Committee value the opinions expressed by shareholders and will consider the outcome of these votes when making future decisions.

<sup>(2)</sup> Approval of the Amendment to the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation requires the affirmative vote of a majority of all outstanding shares entitled to vote thereon at the meeting, and therefore, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as votes against this proposal.

**Your Vote is Confidential.** It is AEP's policy that shareholders be provided privacy in voting. All proxies, voting instructions and ballots, which identify shareholders, are held on a confidential basis, except as may be necessary to meet any applicable legal requirements. We direct proxies to an independent third-party tabulator who receives, inspects, and tabulates them. Voted proxies and ballots are not seen by nor reported to AEP except (i) in aggregate number or to determine if (rather than how) a shareholder has voted, (ii) in cases where shareholders write comments on their proxy cards or (iii) in a contested proxy solicitation.

**Multiple Copies of Annual Report, Proxy Statement or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials to Shareholders.** Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules provide that more than one annual report, proxy statement or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials need not be sent to the same address. This practice is commonly called "householding" and is intended to eliminate duplicate mailings of shareholder documents. Mailing of your annual report, proxy statement or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials is being househanded indefinitely unless you instruct us otherwise. We will deliver promptly upon written or oral request a separate copy of the annual report, proxy statement or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials to a shareholder at a shared address. To receive a separate copy of the annual report, proxy

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statement or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials, write to AEP, attention: Investor Relations, at 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215 or call 1-800-237-2667. If more than one annual report, proxy statement or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials is being sent to your address, at your request, mailing of the duplicate copy can be discontinued by contacting our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A. (Computershare), at 800-328-6955 or writing to them at P.O Box 43078, Providence, RI 02940-3078. If you wish to resume receiving separate annual reports, proxy statements or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials at the same address in the future, you may call Computershare at 800-328-6955 or write to them at P.O Box 43078, Providence, RI 02940-3078. The change will be effective 30 days after receipt.

**Additional Information.** Our website address is [www.aep.com](http://www.aep.com). We make available free of charge on the Investor Relations section of our website ([www.aep.com/investors](http://www.aep.com/investors)) our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and all amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act). We also make available through our website other reports filed with or furnished to the SEC under the Exchange Act, including our proxy statements and reports filed by officers and directors under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act. You may request any of these materials and information in print, free of charge, by contacting Investor Relations at: AEP, attention: Investor Relations, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215. We do not intend for information contained on our website to be part of this proxy statement. In addition, this proxy statement and the Annual Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 are available at [www.edocumentview.com/aep](http://www.edocumentview.com/aep).

## **Item 1. Election of Directors**

As of the filing date of this proxy statement, AEP's Board of Directors consists of 12 members, but the Board has nominated, and is recommending the election of, Margaret M. McCarthy. Therefore, the Board of Directors has authorized an increase in the size of the Board to 13 members, effective as of April 23, 2019, as permitted by the Bylaws. Ms. McCarthy was recommended to the Board by a director search firm, which was paid a fee to identify and evaluate prospective Board members. Some members of the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance (the Corporate Governance Committee) interviewed Ms. McCarthy, and the full Corporate Governance Committee reviewed her qualifications and recommended her to the full Board.

Thirteen directors are to be elected to hold office until the next annual meeting and until their successors have been elected. AEP's Bylaws provide that the number of directors of AEP shall be such number, not less than 9 nor more than 17, as shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board.

The 13 nominees were nominated by the Board on the recommendation of the Corporate Governance Committee following an individual evaluation of each nominee's qualifications and, with respect to incumbent directors, 2018 performance. The proxies named on the proxy card or their substitutes will vote for the Board's nominees, unless instructed otherwise. All of the Board's nominees were elected by the shareholders at the 2018 annual meeting, except for Ms. McCarthy. We do not expect any of the nominees will be unable to stand for election or be unable to serve if elected. If a vacancy in the slate of nominees occurs before the meeting, the proxies may be voted for another person nominated by the Board or the number of directors may be reduced accordingly.

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote FOR each of the director nominees below.**

**Biographical Information.** The following brief biographies of the nominees include their principal occupations, ages on the date of this proxy statement, accounts of their business experience and names of certain companies of which they are directors. Data with respect to the number of shares of AEP's common stock and stock-based units

beneficially owned by each of them appears on page 77.

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**Nominees For Director**

**Nicholas K. Akins**

New Albany, Ohio

Age 58

Director since 2011

**Professional Highlights**

Elected chief executive officer of AEP in November 2011; elected Chairman of the Board in January 2014 and Chairman and chief executive officer of all of AEP's major subsidiaries in November 2011. President of AEP from January 2011 to October 2011 and executive vice president of AEP from 2006 to 2011.

**Mr. Akins' qualifications** to serve on the Board include his extensive senior executive experience in the utility industry and his deep knowledge of the Company as our chief executive officer. Mr. Akins brings to the Board experience in all facets of operational and compliance related activities in the utility industry, which enables him to effectively identify strategic priorities and execute strategy. Mr. Akins' service on the board of another public company, including service as chair of its nominating and corporate governance committee, provides Mr. Akins additional governance insights that are valuable in his role as our Board Chairman.

**Current Public Company Boards**

Fifth Third Bancorp

**David J. Anderson**

Greenwich, Connecticut

Age 69

Director since 2011

**Professional Highlights**

Chief Financial Officer of Nielsen Holdings plc, a leading global information, data and measurement company since September 2018. Former executive vice president and chief financial officer of Alexion Pharmaceuticals, a leading biotechnology company from December 2016 to August 2017. Previously, chief financial officer from 2003 until his retirement in 2014 of Honeywell International, a diversified technology and manufacturing company.

**Mr. Anderson's qualifications** to serve on the Board include his corporate finance expertise as the chief financial officer of a Fortune 100 company and his experience as a public company

director. While at Honeywell, Mr. Anderson was responsible for the company's corporate finance activities including tax, accounting, treasury, audit, investments, financial planning, acquisitions and real estate. Through his finance leadership positions, Mr. Anderson brings to the Board relevant experience in the areas of management and executive leadership and experience in developing and executing strategy. His extensive finance expertise provides valuable insight in the areas of financial reporting and accounting and controls.

#### **Previous Public Company Boards**

Cardinal Health, Inc. (2014-2018)

Fifth Street Asset Management, Inc. (2014-2015)

BE Aerospace Inc. (2014 – 2017)

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**Nominees For Director continued**

**J. Barnie Beasley, Jr.**

**Professional Highlights**

Sylvania, Georgia

Age 67

Director since 2014

Mr. Beasley served as an independent nuclear safety and operations expert to the board of directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, a large electric utility in the southeastern United States, from 2011 to 2014. Retired chairman, president and chief executive officer of Southern Nuclear Operating Company, the nuclear operating company subsidiary of an electric utility (2004-2008). Advisor to EnergySolutions, Inc., a nuclear services company, since 2014.

**Mr. Beasley's qualifications** to serve on the Board include his nuclear expertise as the chief executive officer of the nuclear operating company subsidiary of Southern Company and his experience as a public company director. Mr. Beasley brings to the Board decades of experience in the nuclear and utility industries, including high level executive management and business oversight experience. He has substantial experience working with federal government administrators, which provides valuable insights in governmental and regulatory issues. His extensive experience in operations provides insights in risk management, safety, personnel development and environmental matters. His experience in the nuclear industry also provides him substantial experience in physical security and cybersecurity.

**Current Public Company Boards**

GSE Systems, Inc.

**Professional Highlights**

**Ralph D. Crosby, Jr.**

McLean, Virginia

Retired chairman of EADS North America, Inc., an aerospace company (2002-2011). Retired chief executive officer of EADS North America, Inc. (2002-2009). Previous senior operating role at Northrop Grumman Corporation.

Age 71

Director since 2006

**Mr. Crosby's qualifications** to serve on the Board include his extensive senior executive experience in the aerospace industry and his experience as a public company director. Mr. Crosby brings to the Board significant senior management and operations experience through his roles as chief executive officer in the highly regulated aerospace and defense industries. He has a deep understanding of the complexities of operating a global business, including strategic planning, regulatory and legislative and public policy matters. Through his career in the aerospace industry, he has experience in technology and innovation.

**Current Public Company Boards**

Airbus Group, SE

**Previous Public Company Boards**

Serco Group PLC (2012-2017)

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**Nominees For Director continued**

**Linda A. Goodspeed**

**Professional Highlights**

Marco Island, Florida

Age 57

Director since 2005

Retired managing partner of Wealthstrategies Financial Advisors, LLC (2008-2017). Retired senior vice president and chief information officer of The ServiceMaster Company, a residential and commercial service company (2011-2013). From 2008 to 2011, vice president of information systems of Nissan North America, Inc., an automobile manufacturer.

**Ms. Goodspeed's qualifications** to serve on the Board include her information technology expertise as a chief information officer and her experience as a public company director. Ms. Goodspeed has experience in key strategic and operational roles with several large global companies as chief information officer. Ms. Goodspeed brings to the Board a wealth of experience leading complex IT organizations and brings innovation experience. She has completed the National Association of Corporate Directors certification in cybersecurity oversight. She has experience as a senior leader of businesses developing electric vehicles, and past experience developing and marketing new customer facing products and technology in the appliance and automotive industries.

**Current Public Company Boards**

AutoZone, Inc.

Darling Ingredients Inc.

**Previous Public Company Boards**

Global Power Equipment Group (2016-2018)

Columbus McKinnon Corp (2004-2017)

**Professional Highlights**

|                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Thomas E. Hoaglin</b></p> <p>Columbus, Ohio</p> | <p>Retired chairman and chief executive officer of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, a bank holding company (2001-2009). Member, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Chair Advisory Council of the National Association of Corporate Directors.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Age 69

Director since 2008

**Mr. Hoaglin's qualifications** to serve on the Board include his extensive senior executive experience in the banking industry and his experience as a public company director. With his experience as chairman and chief executive officer of Huntington Bancshares, Mr. Hoaglin brings to the Board extensive experience in consumer and commercial marketing, and experience as leader of a company focused on meeting customer expectations. His experience as a banker provides him with strong credit and risk management experience and knowledge of credit and capital markets. He also has extensive corporate governance expertise from his service on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Chair Advisory Council of the National Association of Corporate Directors.

#### **Current Public Company Boards**

The Gorman-Rupp Company

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**Nominees For Director continued**

**Sandra Beach Lin**

Flower Mound, Texas

Age 61

Director since 2012

**Professional Highlights**

Retired chief executive officer of Calisolar, Inc., a solar silicon company (2010-2011). Executive vice president, then corporate executive vice president of Celanese Corporation, a global hybrid chemical company (2007-2010). Previous senior operating roles at Avery Dennison, Alcoa and Honeywell. Member, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Chair Advisory Council of the National Association of Corporate Directors.

**Ms. Lin's qualifications** to serve on the Board include her extensive senior executive experience managing large global businesses in multiple industries and her experience as a public company director. Ms. Lin brings to the Board extensive experience as a senior executive in operational roles at numerous industrial manufacturing sites, which gave her significant experience in employee safety and manufacturing. In her senior leadership positions, she created and executed strategies in diverse industries, including automotive, packaging, specialty chemicals and solar energy. She also has wide global experience in sales and marketing. In her executive leadership as the chief executive officer of a materials supplier to the solar industry, she helped bring to market new, innovative technology to reduce costs to solar cell manufacturers. Her service as a board leadership fellow for the National Association of Corporate Directors has given her additional expertise related to corporate governance.

**Current Public Company Boards**

WESCO International

PolyOne Corporation

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**Nominees For Director continued**

| <b>Margaret M. McCarthy</b>     | <b>Professional Highlights</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| North Chatham,<br>Massachusetts | Executive Vice President Technology Integration of CVS Health Corporation since December 2018, supporting the technology organization through a period of transition following the completion of CVS acquisition of Aetna, Inc. Executive vice president of operations and technology for Aetna, Inc., a diversified health care benefits company (2010 2018). Prior to joining Aetna in 2003, she served in information technology-related roles at CIGNA Healthcare and Catholic Health Initiatives.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Age 65                          | <b>Ms. McCarthy's qualifications</b> to serve on the Board include her extensive senior executive experience in the healthcare industry and her experience as public company director. Ms. McCarthy was responsible for innovation, technology, data security, procurement, real estate and service operations at Aetna. Ms. McCarthy also worked in technology consulting at Accenture and was a consulting partner at Ernst & Young. She was previously a director of a data center and cloud security company. She has extensive experience in the regulated insurance industry, business strategy, customer experience and cyber and physical security. |
|                                 | <b>Current Public Company Boards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                 | Brighthouse Financial, Inc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                 | First American Financial Corporation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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**Nominees For Director continued**

**Richard C. Notebaert**

**Professional Highlights**

Naples, Florida

Retired chief executive officer of Qwest Communications International Inc., a telecommunications systems company (2002-2007). Previous chief executive officer of Ameritech Corporation and Tellabs, Inc.

Age 71

Director since 2011

**Mr. Notebaert's qualifications** to serve on the Board include his extensive senior executive experience in the regulated telecommunications industry and his experience as a public company director. Mr. Notebaert spent more than 11 years as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of large publicly traded telecommunication companies. Mr. Notebaert brings to the Board relevant experience in the areas of operations, markets, risk management, mergers and acquisitions, management, finance, executive leadership, strategic planning, human resources and labor relations and corporate governance. Mr. Notebaert also brings to the Board valuable perspective and insights from his service as a director of Aon Corporation, an insurance brokerage and services company, including experience in risk management and executive compensation from chairing its Compensation Committee. Through his executive experience in the regulated telecommunications industry, he has experience managing regulatory and public policy matters.

**Current Public Company Boards**

Aon Corporation

**Previous Public Company Boards**

Cardinal Health, Inc. (1999-2015)



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**Nominees For Director continued**

|                             | <b>Professional Highlights</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lionel L. Nowell III</b> | Retired senior vice president and treasurer of PepsiCo, Inc., a food and beverage company (2001-2009). Previous senior positions at RJR Nabisco, Inc. and Diageo Plc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Marco Island, Florida       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Age 64                      | <b>Mr. Nowell's qualifications</b> to serve on the Board include his experiences as a senior executive at a Fortune 100 company, and his experience as a public company director. With his more than 30 years of operational and financial management experience in the consumer products industry, including his service as the senior vice president and treasurer of a multi-national food and beverage company, Mr. Nowell brings to the Board strong leadership skills and extensive knowledge in the areas of strategy development and execution, corporate finance, credit and treasury, financial reporting, accounting and controls, and risk management. At PepsiCo, Mr. Nowell also had leadership experience in marketing and the customer experience. Mr. Nowell's service as a director of Bank of America has given him expertise in regulatory and policy issues and additional experience in risk management. |
| Director since 2004         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                             | <b>Current Public Company Boards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                             | Bank of America Corporation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                             | Ecolab Inc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                             | <b>Previous Public Company Boards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                             | Reynolds American Inc. (2007-2017)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                             | Darden Restaurants Inc. (2014-2016)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                             | HD Supply Holdings Inc. (2017)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                             | British American Tobacco plc (2017-2018)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

**Stephen S. Rasmussen**

**Professional Highlights**

Columbus, Ohio

Chief executive officer of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company (Nationwide) since 2009. President and chief operating officer of Nationwide (2003 – 2009).

Age 66

Director since 2012

**Mr. Rasmussen's qualifications** to serve on the Board include his extensive senior executive experience in the insurance industry. As the chief executive officer of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, a Fortune 100 large diversified insurance and financial services organization, Mr. Rasmussen brings to the Board extensive experience in risk management and strategic planning in the highly regulated insurance industry. He also brings to the Board relevant experience in the areas of marketing, management, finance, executive leadership, and the customer experience.

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**Nominees For Director continued**

|                                                                                                              | <b>Professional Highlights</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Oliver G. Richard, III</b></p> <p>Lake Charles, Louisiana</p> <p>Age 66</p> <p>Director since 2013</p> | <p>Owner and president of Empire of the Seed LLC, a private consulting firm in the energy and management industries, as well as the private investments industry and owner of commercial properties since 2005. Mr. Richard served as chairman, president and chief executive officer of Columbia Energy Group ( Columbia Energy ) from April 1995 until Columbia Energy was acquired by NiSource Inc. in November 2000. Mr. Richard served as a commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission from 1982 to 1985.</p> <p><b>Mr. Richard s qualifications</b> to serve on the Board include his extensive knowledge of the utility industry as a former commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, his senior executive experience at utility companies and his experience as a public company director. Mr. Richard brings to the board experience as a regulator in our industry, along with his other legal and public policy experience, which gives him unique and valuable perspective to our industry. He also has a breadth of experience in the energy sector, through his position as chairman, president and chief executive officer of a Fortune 500 company, with relevant experience in the areas of operations, management, executive leadership, strategic planning, human resources and corporate governance. He also has experience as a consultant in the energy and management industries.</p> <p><b>Current Public Company Boards</b></p> <p>Buckeye Partners, L.P.</p> <p>Cheniere Energy Partners, GP, LLC</p> |

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**Nominees For Director continued**

**Sara Martinez Tucker**

**Professional Highlights**

Dallas, Texas

Age 63

Director since 2009

Former Chief Executive Officer of the National Math and Science Initiative from February 2013 to March 2015. From 2009 to February 2013, independent consultant. Former Under Secretary of Education in the U.S. Department of Education (2006-2008). Chief executive officer and president of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund from 1997 to 2006. Retired executive of AT&T.

**Ms. Tucker's qualifications** to serve on the Board include her experience in governmental affairs as the Under Secretary of Education, her experience in human resources and customer service operations in the telecommunications industry and her experience as a public company director. Her leadership positions in government and education provide perspective on social responsibility and diversity. Ms. Tucker brings to the Board relevant expertise from her various leadership positions in government and education and her business experience in the highly regulated telecommunications industry at AT&T in regulatory affairs, government and public policy matters. As an executive at AT&T, she had experience in consumer and retail businesses and human resources.

**Current Public Company Boards**

Service Corporation International

Sprint Corporation

Xerox Corporation

**Table of Contents****AEP's Board of Directors and Committees**

Under New York law, AEP is managed under the direction of the Board of Directors. The Board establishes broad corporate policies and authorizes various types of transactions, but it is not involved in day-to-day operational details. During 2018, the Board held six regular meetings and one telephonic meeting. AEP encourages but does not require members of the Board to attend the annual shareholders' meeting. Last year, all directors attended the annual meeting.

Two members of our Corporate Governance Committee, Ms. Lin and Mr. Hoaglin, are members of The National Association of Corporate Directors' (NACD) Nominating and Governance Chair Advisory Council, a group that seeks to identify ways that board nominating and governance committees can help build investor confidence in publicly traded companies. Ms. Lin is also an NACD Board Leadership Fellow.

**Board Meetings and Committees.** The Board expects that its members will rigorously prepare for, attend and participate in all Board and applicable committee meetings. Directors are also expected to become familiar with AEP's management team and operations as a basis for discharging their oversight responsibilities.

The Board has seven standing committees. The table below shows the number of meetings conducted in 2018 by each committee and the directors who currently serve on these committees. Each director attended 85 percent or more of the meetings of the Board and Board committees on which he or she served during 2018, and the average director attendance in 2018 was 97 percent.

| DIRECTOR      | BOARD COMMITTEES |            |           |           |           |           |           |
|---------------|------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|               | Directors        |            |           |           |           |           |           |
|               | and              |            |           |           |           |           |           |
|               | Corporate        |            |           |           |           | Human     | Nuclear   |
|               | Audit            | Governance | Policy    | Executive | Finance   | Resources | Oversight |
| Mr. Akins     |                  |            | X         | X (Chair) |           |           |           |
| Mr. Anderson  | X                |            | X         |           | X (Chair) |           |           |
| Mr. Beasley   | X                |            | X         |           |           |           | X (Chair) |
| Mr. Crosby    |                  |            | X         | X         |           | X (Chair) | X         |
| Ms. Goodspeed | X                |            | X         |           |           |           | X         |
| Mr. Hoaglin   | X                | X (Chair)  | X         | X         |           |           |           |
| Ms. Lin       | X                | X          | X         |           |           |           |           |
| Mr. Notebaert |                  | X          | X         |           | X         | X         |           |
| Mr. Nowell    | X (Chair)        | X          | X         | X         | X         |           |           |
| Mr. Rasmussen |                  | X          | X         |           | X         | X         |           |
| Mr. Richard   |                  |            | X (Chair) |           |           | X         | X         |
| Ms. Tucker    |                  | X          | X         |           |           | X         |           |
| 2018 Meetings | 7                | 5          | 3         | 0         | 5         | 7         | 4         |

The functions of the committees are described below. The committee charters provide a more detailed discussion of the purposes, duties and responsibilities of the committees. A copy of each of the committee charters can be found on our website at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance).

The *Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance* (the Corporate Governance Committee) is responsible for:

1. Recommending the size of the Board within the limits imposed by the Bylaws.
2. Recommending selection criteria for nominees for election or appointment to the Board.

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3. Conducting independent searches for qualified nominees and screening the qualifications of candidates recommended by others.
  4. Recommending to the Board nominees for appointment to fill vacancies on the Board as they occur and the slate of nominees for election at the annual meeting.
  5. Reviewing and making recommendations to the Board with respect to compensation of directors and corporate governance.
  6. Recommending members to serve on committees and chairs of the committees of the Board.
  7. Reviewing the independence and possible conflicts of interest of directors and executive officers.
  8. Overseeing the AEP Corporate Compliance Program.
  9. Overseeing the annual evaluation of the Board of Directors.
  10. Overseeing the annual evaluation of individual directors.
  11. Monitoring the implementation of AEP's Related Person Transaction Approval Policy.
  12. Overseeing AEP's Corporate Accountability Report which includes information on sustainability, environmental, social and governance matters and material concerning political contributions.
- Consistent with the rules of the NYSE and our Director Independence Standards, all members of the Corporate Governance Committee are independent.

The ***Human Resources Committee*** (the HR Committee) annually reviews and approves AEP's executive compensation in the context of the performance of management and the Company. None of the members of the HR Committee is or has been an officer or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. In addition, each of the current members of the HR Committee has been determined to be independent by the Board in accordance with NYSE rules and our Director Independence Standards. In addition, each member is a non-employee director as defined in SEC Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act.

The HR Committee also reviews the Compensation, Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement, and recommends that it be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

For a more complete description of the HR Committee's responsibilities, see the Human Resources Committee Report on page 53.

The ***Audit Committee*** is responsible for, among other things, the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm (independent auditor) for the Company; reviewing with the independent auditor the plan and scope of the audit and approving audit fees; monitoring the adequacy of financial reporting and internal control over financial reporting and meeting periodically with the internal auditor and the independent auditor.

Consistent with the rules of the NYSE and our Director Independence Standards, all members of the Audit Committee are independent. The Board has determined that all members of the Audit Committee, Messrs. Anderson, Beasley, Hoaglin and Nowell and Ms. Goodspeed and Ms. Lin, are audit committee financial experts as defined by SEC rules.

The ***Finance Committee*** monitors and reports to the Board with respect to the capital requirements and financing plans and programs of AEP and its subsidiaries, including reviewing and making recommendations concerning their short and long-term financing plans and programs. The Finance Committee also provides recommendations to the Board on dividend policy, including the declaration and payment of dividends. The Finance Committee also reviews and approves the treasury policies of the Company.

The ***Nuclear Oversight Committee*** is responsible for overseeing and reporting to the Board with respect to the management and operation of AEP's nuclear generation.

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The **Policy Committee** is responsible for examining AEP's policies on major public issues affecting the AEP System, including environmental, technology, fuel supply, industry change and other matters.

The **Executive Committee** is empowered to exercise all the authority of the Board, subject to certain limitations prescribed in the Bylaws, during the intervals between meetings of the Board.

## Corporate Governance

AEP maintains a corporate governance page on its website that includes key information about corporate governance initiatives, including AEP's Principles of Corporate Governance (Principles), AEP's Principles of Business Conduct, Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Members of the Board of Directors, Director Independence Standards, and charters for the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee and the HR Committee. The corporate governance page can be found at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance). Printed copies of all of these materials also are available without charge upon written request to Investor Relations at: AEP, attention: Investor Relations, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

We are committed to strong governance practices that protect the long-term interests of our shareholders. Our governance framework includes the following key governance best practices:

## Governance Highlights

|                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12 out of 13 director nominees are independent                                                                                     | Annual shareholder engagement on ESG matters and strategy with Lead Director participation |
| Strong Independent Lead Director with clearly delineated duties                                                                    | Executive sessions of non-management directors at every Board meeting                      |
| Annual election of all directors                                                                                                   | Robust stock ownership guidelines for executive officers and non-employee directors        |
| Majority voting in the election of directors with director resignation policy (plurality standard to apply in contested elections) | Risk oversight by full Board and Committees                                                |
| Annual Board and Committee self-evaluations, including individual Board member evaluations                                         | Board and Committees may hire outside advisors independently of management                 |
| Audit Committee, HR Committee, and Corporate Governance Committee composed entirely of independent directors                       | Limit on the number of public company directorships Board members may hold (4)             |

Diverse Board in terms of gender, ethnicity and specific skills and qualifications

Proxy access for shareholders

## **Directors**

### **Qualifications**

The Principles are available on our website at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance). With respect to director qualifications and attributes, the Principles provide that, in nominating a slate of Directors, it is the Board's objective, with the assistance of the Corporate Governance Committee, to select individuals with skills and experience to effectively oversee management's operation of the Company's business.

In addition, the Principles provide that directors should possess the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values, and be committed to representing the long-term interests of the shareholders, and that directors must also have an inquisitive and objective perspective, practical wisdom and mature judgment.

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These requirements are expanded in the Criteria for Evaluating Directors (Criteria). The Criteria are available on the Company's website at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance).

As indicated in the Principles and the Criteria, directors should have personal attributes such as high integrity, intelligence, wisdom and judgment. In addition, they should have skills and experience that mesh effectively with the skills and experience of other Board members, so that the talents of all members blend together to be as effective as possible in overseeing a large energy business.

## **Diversity**

The Criteria also includes the Company's statement regarding how the Board considers diversity in identifying nominees for our Board. The Criteria provide:

Two central objectives in selecting board members and continued board service are that the skills, experiences and perspectives of the Board as a whole should be broad and diverse, and that the talents of all members of the Board should blend together to be as effective as possible. Diversity in gender, race, age, tenure of board service, geography and background of directors, consistent with the Board's requirements for knowledge and experience, are desirable in the mix of the Board.

