## 2G Energy (2GB GY) | Utilities/Renewables

January 26, 2024

### Strong order intake and increase in sales guidance

A strong acceleration of overseas activities has come at the right time as the domestic market is struggling and is an impressive confirmation of the soundness of the company's internationalisation strategy. Q4 orders came in surprisingly strong with an increase of 28% y-o-y. This was despite a still rather subdued trend in Germany (+0.6%) and EU (-17%). Orders from 7 countries in the Indo-Pacific region boosted the 'Asia' order intake from EUR1.6m to EUR10 m. Orders from South and Central America led to an increase in 'Rest of the world' from EUR1.5m to EUR5.6m. According to the company, recovering orders from Europe and the USA again led to a significant y-o-y increase in order intake in January 2024. 2G expects the German (normalisation of gas supply and prices) and US (adjustment to the complex IRA processes) markets to recover in the course of 2024. Overall, the recovery is expected to stabilise; and therefore 2G is also raising its sales guidance for 2025 from EUR 390m-430m to 'up to EUR 450m'. Guidance for 2024 confirmed (sales up to EUR 390m; EBIT 8.5-10%). Unchanged investment case: The CHP market promises attractive growth opportunities due to their reliability in (electricity) supply, the foreseeable shortage of electricity and heat generation capacity after coal and nuclear phase-out, the dispatchability of CHP plants, their high efficiency, the possibility of a later conversion to H2 and the relatively simple and fast set-up of the plants. We are raising our estimates and price target. We consider a Renewables peer group to be helpful for valuation purposes due to similar dynamics and drivers such as sector coupling, coal phase-out, decentralised generation, dispatch requirements, etc. This is currently trading at an average EV/ EBITDA 2025e of around 9.5x.

Fundamentals (in EUR m) <sup>1</sup>	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Sales	247	266	313	325	366	405
EBITDA	20	22	29	29	38	42
EBIT	17	18	24	24	33	38
EPS adj. (EUR)	0.67	0.70	0.91	0.91	1.25	1.42
DPS (EUR)	0.45	0.50	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.18
BVPS (EUR)	17.69	21.08	6.06	6.44	7.44	7.44
Net Debt incl. Provisions	-6	-11	-3	-22	-44	-67
Ratios <sup>1</sup>	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
EV/EBITDA	4.6	4.8	14.6	13.2	9.7	8.1
EV/EBIT	5.6	5.8	17.4	15.8	10.9	9.0
P/E adj.	33.3	36.7	25.7	25.0	18.2	16.0
Dividend yield (%)	2.0	1.9	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
EBITDA margin (%)	8.2	8.3	9.2	9.0	10.3	10.4
EBIT margin (%)	6.7	6.8	7.7	7.5	9.1	9.4
Net debt/EBITDA	-0.3	-0.5	-0.1	-0.8	-1.2	-1.6
PBV	1.3	1.2	3.9	3.5	3.1	3.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Sources: Bloomberg, Metzler Research, <sup>2</sup>Sources: ISS ESG, Metzler Research

### Buy



Price\*

**EUR 22.75** 

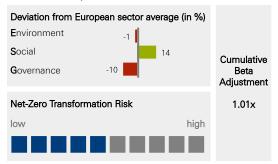
**Price target** 

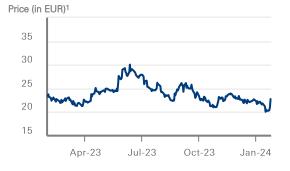
EUR 31.90 (31.50)

\* XETRA trading price at the close of the previous day unless stated otherwise in the Disclosures

Market Cap (EUR m) <sup>1</sup>	408
Enterprise Value (EUR m) <sup>1</sup>	364
Free Float (%) <sup>1</sup>	54.9

Metzler ESG analysis based on ISS ESG b data2





Performance (in %) <sup>1</sup>	1m	3m	12m
Share	2.9	6.8	-5.4
Rel. to SDAX	3.6	-5.5	-8.7
Ch i i /i 0/\1	2023e	2024e	2025e
Changes in estimates (in %) <sup>1</sup>	20236	20246	20256
Sales	0.0	3.4	7.4

#### **Sponsored Research**



Author: Guido Hoymann
Financial Analyst Equities
+49 69 2104-398
GHoymann@metzler.com

### **Key Data**

#### Company profile

CEO: Christian Grotholt CFO: Friedrich Pehle

Heek, Germany

2G Energy is one of the largest suppliers of decentralized midsized CHP plants in the world. The company was founded in 1995. In 2000, 2G began selling its plants abroad as well. Meanwhile, 2G has installed more than 6500 units in more than 50 countries.

