

From: Barry McNulty (media)  
414-221-4444  
[barry.mcnulty@we-energies.com](mailto:barry.mcnulty@we-energies.com)

Beth Straka (investment community)  
414-221-4639  
[beth.straka@wecenergygroup.com](mailto:beth.straka@wecenergygroup.com)

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## WEC Energy Group raises quarterly dividend

MILWAUKEE – The board of directors of WEC Energy Group (NYSE: WEC) today declared a quarterly cash dividend of 55.25 cents per share on the company's common stock, an increase of 6.25 percent over the current quarterly dividend of 52 cents a share. This raises the annual dividend rate to \$2.21 a share.

The higher dividend is payable March 1, 2018, to stockholders of record on Feb. 14, 2018. This marks the 302<sup>nd</sup> consecutive quarter – dating back to 1942 – that the company will have paid a dividend to its stockholders.

“With today's action by our board, 2018 will be the fifteenth consecutive year of dividend increases for our stockholders,” said Gale Klappa, chairman of the board and chief executive officer. “We will continue to target a dividend payout of 65 to 70 percent of earnings, a policy in line with our peers across the utility industry.”

*WEC Energy Group (NYSE: WEC), based in Milwaukee, is one of the nation's premier energy companies, serving 4.4 million customers in Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, and Minnesota.*

*The company's principal utilities are We Energies, Wisconsin Public Service, Peoples Gas, North Shore Gas, Michigan Gas Utilities, Minnesota Energy Resources and Upper Michigan Energy Resources. The company's other major subsidiary, We Power, designs, builds and owns electric generating plants.*

*WEC Energy Group ([wecenergygroup.com](http://wecenergygroup.com)), a component of the S&P 500, has approximately 50,000 stockholders of record, 8,000 employees, and more than \$31 billion in assets.*

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## Forward-looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this press release are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements are based upon management's current expectations and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these statements. Forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements concerning management's expectations and projections regarding dividend payments and payout ratios. In some cases, forward-looking statements may be identified by reference to a future period or periods or by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "guidance," "intends," "may," "objectives," "plans," "possible," "potential," "projects," "should," "targets," "will" or similar terms or variations of these terms.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in any forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to: general economic conditions, including business and competitive conditions in the company's service territories; timing, resolution and impact of rate cases and other regulatory decisions; the company's ability to continue to successfully integrate the operations of its subsidiaries; availability of the company's generating facilities and/or distribution systems; unanticipated changes in fuel and purchased power costs; key personnel changes; varying weather conditions; continued industry consolidation; continued adoption of distributed generation by the company's customers; energy conservation efforts; cyber-security threats and data security breaches; construction risks; equity and bond market fluctuations; changes in the company's and its subsidiaries' ability to access the capital markets; the impact of tax reform and any other legislative and regulatory changes, including changes to environmental standards; political developments; current and future litigation and regulatory investigations; changes in accounting standards; the financial performance of the American Transmission Company; goodwill and its possible impairment; and other factors described under the heading "Factors Affecting Results, Liquidity and Capital Resources" in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and under the headings "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information" and "Risk Factors" contained in the company's Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2016 and in subsequent reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The company expressly disclaims any obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking information.

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