Our Corporate Governance Committee considers these criteria each year as it determines the slate of director nominees to recommend to the Board for election at our annual meeting. It also considers these criteria each time a new director is recommended for election or appointment to the Board. The Corporate Governance Committee is committed to including in each director search qualified candidates who reflect diverse backgrounds, including diversity of gender and race. The Board believes that its implementation of this policy is effective in maintaining the diversity of the members of the Board.

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Understanding the importance of Board composition and refreshment for effective oversight, the Corporate Governance Committee strives to maintain an appropriate balance of tenure, diversity, skills and experience on the Board. Below are highlights of the composition of our Director nominees:

### **Selection of Director Candidates**

The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for recruiting new directors and identifies, evaluates and recommends director candidates to the Board. The Corporate Governance Committee regularly assesses the appropriate size and composition of the Board, the needs of the Board and the respective committees of the Board and the qualifications of candidates in light of these needs. Candidates may come to the attention of the Corporate Governance Committee through shareholders, management, current members of the Board or search firms. Shareholders who wish to recommend director candidates to the Corporate Governance Committee may do so by following the procedures described in Shareholder Proposals and Nominations on page 78.

### **Linking Business Strategy with Key Skills Represented on the Board**

AEP's long-term strategy is to become a fully regulated, premier energy company focused on investment in infrastructure and energy solutions that customers want and need. We are focused on building a smarter energy infrastructure and delivering new technologies and custom energy solutions to our customers. We operate and maintain the nation's largest electricity transmission system and more than 219,000 miles of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe, reliable power to nearly 5.4 million regulated customers in 11 states. AEP also is one of

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the nation's largest electricity producers with approximately 32,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including 4,340 megawatts of renewable energy.

The Corporate Governance Committee and the Board regularly consider the Company's strategy and the particular skills, experiences and other qualifications that should be represented on the Board as a whole, to effectively oversee the Company's strategic direction. As part of the Board's succession planning, the Board reviews the skills currently represented on the Board but, more importantly, focuses on the skills needed in the future. In that regard, the Board sought a new director with digital/technology, marketing and IT skills, and recruited Ms. McCarthy to join the Board.

We believe that our director nominees, taken together as a group, possess the skills and expertise appropriate for maintaining an effective Board aligned with the Company's long term strategy. Listed below are summaries of specific qualifications that the Corporate Governance Committee and the Board believe should be represented on the Board.

## **Senior Executive Leadership and Business Strategy**

Directors who hold or have held significant senior leadership experience as a CEO or senior executive provide the Company with unique insights. They generally possess extraordinary leadership skills as well as the ability to recognize and develop leadership skills in others. They have a practical understanding of organizations, strategy and risk management, and know how to drive growth.

## **Regulated Industry Experience**

Our business is heavily regulated. AEP engages in a complex business with significant public policy and public safety implications. A portion of our business deals with nuclear regulations and operations. The development and execution of our strategy depends on directors who have experience with public policy issues, energy markets, technology, renewable energy, and electric transmission and distribution infrastructure.

## **Industrial Operations Experience**

AEP invests billions of dollars each year on maintenance and growth investments to improve reliability of its electric transmission and distribution systems, and to enhance customer service. AEP also invests substantial sums in our generation portfolio. Having directors with experience with these complex processes is important because it allows the Board to provide AEP with appropriate decision-making and oversight related to complex capital projects.

## **Finance and Accounting**

Accurate and transparent financial reporting is critical to our success. We seek to have a number of directors who qualify as audit committee financial experts.

## **Safety and Talent**

With safety as an AEP core value, maintaining the safety of AEP employees and the general public is imperative. Therefore, it is helpful to have directors with experience who can assist the Board in its oversight of the Company's programs and performance related to health and safety. In addition, directors who have significant leadership experience as a CEO or senior executive are better able to recognize and develop leadership skills and talents in others.

## **Risk Management**

Managing risk in a rapidly changing utility industry is critical to our success. Directors with an understanding of the most significant risks facing AEP and experience and leadership to provide effective oversight of management risk processes is critical to our success.

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### **Government, Legal and Environmental Affairs**

AEP is engaged in a business that is subject to extensive regulation by multiple state and federal regulatory authorities. Experience with and understanding of government regulation is critical to AEP's efforts to help shape public policy and government regulation that has a direct effect on its business and strategy. The production of energy also has environmental implications and how we address rapidly evolving environmental regulation has important strategic implications. As such, we seek directors with experience in government, legal and environmental affairs to provide insight on effective strategies in these areas.

### **Customer Experience and Marketing**

Understanding the needs of our customers is important in our rapidly changing industry. Marketing expertise is also important as our business becomes more competitive and as we focus on meeting customer expectations and transforming the customer experience. We seek directors who have experience in consumer businesses and are committed to excellence in service.

### **Cybersecurity and Physical Security**

The industry in which AEP conducts its business is subject to physical and cyber threats against the security of assets and systems. AEP recognizes the importance of directors who possess experience in these areas.

### **Innovation and Technology**

The utility industry is rapidly changing with the development of new technologies, and shifting energy policy and environmental regulation in energy markets. Therefore, it is important to have directors who possess experience in these areas.

The Corporate Governance Committee also considers a wide range of additional factors, including each candidate's projected retirement date to assist in Board succession planning; other positions the candidate holds, including other boards of directors on which he or she serves; and the independence of each candidate.

In our corporate governance outreach calls with our largest shareholders, several asked us to consider reducing the number of public company boards that our directors may serve on to ensure that directors have sufficient time to dedicate to their Board service. In response to this shareholder feedback, we amended our Principles in 2015 to reduce the number of public boards our directors can serve on from six to four.

Typically, the Corporate Governance Committee identifies candidates through the use of an outside search firm, which is how Ms. McCarthy was identified. The Corporate Governance Committee provides the outside search firm with the characteristics, skills and experiences that may complement those of the existing members. The outside search firm then provides recommendations for candidates with such attributes and skills. The Corporate Governance Committee meets in executive session to discuss potential candidates and determines which candidates to interview.

The Corporate Governance Committee believes it is important to have a mix of experienced directors with a deep understanding of the Company and others who bring a fresh perspective. The Corporate Governance Committee has

recruited new directors to the Board through the rigorous process described above. In the Board's view, the best method to ensure healthy board evolution is through thoughtful consideration of the nomination of directors prior to each election or appointment based on a variety of factors, including director performance, skills and expertise, the Company's needs and board diversity.

### **Director Independence**

In accordance with the NYSE standards, a majority of the members of the Board of Directors must qualify as independent directors. Under the NYSE standards, no member of the Board is independent unless the Board affirmatively determines that such member does not have a direct or indirect material relationship with the Company. The Board has adopted categorical standards to assist it in making this determination of director independence (Director Independence Standards). These standards can be found on our website at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance).

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Each year, our directors and director nominees complete a questionnaire that elicits information to assist the Corporate Governance Committee in assessing whether the director or nominee meets the NYSE's independence standards and the Director Independence Standards. Each director and nominee lists all the companies and charitable organizations that he or she, or an immediate family member, has a relationship with as a partner, trustee, director or officer, and indicates whether that entity made or received payments from AEP. The Company reviews its financial records to determine the amounts paid to or received from those entities. A list of the entities and the amounts AEP paid to or received from those entities is provided to the Corporate Governance Committee. Utilizing this information, the Corporate Governance Committee evaluates, with regard to each director and nominee, whether the director or nominee has any material relationship with AEP or any of its subsidiaries and also confirms that none of these relationships is advisory in nature. The Corporate Governance Committee determines whether the amount of any payments between those entities and AEP could interfere with a director's ability to exercise independent judgment. The Corporate Governance Committee also reviews any other relevant facts and circumstances regarding the nature of these relationships to determine whether other factors, regardless of the categorical standards the Board has adopted or under the NYSE's independence standards, might impede a director's independence.

We are an energy company that provides electric service in eleven different states. Any organization that does business in our service territory is served by one of our subsidiaries. Many of our directors live in our service territory or are executives, directors or trustees of organizations that do business in our service area. Most of those organizations purchase electric service from us. However, these organizations purchase electric service from us at tariff rates or at rates obtained through a competitive bid process. Therefore, the Corporate Governance Committee determined that none of those relationships impedes a director's independence.

We make numerous charitable contributions to nonprofit and community organizations and universities in the states where we do business. Again, because many of our directors live in our service territory and are highly accomplished individuals in their communities, our directors are frequently affiliated with many of the same educational institutions, museums, charities and other community organizations. The Corporate Governance Committee reviews charitable contributions made by AEP to organizations with which our directors or their immediate family members are affiliated. The Corporate Governance Committee also reviews contributions made from The American Electric Power Foundation, which was created to support and play an active, positive role in the communities in which we operate by contributing funds to organizations in those communities. The Corporate Governance Committee determined that the Company's contributions were not materially influenced by the director's relationship with the organization, and therefore none of these relationships conflicts with the interests of the Company or would impair the director's independence or judgment.

The Board's independence determinations specifically included reviewing the following transactions:

Mr. Rasmussen is an executive officer of Nationwide Insurance. Nationwide purchases electricity from our subsidiaries (substantially less than one percent of either company's gross revenues). In addition, the Company paid an insignificant amount to Nationwide for standard insurance premiums, rent for office space and interest payments on ordinary course debt issued by the Company and its subsidiaries, which was sold through underwriters or brokers (which totaled substantially less than one percent of either company's gross revenues). The transactions between Nationwide and the Company were in the ordinary course and entered into on an arm's length basis, and payments were for services that were transactional in nature and did not involve any consulting or advisory work. Therefore, the Board determined that these transactions did not impair the independence of Mr. Rasmussen.

Ms. McCarthy is an Executive Vice President at CVS Health Corporation (CVS), supporting the technology organization through a period of transition following the completion of CVS acquisition of Aetna, Inc. Ms. McCarthy is not an executive officer of CVS and her transition services agreement with CVS is expected to terminate in May 2019. CVS purchases electricity from our subsidiaries (substantially less than one percent of either company's gross revenues). In addition, the Company paid an insignificant amount to CVS for interest payments on ordinary course debt issued by the Company

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and its subsidiaries, which was sold through underwriters or brokers (which totaled substantially less than one percent of either company's gross revenues). The transactions between CVS and the Company were in the ordinary course and entered into on an arm's length basis. Therefore, the Board determined that these transactions did not impair the independence of Ms. McCarthy.

As a result of this review, the Board has determined that, other than Mr. Akins, each of the directors and director nominees standing for election, including Messrs. Anderson, Beasley, Crosby, Hoaglin, Notebaert, Nowell, Rasmussen and Richard and Ms. Goodspeed, Ms. Lin, Ms. McCarthy and Ms. Tucker, has no material relationship with the Company (either directly or as a partner, stockholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company) and is independent under the NYSE rules and the Company's Director Independence Standards.

## **Shareholder Nominees for Directors**

The Corporate Governance Committee will consider shareholder recommendations of candidates to be nominated as directors of the Company. All such recommendations must be in writing and submitted in accordance with the procedures described under Shareholder Proposals and Nominations on page 78 and must include information required in AEP's Policy on Consideration of Candidates for Director Recommended by Shareholders. A copy of this policy is on our website at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance). Shareholders' nominees who comply with these procedures will receive the same consideration that all other nominees receive.

## **Board Leadership**

We believe the Company and its shareholders are best served by a Board that has the flexibility to establish a leadership structure that fits the needs of the Company at a particular point in time. Under the Principles, the Board has the authority to combine or separate the positions of Chairman and CEO, as well as to determine whether, if the positions are separated, the Chairman should be an employee, non-employee or an independent director.

The Board believes that the functioning of the Board is currently best served by maintaining a structure of having one individual serve as both Chairman and CEO. The Board believes that having a single person acting in those capacities promotes unified leadership and direction for both the Board and management and also provides a single, clear focus to execute the Company's strategy especially during this time of significant change in the utility business. However, in certain circumstances, such as the transition from one chief executive officer to another, the Board believes it may be appropriate for the role of Chairman and CEO to be split.

Under the Principles, in circumstances where the Chairman of the Board is not independent or where the positions of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer are filled by the same person, the Board considers it useful and appropriate to designate a Lead Director. The Company already has policies and practices in place to provide independent oversight of management and the Company's strategy. The Board currently includes 11 independent directors among its 12 members. The Board routinely holds executive sessions at which only independent directors are present, and, each year, the independent directors select a Lead Director responsible for facilitating and chairing the independent directors sessions.

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### **Lead Director**

Mr. Hoaglin has been the Lead Director of the Board since April 2012. The purpose of the Lead Director is to promote the independence of the Board in order to represent the interests of the shareholders. The Lead Director is selected by the independent directors. As the Lead Director, Mr. Hoaglin:

|                                                                                                                   |                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Works closely with the Chairman in developing the agenda for Board meetings and the information sent to the Board | Participates in the Company's annual shareholder outreach calls                            |
| Consults with and advises the Chairman on matters arising between Board meetings                                  | Sets the agenda for and chairs the executive sessions at every Board meeting               |
| Advises the Chairman on Board Committee and Committee Chair assignments                                           | Serves as a liaison between the Chairman and the independent directors                     |
| Leads the Board's annual self-assessment                                                                          | Has the authority to call special meetings of the Board                                    |
| Reviews the results of the annual evaluation of individual directors with each director                           | Has the authority to retain outside legal counsel or other advisors as needed by the Board |
| Co-leads, with the Chair of the HR Committee, the annual performance assessment of the Chief Executive Officer    |                                                                                            |

### **Board Oversight**

#### **The Board's role in AEP's risk oversight process**

The Board has the overall responsibility for overseeing the Company's management of risks. Management is responsible for identifying and managing the Company's risks. The Board reviews the Company's processes for identifying and managing risks and communicating with the Board about those risks to help ensure that the processes are effective.

Like other companies, we have very diverse risks. These include financial and accounting risks, capital deployment risks, operational risks, cyber security risks, compensation risks, liquidity risks, litigation risks, strategic risks, regulatory risks, reputation risks, natural-disaster risks and technology risks. Some critical risks having enterprise-wide significance, such as corporate strategy and capital budget, require the full Board's active oversight, but our Board committees also play a key role because they can devote more time to reviewing specific risks. Other committees oversee both specific and broad types of risks. Some of the committees have oversight responsibility for specific risks that are inherent in carrying out their responsibilities set forth in their charters.

The Board is responsible for ensuring that these types of risks are properly delegated to the appropriate committee, and that the risk oversight activities are properly coordinated and communicated among the Board and the various committees that oversee the risks. Our Chief Risk Officer attends Audit Committee meetings and reviews and discusses Company risks. Management has prepared and categorized a list of the Company's major types of risks. The Audit Committee reviewed that list and proposed an assignment of risks either to the full Board or to specific committees. The Board reviewed the recommendations and adopted the proposed allocation of responsibilities.

Cyber security and the effectiveness of AEP's cyber security processes are reviewed annually with the Board of Directors and at multiple meetings of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors throughout the year.

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The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing financial reporting risks, and oversees the Company's maintenance of financial and disclosure controls and procedures and specifically reviews our litigation and regulatory risks as part of their review of the Company's disclosures. The Audit Committee also discusses AEP's policies for risk assessment and risk management. Our Chief Financial Officer, Chief Risk Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and General Counsel attend the Audit Committee meetings.

Our Finance Committee broadly oversees our financial risks, which include energy trading risks, liquidity risks and interest rate risks. The Finance Committee reviews and approves the Company's risk policies relating to our power marketing and hedging activities and also oversees the performance of the assets in our pension plans. Our Chief Financial Officer, Chief Risk Officer and General Counsel attend the Finance Committee meetings.

Our HR Committee reviews the Company's incentive compensation practices to ensure they do not encourage excessive risk-taking and are consistent with the Company's risk tolerance. The HR Committee also oversees our succession planning and executive leadership development. Our Chief Administrative Officer attends the HR Committee meetings.

The Corporate Governance Committee focuses on corporate governance risks and oversees the Company's Corporate Compliance Program, which includes the Company's whistleblower program. The Corporate Governance Committee also oversees environmental performance and compliance risks. Our General Counsel attends the meetings of the Corporate Governance Committee.

Our Nuclear Oversight Committee focuses on the specific risks of operating a nuclear plant.

## **Compensation Risk**

The Company has designed its executive compensation process, with oversight from the HR Committee, to identify and manage risks and to ensure that its executive compensation programs do not encourage excessive risk taking. The Company's incentive compensation has the following characteristics:

Incentive award opportunities for employees as a group are capped at 200 percent of target, while awards for individual employees are capped at 250 percent of their target. Capping the potential payout limits the extent that employees could potentially profit by taking on excessive risk;

The large majority of incentive compensation is provided to executive officers as long-term stock-based incentive compensation to ensure that short-term performance is not encouraged or rewarded at the expense of long-term performance. This is important due to the large amount of long-term capital investments required in our business;

Annual incentive compensation funding for nearly all employees, including all executive officers, is based substantially on AEP's operating earnings per share, which helps ensure that incentive awards are commensurate with the Company's earnings;

Performance metrics for annual incentive compensation include safety measures which helps ensure that no employees are encouraged to achieve earnings objectives at the expense of workplace safety;

Performance metrics for long-term incentive compensation are cumulative operating earnings per share and total shareholder return ( TSR ) relative to the S&P 500 Electric Utilities Industry Index or a utility peer group. These are both robust measures of shareholder value that reduce the risk that employees might be encouraged to pursue other objectives that increase risk or reduce financial performance;

Incentive compensation performance scores are subject to an internal audit. Incentive award payouts to senior AEP management are subject to review and approval of the HR Committee, or, in the case of the CEO, the independent members of the Board. The Board and the HR Committee have the discretionary authority to reduce or eliminate any incentive payouts;

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Annual and long-term incentive payments and deferrals are subject to the Company's recoupment of incentive compensation policy ( "clawback policy" );

In 2018, AEP granted 75 percent of its long-term incentive awards in the form of performance units with a three-year performance and vesting period, and granted the remaining 25 percent of its long-term incentive awards in the form of restricted stock units that vest over a forty month period. These long-term incentive awards align the interests of employees with the long-term interests of shareholders and serve as a retention tool; and

AEP maintains stock ownership requirements for 52 officers (as of January 1, 2019).

As specified in its charter, the HR Committee (with the assistance of its independent compensation consultant and Company management) reviewed the Company's compensation policies and practices for all employees, including executive officers. As a result of this review and the processes described above, the HR Committee concluded that the Company's compensation program appropriately balance risks and rewards in a way that does not encourage excessive or imprudent risk taking or create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

## **CEO and Senior Management Succession Planning**

Our Board oversees management succession planning and talent development. The HR Committee regularly reviews and discusses with management the CEO succession plan and the succession plans for key positions at the senior officer level across the Company. The HR Committee reviews potential internal senior management candidates with our CEO, including the qualifications, experience, and development priorities for these individuals. The full Board spends the bulk of one of its meetings each year discussing succession plans. The Board also evaluates succession plans in the context of our overall business strategy. Potential leaders are visible to Board members through formal presentations and informal events to allow directors to personally assess candidates. In 2018, we followed this process when implementing succession plans for recent executive officer changes.

Our Board also establishes steps to address emergency CEO succession planning in extraordinary circumstances. Our emergency CEO succession planning is intended to enable our Company to respond to unexpected emergencies and minimize potential disruption or loss of continuity to our Company's business and operations.

## **Culture**

At AEP, we believe in doing the right thing every time for our customers, each other and our future. The Board has oversight responsibility for AEP's culture and assuring that it supports the long term best interests of the Company. AEP leaders at all levels are responsible for fostering an environment that supports a positive culture and for acting in a manner that positively models it.

Mr. Akins is a key leader in the Company's cultural transformation through his continual encouragement of employees to work together collaboratively to **safely** do their best work. We continually strive for excellence in every part of our operations. We believe in a culture dedicated to diversity and inclusion, which values and promotes equal opportunity. We always aim to meet our customers' expectations, and we are committed to conducting our operations in accordance with the highest ethical standards.

Employees are given an opportunity to share their perspectives by participating in the Employee Culture Survey to measure the progress we are making in improving our culture. The Board and the HR Committee review the results of

the annual survey, and the survey results are measured as part of our annual incentive compensation plan.

Company executives have candid meetings with employees to discuss the Company's challenges, opportunities, what's going well and what can be even better. The Board participates in these same efforts

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through informal meetings with senior and mid-level officers. The Board discusses Company culture with Mr. Akins in executive session, and directors interact with employees to independently get a read on the pulse of the organization. Culture, including integrity and ethics in particular, are part of the CEO's annual performance evaluation. The reputational and other risks associated with culture are also discussed and addressed through the risk oversight process described above.

In 2018, the independent directors had meetings with employees without the presence of management to discuss the Company's culture. In addition, in 2018, the Board received a presentation from the Company's Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer.

## **Board's Oversight of Strategy and Sustainability**

One of the key responsibilities of AEP's Board of Directors is overseeing the Company's strategy to create long-term value for AEP's shareholders. Environmental policies have a significant impact on the Company's strategy. As a result, the Board regularly engages with senior management in the oversight of environmental issues, including climate change, energy efficiency, renewable energy and technology changes in the industry. As AEP continues to transition its business, the Board works with the senior management team to adjust plans as needed to respond to rapid changes in the industry, including technology and public policy. Management identifies and incorporates significant environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, including climate change impacts, into the business strategy. We believe that our performance on ESG matters is linked to our ability to create long-term value for our shareholders.

As part of its oversight role, the Board monitors climate risks and reviews opportunities that may be realized with climate change. The Board also receives an environmental report from management at every Board meeting. In addition, the Board holds extended meetings twice a year, to provide extra time for a more robust review of the Company's strategy. Discussions about carbon and carbon risk occur during Board meetings and those strategic planning sessions. The Board is also responsible for reviewing and approving the Company's allocation of capital.

The Board has delegated responsibility for overseeing the Company's annual Corporate Accountability Report (CAR) to its Corporate Governance Committee. This committee reviews and approves the annual CAR, which in 2018 included sustainability goals. The Corporate Governance Committee also receives updates twice a year from management on its sustainability initiatives. During those meetings, management reports on its engagement with stakeholders on a range of issues, including climate change.

Under the Board's oversight, in February 2018, AEP issued a report that announced new intermediate and long-term CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction goals, based on the output of the Company's integrated resource plans, which take into account economics, customer demand, grid reliability and resiliency, regulations and the Company's current business strategy. The intermediate goal is a 60% reduction from 2000 CO<sub>2</sub> emission levels from AEP generating facilities by 2030; the long-term goal is an 80% reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from AEP generating facilities from 2000 levels by 2050.

## **Annual Board, Committee and Individual Director Evaluations**

Each year, the Corporate Governance Committee engages an independent third party, experienced in corporate governance matters, to interview each Director to obtain his or her assessment of the effectiveness of the Board and committees. In addition, the third party seeks input from each Director as to the performance of the other Board members' performance. The Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee instructs the third party on the particular criteria to be covered in the assessment, such as conduct of the meetings and committees, leadership and process. Each Director is asked to identify any opportunities the Board can focus on to enhance its effectiveness. The

third party organizes the Director feedback and reviews it with the Chair of the Corporate Governance Committee. The Corporate Governance Committee Chair holds private conversations with each Director to give honest feedback provided from other Directors, which is meant to help Directors

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improve their own individual performance. The Corporate Governance Committee Chair also reviews with the Corporate Governance Committee and the full Board, the assessment of the Board's performance and leads a discussion to determine which areas the Board would like to focus on during the coming year to enhance its effectiveness. Finally, the Corporate Governance Committee Chair engages the Board in a mid-year discussion to gauge the Board's satisfaction with the progress made in addressing any focus areas that were identified by the Board in its annual evaluation.

## **Annual Shareholder Outreach**

Our Board and management are committed to engaging with our shareholders and soliciting their views and input on important governance, environmental, social, executive compensation and other matters. The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing the shareholder engagement process and the periodic review and assessment of shareholder input. Our Lead Director plays a central role in our Board's shareholder engagement efforts. Our management team contacted institutions holding approximately 50% of our Common Stock, and offered to engage with these investors. During 2018, our Lead Director and members of management had discussions with a diverse mix of our shareholders on a variety of corporate governance issues, including Board refreshment, the Board's role in its oversight of culture and ESG issues and specifically climate change, Company strategy, executive compensation, the responsibilities of the Lead Director and the Board's annual evaluation process. These shareholder views were shared with our Corporate Governance Committee. These engagements help our Board and management to understand and address the issues that are important to our shareholders.

## **Communicating with the Board**

Anyone who would like to communicate directly with our Board, our independent directors as a group or our Lead Director, may submit a written communication to American Electric Power Company, Inc., P.O. Box 163609, Attention: AEP Independent Directors, Columbus, Ohio 43216. The Company's Corporate Secretary reviews such inquiries or communications, and communications other than advertising or promotions of a product or service are forwarded to our Board, our independent directors as a group or our Lead Director, as appropriate.

## **Transactions with Related Persons**

The American Electric Power Company, Inc. Related Person Transaction Approval Policy (Policy) was adopted by the Board in December 2006. The written Policy is administered by the Corporate Governance Committee. A copy of the Policy is available on our website at [www.aep.com/investors/governance](http://www.aep.com/investors/governance).

The Policy defines a "Transaction with a Related Person" as any transaction or series of transactions in which (i) the Company or a subsidiary is a participant, (ii) the aggregate amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and (iii) any "Related Person" has a direct or indirect material interest. A "Related Person" is any director or executive officer of the Company, any nominee for director, any shareholder owning in excess of five percent of the total equity of the Company and any immediate family member of any such person.

The Corporate Governance Committee considers all of the relevant facts and circumstances in determining whether or not to approve a Transaction with a Related Person and approves only those transactions that it believes are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

The Corporate Governance Committee considers various factors, including, among other things: the nature of the Related Person's interest in the transaction; whether the transaction involves arm's-length bids or market prices and terms; the materiality of the transaction to each party; the availability of the product or services through other sources;

whether the transaction would impair the judgment of a director or executive officer to act in the best interest of the Company; the acceptability of the transaction to the Company's regulators; and in the case of a non-employee director, whether the transaction would impair his or her independence or status as an outside or non-employee director.

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If Company management determines it is impractical or undesirable to wait until a meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee to consummate a Transaction with a Related Person, the Chair of the Corporate Governance Committee may review and approve the Transaction with a Related Person. Any such approval is reported to the Corporate Governance Committee at or before its next regularly scheduled meeting.

No approval or ratification of a Transaction with a Related Person supersedes the requirements of the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Members of the Board of Directors or AEP's Principles of Business Conduct applicable to any executive officer. To the extent applicable, any Transaction with a Related Person is also considered in light of the requirements set forth in those documents.