#### Major shareholders

Christan Grotholt (29.6%), Ludger Gausling (15.5%)

Key figures												
P&L (in EUR m)	2020	%	2021	%	2022	%	2023e	%	2024e	%	2025e	%
Sales	247	4.4	266	8.0	313	17.4	325	4.0	366	12.6	405	10.7
EBITDA	20	4.9	22	8.3	29	30.4	29	1.6	38	28.9	42	12.5
EBITDA margin (%)	8.2	0.5	8.3	0.3	9.2	11.1	9.0	-2.3	10.3	14.4	10.4	1.7
EBIT	17	6.4	18	8.4	24	32.8	24	1.5	33	37.0	38	13.8
EBIT margin (%)	6.7	2.0	6.8	0.5	7.7	13.1	7.5	-2.4	9.1	21.7	9.4	2.8
Financial result	-0	53.6	-0	-23.4	-0	-83.8	-0	7.9	-0	0.0	-0	0.0
EBT	16	7.9	18	8.3	24	32.2	24	1.6	33	37.6	38	13.9
Taxes	5	-9.1	5	15.1	7	39.1	8	5.9	11	37.6	12	13.9
Tax rate (%)	27.4	n.a.	29.2	n.a.	30.7	n.a.	32.0	n.a.	32.0	n.a.	32.0	n.a.
Net income	12	16.1	13	5.7	16	29.3	16	-0.3	22	37.6	26	13.9
Minority interests	0	100.0	-0	n.a.	-0	59.6	0	100.0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.
Net Income after minorities	12	16.0	13	5.4	16	29.8	16	-0.4	22	37.6	26	13.9
Number of shares outstanding (m)	4	0.0	4	1.2	18	300.0	18	0.0	18	0.0	18	0.0
EPS adj. (EUR)	0.67	16.0	0.70	4.1	0.91	29.8	0.91	-0.4	1.25	37.6	1.42	13.9
DPS (EUR)	0.45	0.0	0.50	11.1	0.14	-72.0	0.14	0.0	0.15	7.1	0.18	20.0
Dividend yield (%)	2.0	n.a.	1.9	n.a.	0.6	n.a.	0.6	n.a.	0.7	n.a.	0.8	n.a.
Cash Flow (in EUR m)	2020	%	2021	%	2022	%	2023e	%	2024e	%	2025e	%
Gross Cash Flow	15	16.6	18	21.2	27	45.4	21	-20.7	27	26.2	30	12.1
Increase in working capital	6	n.a.	9	n.a.	22	n.a.	-2	n.a.	-1	n.a.	0	n.a.
Capital expenditures	2	-63.0	2	-9.5	10	415.8	2	-79.6	3	50.0	4	33.3
D+A/Capex (%)	174.5	n.a.	207.4	n.a.	48.0	n.a.	240.0	n.a.	140.0	n.a.	107.5	n.a.
Free cash flow (Metzler definition)	7	298.1	7	-5.9	-5	-170.6	21	527.1	25	16.7	26	4.9
Free cash flow yield (%)	7.5	n.a.	6.0	n.a.	-1.2	n.a.	5.2	n.a.	6.0	n.a.	6.3	n.a.

Dividend paid	2	0.0	2	0.0	2	12.5	3	12.0	3	0.0	3	7.1
Free cash flow (post dividend)	5		5	-8.1	-7	-243.5	19	358.8	22	19.0	23	4.7
Balance sheet (in EUR m)	2020	%	2021	%	2022	%	2023e	%	2024e	%	2025e	%
Assets	147	4.0	170	15.8	212	24.7	203	-4.2	227	11.8	227	0.0
Goodwill	2	-14.3	3	41.2	3	-8.6	3	0.0	3	0.0	3	0.0
Shareholders' equity	78	14.3	95	20.7	109	14.9	115	6.3	133	15.6	133	0.0
Equity/total assets (%)	53.4	n.a.	55.7	n.a.	51.3	n.a.	57.0	n.a.	58.9	n.a.	58.9	n.a
Net Debt incl. Provisions	-6	n.m.	-11	-89.5	-3	67.8	-22	-543.6	-44	-100.5	-67	-52.5
thereof pension provisions	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a

n.a.

