# Malaysia Company Update

16 March 2022 **Utilities** | Utilities

# Ranhill Utilities (RAHH MK)

# **BUV** (Maintained)

## Solidifying Presence In The East Coast; Keep BUY

Target Price (Return): MYR0.76 (+55%) Price (Market Cap): MYR0.49 (USD150m) ESG score: 3.10 (out of 4) Avg Daily Turnover (MYR/USD) 0.24m/0.06m

• Keep BUY and SOP-based MYR0.76 TP, 55% upside and 5% yield. Ranhill Utilities via subsidiary, Ranhill Water Services (RWS), had accepted a letter of acceptance from Pengurusan Aset Air Berhad (PAAB). We believe the contract awarded worth MYR61.5m, with works to be undertaken from 29 Mar 2022 to 28 Mar 2024, will contribute positively to overall earnings. Its 11.5x FY22F P/E is trading below its 5-year historical mean of 20.8x, indicating undemanding valuation.

### **Analyst**

• Scope of work. The main scope of work, amongst others, includes: i)

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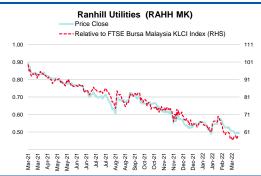
Replacement of existing distribution and communication pipes, ii) establishment of new District Metering Areas (DMAs), iii) installation of pressure reducing valves (PRV) system and flowmeters at reservoir outlet, and iv) testing and commissioning works. These works will take place in the district of Kota Bharu Timur, Machang, Tanah Merah and Kuala Krai covering a total length of 103km for pipe replacement works.



• Our view. We foresee minimal execution risks by RWS as it has previously secured two of PAAB's pipe replacement contracts through a competitive open tender exercise in 2019. Apart from that, RWS has been actively involved in Kelantan's water supply projects, and since 2012, it has secured three non-revenue water (NRW) management contracts from Air Kelantan SB (AKSB). As such, this latest win solidifies RWS' presence in Kelantan and strengthen RAHH's credentials as a holistic NRW management specialist in the country.

### **Share Performance (%)**

- YTD 1m 3m 6m 12m Absolute (10.1)(10.1)(7.6)(31.0)(45.3)Relative (7.5)(12.6)(31.1)(41.4)(9.4)52-wk Price low/high (MYR) 0.49 - 0.88
- Earnings estimates and valuation. We raise our FY22F-FY24F earnings by 7%, 13% and 2% after imputing contributions from the latest contract win. Despite the adjustment in earnings, our SOP-derived TP is maintained at MYR0.76 as the changes in the FCFE from its water business is minimal. Our SOP-derived TP was also arrived after imputing an ESG premium of 2% for its 3.10 ESG score, based on our in-house proprietary methodology. We expect a >50% FY22F net profit growth, driven by new revenue streams from the service segment (Ranhill Bersekutu and Ranhill Worley). Potential rerating catalysts: Higher-than-expected rate hikes for its Johor water operations, positive outcome from its ASEAN expansion plans, and project wins related to water and renewable energy.



Risks to our call: Licensing risks, timeliness of tariff revisions, lower-thanexpected water consumption and developer contributions, escalating costs for its water business, and RAHH failing to meet the capacity and energy payment conditions for both its power plants.

Source: Bloomberg

### Overall ESG Score: 3.10 (out of 4)

#### **E: EXCELLENT**

Ranhill is the most efficient water operator in Malaysia: Johor has the lowest NRW per km of 17.2m3/km/day. Ranhill actively incorporates the circular economy model into its business operations. There are good disclosures within the sustainability reports on matters such as energy and water usage (within each segment), amongst others. Ranhill has been a constituent in the FTSE4GoodBursa Malaysia Index since 2019.

#### S: GOOD

Apart from up-to-date safety and health policies, Ranhill continues to invest in the development of its talent pool with talent development and management strategies centered on the 4Rs of strategic recruitment, retention, reward and rejuvenation. In 2020, average training hours reached 33 hours per employee (2019: 19 hours).

### G: GOOD

Other than the departure from Practice 7.2 which encourages the board to disclose remuneration component in bands of MYR50,000 on a named basis for the top five senior management, Ranhill adheres to most of the best practices listed in Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance.

| Forecasts and Valuation         | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total turnover (MYRm)           | 1,468  | 1,531  | 1,823   | 1,882   | 1,969   |
| Recurring net profit (MYRm)     | 38     | 31     | 55      | 72      | 71      |
| Recurring net profit growth (%) | (42.6) | (18.9) | 80.1    | 30.5    | (0.8)   |
| Recurring P/E (x)               | 13.94  | 18.91  | 11.45   | 8.78    | 8.84    |
| P/B (x)                         | 1.1    | 0.9    | 0.9     | 0.8     | 0.8     |
| P/CF (x)                        | 4.28   | 2.47   | 2.36    | 3.16    | 2.04    |
| Dividend Yield (%)              | 4.0    | 1.5    | 5.0     | 6.7     | 6.6     |
| EV/EBITDA (x)                   | 2.82   | 2.53   | 1.93    | 1.74    | 1.31    |
| Return on average equity (%)    | 8.1    | 5.3    | 7.8     | 9.7     | 9.1     |
| Net debt to equity (%)          | 138.4  | 81.1   | 51.0    | 39.5    | 18.9    |

Small cap stocks are defined as companies with a market capitalisation of less than USD0.5bn.