Since January 1, 2018, there have been no transactions, and there are no currently proposed transactions, involving an amount exceeding \$120,000 in which AEP was or is expected to be a participant and in which any Related Person had a direct or indirect material interest.

**Table of Contents****Director Compensation**

Directors who are employees of the Company receive no additional compensation for service as a director other than accidental death insurance coverage. The table below shows the elements and the annual compensation that we paid to our non-employee directors for 2018.

| <b>Compensation Element</b>           | <b>Amount</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Annual Retainer (1)                   | \$ 120,500    |
| Annual Stock Unit Awards (2)          | \$ 157,500    |
| Committee Chair Annual Retainers (1): |               |
| Audit Committee                       | \$ 25,000     |
| HR Committee                          | \$ 20,000     |
| Corporate Governance Committee        | \$ 15,000     |
| Finance Committee                     | \$ 15,000     |
| Nuclear Oversight Committee           | \$ 15,000     |
| Policy Committee                      | \$ 5,000      |
| Lead Director Annual Retainer (1)     | \$ 30,000     |

(1) Retainer amounts are paid in cash in quarterly installments.

(2) In 2018, pursuant to the Stock Unit Accumulation Plan for Non-Employee Directors, each non-employee director was awarded \$157,500 in AEP stock units. These AEP stock units are credited to directors quarterly, in an amount calculated by dividing the dollar value of the award amount by the closing price of AEP common stock on the grant date. Amounts equivalent to cash dividends on the AEP stock units accrue as additional AEP stock units. AEP stock units are paid to each non-employee director in cash after termination of service unless the director has elected to further defer payments.

The Corporate Governance Committee's independent compensation consultant, Meridian Compensation Partners, LLC (Meridian), evaluates on an annual basis the competitiveness of the Company's non-employee director compensation program and the form and amount of each element of that program in comparison to the companies in the peer group used for executive compensation and to a group of other industrial companies that were comparable in size to AEP. The Board reviews the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Committee and determines the form and amount of Director compensation.

At its meeting held in September 2018, the Corporate Governance Committee reviewed and discussed an analysis of non-employee director compensation prepared by Meridian. Meridian's report reviewed the design and competitiveness of our non-employee director compensation program. In September 2018, upon the recommendation of the Corporate Governance Committee and taking into account comparative data from Meridian, the Board made only one change to director compensation. The Board increased the annual cash retainer for the Nuclear Oversight Committee Chair to \$17,500 effective January 1, 2019. All other aspects of the Company's compensation program for non-employee directors remain the same.

We use a combination of cash and AEP stock units to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on our Board of Directors. In setting director compensation, our Board considers the significant amount of time that directors expend on fulfilling their duties to our Company. Additional amounts are paid to committee chairs in recognition of the substantial responsibilities of the chair.

**Expenses.** Directors are reimbursed for expenses incurred in attending Board, committee and shareholder meetings. Directors are also reimbursed for reasonable expenses associated with other business activities that benefit the Company, including participation in director education programs. Spouses may occasionally join

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directors on Company aircraft when a director is traveling to or from Board meetings or other business activities. The Company generally provides for, or reimburses the expenses of, the directors and their spouses for attendance at such meetings. Our Directors do not receive any tax gross-ups.

**Retainer Deferral Plan.** The Retainer Deferral Plan for Non-Employee Directors is a non-qualified deferred compensation plan that permits non-employee directors to choose to defer up to 100 percent of their annual cash payments into a variety of investment fund options, all with market-based returns, including an AEP stock fund. The Plan permits the non-employee directors to defer receipt until termination of service or for a period that results in payment commencing not later than five years after termination of service.

**Insurance.** AEP maintains a group 24-hour accident insurance policy to provide a \$1,000,000 accidental death benefit for each director, \$100,000 for each spouse of a director and \$50,000 for all dependent children. The current policy, effective November 1, 2018 to January 1, 2020, has a premium of \$14,248.

**Stock Ownership.** Non-employee directors are required by our Principles to own AEP common stock or AEP stock units worth five times their annual equity award. This is met within the first five years of a non-employee director's term by requiring the director to hold the AEP stock units awarded under the Stock Unit Accumulation Plan until termination of service.

After five years of service on the Board, non-employee directors receive contributions to an AEP stock fund under the Stock Unit Accumulation Plan. During open trading windows they may subsequently transfer those amounts into other investment fund options, similar to those in the Retainer Deferral Plan.

**Matching Gifts Program.** Directors may participate in our Matching Gifts Program on the same terms as AEP employees. Under the program, AEP will match between \$250 and \$1,000 per higher education institution each year in charitable contributions from a director.

**2018 Director Compensation Table**

The following table presents the compensation provided by the Company in 2018 to our non-employee directors.

| Name                   | Fees<br>Earned<br>Or<br>Paid in | Stock<br>Awards | All Other<br>Compensation | Total (\$) |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|------------|
|                        | Cash (\$)                       | (\$)(1)(2)      | (\$)(3)                   |            |
| David. J. Anderson     | 135,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 293,840    |
| J. Barnie Beasley, Jr. | 135,500                         | 157,500         | 1,840                     | 294,840    |
| Ralph D. Crosby, Jr.   | 140,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 298,840    |
| Linda A. Goodspeed     | 120,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 278,840    |
| Thomas E. Hoaglin      | 165,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 323,840    |
| Sandra Beach Lin       | 121,750                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 280,090    |
| Richard C. Notebaert   | 120,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 278,840    |
| Lionel L. Nowell III   | 145,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 303,840    |
| Stephen S. Rasmussen   | 120,500                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 278,840    |
| Oliver G. Richard III  | 124,250                         | 157,500         | 840                       | 282,590    |

|                |         |         |     |         |
|----------------|---------|---------|-----|---------|
| Sara M. Tucker | 120,500 | 157,500 | 840 | 278,840 |
|----------------|---------|---------|-----|---------|

- (1) The dollar amounts reported represent the grant date fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 of AEP stock units granted under the Stock Unit Accumulation Plan for Non-Employee

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- Directors, without taking into account estimated forfeitures. AEP stock units are credited to directors quarterly.
- (2) Each non-employee director received 2,225 AEP stock units in 2018. Directors had the following aggregate number of AEP stock units, including dividend equivalents, at 2018 year-end, all of which are fully vested: Mr. Anderson 24,610, Mr. Beasley, 13,121, Mr. Crosby 48,607, Ms. Goodspeed 49,535, Mr. Hoaglin 41,702, Ms. Lin 19,080, Mr. Notebaert 24,610, Mr. Nowell 44,958, Mr. Rasmussen 18,447, Mr. Richard 17,120 and Ms. Tucker 36,804.
  - (3) The amounts reported in All Other Compensation consists of the (a) Company-paid premium of \$840 for accidental death insurance policy and (b) matching gift contributions of \$1,000 for Mr. Beasley.

## **Insurance**

**Insurance.** AEP and the AEP System Companies and their directors and officers are insured, subject to certain exclusions and retentions, against losses resulting from any claim or claims made against them while acting in their capacities as directors and officers. Such insurance, effective May 1, 2018 to May 1, 2019, is provided by: Associated Electric & Gas Insurance Services Ltd.(AEGIS), Energy Insurance Mutual, Ltd.(EIM), Zurich American Insurance Company, Tokio Marine (HCC), XL Specialty Insurance Company, Arch Insurance Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, Westchester Fire Insurance Company (Chubb/ACE), Berkley Insurance Company, RSUI Indemnity Company, Markel America Insurance Company, Freedom Specialty Insurance Company (Nationwide), Arch Reinsurance Ltd. (Bermuda), Illinois National Insurance Company (AIG), Allianz Global Risks US Insurance Company, Ironshore Indemnity Inc (Liberty Mutual), U.S. Specialty Insurance Company (Tokio Marine/HCC), Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, Endurance American Insurance Company (Sompo International), and XL Specialty Insurance Company. The total cost of this insurance is \$3,023,075.

Fiduciary liability insurance provides coverage, subject to certain exclusions and retentions, for AEP System companies and their affiliated trusts, their directors and officers, and any employee deemed to be a fiduciary or trustee, for breach of fiduciary responsibility, obligation, or duties as imposed under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Such insurance, effective May 1, 2018 to May 1, 2019, is provided by Associated Electric & Gas Insurance Services Limited (AEGIS), U.S. Specialty Insurance Company (Tokio Marine HCC), Energy Insurance Mutual (EIM), and Freedom Specialty Insurance Company (Nationwide). The total cost of this insurance is \$356,397.

**Table of Contents****Item 2. Proposal to Ratify Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The Audit Committee is responsible for the appointment, fees and oversight of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee has appointed the firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, or PwC, as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019. The Audit Committee reviews and assesses annually the qualifications and performance of the independent registered public accounting firm and considers, as appropriate, the rotation of the independent registered public accounting firm. Additionally, the Audit Committee is involved in the selection and mandated rotation of the lead engagement partner from PwC. The Audit Committee believes that the continued retention of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm is in the best interest of the Company and our shareholders, and we are asking our shareholders to ratify, in a non-binding vote, the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2019.

Although action by the shareholders in this matter is not required, the Audit Committee believes that it is appropriate to seek shareholder ratification of this appointment in light of the critical role played by the independent registered public accounting firm in maintaining the integrity of the Company's financial controls and reporting, and will seriously consider shareholder input on this issue. Whether or not the appointment of PwC is ratified by the shareholders, the Audit Committee may, in its discretion, change the appointment at any time during the year if it determines that such change would be in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders.

Representatives of PwC are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

**Vote Required**

Approval of this proposal requires the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the votes cast at the meeting.

Your Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** this Item 2.

**Audit and Non-Audit Fees**

The following table presents fees for professional audit services rendered by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, and fees billed for other services rendered by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP during those periods.

| <b>Audit &amp; Non-Audit Fees</b> | <b>2018</b>          | <b>2017</b>          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Audit Fees (1)                    | \$ 11,062,885        | \$ 10,739,445        |
| Audit-Related Fees (2)            | \$ 226,000           | \$ 260,000           |
| Tax Fees (3)                      | \$ 329,128           | \$ -                 |
| All Other Fees (4)                | \$ 195,000           | \$ 850,000           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>\$ 11,813,013</b> | <b>\$ 11,849,445</b> |

- (1) Audit fees in 2017 and 2018 consisted primarily of fees related to the audit of the Company's annual consolidated financial statements, including each registrant subsidiary. Audit fees also included auditing procedures performed in accordance with Sarbanes-Oxley Act Section 404 and the related Public Company Accounting Oversight

Board Auditing Standard Number 5 regarding the Company's internal control over financial reporting. This category also includes work generally only the independent registered public accounting firm can reasonably be expected to provide.

- (2) Audit-related fees consisted principally of regulatory, statutory and employee benefit plan audits.

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- (3) Tax fees consisted principally of advisory services. Tax services are rendered based upon facts already in existence, transactions that have already occurred, as well as tax consequences of proposed transactions.
- (4) These are fees for permissible work performed by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP that do not meet the above categories.

### **Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit and Permissible Non-Audit Services of the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Pre-approval is provided for up to one year, and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is subject to a specific limitation. The independent registered public accounting firm and management are required to report to the Audit Committee at each regular meeting regarding the extent of services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm in accordance with this pre-approval policy, and the fees for the services performed to date. The Audit Committee Chairman may also pre-approve particular services on a case-by-case basis. In 2018, all PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP services were pre-approved by the Audit Committee in accordance with this policy.

### **Audit Committee Report**

The Audit Committee reviews AEP's financial reporting process as well as the internal control over financial reporting on behalf of the Board. Management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the system of internal control over financial reporting.

The Audit Committee met seven times during the year and held discussions, some of which were in private, with management, the internal auditor, and the independent registered public accounting firm. Management represented to the Audit Committee that AEP's consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Management has also concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2018. The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting with management, the internal auditor and the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the matters required to be discussed by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB).

In addition, the Audit Committee had discussions with and received written communications from the independent registered public accounting firm regarding its independence as required by the PCAOB. The Audit Committee has also received written communication regarding the results of the independent registered public accounting firm's internal quality control reviews and procedures and other matters, as required by the New York Stock Exchange listing standards.

In reliance on the reviews, communications and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the audited financial statements be included in AEP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018, for filing with the SEC.

### ***Audit Committee Members***

Lionel L. Nowell, III, Chair

David J. Anderson

J. Barnie Beasley, Jr.

Linda A. Goodspeed

Thomas E. Hoaglin

Sandra Beach Lin

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**Shareholders are entitled to assert dissenters' rights under Section 623 of the New York Business Corporation Law in connection with Item 3 Proposal to Eliminate Preemptive Rights. In order to perfect those rights, you must comply in full with the requirements of Section 623 of the New York Business Corporation Law, a copy of which is attached.**

### **Item 3: Amendment to Our Certificate of Incorporation to Eliminate Preemptive Rights**

#### ***General***

On February 19, 2019, the Board of Directors adopted resolutions declaring it advisable and in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to amend Section 4.4 of the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") to eliminate shareholder preemptive rights, and the Board is now proposing and recommending to the Company's shareholders that the proposed amendment be adopted and approved. The amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation is intended to modernize and update our governing documents.

The proposed amendment of Section 4.4 is as follows:

Section 4.4. No present or future holder of any shares of the corporation of any class or series, whether heretofore or hereafter issued, shall have any preemptive rights with respect to (1) any shares of the corporation of any class or series, or (2) any other security of the corporation convertible into or carrying rights or options to purchase such shares.

Exhibit B shows the proposed changes from the current Section 4.4 of the Certificate of Incorporation.

#### ***Description of Preemptive Rights and Purpose of the Amendment.***

The Board of Directors is recommending that shareholders vote **FOR** the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation because the Board believes that the elimination of preemptive rights is important to the Company's long-term success, as it will provide the flexibility to raise capital more efficiently and with fewer costs and delays. Additionally, the Board of Directors believes that the protection that preemptive rights historically have offered to shareholders against dilution of their voting power is not critical to the shareholders of a public company, such as AEP.

Presently, our Certificate of Incorporation provides shareholders with preemptive rights with respect to certain offerings of stock. Subject to certain exceptions, shares of stock proposed to be issued by the Company must first be offered to our existing shareholders on a pro rata basis. As provided in our Certificate of Incorporation, there are no preemptive rights with respect to (i) a public offering of common stock, (ii) an offering of common stock to or through underwriters or dealers who agree promptly to make a public offering thereof, or (iii) any other offering of shares which has been authorized or approved by the affirmative vote, cast in person or by proxy, of the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the shareholders' meeting at which action was taken with respect to such other offering.

The existence of preemptive rights means that whenever the Company intends to offer and sell shares of its stock to the public for cash, other than as described above, each shareholder may be entitled to purchase a number of shares that will enable the holder to maintain his or her percentage ownership upon completion of the offering. Alternatively, the Company may seek prior shareholder approval of such issuance in order to release the preemptive rights. The original purpose of preemptive rights was to prevent a company or a majority of its shareholders from diluting a minority shareholder's interest without his or her consent. Although these rights may be beneficial in the context of

smaller privately-held companies, they present a cumbersome restriction on the ability of a public company to issue and sell shares for appropriate corporate purposes in today's public markets. Unlike a minority shareholder in a private company, a shareholder of a public company can maintain desired ownership levels and prevent dilution of the shareholder's voting power simply by purchasing shares on the open market.

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The elimination of preemptive rights will give the Board of Directors greater flexibility in raising additional capital if necessary and an enhanced ability to negotiate more favorable and efficient terms in light of then-prevailing circumstances and market conditions. The Board of Directors must approve the terms and conditions under which any shares are sold by the Company. It can be time consuming to notify each shareholder of the shareholder's preemptive rights, and the process can cause delays, increase the cost of raising capital and negatively impact pricing of capital to be issued. Similarly, there would be costs and delays associated with holding a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of releasing preemptive rights in respect of a proposed share issuance. The Board of Directors believes that having preemptive rights restricts the Company's ability to raise capital in an efficient manner.

For all of the reasons described above, the Board of Directors believes it is in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders to eliminate preemptive rights from the Certificate of Incorporation.

***Dissenters' Rights***

Shareholders who object to the amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights are entitled to exercise their dissenters' rights and receive payment for the fair value of their shares.

Pursuant to Section 623 of the New York Business Corporation Law, shareholders desiring to exercise dissenters' rights (i) must file with the Company a written objection **prior** to the vote at the Annual Meeting and (ii) must not vote to approve the amendment related to the elimination of preemptive rights. The objection must include a notice of the objecting shareholder's election to seek dissenters' rights, such shareholder's name, residence address and the number of shares of common stock beneficially owned and a demand for payment of the fair value of such shares if the amendment is approved. The written objection must be in addition to and separate from any proxy or vote against or abstention from the proposal. Voting against or failing to vote for the amendment by itself does not constitute an election to dissent within the meaning of Section 623. Shareholders will be deemed to have waived their dissenters' rights if they fail to file a written objection before the vote to be taken at the Annual Meeting. A vote in favor of the proposal will constitute a waiver of the shareholder's election to seek dissenters' rights with respect to the shares so voted, will nullify any previously filed written notice of election to seek dissenters' rights and will be deemed a waiver of the shareholder's dissenters' rights.

Shareholders exercising their dissenters' rights must do so with respect to all shares held by them of record that they own beneficially. In addition to filing a written objection and notice of election to dissent, shareholders exercising their dissenters' rights must deliver to the Company the certificates representing their shares within one month of filing their notice of election to dissent. The Company shall note thereon the shareholder's notice of election to dissent and return the certificates to the shareholder. Upon the filing of the amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation with respect to preemptive rights with the New York State Secretary of State, dissenting shareholders will no longer have any of the rights of shareholders of the Company, except the right to be paid the fair value of their shares.

In the event that the amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation is approved, the Company will notify within 10 days of the Annual Meeting those shareholders that have filed a notice of election to dissent of the approval of the amendment. Within 15 days of the effective time of the amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation, but no later than 90 days after the Annual Meeting, the Company shall notify dissenting shareholders of the Company's calculation of the fair value of their shares and shall offer to purchase the shares at that price and, to shareholders that have delivered their certificates to the Company for notation, make an advance payment of 80% of such amount. If within 30 days after the making of such offer, the Company and any dissenting shareholder agree upon the price to be paid for his or her shares, final payment shall be made within 60 days after the making of such offer or the effective time of the amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation, whichever is later, upon the surrender of the certificates for any such shares represented by certificates.

In the event of disagreement as to the fair value of the shares, the Company will institute a court proceeding to determine the fair value in accordance with New York law. The court's determination of fair value will include an allowance for interest.

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*The above summary is not intended to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to Section 623 of the New York Business Corporation Law, the text of which is set forth in Exhibit C to this Proxy Statement. Any shareholder considering exercising dissenters' rights is advised to consult with counsel. Any dissenters' rights will not be available unless and until an Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation implementing the elimination of preemptive rights is consummated.*

## **Vote Required**

Approval of the amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights requires the affirmative vote of a majority of all outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote thereon at this meeting. If the shareholders approve the amendment, we will execute and deliver a Certificate of Amendment to the New York State Department of State that would become effective upon filing. Upon effectiveness of the Certificate of Amendment, preemptive rights will be eliminated. However, the Board of Directors reserves the right to abandon the amendment related to the elimination of preemptive rights without further action by the shareholders at any time prior to the filing of such amendment, even if the proposed amendment has been approved by the shareholders. By voting in favor of the amendment, the shareholders will also be expressly authorizing the Board of Directors to determine not to proceed to implement this amendment if it should so decide. Consistent with New York law, if the proposed amendment does not receive the requisite approval of the shareholders at the meeting, the proposed amendment to Section 4.4 of the Certificate of Incorporation described above will not be implemented and shareholder preemptive rights will remain intact.

Your Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** the adoption and approval of the amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation eliminating preemptive rights.

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**Item 4. Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation**

We are including in these proxy materials a separate resolution for shareholders to vote upon, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, the compensation paid to our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the SEC's rules.

As described in detail under the heading "Compensation Discussion and Analysis," our executive compensation programs are designed to attract, motivate, and retain our named executive officers who are critical to our success. Under these programs, our named executive officers are rewarded for the achievement of annual and long-term goals. Please read "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" for additional details about the 2018 compensation of our named executive officers.

The HR Committee continually reviews the compensation programs for our named executive officers to ensure they achieve the desired goals of aligning our executive compensation structure with our shareholders' interests and current market practices. As a result of its review process, the HR Committee maintains the following executive compensation practices:

Emphasizing long-term incentive compensation to promote the longer-term interests of the Company and encourage management to make decisions that are aligned with shareholders' interests;

Tying the value of a substantial portion (75 percent) of this long-term compensation to two robust measures of shareholder value:

Three-year total shareholder return compared to the Company's executive compensation peer group, and

Three year cumulative operating earnings per share compared to a Board-approved target;

Maintaining a "no fault" clawback policy that allows the Board to recoup any excess incentive compensation paid to our named executive officers if the financial results on which the awards were based are materially restated.

We are asking our shareholders to indicate their support for our named executive officer compensation as described in this proxy statement. This proposal, commonly known as a "say-on-pay" proposal, gives our shareholders the opportunity to express their views on our named executive officers' compensation. This advisory vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement. Accordingly, we ask our shareholders to vote FOR the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders pursuant to rules of the SEC, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, compensation tables and related narrative disclosure is hereby APPROVED.

While the Board will carefully consider the results of this vote, the say-on-pay vote is advisory only, and therefore will not be binding on the Company or our Board of Directors.

**Vote Required**

Approval of this proposal requires the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the votes cast at the meeting.

Your Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** this Item 4.

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**Other Business**

The Board of Directors does not intend to present to the meeting any business other than the election of directors, the ratification of the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm, the amendment to the Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights and the advisory vote on the compensation of the named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement.

If any other business not described herein should properly come before the meeting for action by the shareholders, the persons named as proxies on the proxy card or their substitutes will vote the shares represented by them in accordance with their best judgment. At the time this proxy statement was printed, the Board of Directors was not aware of any other matters that might be presented.

**Table of Contents****Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

This section explains AEP's compensation philosophy, summarizes its compensation programs and reviews compensation decisions for the following named executive officers:

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Title</b>                                              |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mr. Akins</b>         | Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President           |
| <b>Mr. Tierney</b>       | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer      |
| <b>Mr. Feinberg</b>      | Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary   |
| <b>Ms. Barton</b>        |                                                           |
|                          | Executive Vice President – Transmission, who became       |
|                          | Executive Vice President – Utilities on January 1, 2019   |
| <b>Ms. Hillebrand</b>    | Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer |
| <b>Executive Summary</b> |                                                           |

***2018 Business Performance Highlights***

In 2018 we continued on our path to reposition the Company as the next premier regulated energy company. We continue to increase the capital investment in core utility operations to support operating earnings growth of 5 to 7 percent. Those investments will provide enhanced reliability for our customers along with stable, positive returns for our shareholders. In 2018 we had successful regulatory proceedings in six different jurisdictions and managed through the tax reform process in most of our states.

Our 2018 non-GAAP operating earnings were \$3.95 per share, which was at the top of our original operating earnings guidance for the year of \$3.75 to \$3.95 per share. Throughout this CD&A, we refer to operating earnings, which is a non-GAAP financial measure. For 2018, GAAP earnings per share were \$3.90, which is \$0.05 per share lower than operating earnings. The difference between 2018 GAAP earnings and operating earnings was largely due to certain generation plant impairments and severance charges, primarily related to announced plant closures. Exhibit A to this proxy statement contains a full reconciliation of GAAP earnings per share to non-GAAP operating earnings per share for 2018.

In 2018, our Transmission Holding Company business grew and contributed 75 cents per share to operating earnings. Strategic investments in our Transmission Holding Company business continue to support our earnings growth. Net plant assets for that business grew by \$1.4 billion, an increase of 21 percent over 2017.

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In October 2018 the Company increased its quarterly dividend by 8.1 percent, the ninth consecutive yearly increase. As shown in the chart below, AEP's shareholders received a 5.4 percent total shareholder return in 2018, which was above the total shareholder return for the S&P 500 Electric Utilities Index of 4.2 percent and the total shareholder return for the S&P 500 Index of negative 4.4 percent. AEP's shareholders received a 42.6 cumulative percent total shareholder return for the 3-year period ended December 31, 2018, and a 92.1 cumulative percent total shareholder return for the 5-year period ended December 31, 2018, outperforming the S&P 500 Electric Utilities Index and the S&P 500 over the last 3- and 5-years as well.

### ***2018 Goals for Incentive Compensation Plans***

With respect to our 2018 annual incentive compensation, the HR Committee:

Set the operating earnings per share target goal for annual incentive compensation at \$3.85, which was the midpoint of the Company's annual operating earnings guidance of \$3.75-\$3.95 per share at the time the HR Committee set the goal.

Set the operating earnings per share needed for a maximum payout for annual incentive compensation at \$4.00 per share.

With respect to the 2018 long-term incentive performance unit awards, the HR Committee:

Set the target for the three year cumulative operating earnings per share based on the same \$3.85 target used for the annual incentive plan for 2018, with a seven percent growth rate in operating earnings from 2018 for both 2019 and 2020.

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### ***2018 Earned Annual Incentive Plan Awards***

With respect to earned awards under the annual incentive plan, the HR Committee certified the following results and pay outcomes:

2018 operating earnings per share of \$3.95, which was at the top end of our original operating earnings guidance for the year, produced a score of 164.7 percent.

The Company performed above target on most of its strategic measures.

These results produced an overall score of 144.9 percent of target under the annual incentive plan.

### ***2016-2018 Earned Long-Term Performance Awards***

With respect to the long-term incentive performance unit award, the HR Committee certified the following results and pay outcomes:

Cumulative total shareholder return (TSR) of 49.2% placed the Company at the 67<sup>th</sup> percentile relative to the S&P 500 Electric Utilities Industry Index, which resulted in a score of 155.3 percent of target.

Cumulative operating earnings per share was above the target set for this performance period and produced a score of 118 percent of target.

These combined equally weighted scores resulted in a payout of 136.7 percent of target for this performance period.