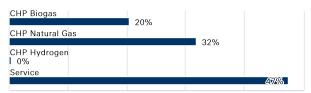
n.a.

#### Structure

Gearing (%)

Net debt/EBITDA

#### Sales by activity and fuel configuration 2022



-7.1

-0.3

n.a.

n.a.

-11.2

-0.5

Sources: Bloomberg, Metzler Research

#### ESG discussion

n.a

n.a.

-191

-0.8

n.a.

n.a.

-33.0

-1.2

n.a

n.a.

-50.4

-1.6

n.a.

n.a.

-3.1

-0.1

When biogas is burned, discussions arise regarding the conflict of energy production and nutrition. Natural gas as an energy source is not CO2 free and is also controversial. 2G's plants can be converted to hydrogen. The company has no specific target to reduce its carbon emissions but takes measures to reduce its environmental footprint, whose efficiency is reflected in decreasing energy and greenhouse gas emission intensities. Regarding the governance of sustainability, no committee seems to be in charge of sustainability issues and ESG performance does not seem part of the executive compensation scheme. The company has a code of conduct covering relevant issues such as corruption, insider dealings and conflicts of interest.

### **Disclosures**

#### **Recommendation history**

Recommendations for each financial instrument or issuer - mentioned in this document - published by Metzler in the past twelve months

Date of dissemi-	Metzler recomme	endation *	Current price **	Price target *	Author ***
nation	Previous	Current			
Issuer/Financial I	Instrument (ISIN):	2G Energy (DEC	000A0HL8N9)		
27.11.2023	Buy	Buy	23.75 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
08.09.2023	Buy	Buy	24.30 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
29.08.2023	Buy	Buy	24.80 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
24.08.2023	Buy	Buy	22.45 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
25.05.2023	Buy	Buy	24.45 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
28.04.2023	Buy	Buy	24.30 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
31.03.2023	Buy	Buy	21.75 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido
26.01.2023	Buy	Buy	25.45 EUR	31.50 EUR	Hoymann, Guido

- \* Effective until the price target and/or investment recommendation is updated (FI/FX recommendations are valid solely at the time of publication)
- \*\* XETRA trading price at the close of the previous day unless stated otherwise herein
- \*\*\* All authors are financial analysts

#### 2G Energy

13. Metzler, a company affiliated with Metzler and/or a person that has worked on compiling this report has reached an agreement with the issuer relating to the production of investment recommendations.

Compiled: January 26, 2024 07:56 AM CET Initial release: January 26, 2024 07:56 AM CET



### Disclaimer

This document has been prepared by B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co. AG (Metzler) and is addressed exclusively to eligible counterparties and professional clients. It is thus not suitable for retail clients.

This document is based on information which is generally available and which Metzler believes to be fundamentally reliable. Metzler has not verified the accuracy or completeness of the information, however, and thus provides no warranty or representation in respect of the accuracy or completeness of the information, opinions, estimates, recommendations and forecasts contained in this document. Neither Metzler nor any of its shareholders or employees are liable for damage or any other disadvantage suffered due to inaccurate or incomplete information, opinions, estimates, recommendations or forecasts as a result of the distribution or use of or in connection to this document.

This document does not constitute or form part of any offer to buy or solicitation of any offer to buy securities, other financial instruments or other investment instruments. Neither does it take account of the particular investment objectives, financial situation or needs of individual recipients nor does it constitute personal investment advice. Metzler does not act as investment advisor or portfolio manager in preparing and publishing this document. Recipients must make their own investment decisions in accordance with their specific financial situation and investment objectives, based on independent processes and analyses, taking sales or other prospectuses, information memoranda and other investor information into account, and consult with an independent financial advisor where necessary. Recipients should note that any information regarding past performance should not be relied upon as an indication of future performance and should therefore not form the basis of any decision whether or not to invest in any financial instruments.

The information, opinions, estimates, recommendations and forecasts contained in this document reflect the personal views of the author at the time of publication on the financial instruments or issuers that form the subject of this document and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Metzler, the issuer or third parties. They may also be subject to change on account of future events and developments. Metzler has no obligation to amend, supplement or update this document or to otherwise notify recipients in the event that any information, opinions, estimates, recommendations or forecasts stated herein should change or subsequently become inaccurate, incomplete or misleading. The model calculations contained in this document, if any, are examples showing the possible performance and are based on various assumptions (e.g. regarding earnings and volatility). The actual performance may be higher or lower, depending on market trends and on the correctness of assumptions underlying the model calculations. Accordingly, actual performance cannot be guaranteed, warranted or assured.