### **Compensation Governance Best Practices**

Underlying our executive compensation program is an emphasis on good corporate governance practices.

| <b>What We Have</b>                                                                                                                           |   | <b>What We Don't Have</b>                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Significant stock ownership requirements for executive officers, including a stock ownership requirement for the CEO of six times base salary | × | No reimbursement or tax gross-up for excise taxes triggered under change in control agreements |
| A substantial portion of the compensation for executive officers is tied to annual and long-term performance                                  | × | No excessive perquisites for executives                                                        |
| A recoupment policy that allows the Company to claw back incentive compensation whether or not the                                            | × | No income tax gross-ups, other than for relocations                                            |

executive's actions involve misconduct

An insider trading policy that prohibits our executives and directors from hedging their AEP stock holdings and from pledging AEP stock

If there is a change in control, long-term incentive awards have double trigger vesting that results in accelerated vesting of these awards only if the change in control is followed by an involuntary or constructive separation from service

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### **Results of 2018 Advisory Vote to Approve Executive Compensation**

At the Company's annual meeting of shareholders held in April 2018, approximately 95 percent of the votes cast on the Company's say-on-pay proposal voted in favor of the proposal. After consideration of this vote, the HR Committee continued to apply the same principles and philosophy it has used in previous years in determining executive compensation. The HR Committee will continue to consider the outcome of the Company's say-on-pay vote and other sources of stakeholder feedback when establishing compensation programs and making compensation decisions for the named executive officers.

### **Overview**

#### ***Principles***

The HR Committee oversees and determines AEP's executive compensation (other than that of the CEO). In the case of the CEO, the HR Committee makes recommendations to the independent members of the board of directors about the compensation of the CEO, and the independent board members approve the CEO's compensation.

AEP's executive compensation program is designed to:

Attract, retain, motivate and reward an outstanding leadership team with market competitive compensation and benefits to achieve both excellent team and individual performance;

Reflect AEP's financial and operational size and the complexity of its multi-state operations;

Provide a substantial portion of executive officers' total compensation opportunity in the form of short-term and long-term performance based incentive compensation;

Align the interests of the Company's named executive officers with those of AEP's shareholders by providing a majority of the compensation opportunity for the named executive officers in the form of stock-based compensation with a value that is linked to the total return on AEP's common stock and by maintaining significant stock ownership requirements for executives;

Support the implementation of the Company's business strategy by tying annual incentive awards to operating earnings per share and the achievement of specific strategic and safety objectives; and

Promote the stability of the management team by creating strong retention incentives with multi-year vesting schedules for long-term incentive compensation.

The HR Committee's independent compensation consultant, Meridian Compensation Partners, LLC (Meridian), participates in HR Committee meetings, assists the HR Committee in developing the compensation program and regularly meets with the HR Committee in executive session without management present.

***Opportunity vs. Performance***

AEP's executive compensation program generally targets each named executive officer's total direct compensation opportunity (base salary, target annual incentive and grant date value of long-term incentive) at the median of AEP's Compensation Peer Group, which consists of 18 companies that operate in our industry. The ultimate value realized from the annual and long-term incentives are based on the Company's annual and long-term performance.

**Compensation and Benefits Design**

The compensation for our named executive officers includes base salary, annual incentive compensation, long-term incentive compensation and a comprehensive benefits program. The Company aims to provide a balance of annual and long-term incentive compensation that is consistent with the compensation mix provided by AEP's Compensation Peer Group.

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For annual incentive compensation, the HR Committee balances meeting AEP's operating earnings per share target with strategic and safety objectives. For 2018 annual incentive compensation, operating earnings per share had a 70 percent weight of the overall award opportunity, and the remaining 30 percent weight was tied to strategic and safety goals.

For our 2018 long-term incentive compensation, 75 percent was awarded in the form of three year performance units and 25 percent as restricted stock units (RSUs). The performance units are tied to:

AEP's total shareholder return relative to the companies in AEP's Compensation Peer Group; and

AEP's three-year cumulative operating earnings per share relative to a Board-approved target. The performance units are subject to a three-year vesting period from their January 1, 2018 effective date. The RSUs vest over 40 months from their January 1, 2018 effective date.

As illustrated in the charts below, in 2018, performance-based compensation (target annual incentive compensation and grant date value of performance units) comprised 69 percent of the target total direct compensation for the CEO and 60 percent of the average target total direct compensation for the other named executive officers. An additional 18 percent of the CEO's target total direct compensation and an additional 14 percent on average for the other named executive officers was provided in the form of time-vesting RSUs (grant date value) which are tied to AEP's stock price.

**Table of Contents****Compensation Peer Group**

The HR Committee, supported by Meridian, annually reviews AEP's executive compensation relative to a peer group of companies that represent the talent markets where we compete to attract and retain executives. The 18 companies included in the Compensation Peer Group were chosen from electric utility companies that were comparable in size in terms of revenues and market capitalization. AEP's Compensation Peer Group for 2018, which was unchanged from 2017, consisted of the 18 electric utility companies shown below.

|                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| AES Corporation          | Eversource Energy                    |
| Centerpoint Energy, Inc. | FirstEnergy Corp.                    |
| Consolidated Edison Inc. | NextEra Energy, Inc.                 |
| Dominion Energy, Inc.    | PG&E Corporation                     |
| DTE Energy Company       | PPL Corporation                      |
| Duke Energy Corporation  | Public Service Enterprise Group Inc. |
| Edison International     | Sempra Energy                        |
| Entergy Corporation      | Southern Company                     |
| Exelon Corporation       | Xcel Energy Inc.                     |

The table below shows that, at the time the Compensation Peer Group data was collected, AEP's revenue and market capitalization were above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, and closer to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, of the Compensation Peer Group.

**2018 Compensation Peer Group**

|                                | <b>Revenue(1)</b>   | <b>Market</b>       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Compensation Peer Group</b> | <b>(\$ million)</b> | <b>Cap(1)</b>       |
|                                |                     | <b>(\$ million)</b> |
| 25th Percentile                | \$11,595            | \$19,179            |
| 50th Percentile                | \$12,707            | \$25,070            |
| 75th Percentile                | \$17,073            | \$35,854            |
| <b>AEP</b>                     | <b>\$15,844</b>     | <b>\$34,159</b>     |

(1) The HR Committee selected the 2018 Compensation Peer Group in Fall 2017 based on each company's fiscal year-end 2016 revenue, and market capitalization as of October 1, 2017.

**Annual Market Analysis**

Meridian annually provides the HR Committee with an executive compensation study covering each named executive officer position based on compensation survey information for the Compensation Peer Group. The Meridian study benchmarks each of our named executive officer's total direct compensation, and each component of compensation, against the median components of target compensation provided by the Compensation Peer Group to officers serving in similar capacities if sufficient survey data for the Compensation Peer Group is available. The HR Committee also considered the market benchmarks for the CEO and CFO positions with size adjustments considering both size-adjusted regression analysis and revenue ranked benchmarking information. For the General Counsel position, the HR Committee similarly considered a size-adjusted market benchmark based on AEP's revenue using regression analysis. Adequate peer group compensation information was not available to provide benchmarks for either the

EVP-Transmission or the EVP and Chief Administrative Officer positions so broader samples were used to provide benchmarks. For the EVP-Transmission position, the HR Committee used the median for similar positions of all companies in the Willis Towers Watson 2017 CDB Energy Services Executive Compensation Survey - U.S. with business unit revenue greater than \$1.5 billion as the market benchmark. For the EVP and Chief Administrative Officer position, the HR Committee used similar positions in the Equilar Top 25 Survey and size adjusted this information.

**Table of Contents****Executive Compensation Program Detail**

**Summary of Executive Compensation Components.** The following table summarizes the major components of the Company's executive compensation program.

| Component                               | Purpose                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Key Attributes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Base Salary</b>                      | To provide a market-competitive and consistent minimum level of compensation that is paid throughout the year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Merit and other salary increases for executives are awarded by the HR Committee based on a variety of factors described below under Base Salary.                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Annual Incentive Compensation</b>    | To focus executive officers on achieving annual performance objectives linked to AEP's 2018 business plan, the HR Committee approved the following performance metrics:<br><br>Operating Earnings Per Share (70 percent weight),<br><br>Safety (10 percent weight), and<br><br>Strategic Initiatives (20 percent weight).<br><br>To align executive officers' efforts with the Company's performance objectives. | Annual incentive targets for the named executive officers were established by the HR Committee based on market data for similar positions provided in Meridian's annual study.<br><br>Operating earnings per share was chosen as the primary performance measure for 2018. |
| <b>Long-Term Incentive Compensation</b> | To motivate AEP management to create sustainable shareholder value by linking a substantial portion of their potential compensation directly to longer-term shareholder returns.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | For 2018, the HR Committee granted 75 percent of the long-term incentive awards in the form of three-year performance units and 25 percent in the form of restricted stock units.                                                                                          |

To help ensure that Company management remains focused on longer-term results, which the HR Committee considers essential given the significant amount of long-term investment in physical assets required in our business.

Long-term incentive award opportunities for named executive officers are based on market data from Meridian's annual study.

For the 2018-2020 performance unit awards, the HR Committee established the following

To reduce executive turnover and maintain management consistency.

Three-year cumulative operating earnings per share relative to a target approved by the HR Committee, and

Three-year total shareholder return relative to AEP's Compensation Peer Group.

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**Base Salary.** The HR Committee determines base salary increases for our named executive officers based on the following factors:

The performance of the executive during the previous year;

The market competitiveness of the executive's base salary, total cash compensation and total compensation;

The Company's salary increase budgets;

The current scope and responsibilities of the position;

Internal comparisons; and

The experience and future potential of each executive.

The base salary increases for 2018 were approximately 3 percent for each of the named executive officers.

## **Annual Incentive Compensation**

**Target Opportunity.** The HR Committee establishes the annual incentive target opportunities for each executive officer based, in part, on market competitive compensation as shown in Meridian's annual executive compensation survey. For 2018, the HR Committee established the following annual incentive target opportunities:

135 percent of base earnings for the Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer (Mr. Akins);

80 percent of base earnings for the EVP & Chief Financial Officer (Mr. Tierney);

70 percent of base earnings for the EVP, General Counsel and Secretary (Mr. Feinberg);

70 percent of base earnings for the EVP - Transmission (Ms. Barton), who became the EVP Utilities on January 1, 2019; and

70 percent of base earnings for the EVP & Chief Administrative Officer (Ms. Hillebrand).

The HR Committee approved the following changes in the annual incentive target opportunities for 2019 based on the market competitive compensation from Meridian's annual executive compensation survey:

increased Ms. Barton's target opportunity from 70 to 80 percent of base earnings; and

increased Mr. Feinberg's and Ms. Hillebrand's target opportunity from 70 to 75 percent of base earnings.

**Performance Metrics.** The HR Committee approved a balanced scorecard which tied annual incentive awards to the Company's operating earnings, safety and strategic objectives for the year. The HR Committee used a balanced scorecard because it helps mitigate the risk that executives will focus on one or a few objectives, such as short-term financial performance, to the detriment of other objectives. For 2018, the HR Committee approved the following performance measures:

**Operating Earnings per Share (70 Percent).** The HR Committee chose operating earnings per share again for 2018 because it best reflects management's performance operating the Company and is strongly correlated with shareholder returns. In addition, operating earnings per share is the primary measure by which the Company communicates its actual and expected future financial performance to the investment community and employees. Management and the HR Committee believe that sustainable operating earnings per share growth is the primary means for the Company to create long-term shareholder value. In 2018, the HR Committee established an operating earnings per share target of \$3.85, which was the midpoint of our operating earnings guidance at the beginning of the year, which was \$3.75 to \$3.95 per share.

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**Safety and Compliance (10 Percent).** Safety is an AEP core value and maintaining the safety of AEP employees, contractors and the general public is always a primary consideration. The 2018 safety metrics consisted of the following:

6 percent for DART improvement. DART is an acronym for Days Away, Restricted or job Transfer and is an industry accepted measure that focuses on more serious injuries.

2 percent for Zero Harm with 1 percent as an employee fatality measure, and 1 percent as a contractor fatality measure.

The 2018 compliance metrics consisted of the following:

1 percent for environmental stewardship. This measure was based on the number of significant environmental enforcement actions during the year.

1 percent for North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) violations. NERC establishes the reliability standards for planning and operating the North American bulk electric power system. This metric was based on the percentage of NERC violations that were detected by employees and self-reported.

**Strategic Initiatives (20 Percent).** The 2018 strategic initiatives consisted of:

10 percent for Infrastructure Investment. This consisted of measures based on: obtaining regulatory approval for regulated renewable projects, the volume of renewable power projects of our competitive subsidiaries, expanding the Company's transmission business, and efforts to modernize the grid.

6 percent for Customer Experience and Quality of Service. This consisted of measures based on the reliability of our wires assets and residential customer satisfaction survey results.

4 percent for Future of Work and Culture. This consisted of a measure of improvement in our employee culture, a diversity measure based on improvement in female and minority representation rates in the Company's employee population, and future of work efforts focusing on automation and digitization goals.

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The chart below shows the weightings for each performance measure as a percentage of the total award opportunity, the threshold, target and maximum performance goals, 2018 actual results and related weighted scores.

|                                                                                                    | Weight | Threshold             | Target                 | Maximum                | Actual Performance Result | Actual Award Score<br>(as a percent of target opportunity) | Weighted Score |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Operating Earnings Per Share (70%)</b>                                                          | 70%    | \$3.70                | \$3.85                 | \$4.00                 | \$3.95                    | 164.7%                                                     | 1.153          |
| <b>Safety and Compliance (10%)</b>                                                                 |        |                       |                        |                        |                           |                                                            |                |
| DART (Days Away, Restricted or Job Transfer) Rate, an industry measure focused on serious injuries | 6%     | 0 percent Improvement | 10 percent Improvement | 20 percent Improvement | 12 percent                | 108.2%                                                     | 0.065          |
| Zero Harm Employees (measured as any fatal work related employee incident)                         | 1%     | One or more           | -                      | None                   | One employee fatality     | 0.0%                                                       | 0.000          |
| Zero Harm Contractors (measured as any fatal work related contractor incident)                     | 1%     | One or more           | -                      | None                   | Two contractor fatalities | 0.0%                                                       | 0.000          |
| Environmental Stewardship The number of significant enforcement actions                            | 1%     | 4                     | 2                      | 0                      | 1                         | 150.0%                                                     | 0.015          |
| NERC Compliance Percentage of NERC violations self-reported                                        | 1%     | 80%                   | 90%                    | 100%                   | 100%                      | 200.0%                                                     | 0.020          |
| <b>Strategic Initiatives (20%)</b>                                                                 |        |                       |                        |                        |                           |                                                            |                |
| <b>Infrastructure Investment (10%)</b>                                                             |        |                       |                        |                        |                           |                                                            |                |
| Contracted Renewables                                                                              | 2%     | \$350 million         | \$450 million          | \$550 million          | \$761 million             | 200.0%                                                     | 0.040          |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |      |                                                               |                                                                       |                                                             |                            |        |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|-------|
| Portfolio Growth<br>(The value of contract commitments and projects reaching commercial operations)                                                                                                                                                                     |      |                                                               |                                                                       |                                                             |                            |        |       |
| Regulated Renewables Wind Catcher<br>(measured by the extent of regulatory approval)                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2%   | 0<br>Megawatts                                                | 1000<br>Megawatts                                                     | 2000<br>Megawatts                                           | 0<br>Megawatts             | 0%     | 0.000 |
| Regulated Renewables Appalachian Power Company<br>(based on the extent of regulatory approval)                                                                                                                                                                          | 1%   | 0<br>Megawatts                                                | 100<br>Megawatts                                                      | 200<br>Megawatts                                            | 0<br>Megawatts             | 0%     | 0.000 |
| Transmission Infrastructure Investment Plant in Service                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1.5% | \$2.8<br>billion                                              | \$3.0<br>billion                                                      | \$3.1<br>billion                                            | \$2.96<br>billion          | 86.5%  | 0.013 |
| Transmission Infrastructure Investment Capital Investment Grid Modernization<br>Measured by a customer weighted average of operating company asset investment measures for deployment of new technologies, forestry, asset replacement and cyclical risk-based programs | 2%   | \$3.006<br>billion                                            | \$3.233<br>billion                                                    | \$3.459<br>billion                                          | \$3.405<br>billion         | 176.1% | 0.026 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |      | All operating companies at or below threshold 0.0 performance | Operating company customer weighted average of target 1.0 performance | All operating companies at or above maximum 2.0 performance | 1.75 performance           | 175.0% | 0.035 |
| <b>Customer Experience and Quality of Service (6%)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |      |                                                               |                                                                       |                                                             |                            |        |       |
| Wires Reliability<br>Measured by a customer                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 3%   | Generally 80% percent of target                               | Regulatory targets or a glide path to the regional peer               | Generally                                                   | 57.7%<br>Average Operating | 57.7%  | 0.017 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |                                                                         |                                                                          |                                                                          |                                                                             |        |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| weighted average of SAIDI (System Average Incident Duration Index) scores of AEP operating companies                                                                                                                                                                                     |    |                                                                         | group average                                                            | 120 percent of target                                                    | Company Score                                                               |        |       |
| Customer Satisfaction Measured by a weighted average of J.D. Power Residential Customer Satisfaction Index scores for AEP operating companies                                                                                                                                            | 3% | No improvement                                                          | Peer Group improvement rate                                              | Top quartile Customer Satisfaction score                                 | 74.4% Average Operating Company Score                                       | 74.4%  | 0.022 |
| <b>Culture and Workforce of the Future (4%)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |                                                                         |                                                                          |                                                                          |                                                                             |        |       |
| Employee Culture Survey Measured by improvement in average overall score of a survey of employees                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1% | 1% improvement                                                          | 5% improvement                                                           | 10% improvement                                                          | 7% Improvement                                                              | 140.0% | 0.014 |
| Employee Diversity Measured by increased representation of women and minorities in EEO (Equal Employment Opportunity) categories of positions in which AEP's internal representation rate is less than the availability rate with a double weight on the officials and managers category | 1% | Higher of 0 percent attrition plus hiring at 80 percent of availability | Higher of 0 percent attrition plus hiring at 100 percent of availability | Higher of 0 percent attrition plus hiring at 120 percent of availability | Female Representation Score: 159.0%<br>Minority Representation Score: 62.7% | 89.6%  | 0.009 |
| Future of Work Measured as the extent to which its strategic work                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2% | 60% of objectives accomplished by target date                           | 80% of objectives accomplished by target date and all by yearend         | All objectives accomplished by target date                               | 80% of objectives accomplished by target date                               | 100.0% | 0.020 |

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|                                 |                       |                             |              |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| plan was timely<br>accomplished | and all by<br>yearend | and remainder<br>by yearend |              |
| <b>Total Score</b>              |                       |                             | <b>1.449</b> |

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**2018 Individual Award Calculations.** Based on the performance results described in the performance scorecard above, the HR Committee approved a weighted score of 144.9 percent. The HR Committee then subjectively evaluated the individual performance of each named executive officer to determine the actual award payouts.

| Name           | 2018 Base Earnings* |   | Annual Incentive Target % |   | Weighted Score Under Performance Scorecard |   |  | Calculated Annual Incentive Opportunity | 2018 Actual Payouts |
|----------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. Akins      | \$1,408,654         | x | 135 %                     | x | 144.9 %                                    | = |  | \$2,755,539                             | \$ 2,900,000        |
| Mr. Tierney    | \$768,269           | x | 80 %                      | x | 144.9 %                                    | = |  | \$890,577                               | \$890,000           |
| Mr. Feinberg   | \$647,385           | x | 70 %                      | x | 144.9 %                                    | = |  | \$656,643                               | \$655,000           |
| Ms. Barton     | \$568,269           | x | 70 %                      | x | 144.9 %                                    | = |  | \$576,395                               | \$575,000           |
| Ms. Hillebrand | \$594,308           | x | 70 %                      | x | 144.9 %                                    | = |  | \$602,807                               | \$600,000           |

\* Based on salary paid in 2018, which is slightly different than the salary earned for 2018 shown in the Summary Compensation Table.

**Long-Term Incentive Compensation**

The HR Committee grants long-term incentive compensation to executive officers on an annual award cycle. The HR Committee establishes target long-term incentive award opportunities for each named executive officer based, in part, on market data provided in the annual Meridian market compensation study. The HR Committee annually reviews the mix of long-term incentive compensation provided to its executives. For 2018 the HR Committee approved the following mix of long-term incentive awards:

75 percent of the long-term incentive target value was awarded as three-year performance units, and 25 percent of the long-term incentive target value was awarded as time-vesting restricted stock units (RSUs).

**2018 Long-Term Incentive Awards**

| Name      | Target Value (1) | Total Number of Units Granted (2) | Number of Performance Units Granted | Number of RSUs |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|           |                  |                                   | (at Target)                         | Granted        |
| Mr. Akins | \$ 7,775,000     | 115,596                           | 86,697                              | 28,899         |

|                       |              |        |        |       |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|-------|
| <b>Mr. Tierney</b>    | \$ 2,000,000 | 29,735 | 22,301 | 7,434 |
| <b>Mr. Feinberg</b>   | \$ 1,400,000 | 20,815 | 15,611 | 5,204 |
| <b>Ms. Barton</b>     | \$ 1,200,000 | 17,841 | 13,381 | 4,460 |
| <b>Ms. Hillebrand</b> | \$ 1,000,000 | 14,868 | 11,151 | 3,717 |

- (1) The Target Value differs from the Grant Date Fair Value shown in the Stock Award column in the Summary Compensation Table because the performance units contain a market condition (the relative TSR measure) which results in a Grant Date Fair Value for financial accounting purposes that differs from the target value the HR Committee used to determine the awards. See footnote 2 to the Summary Compensation Table for a description of the Grant Date Fair Value.
- (2) The total number of units granted was determined by dividing the Target Value by the closing price of AEP common stock on the grant date (\$67.26) and rounding to the nearest whole number.

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**Performance Units.** In 2018, the HR Committee approved the grant to each executive officer of performance units, which are subject to a three-year performance and vesting period that ends on December 31, 2020. Dividends declared during the three year period are reinvested in additional performance units that are subject to the same performance measures and vesting requirements as the underlying performance units on which they were granted. The number of performance units earned at the end of the performance period is based on achieved performance against two equally weighted performance metrics: (i) 3-year cumulative operating earnings per share and (ii) 3-year total shareholder return of AEP vs. AEP's compensation peer group. The comparison of achieved performance against the performance goals described below will yield a percentage of the target number of performance units earned at the conclusion of the performance period. The number of earned performance units will be paid in shares of AEP common stock.

Described below are the HR Committee-approved 2018-2020 performance goals applicable to the performance units.

**Performance Measures for 2018 2020 Performance Units**

| Performance Measure                                                      | Weight | Threshold Performance       | Target Performance          | Maximum Payout Performance  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3-Year Cumulative Operating Earnings Per Share                           |        | \$11.771                    | \$12.390                    | \$13.010                    |
|                                                                          | 50%    | (30% payout)                | (100% payout)               | (200% payout)               |
| 3-Year Total Shareholder Return of AEP vs. AEP's Compensation Peer Group |        | 20 <sup>th</sup> Percentile | 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile | 80 <sup>th</sup> Percentile |
|                                                                          | 50%    | (0% payout)                 | (100% payout)               | (200% payout)               |

The HR Committee selected a measure of cumulative operating earnings to ensure that earnings for all three years contribute equally to the award calculation. The HR Committee set the target for the three year cumulative operating earnings per share based on the same \$3.85 target used for the annual incentive plan for 2018, with a seven percent growth rate in operating earnings from 2018 for both 2019 and 2020. The HR Committee also selected a total shareholder return measure for these awards to provide an external performance comparison that reflects the effectiveness of management's strategic decisions and actions over the three-year performance period relative to the performance of the 18 utilities in the Company's Compensation Peer Group.

**Restricted Stock Units.** In 2018, the HR Committee approved the grant to executive officers of time-based RSUs that vest in three approximately equal installments over a forty-month period starting on January 1, 2018, the effective date of the grant. Dividends are reinvested in additional RSUs and are subject to the same vesting requirements applicable to the underlying RSUs on which they were granted. Upon each vesting date (or shortly thereafter), the number of RSUs that then vest will be paid in shares of AEP common stock.

The HR Committee made a special equity award grant to our CFO and our EVP-Utilities early in fiscal year 2019. These awards will appear in the Summary Compensation Table in the Proxy Statement filed in 2020 that includes compensation data for fiscal year 2019. The HR Committee awarded one-time restricted stock unit (RSU) retention awards under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP") to Mr. Tierney and Ms. Barton as part of a retention strategy. The retention awards were granted with the regular cycle LTIP awards in February 2019. The retention awards provided \$2,000,000 in RSUs to each executive that will vest over a 40 month period, with 25% of the awards vesting on May 1, 2020, 37.5% of the awards vesting on May 1, 2021 and 37.5% of the awards vesting on May 1, 2022. The retention awards have no value to the executive unless he/she remains employed with the Company for the vesting period, and will be canceled if the executive's employment with the Company terminates. The HR

Committee's compensation consultant provided information to the HR Committee for consideration regarding potential vesting criteria that might be applied to these awards in order to provide a retention incentive. In determining the award amount, the HR Committee considered several factors including the Company's retention strategy and a review of Mr. Tierney's and Ms. Barton's individual performance. The HR Committee believes that these retention awards are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders as it further aligns their interests with those of shareholders.

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### **Retirement, Health and Welfare Benefits**

**Health and Welfare Benefits.** AEP generally provides the same health and welfare benefits to named executive officers as it provides to other employees. AEP also provides the named executive officers with either four or five weeks of paid vacation, depending on their length of service and position.

**Retirement Benefits.** The named executive officers participate in the same tax-qualified defined benefit pension plan and defined contribution savings plan as other eligible employees. They also participate in the Company's non-qualified retirement benefit plans, which largely provide benefits that would otherwise be offered through the tax-qualified plans but for IRS limits. This allows the named executive officers to accumulate replacement income for their retirement based on the same benefit formulas as the tax qualified plans but without the limitations that are imposed by the Internal Revenue Code on the tax-qualified plans.

The HR Committee recognizes that the non-qualified plans result in the deferral of the Company's income tax deduction related to these benefits until such benefits are paid. However, the HR Committee believes that executives generally should be entitled to the same retirement benefits, as a percentage of their eligible pay, as the Company's other employees. Non-qualified retirement benefit plans are also prevalent among large employers both within our industry and other large U.S. industrial companies, and are provided as part of a market competitive total rewards package.

The Company limits both the amount and types of compensation that are included in the qualified and non-qualified retirement plans because the HR Committee and AEP management believe that compensation over certain limits and certain types of compensation should not be further enhanced by including it in retirement benefit calculations. Therefore:

Long-term incentive compensation is not included in the calculations that determine retirement and other benefits under AEP's benefit plans,

The cash balance formula of the Company's non-qualified pension plan (the AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan) limits eligible compensation to twice the executive's base salary, and

Eligible compensation is also limited to \$2 million under the non-qualified Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan.