Recipients should assume that (a) Metzler is entitled to acquire orders for investment banking, securities or other services from or with companies which form the subject of research publications and that (b) analysts who were involved in preparing research publications may, within the scope of regulatory laws, be indirectly involved in the acquisition of such orders.

Metzler and its employees may hold positions in securities of the companies analysed or in other investment objects or may conduct transactions with such securities or investment objects.

This document is provided for information purposes only and may not be copied, duplicated, forwarded to third parties or otherwise published, in whole or in part, without Metzler's written consent. Metzler reserves all copyrights and rights of use, including those relating to electronic media. Insofar as Metzler provides hyperlinks to websites of the companies cited in research publications, this does not mean that Metzler confirms, recommends or warrants any data contained on the linked sites or data which can be accessed from such sites. Metzler accepts no liability for links or data, nor for any consequences which may arise as a result of following the links and/or using the data.

This document is subject to the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany. Venue of jurisdiction for any disputes shall be Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

By accepting this document the recipient declares his/her agreement with the above provisions.

Information in accordance with Regulation (EU) No. 596/2014, Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 2016/958 and section 85 (1) of the German Securities Trading Act (Wertpapier-handelsgesetz)

#### Persons responsible for this document

The company responsible for preparing this document is B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co. AG, Untermainanlage 1, 60329 Frankfurt am Main, Germany, which is subject to supervision by the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (*Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht*; BaFin), Marie-Curie-Straße 24–28, 60439 Frankfurt/Main, Germany, and by the European Central Bank (ECB), Sonnemannstraße 20, 60314 Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

#### Key information sources

The sources of information referred to when preparing research publications include publications by national and international media, the European Central Bank and other public authorities, information services (such as Reuters and Bloomberg), the financial press, published statistics, information published by rating agencies, annual reports and other information provided by the issuers.

#### Valuation criteria and methods

Valuations are based on standard and acknowledged methods of fundamental and technical analysis (e.g. DCF model, peer-group analysis, sum-of-the-parts model, relative-value analysis). The valuation models are affected by macro-economic values such as interest rates, exchange rates, commodities prices and economic performance, as well as by market sentiments. Detailed information on the valuation principles and methods used by Metzler and the assumptions on which they are based is available at: <a href="https://www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en">www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en</a>.

#### Sensitivity of valuation parameters; risks

The figures on which the company valuations are based are date-specific estimates and thus carry inherent risks. They may be adjusted at any time without prior notice.



Irrespective of the valuation principles and methods used and the assumptions on which they are based, there is always a risk that a particular price target is not achieved or that the assumptions and forecasts prove inaccurate. This can, for instance, be the result of unexpected changes in demand, management, technology, economic or political developments, interest rates, costs, the competitive situation, the legal situation and other factors. Investments in foreign markets and instruments are subject to additional risks, as a result of changes in exchange rates or in the economic, political or social situation, for instance. This outline of risks makes no claim to be exhaustive.

#### <u>Definition of categories for investment recommendations</u>

The categories for investment recommendations in research publications by Metzler have the following meanings:

Shares:

BUY The price of the analysed financial instrument is expected to rise in the next 12 months.

HOLD The price of the analysed financial instrument is expected to largely remain stable in the next 12 months.

SELL The price of the analysed financial instrument is expected to fall in the next 12 months.

Bonds:

BUY The analysed financial instrument is expected to perform better than similar financial instruments.

HOLD The analysed financial instrument is not expected to perform significantly better or worse than similar financial instruments.

SELL The analysed financial instrument is expected to perform worse than similar financial instruments.

#### Summary of investment recommendations

A list of all investment recommendations for each financial instrument or issuer published by Metzler in the past twelve months can be found at www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en.

The quarterly quotation of the number of all investment recommendations given as "buy", "hold", "sell" or similar for the past 12 months as a proportion of the total number of investment recommendations made by Metzler and the quotation of the proportion of these categories relating to issuers to whom Metzler has provided services within the meaning of Annex I sections A and B of Regulation 2014/65/EU within the past 12 months can be accessed and downloaded at <a href="https://www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en">www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en</a>

#### Planned updates of this document

This document reflects the opinion of the respective author at the time of its preparation. Any changes of factors can cause information, opinions, estimates, recommendations and forecasts contained in this document to cease to be accurate. No decision has as yet been taken as to whether, and if so when, this document will be updated. If an investment recommendation is updated, the updated investment recommendation replaces the previous investment recommendation upon publication.