**Life Insurance Benefits.** AEP provides group term life insurance benefits to all employees, including the named executive officers, in the amount of two times their base salary.

**Relocation Assistance.** For all employees, including executives, whom the Company asks to relocate, AEP offers relocation assistance to offset their moving expenses. This allows AEP to obtain high quality new hires and to relocate internal job candidates.

**Perquisites.** The HR Committee annually reviews the perquisites provided by the Company. AEP provides independent financial counseling and tax preparation services to assist executives with financial planning and tax filings. Income is imputed to executives and taxes are withheld for these services.

The HR Committee generally prohibits personal use of corporate aircraft that has an incremental cost to the Company. The Company allows personal travel on business trips using the corporate aircraft if there is no incremental cost to the Company. Income is imputed and taxes are withheld on the value of personal travel on corporate aircraft in accordance with IRS guidelines.

Mr. Akins has entered into an Aircraft Time Sharing Agreement that allows him to use our corporate aircraft for personal use up to 40 hours each year. The Aircraft Time Sharing Agreement requires him to reimburse the Company for the cost of his personal use of corporate aircraft at the maximum amount permissible in accordance with limits set forth in Federal Aviation Administration regulations. Mr. Akins did not use his Aircraft Time Sharing Agreement during 2018. See footnote 5 to the Summary Compensation Table for further information.

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### Severance Arrangements

**Change In Control Agreements.** The HR Committee provides Change In Control agreements to specified executives, including all the named executive officers. While the HR Committee believes these agreements are consistent with the practices of its peer companies, the most important reason for these agreements is to protect the Company and the interests of shareholders in the event of an anticipated or actual change in control. During such transitions, retaining and continuing to motivate the Company's key executives would be critical to protecting shareholder value. In a change of control situation, outside competitors are more likely to try to recruit top performers away from the Company, and our executive officers may consider other opportunities when faced with uncertainty about retaining their positions. The HR Committee limits participation to those executives whose full support and sustained contributions would be needed during a lengthy and complex corporate transaction.

The Board has adopted a policy that requires shareholder approval of executive severance agreements that provide benefits generally exceeding 2.99 times the sum of the named executive officer's salary plus annual incentive compensation. The HR Committee periodically reviews change in control agreement practices of companies in our Compensation Peer Group. The HR Committee has approved change in control multiples of 2.99 times base salary and annual incentive compensation for each of the named executive officers, which is consistent with competitive market practice. Each agreement includes a double trigger, which means that severance payments and benefits would be provided to the covered executive officer only upon a change in control accompanied by an involuntary termination or constructive termination within two years after the change in control.

The Company's Change In Control agreements do not provide a tax gross-up for excise taxes.

Long-term incentive compensation may also vest in the event of a change in control. All outstanding performance units and RSU awards have a double trigger change in control provision. In the event an executive's employment is terminated within one year after a change in control under qualifying conditions, such as by the Company without cause or by the executive for good reason, then all of the executive's outstanding performance units and RSUs will vest. Performance units would be paid at the target performance score.

Other compensation and benefits provided to executive officers in the event their employment is terminated as a result of a change in control are consistent with that provided in the event an executive's employment is terminated due to a consolidation, restructuring or downsizing as described below.

**Other Employment Separations.** The Company has an Executive Severance Plan that provides severance benefits to selected senior officers of the Company, including the named executive officers, who have agreed to its terms, which include confidentiality, non-solicitation, cooperation and non-disparagement obligations. Executives remain eligible for benefits under the general severance plan described below; however, any benefits provided under the Executive Severance Plan would be reduced by any amount provided under the general severance plan. The trigger for Executive Severance Plan benefits is a good reason resignation or an involuntary termination. The benefits for our named executive officers under the Executive Severance Plan include pay continuation of two times their base salary and target annual incentive award payable over two years and are conditioned on the executive officer's agreement to release of claims against the Company and not to compete with the Company for two years.

AEP also maintains a broad-based severance plan that provides two weeks of base pay per year of service to all employees, including named executive officers, if their employment is terminated due to a consolidation, restructuring or downsizing, subject to the employee's agreement to waive claims against AEP. In addition, our severance benefits for all employees include outplacement services and access to health benefits at active employee rates for up to 18 months and then at Company-subsidized retiree rates thereafter until age 65 for employees who are at least age 50.

with 10 years of service at the time their employment is terminated.

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Named executive officers remain eligible for an annual incentive award reflecting the portion of the year they worked, if they separate from service prior to year-end due to their retirement (on or after age 55 with at least ten years of service) or severance as part of a voluntary or involuntary severance program). In the event of a participant's death, annual incentive compensation is paid to the participant's estate.

A prorated portion of outstanding performance units vest if a participant retires, which is defined as an employment termination, other than for cause, after the executive reaches age 55 with ten years of service or if a participant is severed. A prorated portion of outstanding performance units and all outstanding RSUs would also vest to a participant's heirs in the event of the participant's death. The pro-rated performance units would not be payable until the end of the performance period and would remain subject to all of the performance objectives.

Executive officers are also entitled to 12 months of continued financial counseling service in the event they are severed from service as the result of a restructuring, consolidation or downsizing or they retire (after age 55 and 5 years of AEP service). In the event of their death, their spouse or the executor of their estate would be eligible for this benefit.

## **Other Compensation Information**

**Stock Ownership Requirements.** The HR Committee believes that linking a significant portion of the named executive officers' financial rewards to the Company's long-term success gives executives a stake similar to that of the Company's shareholders and encourages management strategies that benefit shareholders. Therefore, the HR Committee requires certain officers (52 executives as of January 1, 2019) to accumulate and hold a specific amount of AEP common stock or stock equivalents. The CEO's stock ownership requirement is six times his base salary, and the other named executive officers' targets are three times their respective base salaries. Each named executive officer met his or her stock ownership requirement as of February 1, 2019.

**Equity Retention (Holding Period).** Until an executive officer meets his or her stock ownership requirement, performance units awarded under the Long-term Incentive Plan are mandatorily deferred into AEP Career Shares to the extent necessary to meet his or her stock ownership requirement. AEP Career Shares are always held in AEP share equivalents and are not paid to executives until after their employment with AEP ends. If an executive has not met his or her stock ownership requirement within five years of the date it became effective or subsequently falls below it, the HR Committee may also require the executive to defer a portion of his or her annual incentive compensation award into AEP Career Shares.

**Recoupment of Incentive Compensation.** The Company's Policy on Recouping Incentive Compensation, commonly referred to as a "clawback" policy, provides that our executive officers and certain other senior executives are subject to a "no fault" clawback. The Board may recover incentive compensation whether or not the executive's actions involve misconduct. The Board believes, subject to the exercise of its discretion based on the facts and circumstances of a particular case, that incentive compensation should be reimbursed to the Company if, in the Board's determination:

Such incentive compensation was received by an executive where the payment or the award was predicated upon the achievement of financial or other results that were subsequently materially restated or corrected, and

Such incentive compensation would have been materially lower had the achievement been calculated on such restated or corrected financial or other results.

The HR Committee has directed the Company to design and administer all of its incentive compensation programs in a manner that provides for the Company's ability to obtain such reimbursement. AEP may also retain any deferred compensation previously credited to an executive. This right to reimbursement is in addition to, and not in substitution for, any and all other rights AEP might have to pursue reimbursement or such other remedies against an executive for misconduct.

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**Role of the CEO and Compensation Consultant in Determining Executive Compensation.** The HR Committee invites the CEO to attend HR Committee meetings. The HR Committee regularly holds executive sessions without management present.

The CEO has assigned AEP's Executive Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer and AEP's Director Compensation and Executive Benefits to support the HR Committee. These individuals work closely with the HR Committee Chairman, the CEO and Meridian to research and develop requested information, prepare meeting materials, implement the HR Committee's actions and administer the Company's executive compensation and benefit programs consistent with the objectives established by the HR Committee. Meetings are held with the CEO, the HR Committee Chairman and Meridian prior to HR Committee meetings to review and finalize the agenda and meeting materials.

The CEO regularly discusses his strategic vision and direction for the Company during HR Committee meetings with Meridian in attendance. Likewise, Meridian regularly discusses compensation strategy alternatives, in light of the CEO's strategic vision and direction, during HR Committee meetings with the CEO in attendance. The HR Committee believes that this open dialogue and exchange of ideas is important to the development and implementation of a successful executive compensation strategy.

The CEO discusses the individual performance of the other named executive officers with the HR Committee and recommends their compensation to the HR Committee. The CEO has substantial input into salary budgets and changes to incentive targets. The CEO also has substantial input into the development of employment offers for outside candidates for executive positions, although the HR Committee must approve all employment offers for executive officers.

**Insider Trading, Hedging and Pledging.** The Company's insider trading policy prohibits directors and executive officers from hedging their AEP stock holdings through short sales and the use of options, warrants, puts and calls or similar instruments. The policy also prohibits directors and executive officers from pledging AEP stock as collateral for any loan.

**Tax Considerations.** Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (Section 162 (m)) limits the Company's ability to deduct compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 paid in any year to the Company's named executive officers. Prior to the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ( TCJA ), the limitation did not apply to certain performance-based compensation. The TCJA repealed the performance-based compensation exemption, effective for taxable years beginning January 1, 2018, and expanded the definition of covered employees whose compensation is subject to the annual \$1 million deduction limitation to include the CFO and any individual who has previously been a covered employee, even if the individual no longer holds a named executive officer position. The TCJA includes a transition rule that permits deductibility without regard to the changes made by the TCJA of amounts paid pursuant to written binding contracts in effect on November 2, 2017, and not materially modified after that date. While the Company's shareholder approved incentive plans were previously structured to provide that certain awards could be made in a manner intended to qualify for the performance-based compensation exemption, that exemption will no longer be available for future tax years (except to the extent that the transition rule applies). The HR Committee expects in the future to authorize compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 to named executive officers that will not be deductible under Section 162(m) when it believes doing so is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

## **Human Resources Committee Report**

**Membership and Independence.** The Board has determined that each member of the HR Committee is an independent director, as defined by NYSE listing standards. Each member of the HR Committee is also a

non-employee director for purposes of SEC Rule 16b-3 and an outside director for purposes of Section 162(m). Members of the HR Committee attend professional development training that addresses topics of specific relevance to public company compensation committees.

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**Functions and Process.** In carrying out its responsibilities, the HR Committee addressed many aspects of AEP's human resource and executive compensation programs and practices in 2018, including:

Establishing annual and long-term performance objectives for executive officers;

Assessing the performance of the CEO, other executive officers and the Company relative to those established performance objectives;

Conducting an evaluation of the CEO based on written comments from board members, senior AEP management, and the audit firm partner overseeing AEP's external audit;

Determining the mix of base salary, annual incentive compensation and long-term equity-based compensation for executive officers;

Assessing the competitiveness of 2018 and proposed 2019 target compensation for all named executive officers and other executive positions relative to AEP's Compensation Peer Group;

Reviewing and approving the base salaries, annual incentive awards and long-term incentive award opportunities for the named executive officers, except for the CEO, which are reviewed and approved by the independent directors;

Reviewing the senior management succession and talent development plans;

Assessing compensation risk;

Reviewing and approving change in control agreements;

Reviewing the Company's diversity programs and results;

Reviewing the Company's workforce safety efforts and results; and

Reviewing AEP's culture and employment engagement through employee survey results.

In establishing performance objectives, the HR Committee considers the interests of other major AEP stakeholders, such as AEP's customers, employees, the communities in which we operate, and debt holders, in addition to those of AEP's shareholders.

**The HR Committee's Independent Compensation Consultant.** The HR Committee engaged Meridian to provide recommendations regarding AEP's executive compensation and benefit programs and practices. The HR Committee can retain and terminate consultants and advisors without management approval and has the sole authority to approve their fees. Among other assignments, Meridian provides an annual executive compensation study and reports on current executive compensation and benefits trends within the electric utility industry and U.S. Industry in general.

The HR Committee annually assesses and discusses the independence of its executive compensation consultant. Meridian did not provide any services to AEP other than the work it performed for the HR Committee and the work it performed for the Corporate Governance Committee on director compensation. The HR Committee concluded that Meridian was independent and the work provided by Meridian did not raise any conflicts of interest.

The HR Committee also annually assesses the performance and objectivity of its executive compensation consultant. The HR Committee regularly holds executive sessions with Meridian to help ensure that they receive full and independent advice.

In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the HR Committee reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis set forth in this proxy statement. Based on its review and these

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discussions, the HR Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference into the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018

*Human Resources Committee Members*

Ralph D. Crosby, Jr., Chair

Richard C. Notebaert

Stephen S. Rasmussen

Oliver G. Richard, III

Sara Martinez Tucker

**Table of Contents****Executive Compensation****Summary Compensation Table**

The following table provides summary information concerning compensation earned by our Chief Executive Officer, our Chief Financial Officer and the three other most highly compensated executive officers, to whom we refer collectively as the named executive officers.

|                                |      | Change<br>in<br>Pension<br>Value<br>and<br>Non-Equity Nonqualified<br>Incentive      Deferred      All<br>Plan      Compensation      Other<br>Stock Award Compensation Earnings Compensation      Total |               |           |           |         |         |               |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------------|
| Name and Principal<br>Position | Year | Salary (\$)(1)                                                                                                                                                                                           | Bonus (\$)(2) | (\$)(2)   | (\$)(3)   | (\$)(4) | (\$)(5) | Total<br>(\$) |
| Nicholas K. Akins              |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |           |           |         |         |               |
| Chairman of the                | 2018 | 1,415,423                                                                                                                                                                                                |               | 7,564,313 | 2,900,000 | 207,401 | 114,891 | 12,202,028    |
| Board and Chief                | 2017 | 1,375,000                                                                                                                                                                                                |               | 7,983,420 | 1,700,000 | 361,001 | 111,040 | 11,530,461    |
| Executive Officer              | 2016 | 1,325,077                                                                                                                                                                                                |               | 6,720,027 | 3,000,000 | 323,949 | 103,687 | 11,472,740    |
| Brian X. Tierney               |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |           |           |         |         |               |
| Executive Vice                 | 2018 | 771,958                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,945,785 | 890,000   | 0       | 59,547  | 3,667,290     |
| President and Chief            | 2017 | 750,000                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 2,128,899 | 555,000   | 462,223 | 98,262  | 3,994,384     |
| Financial Officer              | 2016 | 730,800                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,895,038 | 990,000   | 131,575 | 95,026  | 3,842,439     |
| David M. Feinberg              |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |           |           |         |         |               |
| Executive Vice                 | 2018 | 650,492                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,362,082 | 655,000   | 25,724  | 48,106  | 2,741,404     |
| President, General             | 2017 | 632,000                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,277,372 | 406,000   | 104,619 | 73,347  | 2,493,338     |
| Counsel and<br>Secretary       | 2016 | 615,358                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,126,919 | 730,000   | 85,179  | 75,435  | 2,632,891     |
| Lisa M. Barton                 |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |           |           |         |         |               |
| Executive Vice                 | 2018 | 571,189                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,167,470 | 575,000   | 40,845  | 55,264  | 2,409,768     |
| President- Utilities           | 2017 | 550,000                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,277,372 | 356,000   | 110,304 | 67,724  | 2,361,400     |
|                                | 2016 | 532,039                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,003,030 | 650,000   | 95,020  | 68,007  | 2,348,096     |
| Lana L. Hillebrand             |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |           |           |         |         |               |
| Executive Vice                 | 2018 | 597,289                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 972,924   | 600,000   | 47,656  | 57,530  | 2,275,399     |
| President- Chief               | 2017 | 577,000                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               | 1,011,219 | 375,000   | 193,929 | 69,817  | 2,226,965     |

|                        |      |         |         |         |         |        |           |
|------------------------|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|
| Administrative Officer | 2016 | 562,154 | 902,677 | 670,000 | 139,726 | 73,753 | 2,438,310 |
|------------------------|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|

(1) Amounts in the salary column are composed of executive salaries earned for the year shown, which include 261 days of pay for 2018. This is one day more than the standard 260 calendar work days and holidays in a year.

(2) The amounts reported in this column reflect the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 of the performance units and restricted stock units (RSUs) granted under our Long-Term Incentive Plan. See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018 for a discussion of the relevant assumptions used in calculating these amounts. The value realized for the performance units, if any, will depend on the Company's performance during a three-year performance period. The potential payout can range from 0 percent to 200 percent of the target number of performance units, plus any dividend equivalents.

The value of the 2017 and 2018 performance units will be based on two equally weighted measures: a Board approved cumulative operating earnings per share measure (Cumulative EPS) and a total shareholder return measure (Relative TSR). The grant date fair value of the 2017 and 2018 performance units that are based on Cumulative EPS was computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 and was measured based on the closing price of AEP's common stock on the date of grant. The maximum amount payable for the 2018 performance units that are based on Cumulative EPS is equal to: \$5,831,240 for Mr. Akins; \$1,499,965 for Mr. Tierney; \$1,049,996 for Mr. Feinberg; \$900,006 for Ms. Barton and \$750,016 for Ms. Hillebrand. The maximum amount payable for the 2017 performance units that are based on Cumulative EPS is equal to \$5,625,011 for Mr. Akins; \$1,499,982 for Mr. Tierney; \$900,040 for Mr. Feinberg; \$900,040 for Ms. Barton and \$712,519 for Ms. Hillebrand. The grant date fair value of the 2017 and 2018 performance units that are based on Relative TSR is calculated using a Monte-Carlo model as of the date of grant, in accordance with FASB ASC Top 718. As the performance units that are based on Relative TSR are subject to market conditions as defined under FASB ASC Topic 718, they had no maximum grant date fair values that differed from the grant date fair values presented in the table.

The performance units granted in 2017 and 2018 will settle in AEP shares. Because the 2018 performance units are to be settled in AEP shares and the Relative TSR measure is a market condition, the maximum value is factored into the calculation of the grant date fair value.

(3) The amounts shown in this column are annual incentive compensation paid for the year shown. At the outset of each year, the HR Committee sets annual incentive targets and performance criteria that are used after year-end to determine if and the extent to which executive officers may receive annual incentive award payments.

(4) The amounts shown in this column are attributable to the increase in the actuarial values of each of the named executive officer's combined benefits under AEP's qualified and non-qualified defined benefit plans determined using interest rate and mortality assumptions consistent with those used in the Company's financial statements. See the Pension Benefits for 2018 table, and related footnotes for additional information. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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included in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018 for a discussion of the relevant assumptions. The actual change in pension value for Mr. Tierney in 2018 was (\$191,109). None of the named executive officers received preferential or above-market earnings on deferred compensation.

- (5) Amounts shown in the All Other Compensation column for 2018 include: (a) Company contributions to the Company's Retirement Savings Plan, (b) Company contributions to the Company's Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan and (c) perquisites. The amounts are listed in the following table:

| <b>Type</b>                                | <b>Nicholas K.<br/>Akins</b> | <b>Brian X.<br/>Tierney</b> | <b>David M.<br/>Feinberg</b> | <b>Lisa M.<br/>Barton</b> | <b>Lana L.<br/>Hillebrand</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Retirement Savings Plan Match              | \$ 12,141                    | \$ 12,375                   | \$ 12,375                    | \$ 12,375                 | \$ 12,375                     |
| Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan Match | \$ 77,625                    | \$ 47,172                   | \$ 23,552                    | \$ 29,217                 | \$ 31,244                     |
| Perquisites                                | \$ 25,125                    | \$                          | \$ 12,179                    | \$ 13,672                 | \$ 13,911                     |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>\$ 114,891</b>            | <b>\$ 59,547</b>            | <b>\$ 48,106</b>             | <b>\$ 55,264</b>          | <b>\$ 57,530</b>              |

Perquisites provided in 2018 included: financial counseling and tax preparation services, and, for Mr. Akins, director's accidental death insurance premium. Executive officers may also have the occasional personal use of event tickets when such tickets are not being used for business purposes, however, there is no associated incremental cost. From time to time executive officers may receive customary gifts from third parties that sponsor sporting events (subject to our policies on conflicts of interest).

Although Mr. Akins has entered into an Aircraft Time Sharing Agreement that allows him to use our corporate aircraft for personal use for a limited number of hours each year, Mr. Akins did not use our corporate aircraft for personal use during 2018. The Aircraft Time Sharing Agreement requires Mr. Akins to reimburse the Company for the cost of his personal use of corporate aircraft in accordance with limits set forth in Federal Aviation Administration regulations. The amount of such reimbursements are expected to exceed the aggregate incremental cost of such flights.

**Table of Contents****Grants of Plan-Based Awards for 2018**

The following table provides information on plan-based awards granted in 2018 to each of our named executive officers.

| Name                                    | Grant Date             | Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1) |             |                 | Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards(3) |            |                | All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units |                                               | Grant Date |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------|
|                                         |                        | Threshold (\$)                                                     | Target (\$) | Maximum (\$)(2) | Threshold (#)(4)                                               | Target (#) | Maximum (#)(5) | Units (#)(6)                                               | Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)(7) |            |
| Nicholas K. Akins                       |                        |                                                                    |             |                 |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan |                        |                                                                    | 1,901,683   | 4,754,208       |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018                                    | 2020 Performance Units | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 | 10,837                                                         | 86,697     | 173,394        |                                                            |                                               | 5,620,566  |
| Restricted Stock Units                  |                        | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 |                                                                |            |                | 28,899                                                     |                                               | 1,943,747  |
| Brian X. Tierney                        |                        |                                                                    |             |                 |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan |                        |                                                                    | 614,615     | 1,536,538       |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018                                    | 2020 Performance Units | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 | 2,788                                                          | 22,301     | 44,602         |                                                            |                                               | 1,445,774  |
| Restricted Stock Units                  |                        | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 |                                                                |            |                | 7,434                                                      |                                               | 500,011    |
| David M. Feinberg                       |                        |                                                                    |             |                 |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan |                        |                                                                    | 453,170     | 1,132,925       |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018                                    | 2020 Performance Units | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 | 1,951                                                          | 15,611     | 31,222         |                                                            |                                               | 1,012,061  |
| Restricted Stock Units                  |                        | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 |                                                                |            |                | 5,204                                                      |                                               | 350,021    |
| Lisa M. Barton                          |                        |                                                                    |             |                 |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan |                        |                                                                    | 397,788     | 994,470         |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018                                    | 2020 Performance Units | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 | 1,673                                                          | 13,381     | 26,762         |                                                            |                                               | 867,490    |
| Restricted Stock Units                  |                        | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 |                                                                |            |                | 4,460                                                      |                                               | 299,980    |
| Lana L. Hillebrand                      |                        |                                                                    |             |                 |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan |                        |                                                                    | 416,016     | 1,040,040       |                                                                |            |                |                                                            |                                               |            |
| 2018                                    | 2020 Performance Units | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 | 1,394                                                          | 11,151     | 22,302         |                                                            |                                               | 722,919    |
| Restricted Stock Units                  |                        | 2/19/18                                                            |             |                 |                                                                |            |                | 3,717                                                      |                                               | 250,005    |

(1) Represents potential payouts under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan (ICP), which are based on base earnings paid during the year.

(2) The amounts shown in this column represent 250 percent of the target award for each of the named executive officers, which is the maximum amount generally payable to any individual employee under the ICP.

- (3) Represents performance units awarded under our Long-Term Incentive Plan for the 2018-2020 performance period. These awards generally vest at the end of the three year performance period based on our attainment of specified performance measures. The number of performance units does not include additional units that may accrue as dividends.
- (4) The amounts shown in the Threshold column represent 12.5% of the target award for each of the named executive officers because the Operating Earnings per Share measure has a 25% payout for threshold performance, the Total Shareholder Return measure has a 0% payout for threshold performance and these measures are equally weighted. However, the Operating Earnings per Share threshold does not guarantee a minimum payout because the score would be 0% of target if threshold performance is not achieved.
- (5) The amounts shown in this column represent 200 percent of the target award for each of the named executive officers, which is the maximum overall score for the 2018-2020 performance units.
- (6) Represents restricted stock units awarded under the Long-Term Incentive Plan. These awards generally vest in three equal installments on May 1, 2019, May 1, 2020 and May 1, 2021. The number of restricted stock units does not include additional units that may accrue as dividends.
- (7) Amounts represent the grant date fair value of performance units and restricted stock units measured in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, utilizing the assumptions discussed in Note 15 to our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018. The actual number of performance units earned will depend on AEP's performance over the 2018 through 2020 period, which could vary from 0 percent to 200 percent of the target award plus dividends. The value of the performance units ultimately earned will be based on two equally weighted measures: a Board approved cumulative operating earnings per share measure (Cumulative EPS) and a total shareholder return measure (Relative TSR), as well as any dividends that accrue during the performance period and the value of AEP stock when the awards are paid.

**Table of Contents****Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End for 2018**

The following table provides information with respect to holdings of restricted stock units and performance units by the named executive officers at December 31, 2018. The named executive officers do not have any outstanding stock options.

| Name                           | Stock Awards                                                                           |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                | Number of<br>Shares<br>or<br>Units<br>of<br>Stock That<br>Have<br>Not<br>Vested<br>(#) | Market<br>Value of<br>Shares or<br>Units of<br>Stock<br>That<br>Have Not<br>Vested<br>(\$) | Equity Incentive<br>Plan Awards:<br>Number of<br>Unearned<br>Shares, Units<br>or Other<br>Rights That<br>Have<br>Not Vested<br>(#)(1) | Equity Incentive<br>Plan Awards:<br>Market or<br>Payout Value<br>of Unearned<br>Shares,<br>Units or<br>Other Rights<br>That Have Not<br>Vested \$(2) |
| <b>Nicholas K. Akins</b>       |                                                                                        |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 2019 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 186,326                                                                                                                               | 13,926,005                                                                                                                                           |
| 2018 2020 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 178,040                                                                                                                               | 13,306,710                                                                                                                                           |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units(4) | 9,905                                                                                  | 740,300                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units(5) | 20,700                                                                                 | 1,547,118                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units(6) | 29,673                                                                                 | 2,217,760                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Brian X. Tierney</b>        |                                                                                        |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 2019 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 49,686                                                                                                                                | 3,713,532                                                                                                                                            |
| 2018 2020 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 45,798                                                                                                                                | 3,422,943                                                                                                                                            |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units(4) | 2,794                                                                                  | 208,824                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units(5) | 5,519                                                                                  | 412,490                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units(6) | 7,633                                                                                  | 570,490                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>David M. Feinberg</b>       |                                                                                        |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 2019 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 29,814                                                                                                                                | 2,228,298                                                                                                                                            |
| 2018 2020 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 32,058                                                                                                                                | 2,396,015                                                                                                                                            |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units(4) | 1,662                                                                                  | 124,218                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units(5) | 3,312                                                                                  | 247,539                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units(6) | 5,343                                                                                  | 399,336                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Lisa M. Barton</b>          |                                                                                        |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 2019 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 29,814                                                                                                                                | 2,228,298                                                                                                                                            |
| 2018 2020 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 27,480                                                                                                                                | 2,053,855                                                                                                                                            |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units(4) | 1,479                                                                                  | 110,540                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units(5) | 3,312                                                                                  | 247,539                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units(6) | 4,580                                                                                  | 342,309                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Lana L. Hillebrand</b>      |                                                                                        |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 2019 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 23,602                                                                                                                                | 1,764,013                                                                                                                                            |
| 2018 2020 Performance Units(3) |                                                                                        |                                                                                            | 22,900                                                                                                                                | 1,711,546                                                                                                                                            |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units(4) | 1,331                                                                                  | 99,479                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units(5) | 2,622                                                                                  | 195,968                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |

|                                |       |         |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units(6) | 3,817 | 285,283 |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------|

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- (1) Pursuant to applicable SEC rules, the number of performance units reported in this column is the maximum number of performance units issuable (200% of the amount outstanding at December 31, 2018) because the results for the performance units that vested on December 31, 2018 were above target. However, the actual number of performance units credited upon vesting will be based on AEP's actual performance over the applicable three-year period.
- (2) Pursuant to applicable SEC rules, the market value of the performance units reported in this column was computed by multiplying the closing price of AEP's common stock on December 31, 2018 (\$74.74) by the maximum number of performance units issuable set forth in the preceding column because the results for the performance units that vested on December 31, 2018 were above target. However, the actual number of performance units credited upon vesting will be based on AEP's actual performance over the applicable three-year period.
- (3) AEP's practice is to grant performance units at the beginning of each year with a three-year performance and vesting period. This results in awards for overlapping successive three-year performance periods. These awards generally vest at the end of the three year performance period. The performance units awarded for the 2016 – 2018 performance period, including associated dividend credits, vested at December 31, 2018 and are shown in the Options Exercises and Stock Vested for 2018 table below. The awards shown for the 2017 – 2019 and 2018 – 2020 performance periods include performance units resulting from reinvested dividends which are subject to the same performance criteria as the underlying awards.
- (4) These restricted stock units were granted on February 23, 2016 and will generally vest, subject to the executive officer's continued employment, on May 1, 2019. The amounts shown include restricted stock units resulting from reinvested dividends.
- (5) These restricted stock units were granted on February 20, 2017 and will generally vest, subject to the executive officer's continued employment, in two equal installments, on May 1, 2019 and May 1, 2020. The amounts shown include restricted stock units resulting from reinvested dividends.
- (6) These restricted stock units were granted on February 19, 2018 and will generally vest, subject to the executive officer's continued employment, in three equal installments, on May 1, 2019, May 1, 2020 and May 1, 2021. The amounts shown include restricted stock units resulting from reinvested dividends.

**Table of Contents****Option Exercises and Stock Vested for 2018**

The following table provides information with respect to the vesting of RSUs and performance units in 2018 that were granted to our named executive officers in previous years. The named executive officers did not exercise any stock options in 2018.

| Name               | Option Awards                             |                                 | Stock Awards                                |                                    |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                    | Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#) | Value Realized on Exercise (\$) | Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)(1) | Value Realized on Vesting (\$) (2) |
| Nicholas K. Akins  |                                           |                                 | 154,330                                     | \$ 11,362,501                      |
| Brian X. Tierney   |                                           |                                 | 43,390                                      | \$3,195,120                        |
| David M. Feinberg  |                                           |                                 | 25,559                                      | \$1,883,117                        |
| Lisa M. Barton     |                                           |                                 | 23,137                                      | \$1,703,035                        |
| Lana L. Hillebrand |                                           |                                 | 20,654                                      | \$1,520,964                        |

- (1) This column includes the following performance units and related dividend equivalents for the 2016 – 2018 performance period that vested on December 31, 2018: 121,854 for Mr. Akins; 34,362 for Mr. Tierney; 20,434 for Mr. Feinberg; 18,189 for Ms. Barton; and 16,368 for Ms. Hillebrand. This column also includes the following RSUs that vested on May 1, 2018: 32,476 for Mr. Akins; 9,028 for Mr. Tierney; 5,125 for Mr. Feinberg; 4,948 for Ms. Barton; and 4,286 for Ms. Hillebrand.
- (2) As is required, the value included in this column for the 2016-2018 performance units is computed by multiplying the number of units by the closing price of AEP's common stock on the December 31, 2018 vesting date (\$74.74). However, the actual value realized from these units was based on the 20-day average closing market price of AEP common stock prior to the vesting date (\$77.47). Also as required, this column includes the value of RSUs that vested on May 1, 2018 computed by multiplying the number of units vesting by the closing price of AEP's common stock on this date, which was \$69.44 per share. However, the actual value realized from RSU awards granted in 2015 and 2016 that vested, was based on the 20-day average closing market price of AEP common stock prior to the vesting date (\$68.625).

**2016 – 2018 Performance Units**

Performance units that were granted for the 2016 – 2018 performance period vested on December 31, 2018. The combined score for the 2016 – 2018 performance period was 136.7 percent of target. The final score calculation for these performance measures is shown in the chart below.

| Performance Measures | Threshold Performance | Target Performance | Maximum Payout Performance | Actual Performance | Score  | Weight | Weighted Score |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|----------------|
|                      |                       |                    |                            | \$11.564           | 118.0% | 50%    | 59.0%          |

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|                    |              |               |               |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 3-Year Cumulative  | \$10.621     | \$11.420      | \$12.219      |
| Earnings Per Share | (30% payout) | (100% Payout) | (200% Payout) |

|                        |                  |                  |                  |                  |        |     |       |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|-----|-------|
| 3-Year Total           | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 50 <sup>th</sup> | 80 <sup>th</sup> |                  |        |     |       |
| Shareholder Return vs. | Percentile       | Percentile       | Percentile       | 67 <sup>th</sup> |        |     |       |
| S&P Electric Utilities | (0% Payout)      | (100% Payout)    | (200% Payout)    | Percentile       | 155.3% | 50% | 77.7% |

|                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |               |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------------|
| <b>Composite Result</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  | <b>136.7%</b> |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------------|

**Table of Contents****Pension Benefits for 2018**

The following table provides information regarding the pension benefits for our named executive officers under AEP's pension plans. The material terms of the plans are described following the table.

| <b>Name</b>        | <b>Plan Name</b>              | <b>Number of<br/>Years<br/>Credited<br/>Service (#)</b> | <b>Present<br/>Value<br/>of<br/>Accumulated<br/>Benefit(\$)(1)</b> | <b>Payments<br/>During<br/>Last<br/>Fiscal<br/>Year(\$)</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nicholas K Akins   | AEP Retirement Plan           | 36.6                                                    | 667,437                                                            |                                                             |
|                    | CSW Executive Retirement Plan | 36.6                                                    | 1,844,733                                                          |                                                             |
| Brian X. Tierney   | AEP Retirement Plan           | 20.7                                                    | 367,189                                                            |                                                             |
|                    | AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan | 20.7                                                    | 1,243,703                                                          |                                                             |
| David M. Feinberg  | AEP Retirement Plan           | 7.7                                                     | 110,446                                                            |                                                             |
|                    | AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan | 7.7                                                     | 312,700                                                            |                                                             |
| Lisa M. Barton     | AEP Retirement Plan           | 12.1                                                    | 193,792                                                            |                                                             |
|                    | AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan | 12.1                                                    | 320,883                                                            |                                                             |
| Lana L. Hillebrand | AEP Retirement Plan           | 23.6 (2)                                                | 527,160                                                            |                                                             |
|                    | AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan | 23.6                                                    | 380,151                                                            |                                                             |

- (1) The Present Value of Accumulated Benefits is based on the benefit accrued under the applicable plan through December 31, 2018, and the following assumptions (which are consistent with those used in AEP's financial statements):

The named executive officer retires at normal retirement age (age 65), except for Mr. Tierney, whose benefit is calculated at age 62 because he is eligible for an unreduced annuity benefit when he reaches that age.

The named executive officer commences the payment of benefits (the accrued benefit) immediately upon retirement.

The value of the annuity benefit at the named executive officer's assumed retirement age is determined based upon the accrued benefit, an assumed interest rate of 4.30 percent, 4.20 percent and 4.20 percent for the benefits accrued under the AEP Retirement Plan, AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan and the CSW Executive Retirement Plan, respectively, and assumed mortality based upon modified versions of the RP-2014 mortality tables. Base mortality rates are derived from the RP-2014 table factored to 2006 with no collar adjustment for the qualified pension benefits and a white collar adjustment for non-qualified pension

benefits. Mortality improvements are projected generationally using the MP-2018 mortality projection scale with long-term improvement rates multiplied by 0.75. The value of the lump sum benefit at that assumed retirement age is determined based upon the accrued benefit, an assumed interest rate of 3.90 percent and assumed mortality based on current law IRS lump sum mortality with static mortality projections estimated to the date of retirement using mortality projection scale MP-2018. The present value of each named executive officer's benefits is determined by discounting the value of benefits described above at the assumed retirement age to each executive's current age using an assumed interest rate of 4.30 percent, 4.20 percent and 4.20 percent for the benefits accrued under the AEP Retirement Plan, AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan and CSW Executive Retirement Plan, respectively.

For the AEP Retirement Plan, the present value of the accrued benefit is weighted based on 75 percent lump sum and 25 percent annuity based on the assumption that participants elect those benefit options in that proportion. For the AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan and the CSW Executive Retirement Plan, the present value of the accrued benefits is weighted based on 100 percent lump sum.

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- (2) The benefit available to Ms. Hillebrand from the AEP Retirement Plan consists of two pieces: one under the Central and South West Corporation Cash Balance Retirement Plan (the CSW Retirement Plan ) attributable to her prior period of service (17.5 years) between December 15, 1982 and June 30, 2000 (her CSW Retirement Plan Benefit ) and one under the cash balance formula since her return on December 17, 2012. Her CSW Retirement Plan Benefit will be paid to her either as a lump sum or in one of the annuity options offered by the plan. The amount available to her as a lump sum would be the greater of (i) her CSW Retirement Plan cash balance account (\$237,672 as of December 31, 2018), or (ii) the lump sum value of her CSW Retirement Plan protected minimum normal retirement annuity (which had accrued during the 14.5 year period until her traditional pension formula benefit became frozen effective July 1, 1997), calculated using a factor based on then applicable interest and mortality assumptions as well as an assumed future cost of living adjustment rate of 3.00%. The payment available to her as an annuity would be based on the greater of (i) her CSW Retirement Plan protected minimum normal retirement annuity (\$3,279 per month) or (ii) the life annuity equivalent of her then CSW Retirement Plan cash balance account, calculated using a factor based on then applicable interest and mortality assumptions.

**Overview.** AEP maintains tax-qualified and nonqualified defined benefit pension plans for eligible employees. The nonqualified plans provide benefits that cannot be paid under the tax-qualified plan because of maximum limitations imposed on such plans by the Internal Revenue Code. The plans are designed to provide a retirement income to executives and their spouses, as well as a market competitive benefit opportunity as part of a market competitive total rewards package.

**AEP Retirement Plan.** The AEP Retirement Plan is a tax-qualified defined benefit pension plan under which benefits are generally determined by reference to a cash balance formula. The AEP Retirement Plan also encompasses the Central and South West Corporation Cash Balance Retirement Plan (the CSW Retirement Plan ), which was merged into the AEP Retirement Plan effective December 31, 2008. As of December 31, 2018, each of the named executive officers was fully vested in their AEP Retirement Plan benefit.

In addition, employees who have continuously participated in the AEP Retirement Plan (but not the CSW Retirement Plan) since December 31, 2000 ( Grandfathered AEP Participants, which includes Mr. Tierney) remain eligible for an alternate pension benefit calculated by reference to a final average pay formula. The benefits under this final average pay formula were frozen as of December 31, 2010.

**Cash Balance Formula.** Under the cash balance formula, each participant has an account established to which dollar credits are allocated each year.

1. **Company Credits.** Each year, participants' accounts are credited with an amount equal to a percentage of their salary for that year and annual incentive award for the prior year. The applicable percentage is based on the participant's age and years of service. The following table shows the applicable percentage:

| Sum of Age Plus<br>Years of Service | Applicable<br>Percentage |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Less than 30                        | 3.0%                     |
| 30-39                               | 3.5%                     |
| 40-49                               | 4.5%                     |
| 50-59                               | 5.5%                     |

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| 60-69      | 7.0% |
| 70 or more | 8.5% |

Each year, the IRS calculates a limit on the amount of eligible pay that can be used to calculate pension benefits in a qualified plan. For 2018, the limit was \$275,000.

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2. *Interest Credits.* All amounts in the cash balance accounts earn interest at the average interest rate on 30-year Treasury securities for the month of November of the prior year, with a floor of 4 percent. For 2018, the interest rate was 4 percent.

*Final Average Pay Formula.* Grandfathered AEP Participants receive their benefits under the cash balance formula or the final average pay formula, whichever provides the higher benefit. On December 31, 2010, the final average pay benefit payable at the Grandfathered AEP Participant's normal retirement age was frozen, meaning that their final average pay formula benefit is not affected by the participant's service or compensation subsequent to this date. This frozen final average pay normal retirement benefit is based on the following calculation as of December 31, 2010: the participant's then years of service multiplied by the sum of (i) 1.1 percent of the participant's then high 36 consecutive months of base pay (High 36); and (ii) 0.5 percent of the amount by which the participant's then High 36 exceeded the participant's applicable average Social Security covered compensation.

Grandfathered AEP Participants may become entitled to a subsidized early retirement benefit under the final average pay formula if they remain employed with AEP through age 55 with at least three years of service. The early retirement benefit payable under the final average pay formula is the unreduced normal retirement age benefit if it commences at age 62 or later. The early retirement benefit is reduced by 3 percent for each year prior to age 62 that the participant elects to commence their benefits.

**AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan.** The AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan is a nonqualified defined benefit pension plan. It generally provides eligible participants with benefits that are in excess of those provided under the AEP Retirement Plan (without regard to the provisions included as the result of the merger of the CSW Retirement Plan into the AEP Retirement Plan) as determined upon the participant's termination of employment. These excess benefits are calculated under the terms of the AEP Retirement Plan described above with the following modifications: (i) annual incentive pay was taken into account for purposes of the frozen final average pay formula; and (ii) the limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code on annual compensation and annual benefits are disregarded. However, eligible pay taken into account under the cash balance formula is limited to the greater of \$1 million or two times the participant's year-end base salary.

Participants do not become vested in their AEP Supplemental Plan benefit until they become vested in their AEP Retirement Plan benefit or upon a change in control. As of December 31, 2018, each of the named executive officers was fully vested in their AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan benefit.

**CSW Executive Retirement Plan.** The CSW Executive Retirement Plan is a nonqualified defined benefit pension plan. It generally provides eligible participants with benefits that are in excess of those provided under the terms of the former CSW Retirement Plan (which was merged into the AEP Retirement Plan) as determined upon the participant's termination of employment. The excess benefits are calculated without regard to the limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code on annual compensation and annual benefits. As of December 31, 2018, Mr. Akins was fully vested in his CSW Executive Retirement Plan benefit.

**Table of Contents****Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for 2018**

**Overview.** AEP maintains non-qualified deferred compensation plans that allow eligible employees, including the named executive officers, to defer receipt of a portion of their base salary, annual incentive compensation and performance unit awards. The plans are unfunded. Participants have an unsecured contractual commitment from the Company to pay the amounts due under the plans from the general assets of the Company. AEP maintains the following non-qualified deferred compensation plans for eligible employees:

The American Electric Power System Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan (SRSP);

The American Electric Power System Incentive Compensation Deferral Plan (ICDP); and

The American Electric Power System Stock Ownership Requirement Plan (SORP).

The following table provides information regarding contributions, earnings and balances for our named executive officers under AEP's three non-qualified deferred compensation plans which are each further described below.

| <b>Name</b>        | <b>Plan Name</b> | <b>Executive Contributions in Last FY(1)<br/>(\$)</b> | <b>Registrant Contributions in Last FY(2)<br/>(\$)</b> | <b>Aggregate Earnings in Last FY(3)<br/>(\$)</b> | <b>Aggregate Withdrawals/<br/>Distributions<br/>(\$)</b> | <b>Aggregate Balance at Last FYE(4)<br/>(\$)</b> |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Nicholas K. Akins  | SRSP             | 103,500                                               | 77,625                                                 | 61,640                                           |                                                          | 2,070,990                                        |
|                    | ICDP             |                                                       |                                                        | (25,163)                                         |                                                          | 401,278                                          |
|                    | SORP             |                                                       |                                                        | 427,839                                          |                                                          | 8,503,879                                        |
| Brian X. Tierney   | SRSP             | 104,827                                               | 47,172                                                 | 121,208                                          |                                                          | 4,065,662                                        |
|                    | SORP             |                                                       |                                                        | 76,418                                           |                                                          | 1,518,912                                        |
| David M. Feinberg  | SRSP             | 31,403                                                | 23,552                                                 | 19,284                                           |                                                          | 669,746                                          |
|                    | SORP             |                                                       |                                                        | 127,553                                          |                                                          | 2,535,291                                        |
| Lisa M. Barton     | SRSP             | 38,956                                                | 29,217                                                 | (7,606)                                          |                                                          | 611,849                                          |
|                    | ICDP             |                                                       |                                                        | 629                                              |                                                          | 28,816                                           |
|                    | SORP             |                                                       |                                                        | 96,700                                           |                                                          | 1,922,040                                        |
| Lana L. Hillebrand | SRSP             | 41,659                                                | 31,244                                                 | 16,295                                           |                                                          | 572,452                                          |
|                    | SORP             |                                                       |                                                        | 106,614                                          |                                                          | 2,119,098                                        |

- (1) The amounts set forth under Executive Contributions in Last FY for the SRSP are reported in the Summary Compensation Table as either (i) Salary for 2018 or (ii) the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation for 2017.
- (2) The amounts set forth under Registrant Contributions in Last FY for the SRSP are reported in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table.
- (3) No amounts set forth under Aggregate Earnings in Last FY have been reported in the Summary Compensation Table as there were no above market or preferential earnings credited to any named executive officer's account in any of the plans.

- (4) The amounts set forth in the Aggregate Balance at Last FYE column for the SRSP include the SRSP amounts reported in the Executive Contributions in Last FY and Registrant Contributions in Last FY columns. In addition, the Aggregate Balance at Last FYE for the SRSP includes the following amounts previously reported in the Summary Compensation Table for prior years: \$1,177,456 for Mr. Akins, \$1,346,998 for Mr. Tierney, \$549,583 for Mr. Feinberg, \$197,368 for Ms. Barton and \$199,463 for Ms. Hillebrand. The amounts set forth in the Aggregate Balance at Last FYE for the SORP include the SORP amounts reported in the Executive Contributions in Last FY. In addition, the Aggregate Balance at Last FYE for the SORP includes the following amounts previously reported in the Summary Compensation Table for prior years: \$2,670,419 for Mr. Akins, \$5,297 for Mr. Tierney, \$1,617,064 for Mr. Feinberg, \$502,170 for Ms. Barton and \$140,637 for Ms. Hillebrand.

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**Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan.** This plan allows eligible participants to save on a pre-tax basis and to continue to receive Company matching contributions beyond the limits imposed by the Internal Revenue Code on qualified plans of this type.

Participants can defer up to 50 percent of their base salary and annual incentive award in excess of the IRS eligible compensation limit for qualified plans, (\$275,000 for 2018) up to \$2,000,000.

The Company matches 100 percent of the participant's contributions up to 1 percent of eligible compensation and 70 percent of the participant's contributions from the next 5 percent of eligible compensation (for a total Company match of up to 4.5% of eligible compensation).

Participants may not withdraw any amount credited to their account until their termination of employment with AEP. Participants may elect a distribution of their account as a lump-sum or annual installment payments over a period of up to 10 years. Participants may delay the commencement of distributions for up to five years from the date of their termination of employment.

Participants may direct the investment of their plan account among the core investment options that are available to all employees in AEP's qualified Retirement Savings Plan and one additional option that provides interest at a rate set each December at 120 percent of the applicable federal long-term rate with monthly compounding. There were no above-market or preferential earnings with respect to the Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan's investment options in 2018.

**Incentive Compensation Deferral Plan.** This plan allows eligible employees to defer payment of up to 80 percent of vested performance units.

AEP does not offer any matching contributions.

Participants may direct the investment of their plan accounts among the core investment options that are available to all employees in AEP's qualified Retirement Savings Plan. There were no above-market or preferential earnings with respect to the Incentive Compensation Deferral Plan in 2018.

Generally, participants may not withdraw any amount credited to their account until their termination of employment with AEP. However, participants may make one withdrawal of amounts attributable to their pre-2005 contributions prior to termination of employment. The withdrawal amount would be subject to a 10 percent withdrawal penalty. Participants may elect among the same payment options for the distributions of their account value as described above for the Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan's investment options.

**Stock Ownership Requirement Plan.** This plan assists executives in achieving their minimum stock ownership requirements. It does this primarily by tracking the executive's AEP Career Shares. AEP Career Shares are a form of deferred compensation, which are unfunded and unsecured general obligations of AEP. The rate of return on AEP

Career Shares is equivalent to the total return on AEP stock with dividends reinvested. Participants may not withdraw any amount credited to their account until their termination of employment with AEP. Participants may elect among the same payment options for the distribution of the value of their AEP Career Shares as described above for the Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan.

### **Potential Payments Upon Termination of Employment or Change in Control**

The Company has entered into agreements and maintains plans that will require the Company to provide compensation to the named executive officers in the event of a termination of their employment or a change in control of the Company. Actual payments will depend on the circumstances and timing of any termination of employment or change of control. In addition, in connection with any actual termination or change in control transaction, the Company may enter into agreements or establish arrangements that provide additional or alternative benefits or amounts from those described below. The agreements and plans summarized below are complex legal documents with terms and conditions having precise meanings, which are designed to address many possible but currently hypothetical situations.

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**Severance.** AEP currently provides full-time employees, including the named executive officers, with severance benefits under a general severance plan if their employment is terminated as the direct result of a restructuring or downsizing ( Severance-Eligible Employees ) and the employee releases AEP from claims against the Company that may be lawfully released. These severance benefits include:

A lump sum severance payment equal to two weeks of base pay for each year of Company service, with a minimum of 8 weeks for employees with at least one year of AEP service;

Continued eligibility for medical and dental benefits at the active employee rates for 18 months or until the participant becomes eligible for coverage from another employer, whichever occurs first;

For employees who are at least age 50 with 10 years of AEP service and who do not qualify for AEP's retiree medical benefits or who will be bridged to such retiree benefit eligibility (described below), AEP also provides medical and dental benefit eligibility at rates equivalent to those provided to retirees until age 65 or until the participant becomes eligible for coverage from another employer, whichever occurs first; and

Outplacement services, the incremental cost of which may be up to \$17,000 for the named executive officers.

Severance-Eligible Employees who have enough weeks of severance (up to one year) and vacation to cover a period that would allow them to become eligible for retiree medical benefits, which is available to those employees who are at least age 55 with at least 10 years of service ( Retirement-Eligible Employees ) are retained as employees on a paid leave of absence until they become retirement eligible. This benefit applies in lieu of severance and unused vacation payments that these employees would otherwise receive. The Company pays any remaining severance and vacation pay at the time of their retirement. This delay of an employee's termination date does not apply to the plans providing nonqualified deferred compensation, which define a participant's termination date by reference to Internal Revenue Code Section 409A.

A Severance-Eligible executive's termination entitles that executive to a pro-rata portion of any outstanding unvested performance units that the executive has held for at least six months and to the payment of a pro-rata portion of any RSUs to the extent not already vested and paid. The pro-rated performance units will not become payable until the end of the performance period and remain subject to all performance objectives.

Severance-Eligible executives may continue financial counseling and tax preparation services for one year following their termination up to a maximum annual incremental cost to the Company for 2018 of \$20,000 plus related incidental expenses of the advisor.

In addition, Ms. Hillebrand has an agreement that entitles her to a payment of one times her annual salary plus her target annual incentive opportunity if she terminates her employment because her duties are changed without her consent, provided that her termination is not a Qualifying Termination (as defined in the Company's long-term incentive awards). See Change in Control below. Payment is conditioned upon her releasing AEP from all claims, including claims for any other severance benefits.

The Company also has an Executive Severance Plan (Executive Severance Plan) that provides severance benefits to selected officers of the Company, including the named executive officers, subject to the executive's agreement to comply with the provisions of the plan, including confidentiality, non-solicitation, cooperation and non-disparagement provisions during their employment and following termination. Executives remain eligible for benefits under the general severance plan described above; however, any benefits provided under the Executive Severance Plan will be reduced by any amounts provided under the general severance plan. Benefits under the Executive Severance Plan would be triggered by a resignation for good reason or an involuntary termination by the Company without cause (each as defined below).

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The term "cause" with respect to the Executive Severance Plan means:

- (i) Failure or refusal to perform a substantial part of the executive's assigned duties and responsibilities following notice and a reasonable opportunity to cure (if such failure is capable of cure);
- (ii) Commission of an act of willful misconduct, fraud, embezzlement or dishonesty either in connection with the executive's duties to the Company or which otherwise is injurious to the best interest or reputation of the Company;
- (iii) Repeated failure to follow specific lawful directions of the Board or any officer to whom the executive reports;
- (iv) A violation of any of the material terms and conditions of any written agreement or agreements the executive may from time to time have with the Company;
- (v) A material violation of any of the rules of conduct or behavior of the Company;
- (vi) Conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, (A) a felony, (B) a misdemeanor involving an act of moral turpitude, or (C) a misdemeanor committed in connection with the executive's employment with the Company which is injurious to the best interest or reputation of the Company; or
- (vii) Violation of any applicable confidentiality, non-solicitation, or non-disparagement covenants or obligations relating to the Company (including the provisions to which the executive agreed when enrolling in the plan).

An executive's termination of employment that is covered by his or her change in control agreement (described in the next section) or due to mandatory retirement, disability or death would not be considered an involuntary termination that may trigger the payment of benefits under the Executive Severance Plan.