#### Compliance arrangements; conflicts of interest

All analysts are bound by Metzler's internal compliance regulations which ensure that the research publications are prepared in accordance with statutory and regulatory provisions. The analysts are classified as working in a confidential sector and are thus required to observe the resulting statutory and regulatory provisions. This is monitored on a regular basis by the Compliance department and external auditors. The Compliance department ensures that potential conflicts of interest do not affect the original result of the analysis. Metzler has a binding Conflicts of Interest Policy in place which ensures that relevant conflicts of interest within Metzler, the Metzler Group, the analysts and staff of Metzler's Capital Markets division and persons associated with them are avoided or, if they cannot be avoided, are appropriately identified, managed, disclosed and monitored. A detailed description of Metzler's policy for avoiding conflicts of interest is available at <a href="https://www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en">www.metzler.com/disclaimer-capital-markets-en</a>.

Details of the conflicts of interests to be disclosed under regulatory requirements are published at www.metzler.com/disclosures-en.

#### Remuneration

The remuneration of the Metzler staff members and other persons involved in preparing this document is in no way, either in whole or in any variable part, directly or materially linked to transactions in securities services or other transactions processed by Metzler.

#### **Prices**

All prices for financial instruments stated in this document are, unless otherwise stated, closing prices for the trading day preceding the respective stated publication date on the market which we regard as the most liquid market for the respective financial instrument.

#### Scope of application

This document was prepared in the Federal Republic of Germany in line with the legal provisions valid there. It may therefore be possible that this document does not comply with all provisions relating to the preparation of such documents in other countries.



#### Metzler Capital Markets

B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co. AG Untermainanlage 1 60329 Frankfurt/Main, Germany Phone +49 69 2104-extension Fax +49 69 2104-679 www.metzler.com Mario Mattera

Head of Capital Markets

Research Fax +49 69 283159	Pascal Spano	Head of Research	4365
	Guido Hoymann	Head of Equity Research Transport, Utilities/Renewables	398
	Stephan Bauer	Industrial Technology	4363
	Nikolas Demeter	Transport, Utilities/Renewables	1787
	Felix Dennl	E-Commerce, Retail	239
	Oliver Frey	Software, Technology, Telecommunications	4360
	Alexander Neuberger	Industrial Technology, Small/Mid Caps	4366
	Jochen Schmitt	Financials, Real Estate	4359
	Thomas Schulte-Vor- wick	Basic Resources	234
	Pál Skirta	Mobility	525
	Uwe Hohmann	Equity Strategy	366
	Eugen Keller	Head of FI/FX Research	329
	Juliane Rack	FI/FX Strategy	1748
	Stoyan Toshev	FI/FX Strategy	528
Equities	Mustafa Ansary	Head of Equities	351
		Head of Equity Sales	
Sales	Eugenia Buchmüller		238
	Hugues Jaouen		4173
	Alexander Kravkov		4172
	Gerard O'Doherty		4189
	Jasmina Schul		1766
Trading	Sven Knauer	Head of Equity Trading	245
	Elyaz Dust		248
	Kirsten Fleer		246
	Stephan Schmelzle		247
	Thomas Seibert		228
Corporate Solutions	Dr. Karsten Iltgen	Head of Corporate Solutions	510
	Stephan Averdung		514
	Thomas Burkart		511
	Christoph Hirth		513



	Adrian Takacs		512
Fixed Income (FI)	Sebastian Luther	Head of Fixed Income	688
FI Sales	Minush Nori Silke Amelung Claudia Ruiu Simon Tabath	Head of Fixed Income Sales	689 289 683 280
FI Trading/ALM	Burkhard Brod Bettina Koch Susanne Kraus Christian Bernhard	Head of ALM  Head of Fixed Income Trading	659 291 658 266
	Dirk Lagler		685
Foreign Exchange (FX)	Özgur Atasever	Head of Foreign Exchange	281
FX Sales	Tobias Martin Steffen Völker	Head of FX Sales & Trading	614 293
FX Trading	Rainer Jäger Andreas Zellmann		276 610
Currency Management	Dominik Müller	Head of Currency Management	274
CM Advisory	Achim Walde	Head of Advisory	275
CM Operations	Simon Wesch Tessa Feller Florian Konz	Head of Operations	350 1696 1773
	Sergii Piskun	Senior Quantitative Analyst	237