An executive would have "good reason" for resignation under the Executive Severance Plan if there is any reduction in the executive's then current annual base salary without the executive's consent; provided, however, that a uniform percentage reduction of 10% or less in the annual base salary of all executives participating in the Executive Severance Plan who are similarly situated would not be considered good reason for resignation. Also, the Company must be given 10 days following receipt of written notice from the executive to restore the executive's base salary before his or resignation may trigger plan benefits.

If benefits under the Executive Severance Plan are triggered, the affected named executive officers would receive two times their base salary and target annual incentive payable over two years. In addition, a pro-rated portion of their outstanding unvested performance units and RSUs would vest. The pro-rated performance units will not become payable until the end of the performance period and remain subject to all performance objectives. Any severance benefits payable under the Executive Severance Plan and prorated vesting of RSUs are conditioned on the execution

of an agreement by the executive officer releasing claims against the Company that may be lawfully released and committing to a non-competition obligation.

**Change In Control.** AEP defines change in control under its change in control agreements and Long-Term Incentive Plan as:

The acquisition by any person of the beneficial ownership of securities representing more than one-third of AEP's voting stock;

A merger or consolidation of AEP with another corporation unless AEP's voting securities outstanding immediately before such merger or consolidation continue to represent at least two-thirds of the total voting power of the surviving entity outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation; or

Approval by the shareholders of the liquidation of AEP or the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of AEP.

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AEP has a change in control agreement with each of the named executive officers that is triggered if there is a Qualifying Termination of the named executive officer's employment. A Qualifying Termination for this purpose generally occurs when the executive's employment is terminated in connection with that change in control (i) by AEP without cause or (ii) by the named executive officer for good reason, each as defined below. Such termination must be no later than two years after the change in control. These agreements provide for:

A lump sum payment equal to 2.99 times the named executive officer's annual base salary plus target annual incentive compensation award under the annual incentive program as in effect at the time of termination; and

Outplacement services.

The term "cause" with respect to AEP's change in control agreements means:

- (i) The willful and continued failure of the executive to perform the executive's duties after a written demand for performance is delivered to the executive by the Board; or
- (ii) The willful conduct or omission by the executive, which the Board determines to be illegal; gross misconduct that is injurious to the Company; or a breach of the executive's fiduciary duty to the Company.

The term "good reason" with respect to AEP's change in control agreements means:

- (i) An adverse change in the executive's status, duties or responsibilities from that in effect immediately prior to the change in control;
- (ii) The Company's failure to pay in a timely fashion the salary or benefits to which the executive is entitled under any employment agreement in effect on the date of the change in control;
- (iii) The reduction of the executive's salary as in effect on the date of the change in control;
- (iv) Any action taken by the Company that would substantially diminish the aggregate projected value of the executive's awards or benefits under the Company's benefit plans or policies;
- (v) A failure by the Company to obtain from any successor the assent to the change in control agreement; or
- (vi) The relocation, without the executive's prior approval, of the office at which the executive is to perform services to a location that is more than fifty (50) miles from its location immediately prior to the change in control.

The Company must be given notice and an opportunity to cure any of these circumstances before they would be considered to be good reason.

All awards under the Long-Term Incentive Plan will vest upon a Qualifying Termination, which may occur coincident with or within one year after a change in control. The term Qualifying Termination with respect to long-term incentive awards generally is the same as that described for the change in control agreements, except that an executive's mandatory retirement at age 65 is explicitly excluded, and Cause is defined more broadly to encompass:

- (i) Failure or refusal to perform assigned duties and responsibilities in a competent or satisfactory manner;
- (ii) Commission of an act of dishonesty, including, but not limited to, misappropriation of funds or any property of AEP;

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- (iii) Engagement in activities or conduct injurious to the best interest or reputation of AEP;
- (iv) Insubordination;
- (v) Violation of any material term or condition of any written agreement with AEP;
- (vi) Violation of any of AEP's rules of conduct of behavior;
- (vii) Commission of a felony, a misdemeanor involving an act of moral turpitude, or a misdemeanor committed in connection with employment at AEP which is injurious to the best interest or reputation of AEP; or

(viii) Disclosure, dissemination, or misappropriation of confidential, proprietary, and/or trade secret information. In addition, performance units would be deemed to have been fully earned at 100 percent of the target score upon a Qualifying Termination within one year following a change in control. The value of each vested performance unit following a Qualifying Termination would be (1) the closing price of a share of AEP common stock on the date of the Qualifying Termination or (2) if the date of the Qualifying Termination is coincident with the change in control and if the change in control is the result of a tender offer, merger or sale of all or substantially all of the assets of AEP, the price paid per share of common stock in that transaction.

The AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan also provides that all accrued supplemental retirement benefits to the extent then unvested become fully vested upon a change in control.

**Termination Scenarios**

The following tables show the incremental compensation and benefits that would have been paid to each named executive officer who was employed by AEP on December 31, 2018 assuming the hypothetical circumstances cited in each column occurred on December 31, 2018 and calculated in accordance with the methodology required by the SEC. In connection with any actual termination or change in control, the Company may enter into agreements or establish arrangements that provide additional benefits or amounts, or may alter the terms of benefits described below.

With respect to annual incentive compensation for the completed year, the initial calculated annual incentive opportunity is shown, before any individual discretionary adjustment, which varies from the actual value paid and reported in the Summary Compensation Table.

The values shown in the change in control column are triggered only if the named executive officer's employment is terminated under the circumstances (described above under Change In Control) that trigger the payment or provision of each of the types of compensation and benefits shown.

No information is provided for terminations due to disability because it is not generally AEP's practice to terminate the employment of any employee so long as they remain eligible for AEP's long-term disability benefits. AEP successively provides sick pay and then long-term disability benefits for up to two years to employees with a disability that prevents them from returning to their job. Such disability benefits continue for employees that cannot perform any occupation for which they are reasonably qualified generally until the employee reaches age 65. Because

disabled participants remain employed by the Company, they continue to vest in long-term incentive awards while they are disabled. AEP treats a participant's disability as a termination to the extent required by the regulations issued under Internal Revenue Code Section 409A, but such terminations only trigger the payment of benefits that had previously vested. Employment may be terminated due to disability under a separate definition of employment termination that applies to restricted stock unit awards and compensation and benefit programs that may be considered non-qualified deferred compensation under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code. However restricted stock unit awards allow participants terminated due to disability to continue to vest as if their employment had continued so long as they remain continuously disabled.

**Table of Contents****Potential Incremental Compensation and Benefits****That Would Have Been Provided as the Result of Employment Termination****as of December 31, 2018****For Nicholas K. Akins**

| <b>Executive Benefits and Payments<br/>Upon Termination</b> | <b>Involuntary<br/>Termination<br/>Change In</b> |                  |                      |                |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
|                                                             | <b>Resignation<br/>or Retirement</b>             | <b>Severance</b> | <b>for<br/>Cause</b> | <b>Control</b> | <b>Death</b>  |
| <b>Compensation:</b>                                        |                                                  |                  |                      |                |               |
| Base Salary (\$1,410,000)                                   | \$ 0                                             | \$ 2,820,000     | \$ 0                 | \$ 4,215,900   | \$ 0          |
| Annual Incentive for Completed<br>Year(1)                   | \$ 2,755,539                                     | \$ 2,755,539     | \$ 0                 | \$ 2,755,539   | \$ 2,755,539  |
| Other Payment for Annual<br>Incentives(2)                   | \$ 0                                             | \$ 3,807,000     | \$ 0                 | \$ 5,691,465   | \$ 0          |
| <b>Long-Term Incentives:(3)</b>                             |                                                  |                  |                      |                |               |
| 2017-2019 Performance Units(4)                              | \$ 4,642,002                                     | \$ 4,642,002     | \$ 0                 | \$ 6,963,003   | \$ 4,642,002  |
| 2018-2020 Performance Units(4)                              | \$ 2,217,785                                     | \$ 2,217,785     | \$ 0                 | \$ 6,653,355   | \$ 2,217,785  |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units                                 | \$ 0                                             | \$ 502,911       | \$ 0                 | \$ 740,300     | \$ 740,300    |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units                                 | \$ 0                                             | \$ 614,293       | \$ 0                 | \$ 1,547,118   | \$ 1,547,118  |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units                                 | \$ 0                                             | \$ 665,328       | \$ 0                 | \$ 2,217,760   | \$ 2,217,760  |
| <b>Benefits:</b>                                            |                                                  |                  |                      |                |               |
| Financial Counseling                                        | \$ 20,000                                        | \$ 20,000        | \$ 0                 | \$ 20,000      | \$ 20,000     |
| Outplacement Services(5)                                    | \$ 0                                             | \$ 17,000        | \$ 0                 | \$ 17,000      | \$ 0          |
| <b>Total Incremental Compensation<br/>and Benefits</b>      | \$ 9,635,326                                     | \$ 18,061,858    | \$ 0                 | \$ 30,821,440  | \$ 14,140,504 |

Notes for the Potential Incremental Termination Scenario tables are provided collectively following the last such table.

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**Potential Incremental Compensation and Benefits**  
**That Would Have Been Provided as the Result of Employment Termination**  
**as of December 31, 2018**  
**For Brian X. Tierney**

| Executive Benefits and Payments<br>Upon Termination                                                                      | Involuntary<br>Termination   |           |              |           |    | Change<br>In | Death |           |    |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----|--------------|-------|-----------|----|-----------|
|                                                                                                                          | Resignation<br>or Retirement | Severance | for<br>Cause | Control   |    |              |       |           |    |           |
|                                                                                                                          |                              |           |              |           |    |              |       |           |    |           |
| <b>Compensation:</b>                                                                                                     |                              |           |              |           |    |              |       |           |    |           |
| Base Salary (\$769,000)                                                                                                  | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 1,538,000 | \$ | 0            | \$    | 2,299,310 | \$ | 0         |
| Annual Incentive for Completed<br>Year(1)                                                                                | \$                           | 890,577   | \$           | 890,577   | \$ | 0            | \$    | 890,577   | \$ | 890,577   |
| Other Payment for Annual Incentives(2)                                                                                   | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 1,230,400 | \$ | 0            | \$    | 1,839,448 | \$ | 0         |
| <b>Long-Term Incentives:(3)</b>                                                                                          |                              |           |              |           |    |              |       |           |    |           |
| 2017-2019 Performance Units(4)                                                                                           | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 1,237,844 | \$ | 0            | \$    | 1,856,766 | \$ | 1,237,844 |
| 2018-2020 Performance Units(4)                                                                                           | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 570,490   | \$ | 0            | \$    | 1,711,471 | \$ | 570,490   |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units                                                                                              | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 141,823   | \$ | 0            | \$    | 208,824   | \$ | 208,824   |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units                                                                                              | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 163,815   | \$ | 0            | \$    | 412,490   | \$ | 412,490   |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units                                                                                              | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 171,147   | \$ | 0            | \$    | 570,490   | \$ | 570,490   |
| <b>Benefits:</b>                                                                                                         |                              |           |              |           |    |              |       |           |    |           |
| Financial Counseling                                                                                                     | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 20,000    | \$ | 0            | \$    | 20,000    | \$ | 20,000    |
| Outplacement Services(5)                                                                                                 | \$                           | 0         | \$           | 17,000    | \$ | 0            | \$    | 17,000    | \$ | 0         |
| <b>Total Incremental Compensation and<br/>Benefits</b>                                                                   | \$                           | 890,577   | \$           | 5,981,096 | \$ | 0            | \$    | 9,826,376 | \$ | 3,910,715 |
| Notes for the Potential Incremental Termination Scenario tables are provided collectively following the last such table. |                              |           |              |           |    |              |       |           |    |           |

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**Potential Incremental Compensation and Benefits**  
**That Would Have Been Provided as the Result of Employment Termination**  
**as of December 31, 2018**  
**For David M. Feinberg**

| <b>Executive Benefits<br/>and Payments</b>             | <b>Involuntary<br/>Termination</b>   |                  |                      |                       |              | <b>Change</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|
|                                                        | <b>Resignation<br/>or Retirement</b> | <b>Severance</b> | <b>for<br/>Cause</b> | <b>In<br/>Control</b> | <b>Death</b> |               |
| <b>Upon Termination</b>                                |                                      |                  |                      |                       |              |               |
| <b>Compensation:</b>                                   |                                      |                  |                      |                       |              |               |
| Base Salary (\$648,000)                                | \$ 0                                 | \$ 1,296,000     | \$ 0                 | \$ 1,937,520          | \$ 0         |               |
| Annual Incentive for Completed<br>Year(1)              | \$ 656,643                           | \$ 656,643       | \$ 0                 | \$ 656,643            | \$ 656,643   |               |
| Other Payment for Annual<br>Incentives(2)              | \$ 0                                 | \$ 907,200       | \$ 0                 | \$ 1,356,264          | \$ 0         |               |
| <b>Long-Term Incentives:(3)</b>                        |                                      |                  |                      |                       |              |               |
| 2017-2019 Performance Units(4)                         | \$ 0                                 | \$ 742,766       | \$ 0                 | \$ 1,114,149          | \$ 742,766   |               |
| 2018-2020 Performance Units(4)                         | \$ 0                                 | \$ 399,336       | \$ 0                 | \$ 1,198,007          | \$ 399,336   |               |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                                 | \$ 84,338        | \$ 0                 | \$ 124,218            | \$ 124,218   |               |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                                 | \$ 98,282        | \$ 0                 | \$ 247,539            | \$ 247,539   |               |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                                 | \$ 119,801       | \$ 0                 | \$ 399,336            | \$ 399,336   |               |
| <b>Benefits:</b>                                       |                                      |                  |                      |                       |              |               |
| Financial Counseling                                   | \$ 0                                 | \$ 20,000        | \$ 0                 | \$ 20,000             | \$ 20,000    |               |
| Outplacement Services(5)                               | \$ 0                                 | \$ 17,000        | \$ 0                 | \$ 17,000             | \$ 0         |               |
| <b>Total Incremental<br/>Compensation and Benefits</b> | \$ 656,643                           | \$ 4,341,366     | \$ 0                 | \$ 7,070,676          | \$ 2,589,838 |               |

Notes for the Potential Incremental Termination Scenario tables are provided collectively following the last such table.

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**Potential Incremental Compensation and Benefits**  
**That Would Have Been Provided as the Result of Employment Termination**  
**as of December 31, 2018**  
**For Lisa M. Barton**

| Executive Benefits and Payments<br>Upon Termination    | Involuntary<br>Termination   |              |              |                       |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                                        | Resignation<br>or Retirement | Severance    | for<br>Cause | Change-In-<br>Control | Death        |
| <b>Compensation:</b>                                   |                              |              |              |                       |              |
| Base Salary (\$569,000)                                | \$ 0                         | \$ 1,138,000 | \$ 0         | \$ 1,701,310          | \$ 0         |
| Annual Incentive for Completed<br>Year(1)              | \$ 576,395                   | \$ 576,395   | \$ 0         | \$ 576,395            | \$ 576,395   |
| Other Payment for Annual Incentives(2)                 | \$ 0                         | \$ 796,600   | \$ 0         | \$ 1,190,917          | \$ 0         |
| <b>Long-Term Incentives:(3)</b>                        |                              |              |              |                       |              |
| 2017-2019 Performance Units(4)                         | \$ 0                         | \$ 742,766   | \$ 0         | \$ 1,114,149          | \$ 742,766   |
| 2018-2020 Performance Units(4)                         | \$ 0                         | \$ 342,309   | \$ 0         | \$ 1,026,928          | \$ 342,309   |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                         | \$ 75,056    | \$ 0         | \$ 110,540            | \$ 110,540   |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                         | \$ 98,282    | \$ 0         | \$ 247,539            | \$ 247,539   |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                         | \$ 102,693   | \$ 0         | \$ 342,309            | \$ 342,309   |
| <b>Benefits:</b>                                       |                              |              |              |                       |              |
| Financial Counseling                                   | \$ 0                         | \$ 20,000    | \$ 0         | \$ 20,000             | \$ 20,000    |
| Outplacement Services(5)                               | \$ 0                         | \$ 17,000    | \$ 0         | \$ 17,000             | \$ 0         |
| <b>Total Incremental Compensation and<br/>Benefits</b> | \$ 576,395                   | \$ 3,909,101 | \$ 0         | \$ 6,347,087          | \$ 2,381,858 |

Notes for the Potential Incremental Termination Scenario tables are provided collectively following the last such table.

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**Potential Incremental Compensation and Benefits**  
**That Would Have Been Provided as the Result of Employment Termination**  
**as of December 31, 2018**  
**For Lana L. Hillebrand**

| Executive Benefits and Payments<br>Upon Termination    | Involuntary Termination      |              |              |                       |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                                        | Resignation<br>or Retirement | Severance    | for<br>Cause | Change-In-<br>Control | Death        |
| <b>Compensation:</b>                                   |                              |              |              |                       |              |
| Base Salary (\$595,000)                                | \$ 0                         | \$ 1,190,000 | \$ 0         | \$ 1,779,050          | \$ 0         |
| Annual Incentive for Completed<br>Year(1)              | \$ 602,807                   | \$ 602,807   | \$ 0         | \$ 602,807            | \$ 602,807   |
| Other Payment for Annual<br>Incentives(2)              | \$ 0                         | \$ 833,000   | \$ 0         | \$ 1,245,335          | \$ 0         |
| <b>Long-Term Incentives:(3)</b>                        |                              |              |              |                       |              |
| 2017-2019 Performance Units(4)                         | \$ 588,004                   | \$ 588,004   | \$ 0         | \$ 882,007            | \$ 588,004   |
| 2018-2020 Performance Units(4)                         | \$ 285,258                   | \$ 285,258   | \$ 0         | \$ 855,773            | \$ 285,258   |
| 2016 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                         | \$ 67,551    | \$ 0         | \$ 99,479             | \$ 99,479    |
| 2017 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                         | \$ 77,807    | \$ 0         | \$ 195,968            | \$ 195,968   |
| 2018 Restricted Stock Units                            | \$ 0                         | \$ 85,585    | \$ 0         | \$ 285,283            | \$ 285,283   |
| <b>Benefits:</b>                                       |                              |              |              |                       |              |
| Financial Counseling                                   | \$ 20,000                    | \$ 20,000    | \$ 0         | \$ 20,000             | \$ 20,000    |
| Outplacement Services(5)                               | \$ 0                         | \$ 17,000    | \$ 0         | \$ 17,000             | \$ 0         |
| <b>Total Incremental Compensation<br/>and Benefits</b> | \$ 1,496,069                 | \$ 3,767,012 | \$ 0         | \$ 5,982,702          | \$ 2,076,799 |

- (1) Executive officers and all other employees are eligible for an annual incentive award based on their earnings for the year if they remain employed with AEP through year-end, if they die or if they incur a retirement-eligible termination. The amount shown is the calculated annual incentive opportunity, as shown in the table in Compensation Discussion and Analysis. However, annual incentives for executive officers are awarded at the discretion of the HR Committee or independent members of the Board pursuant to the award determination process described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis.
- (2) The amount shown in the Severance column is two times the target annual incentive opportunity for each of the named executive officers. The amount shown in the Change-In-Control column is 2.99 times the target annual incentive opportunity for each of the named executive officers.
- (3) The long-term incentive values shown represent the values that would be paid under the circumstances described in each column based on the closing price of AEP common stock on December 31, 2018, which is the methodology required by the SEC.
- (4)

The target value of performance unit awards are shown. The actual value paid in the event of resignation or retirement, severance or death, if any, will depend on the actual performance score for the full performance period. Any payments for awards under those circumstances are not paid until the end of the three year performance period. In the event of a qualifying termination in connection with a change in control, awards would be paid at a target performance score as soon as administratively practical after the change in control.

- (5) Represents the maximum cost of Company-paid outplacement services, which the Company provides through an unaffiliated third party vendor.

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The following table shows the value of previously earned and vested compensation and benefits as of December 31, 2018, that would have been provided to each named executive officer following a termination of his or her employment on December 31, 2018. These amounts were generally earned or vested over multiple years of service to the Company.

**Non-Incremental Post-Termination Compensation and Benefits on December 31, 2018**

| Name               | Long-Term Incentives     | Benefits          |                 |                          |                       |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
|                    | Vested Performance Units | AEP Career Shares | Vacation Payout | Post Retirement Benefits | Deferred Compensation |
|                    | (1)                      | (2)               | (3)             | (4)                      | (5)                   |
| Nicholas K. Akins  | \$ 9,107,368             | \$ 8,503,879      | \$ 24,404       | \$ 2,568,301             | \$ 2,472,268          |
| Brian X. Tierney   | \$ 2,568,216             | \$ 1,518,912      | \$ 4,437        | \$ 1,417,796             | \$ 4,065,662          |
| David M. Feinberg  | \$ 1,527,237             | \$ 2,535,291      | \$ 24,923       | \$ 442,637               | \$ 669,746            |
| Lisa M. Barton     | \$ 1,359,446             | \$ 1,922,040      | \$ 6,018        | \$ 531,673               | \$ 640,665            |
| Lana L. Hillebrand | \$ 1,223,344             | \$ 2,119,098      | \$ 28,606       | \$ 824,706               | \$ 572,452            |

- (1) Represents the value of performance units that vested on December 31, 2018 calculated using the market value of these shares on December 31, 2018. However, the actual value realized from these performance units would be based on the 20-day average closing market price of AEP common stock on the vesting date.
- (2) Represents the value of AEP share equivalents deferred mandatorily into the AEP Stock Ownership Requirement Plan calculated using the market value of these shares on December 31, 2018.
- (3) Represents accumulated but unused vacation.
- (4) Represents the lump sum benefit calculated for the named executive officer pursuant to the terms of the AEP Retirement Plan, the AEP Supplemental Benefit Plan and the CSW Executive Retirement Plan, as applicable.
- (5) Includes balances from the Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan and the Incentive Compensation Deferral Plans, but does not include AEP Career Share balances, which are listed separately in column (2).

**Pay Ratio Disclosure**

The following is a reasonable estimate, prepared under applicable SEC rules, of the ratio of the annual total compensation of our Chief Executive Officer to the median of the annual total compensation of all of our employees (except for the CEO). We identified the median employee in 2017 by first determining the 2017 total wages (base salary, annual incentive compensation plus 401k Company match) for each employee (except for our CEO), who was employed by us on October 31, 2017. Based on this compensation measure, we identified the median employee from among our entire employee population. We are not using the same median employee that we used last year because that employee was promoted in 2018 and that employee's wages no longer represented the median. The employee with the next lowest 2017 total wages who was not promoted in 2018 was identified as the 2018 median employee. After identifying the median employee, we calculated annual total compensation for such employee using the same methodology we use for our named executive officers as set forth in the 2018 Summary Compensation Table in this proxy statement.

Mr. Akins, who was both Chairman and CEO, had 2018 annual total compensation of \$12,202,028, as reflected in the Summary Compensation Table included in this Proxy Statement. The 2018 annual total compensation of our median employee (other than the CEO) was \$110,125. The median employee's total compensation includes base wages,

overtime earnings, annual incentive compensation, the change in the present value of the employee's pension benefits and the Company's matching contributions to the retirement savings plan. Based on the foregoing, our estimate of the 2018 ratio of the annual total compensation of our CEO to the median annual total compensation of all our employees (other than the CEO) was 111 to 1.

Because the SEC rules for identifying the median of the annual total compensation of our employees and calculating the pay ratio based on that employee's annual total compensation allow companies to adopt a variety

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of methodologies, and to make reasonable estimates and assumptions that reflect their employee populations and compensation practices, the pay ratio reported by other companies may not be comparable to the pay ratio for our Company, as other companies have different employee populations and compensation practices and may utilize different methodologies, estimates and assumptions in calculating their pay ratios.

**Share Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of AEP Common Stock and stock-based units as of February 18, 2019 for all Directors, director nominees, each of the persons named in the Summary Compensation Table and all Directors and executive officers as a group.

Unless otherwise noted, each person had sole voting and investment power over the number of shares of AEP common stock set forth across from his or her name. Fractions of shares and units have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

| <b>Name</b>                                                               | <b>Shares(a)</b> | <b>Stock Units(b)</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| N. K. Akins                                                               | 60,799           | 113,780               | 174,579      |
| D. J. Anderson                                                            | 0                | 24,610                | 24,610       |
| L. M. Barton                                                              | 0                | 25,716                | 25,716       |
| J. B. Beasley, Jr                                                         | 0                | 13,121                | 13,121       |
| R. D. Crosby, Jr.                                                         | 0                | 48,607                | 48,607       |
| D. M. Feinberg                                                            | 2,641            | 33,922                | 36,563       |
| L. A. Goodspeed                                                           | 0                | 49,535                | 49,535       |
| L. L. Hillebrand                                                          | 708              | 28,353                | 29,061       |
| T. Hoaglin                                                                | 1,000            | 41,702                | 42,702       |
| S. B. Lin                                                                 | 1,032            | 19,080                | 20,112       |
| M. M. McCarthy                                                            | 3,125            | 0                     | 3,125        |
| R. C. Notebaert                                                           | 0                | 24,610                | 24,610       |
| L. L. Nowell III                                                          | 0                | 44,958                | 44,958       |
| S. S. Rasmussen                                                           | 0                | 18,447                | 18,447       |
| O. G. Richard III                                                         | 2,195            | 17,120                | 19,315       |
| B. X. Tierney                                                             | 12,066           | 20,426                | 32,492       |
| S. M. Tucker                                                              | 1,532            | 36,804                | 38,336       |
| All directors, nominees and executive officers as a group (21 persons)(c) | 112,642          | 665,726               | 778,368      |

(a) None of the shares is pledged. This column also includes share equivalents held in the AEP Retirement Savings Plan.

(b) This column includes amounts deferred in stock units and held under the Stock Unit Accumulation Plan for Non-Employee Directors and amounts deferred in share equivalents in the Retainer Deferral Plan for Non-Employee Directors. This column also includes amounts deferred in share equivalents held under AEP's Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan, AEP's Incentive Compensation Deferral Plan and the following numbers of AEP Career Shares: Mr. Akins, 113,780; Mr. Tierney, 20,323; Mr. Feinberg, 33,922; Ms. Barton, 25,716; Ms. Hillebrand, 28,353; and all directors and executive officers as a group, 318,233.

This column excludes RSUs that will not vest within 60 days.

- (c) As of February 18, 2019, the directors and executive officers as a group beneficially owned less than one percent of the outstanding shares of the Company's common stock.

**Table of Contents****Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires AEP's executive officers, the principal accounting officer, directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10 percent of AEP's common stock to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of AEP common stock with the SEC. Executive officers, the principal accounting officer and directors are required by SEC regulations to furnish AEP with copies of all reports they file. AEP believes that all of its directors, executive officers and the principal accounting officer, timely met all of their respective Section 16(a) filing requirements during 2018.

**Share Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners**

Set forth below are the only persons or groups known to AEP as of February 22, 2019, with beneficial ownership of more than five percent of AEP common stock.

| Name and Address of<br>Beneficial Owner | AEP Shares                           |                     |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                                         | Amount of<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership | Percent of<br>Class |
| The Vanguard Group                      | 39,417,653(a)                        | 7.99%               |
| 100 Vanguard Boulevard                  |                                      |                     |
| Malvern, PA 19355                       |                                      |                     |
| BlackRock, Inc.                         | 36,683,081(b)                        | 7.4%                |
| 55 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street         |                                      |                     |
| New York, NY 10055                      |                                      |                     |

- (a) Based on the latest Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC, The Vanguard Group reported that it has sole power to vote 661,782 shares, shared power to vote 287,881 shares, sole dispositive power for 38,584,089 shares and shared dispositive power for 833,564 shares.
- (b) Based on the latest Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC, BlackRock, Inc. reported that it has sole power to vote 32,622,613 shares and sole dispositive power for 36,683,081 shares.

**Shareholder Proposals and Nominations**

You may submit proposals for consideration at future stockholder meetings. For a shareholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for the annual meeting next year, the Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than November 14, 2019. Such proposals also must comply with SEC regulations under Rule 14a-8 regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary

American Electric Power Company, Inc.

1 Riverside Plaza

Columbus, Ohio 43215

For a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement for next year's annual meeting under Rule 14a-8, the stockholder must provide the information required by our Bylaws and give timely notice to the Corporate Secretary in accordance with our Bylaws, which, in general, require that the notice be received by the Corporate Secretary:

not earlier than December 25, 2019; and

not later than the close of business on January 24, 2020.

If the date of the stockholder meeting is moved more than 30 days before or 70 days after the anniversary of our annual meeting for the prior year, then notice of a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in

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our proxy statement under Rule 14a-8 must be received no earlier than the close of business 120 days prior to the meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the following two dates:

90 days prior to the meeting; and

10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

Deadlines for the nomination of director candidates are summarized below. This summary is qualified by our Bylaws.

Our Bylaws permit stockholders to nominate directors for consideration at an annual meeting. To nominate a director for consideration at an annual meeting, a nominating stockholder must provide the information required by our Bylaws and give timely notice of the nomination to the Corporate Secretary in accordance with our Bylaws, and each nominee must meet the qualifications required by our Bylaws. To nominate a director for consideration at next year's annual meeting, in general the notice must be received by the Corporate Secretary on or after December 25, 2019 and before the close of business on January 24, 2020, unless the annual meeting is moved by more than 30 days before or 70 days after the anniversary of the prior year's annual meeting, in which case the deadline will be as set forth above.

In addition, our Bylaws provide that, under certain circumstances, a stockholder or group of stockholders may include in our annual meeting proxy statement director candidates that they have nominated. These proxy access provisions of our Bylaws provide, among other things, that a stockholder or group of up to twenty stockholders seeking to include director candidates in our annual meeting proxy statement must own 3% or more of our outstanding common stock continuously for at least the previous three years. The number of stockholder-nominated candidates appearing in any annual meeting proxy statement cannot exceed the greater of (x) two or (y) 20% of the number of directors then serving on the Board. If 20% is not a whole number, the maximum number of stockholder-nominated candidates would be the closest whole number below 20%. Based on the current Board size of 12 directors, the maximum number of proxy access candidates that we would be required to include in our proxy materials for an annual meeting is two. Nominees submitted under the proxy access procedures that are later withdrawn or are included in the proxy materials as Board-nominated candidates will be counted in determining whether the 20% maximum has been reached. If the number of stockholder-nominated candidates exceeds 20%, each nominating stockholder or group of stockholders may select one nominee for inclusion in our proxy materials until the maximum number is reached. The order of selection would be determined by the amount (largest to smallest) of shares of our common stock held by each nominating stockholder or group of stockholders. The nominating stockholder or group of stockholders also must deliver the information required by our Bylaws, and each nominee must meet the qualifications required by our Bylaws. Requests to include stockholder-nominated candidates in our proxy materials for next year's annual meeting must be received by the Corporate Secretary:

not earlier than the close of business on October 15, 2019; and

not later than the close of business on November 14, 2019.

If the date of the stockholder meeting is moved more than 30 days before or 70 days after the anniversary of our annual meeting for the prior year, then notice of a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement under Rule 14a-8 must be received no later than the close of business on the later of the following two dates:

120 days prior to the meeting; and

10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

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**Solicitation Expenses**

These proxies are being solicited by our Board of Directors. The costs of this proxy solicitation will be paid by AEP. Proxies will be solicited principally by mail and the Internet, but some telephone or personal solicitations of holders of AEP common stock may be made. Any officers or employees of the AEP System who make or assist in such solicitations will receive no additional compensation for doing so. AEP will request brokers, banks and other custodians or fiduciaries holding shares in their names or in the names of nominees to forward copies of the proxy-soliciting materials to the beneficial owners of the shares held by them, and AEP will reimburse them for their expenses incurred in doing so at rates prescribed by the New York Stock Exchange. We have engaged Morrow Sodali, 470 West Ave., Stamford, Connecticut 06902, to assist us with the solicitation of proxies for an estimated fee of \$10,500, plus reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.

**Table of Contents****Exhibit A****Reconciliation of GAAP and Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

The Company reports its financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ). However, AEP's management believes that the Company's operating earnings provide users with additional meaningful financial information about the Company's performance. Management also uses this non-GAAP financial measure when communicating with stock analysts and investors regarding its earnings outlook and results. This non-GAAP measure is also used for purposes of determining performance-based compensation. Non-GAAP financial measures should be viewed in addition to, and not as an alternative for, the Company's reported results prepared in accordance with GAAP.

For additional details regarding the reconciliation of GAAP and non-GAAP financial measures below, see the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 24, 2019.

|                                                  | <b>EPS</b>     |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>GAAP Reported Earnings</b>                    | <b>\$ 3.90</b> |
| Special Items                                    |                |
| Severance Charges                                | \$ 0.04        |
| Impairment of Certain Merchant Generation Assets | \$ 0.08        |
| Effects of Kentucky Tax Law                      | \$ (0.03)      |
| Effects of Federal Tax Reform                    | \$ (0.04)      |
| <b>Operating Earnings (non-GAAP)</b>             | <b>\$ 3.95</b> |

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**Exhibit B**

**FORM OF AMENDMENT TO RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION**

Section 4.4 of the charter of American Electric Power Company, Inc., a New York corporation (the Company) is hereby amended by deleting the following paragraph in its entirety:

4.4. Upon any issuance for money or other consideration of any stock of the corporation, or of any securities convertible into any stock of the corporation, of any class whatsoever which may be authorized from time to time, no holder of stock of any kind shall have any preemptive or other right to subscribe for, purchase or receive any proportionate or other share of the stock or securities so issued, but the Board of Directors may dispose of all or any portion of such stock or securities as and when it may determine free of any such rights, whether by offering the same to stockholders or by sale or other disposition as the Board of Directors may deem advisable; provided, however, that if the Board of Directors shall determine to issue and sell any shares of Common Stock (including, for the purposes of this paragraph, any security convertible into Common Stock, but excluding shares of Common Stock and securities convertible into Common Stock theretofore reacquired by the corporation after having been duly issued, and excluding shares of Common Stock and securities convertible into Common Stock issued to satisfy conversion or option rights theretofore granted by the corporation) solely for money and other than by:

(i) a public offering thereof, or

(ii) an offering thereof to or through underwriters or dealers who shall agree promptly to make a public offering thereof, or

(iii) any other offering thereof which shall have been authorized or approved by the affirmative vote, cast in person or by proxy, of the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote at the stockholders' meeting at which action shall have been taken with respect to such other offering,

such shares of Common Stock shall first be offered *pro rata*, except that the corporation shall not be obligated to offer or to issue any fractional interest in a full share of Common Stock, to the holders of record of the then outstanding shares of Common Stock (excluding outstanding shares of Common Stock held for the benefit of holders of scrip certificates or other instruments representing fractional interests in a full share of Common Stock) upon terms which, in the judgment of the Board of Directors of the corporation, shall be not less favorable (without deduction of such reasonable compensation for the sale, underwriting or purchase of such shares by underwriters or dealers as may lawfully be paid by the corporation) to the purchaser than the terms upon which such shares are offered to others than such holders of Common Stock; and provided that the time within which such preemptive rights shall be exercised may be limited to such time as to the Board of Directors may seem proper, not less, however, than fourteen (14) days after the mailing of notice that such preemptive rights are available and may be exercised.

and inserting the following paragraph in lieu thereof:

- 4.4. No present or future holder of any shares of the corporation of any class or series, whether heretofore or hereafter issued, shall have any preemptive rights with respect to (1) any shares of the corporation of any class or series, or (2) any other security of the corporation convertible into or carrying rights or options to purchase such shares.

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**Exhibit C**

**Section 623 New York Business Corporation Law**

§623. Procedure to enforce shareholder's right to receive payment for shares.

- (a) A shareholder intending to enforce his right under a section of this chapter to receive payment for his shares if the proposed corporate action referred to therein is taken shall file with the corporation, before the meeting of shareholders at which the action is submitted to a vote, or at such meeting but before the vote, written objection to the action. The objection shall include a notice of his election to dissent, his name and residence address, the number and classes of shares as to which he dissents and a demand for payment of the fair value of his shares if the action is taken. Such objection is not required from any shareholder to whom the corporation did not give notice of such meeting in accordance with this chapter or where the proposed action is authorized by written consent of shareholders without a meeting.
- (b) Within ten days after the shareholders' authorization date, which term as used in this section means the date on which the shareholders' vote authorizing such action was taken, or the date on which such consent without a meeting was obtained from the requisite shareholders, the corporation shall give written notice of such authorization or consent by registered mail to each shareholder who filed written objection or from whom written objection was not required, excepting any shareholder who voted for or consented in writing to the proposed action and who thereby is deemed to have elected not to enforce his right to receive payment for his shares.
- (c) Within twenty days after the giving of notice to him, any shareholder from whom written objection was not required and who elects to dissent shall file with the corporation a written notice of such election, stating his name and residence address, the number and classes of shares as to which he dissents and a demand for payment of the fair value of his shares. Any shareholder who elects to dissent from a merger under section 905 (Merger of subsidiary corporation) or paragraph (c) of section 907 (Merger or consolidation of domestic and foreign corporations) or from a share exchange under paragraph (g) of section 913 (Share exchanges) shall file a written notice of such election to dissent within twenty days after the giving to him of a copy of the plan of merger or exchange or an outline of the material features thereof under section 905 or 913.
- (d) A shareholder may not dissent as to less than all of the shares, as to which he has a right to dissent, held by him of record, that he owns beneficially. A nominee or fiduciary may not dissent on behalf of any beneficial owner as to less than all of the shares of such owner, as to which such nominee or fiduciary has a right to dissent, held of record by such nominee or fiduciary.
- (e) Upon consummation of the corporate action, the shareholder shall cease to have any of the rights of a shareholder except the right to be paid the fair value of his shares and any other rights under this section. A notice of election may be withdrawn by the shareholder at any time prior to his acceptance in writing of an offer made by the corporation, as provided in paragraph (g), but in no case later than sixty days from the date of consummation of the corporate action except that if the corporation fails to make a timely offer, as provided in paragraph (g), the time for withdrawing a notice of election shall be extended until sixty days from the date an offer is made. Upon

expiration of such time, withdrawal of a notice of election shall require the written consent of the corporation. In order to be effective, withdrawal of a notice of election must be accompanied by the return to the corporation of any advance payment made to the shareholder as provided in paragraph (g). If a notice of election is withdrawn, or the corporate action is rescinded, or a court shall determine that the shareholder is not entitled to receive payment for his shares, or the shareholder shall otherwise lose his dissenters' rights, he shall not have the right to receive payment for his shares and he shall be reinstated to all his rights as a shareholder as of the consummation of the corporate action, including any intervening preemptive rights and the right to payment of any intervening dividend or other distribution or, if any such rights have expired or any such dividend or distribution other than in cash has been completed, in lieu thereof, at the election of the corporation, the fair value thereof in cash as determined by

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the board as of the time of such expiration or completion, but without prejudice otherwise to any corporate proceedings that may have been taken in the interim.

- (f) At the time of filing the notice of election to dissent or within one month thereafter the shareholder of shares represented by certificates shall submit the certificates representing his shares to the corporation, or to its transfer agent, which shall forthwith note conspicuously thereon that a notice of election has been filed and shall return the certificates to the shareholder or other person who submitted them on his behalf. Any shareholder of shares represented by certificates who fails to submit his certificates for such notation as herein specified shall, at the option of the corporation exercised by written notice to him within forty-five days from the date of filing of such notice of election to dissent, lose his dissenter's rights unless a court, for good cause shown, shall otherwise direct. Upon transfer of a certificate bearing such notation, each new certificate issued therefor shall bear a similar notation together with the name of the original dissenting holder of the shares and a transferee shall acquire no rights in the corporation except those which the original dissenting shareholder had at the time of transfer.
  
- (g) Within fifteen days after the expiration of the period within which shareholders may file their notices of election to dissent, or within fifteen days after the proposed corporate action is consummated, whichever is later (but in no case later than ninety days from the shareholders' authorization date), the corporation or, in the case of a merger or consolidation, the surviving or new corporation, shall make a written offer by registered mail to each shareholder who has filed such notice of election to pay for his shares at a specified price which the corporation considers to be their fair value. Such offer shall be accompanied by a statement setting forth the aggregate number of shares with respect to which notices of election to dissent have been received and the aggregate number of holders of such shares. If the corporate action has been consummated, such offer shall also be accompanied by (1) advance payment to each such shareholder who has submitted the certificates representing his shares to the corporation, as provided in paragraph (f), of an amount equal to eighty percent of the amount of such offer, or (2) as to each shareholder who has not yet submitted his certificates a statement that advance payment to him of an amount equal to eighty percent of the amount of such offer will be made by the corporation promptly upon submission of his certificates. If the corporate action has not been consummated at the time of the making of the offer, such advance payment or statement as to advance payment shall be sent to each shareholder entitled thereto forthwith upon consummation of the corporate action. Every advance payment or statement as to advance payment shall include advice to the shareholder to the effect that acceptance of such payment does not constitute a waiver of any dissenter's rights. If the corporate action has not been consummated upon the expiration of the ninety day period after the shareholders' authorization date, the offer may be conditioned upon the consummation of such action. Such offer shall be made at the same price per share to all dissenting shareholders of the same class, or if divided into series, of the same series and shall be accompanied by a balance sheet of the corporation whose shares the dissenting shareholder holds as of the latest available date, which shall not be earlier than twelve months before the making of such offer, and a profit and loss statement or statements for not less than a twelve month period ended on the date of such balance sheet or, if the corporation was not in existence throughout such twelve month period, for the portion thereof during which it was in existence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the corporation shall not be required to furnish a balance sheet or profit and loss statement or statements to any shareholder to whom such balance sheet or profit and loss statement or statements were previously furnished, nor if in connection with obtaining the shareholders' authorization for or consent to the proposed corporate action the shareholders were furnished with a proxy or information statement, which included financial statements, pursuant to Regulation 14A or Regulation 14C of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. If within thirty days after the making of such offer, the corporation making the offer and any shareholder agree upon the price to be paid for his shares, payment therefor shall be made within sixty days after the making of such offer or the consummation of the proposed corporate action, whichever is later, upon the surrender of the certificates for any

such shares represented by certificates.

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- (h) The following procedure shall apply if the corporation fails to make such offer within such period of fifteen days, or if it makes the offer and any dissenting shareholder or shareholders fail to agree with it within the period of thirty days thereafter upon the price to be paid for their shares:
- (1) The corporation shall, within twenty days after the expiration of whichever is applicable of the two periods last mentioned, institute a special proceeding in the supreme court in the judicial district in which the office of the corporation is located to determine the rights of dissenting shareholders and to fix the fair value of their shares. If, in the case of merger or consolidation, the surviving or new corporation is a foreign corporation without an office in this state, such proceeding shall be brought in the county where the office of the domestic corporation, whose shares are to be valued, was located.
  - (2) If the corporation fails to institute such proceeding within such period of twenty days, any dissenting shareholder may institute such proceeding for the same purpose not later than thirty days after the expiration of such twenty day period. If such proceeding is not instituted within such thirty day period, all dissenter's rights shall be lost unless the supreme court, for good cause shown, shall otherwise direct.
  - (3) All dissenting shareholders, excepting those who, as provided in paragraph (g), have agreed with the corporation upon the price to be paid for their shares, shall be made parties to such proceeding, which shall have the effect of an action quasi in rem against their shares. The corporation shall serve a copy of the petition in such proceeding upon each dissenting shareholder who is a resident of this state in the manner provided by law for the service of a summons, and upon each nonresident dissenting shareholder either by registered mail and publication, or in such other manner as is permitted by law. The jurisdiction of the court shall be plenary and exclusive.
  - (4) The court shall determine whether each dissenting shareholder, as to whom the corporation requests the court to make such determination, is entitled to receive payment for his shares. If the corporation does not request any such determination or if the court finds that any dissenting shareholder is so entitled, it shall proceed to fix the value of the shares, which, for the purposes of this section, shall be the fair value as of the close of business on the day prior to the shareholders' authorization date. In fixing the fair value of the shares, the court shall consider the nature of the transaction giving rise to the shareholder's right to receive payment for shares and its effects on the corporation and its shareholders, the concepts and methods then customary in the relevant securities and financial markets for determining fair value of shares of a corporation engaging in a similar transaction under comparable circumstances and all other relevant factors. The court shall determine the fair value of the shares without a jury and without referral to an appraiser or referee. Upon application by the corporation or by any shareholder who is a party to the proceeding, the court may, in its discretion, permit pretrial disclosure, including, but not limited to, disclosure of any expert's reports relating to the fair value of the shares whether or not intended for use at the trial in the proceeding and notwithstanding subdivision (d) of section 3101 of the civil practice law and rules.
  - (5) The final order in the proceeding shall be entered against the corporation in favor of each dissenting shareholder who is a party to the proceeding and is entitled thereto for the value of his shares so determined.

- (6) The final order shall include an allowance for interest at such rate as the court finds to be equitable, from the date the corporate action was consummated to the date of payment. In determining the rate of interest, the court shall consider all relevant factors, including the rate of interest which the corporation would have had to pay to borrow money during the pendency of the proceeding. If the court finds that the refusal of any shareholder to accept the corporate offer of payment for his shares was arbitrary, vexatious or otherwise not in good faith, no interest shall be allowed to him.
- (7) Each party to such proceeding shall bear its own costs and expenses, including the fees and expenses of its counsel and of any experts employed by it. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the court may, in its

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discretion, apportion and assess all or any part of the costs, expenses and fees incurred by the corporation against any or all of the dissenting shareholders who are parties to the proceeding, including any who have withdrawn their notices of election as provided in paragraph (e), if the court finds that their refusal to accept the corporate offer was arbitrary, vexatious or otherwise not in good faith. The court may, in its discretion, apportion and assess all or any part of the costs, expenses and fees incurred by any or all of the dissenting shareholders who are parties to the proceeding against the corporation if the court finds any of the following: (A) that the fair value of the shares as determined materially exceeds the amount which the corporation offered to pay; (B) that no offer or required advance payment was made by the corporation; (C) that the corporation failed to institute the special proceeding within the period specified therefor; or (D) that the action of the corporation in complying with its obligations as provided in this section was arbitrary, vexatious or otherwise not in good faith. In making any determination as provided in clause (A), the court may consider the dollar amount or the percentage, or both, by which the fair value of the shares as determined exceeds the corporate offer.

- (8) Within sixty days after final determination of the proceeding, the corporation shall pay to each dissenting shareholder the amount found to be due him, upon surrender of the certificates for any such shares represented by certificates.
  
- (i) Shares acquired by the corporation upon the payment of the agreed value therefor or of the amount due under the final order, as provided in this section, shall become treasury shares or be cancelled as provided in section 515 (Reacquired shares), except that, in the case of a merger or consolidation, they may be held and disposed of as the plan of merger or consolidation may otherwise provide.
  
- (j) No payment shall be made to a dissenting shareholder under this section at a time when the corporation is insolvent or when such payment would make it insolvent. In such event, the dissenting shareholder shall, at his option:
  - (1) Withdraw his notice of election, which shall in such event be deemed withdrawn with the written consent of the corporation; or
  
  - (2) Retain his status as a claimant against the corporation and, if it is liquidated, be subordinated to the rights of creditors of the corporation, but have rights superior to the non-dissenting shareholders, and if it is not liquidated, retain his right to be paid for his shares, which right the corporation shall be obliged to satisfy when the restrictions of this paragraph do not apply.
  
  - (3) The dissenting shareholder shall exercise such option under subparagraph (1) or (2) by written notice filed with the corporation within thirty days after the corporation has given him written notice that payment for his shares cannot be made because of the restrictions of this paragraph. If the dissenting shareholder fails to exercise such option as provided, the corporation shall exercise the option by written notice given to him within twenty days after the expiration of such period of thirty days.

- (k) The enforcement by a shareholder of his right to receive payment for his shares in the manner provided herein shall exclude the enforcement by such shareholder of any other right to which he might otherwise be entitled by virtue of share ownership, except as provided in paragraph (e), and except that this section shall not exclude the right of such shareholder to bring or maintain an appropriate action to obtain relief on the ground that such corporate action will be or is unlawful or fraudulent as to him.
- (l) Except as otherwise expressly provided in this section, any notice to be given by a corporation to a shareholder under this section shall be given in the manner provided in section 605 (Notice of meetings of shareholders).
- (m) This section shall not apply to foreign corporations except as provided in subparagraph (e)(2) of section 907 (Merger or consolidation of domestic and foreign corporations).

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1 Riverside Plaza

Columbus, OH 43215 2378

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**Your vote matters here's how to vote!**

You may vote online or by phone instead of mailing this card.

**Votes submitted electronically must be received by 1:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on April 23, 2019.**

**Online**

Go to  
**[www.envisionreports.com/AEP](http://www.envisionreports.com/AEP)**  
or scan the QR code login details  
are located in the shaded bar  
below.

**Phone**

Call toll free 1-800-652-VOTE  
(8683) within the USA, US  
territories and Canada

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**[www.envisionreports.com/AEP](http://www.envisionreports.com/AEP)**

Using a **black ink** pen, mark your votes with an X as shown in this example. Please do not write outside the designated areas.

**2019 Annual Meeting Proxy Card**

**q IF VOTING BY MAIL, SIGN, DETACH AND RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. q**

**Proposals** The Board of Directors recommend a vote FOR all the nominees listed and FOR Proposals 2 and 4.

**A**

| Directors:                 | For | Against | Abstain | For                       | Against | Abstain | For                         | Against | Abstain |
|----------------------------|-----|---------|---------|---------------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| 01 - David J. Anderson     |     |         |         | 02 - David J. Anderson    |         |         | 03 - J. Barnie Beasley, Jr. |         |         |
| 04 - Thomas E. Hoaglin     |     |         |         | 05 - Linda A. Goodspeed   |         |         | 06 - Thomas E. Hoaglin      |         |         |
| 07 - Richard C. Notebaert  |     |         |         | 08 - Margaret M. McCarthy |         |         | 09 - Richard C. Notebaert   |         |         |
| 10 - Oliver G. Richard III |     |         |         | 11 - Stephen S. Rasmussen |         |         | 12 - Oliver G. Richard III  |         |         |

**For Against Abstain**

**For Against Abstain**

2. Ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019.

4. Advisory approval of the Company's executive compensation.

3. Amendment to Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate preemptive rights.

**Authorized Signatures** This section must be completed for your vote to count. Please date and sign below.

**B**

Please sign exactly as name(s) appears hereon. Joint owners should each sign. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, corporate officer, trustee, guardian, or custodian, please give full title.

Date (mm/dd/yyyy) Please print date below.

Signature 1 Please keep signature within the box.

Signature 2 Please keep signature within the box.

/ /

**02ZIWD**

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**2019 Annual Meeting Admission Ticket**

**2019 Annual Meeting of American Electric Power Company, Inc. Shareholders**

**Tuesday April 23, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time**

**The Omni Hotel**

**900 North Shoreline Boulevard**

**Corpus Christi, Texas**

**If you wish to attend and vote at the meeting, please bring this admission ticket and identification with you.**

**AGENDA**

|                                 |                                                                  |                                                 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Introduction and Welcome</b> | <b>Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation</b>                 | <b>Chief Executive Officer's Report</b>         |
| <b>Election of Directors</b>    | <b>Advisory approval of the Company's executive compensation</b> | <b>Comments and Questions from Shareholders</b> |
| <b>Ratification of Auditors</b> |                                                                  |                                                 |

**The Omni Corpus Christi is located at 900 N. Shoreline Boulevard, Corpus Christi, TX 78401. Shareholders may park free of charge in the hotel's garage, which is attached to the hotel. The entrance to the garage is located on N. Water Street. Please let the attendant know you are a guest of AEP to gain access to the garage, where you may park in any available parking spot. Signage will guide you to the hotel entrance on the first floor of the parking garage and then up to the third floor of the hotel, where the meeting will take place. Prior to the meeting, please register and enjoy a continental breakfast.**

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ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. q

**Proxy American Electric Power Company, Inc.**

**Notice of 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

**Proxy Solicited by Board of Directors for Annual Meeting April 23, 2019**

The shareholder signing on the reverse of this proxy card appoints Nicholas K. Akins and Brian X. Tierney, and each of them, acting by a majority if more than one be present, attorneys and proxies to the undersigned, with power of substitution, to represent the undersigned at the annual meeting of shareholders of American Electric Power Company, Inc. to be held on April 23, 2019, and at any adjournment thereof, and to vote all shares of Common Stock of the Company which the undersigned is entitled to vote on all matters coming before said meeting. If no direction is given, such shares will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Directors and at the discretion of the proxy holders as to any other matters coming before the meeting.

**Trustee's Authorization.** The undersigned authorizes JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Association to vote all shares of Common Stock of the Company credited to the undersigned's account under the American Electric Power System retirement savings plan at the annual meeting in accordance with instructions on the reverse side.

**Shares represented by this proxy will be voted by the stockholder. If no such directions are indicated, the Proxies will have authority to vote FOR the election of the Board of Directors and FOR items 2-4.**

**In their discretion, the Proxies are authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.**

**(Items to be voted appear on reverse side)**

**C Non-Voting Items**

**Change of Address** Please print new address below.

**Comments** Please print your comments below.