Source: Company data, RHB

16 March 2022 **Utilities | Utilities** 

## **Financial Exhibits**

Asia Malaysia Utilities

**Ranhill Utilities** 

RAHH MK Buy

Valuation basis

SOP

### Key drivers

- Stable operations;
- ii. Favourable outcome on water tariff hike.

#### Key risks

- i. Licencing riskii. Timeliness of tariff revisions
- iii. Lower-than-expected water consumption and developer contribution
- iv. Escalating costs for its water business
- Failing to meet the capacity and energy payment conditions for both its power plants.

#### **Company Profile**

Ranhill Utilities is an established and sustainable environment and power entity with over 5 decades of expertise. Since 1999, through its subsidiary Ranhill SAJ, it manages and operates potable water supply as the exclusive provider of source-to-tap water in Johor, the third most populous state in Malaysia.

| Financial summary (MYR)      | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Recurring EPS                | 0.04   | 0.03   | 0.04    | 0.06    | 0.06    |
| DPS                          | 0.02   | 0.01   | 0.02    | 0.03    | 0.03    |
| BVPS                         | 0.43   | 0.54   | 0.56    | 0.59    | 0.62    |
| Return on average equity (%) | 8.1    | 5.3    | 7.8     | 9.7     | 9.1     |

| Valuation metrics  | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|--------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Recurring P/E (x)  | 13.94  | 18.91  | 11.45   | 8.78    | 8.84    |
| P/B (x)            | 1.1    | 0.9    | 0.9     | 0.8     | 0.8     |
| FCF Yield (%)      | 10.3   | 33.8   | 32.9    | 22.1    | 39.5    |
| Dividend Yield (%) | 4.0    | 1.5    | 5.0     | 6.7     | 6.6     |
| EV/EBITDA (x)      | 2.82   | 2.53   | 1.93    | 1.74    | 1.31    |
| EV/EBIT (x)        | 16.04  | 12.78  | 6.38    | 5.44    | 3.97    |

| Income statement (MYRm)       | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total turnover                | 1,468  | 1,531  | 1,823   | 1,882   | 1,969   |
| Gross profit                  | 315    | 338    | 450     | 472     | 498     |
| EBITDA                        | 458    | 473    | 560     | 578     | 626     |
| Depreciation and amortisation | (378)  | (379)  | (391)   | (393)   | (419)   |
| Operating profit              | 81     | 94     | 169     | 185     | 206     |
| Net interest                  | 4      | (16)   | (36)    | (21)    | (51)    |
| Pre-tax profit                | 96     | 94     | 147     | 178     | 169     |
| Taxation                      | (31)   | (28)   | (59)    | (71)    | (68)    |
| Reported net profit           | 38     | 31     | 55      | 72      | 71      |
| Recurring net profit          | 38     | 31     | 55      | 72      | 71      |

| Cash flow (MYRm)                    | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Change in working capital           | (85)   | 10     | 84      | (2)     | (3)     |
| Cash flow from operations           | 123    | 234    | 268     | 199     | 309     |
| Capex                               | (69)   | (39)   | (60)    | (60)    | (60)    |
| Cash flow from investing activities | (53)   | 1      | (49)    | (49)    | (49)    |
| Dividends paid                      | (91)   | (25)   | (27)    | (49)    | (52)    |
| Cash flow from financing activities | (118)  | (154)  | (142)   | (170)   | (167)   |
| Cash at beginning of period         | 454    | 258    | 340     | 417     | 398     |
| Net change in cash                  | (49)   | 81     | 77      | (19)    | 94      |
| Ending balance cash                 | 405    | 339    | 417     | 396     | 486     |

| Balance sheet (MYRm)       | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total cash and equivalents | 258    | 340    | 417     | 398     | 492     |
| Tangible fixed assets      | 222    | 246    | 225     | 222     | 217     |
| Total investments          | 180    | 209    | 222     | 236     | 250     |
| Total assets               | 2,309  | 3,307  | 2,927   | 2,538   | 3,301   |
| Short-term debt            | 97     | 151    | 84      | 84      | 86      |
| Total long-term debt       | 981    | 893    | 803     | 703     | 603     |
| Total liabilities          | 1,717  | 2,439  | 2,006   | 1,552   | 2,256   |
| Total equity               | 593    | 868    | 921     | 986     | 1,045   |
| Total liabilities & equity | 2 309  | 3 307  | 2 927   | 2 538   | 3 301   |

| Key metrics                 | Dec-20 | Dec-21 | Dec-22F | Dec-23F | Dec-24F |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Revenue growth (%)          | (5.4)  | 4.3    | 19.1    | 3.2     | 4.6     |
| Recurrent EPS growth (%)    | (47.5) | (26.3) | 65.1    | 30.5    | (0.8)   |
| Gross margin (%)            | 21.5   | 22.1   | 24.7    | 25.1    | 25.3    |
| Operating EBITDA margin (%) | 31.2   | 30.9   | 30.7    | 30.7    | 31.8    |
| Net profit margin (%)       | 2.6    | 2.0    | 3.0     | 3.8     | 3.6     |
| Dividend payout ratio (%)   | 55.5   | 30.7   | 57.0    | 58.5    | 58.5    |
| Capex/sales (%)             | 4.7    | 2.5    | 3.3     | 3.2     | 3.0     |
| Interest cover (x)          | 1.07   | 1.09   | 1.97    | 2.78    | 2.27    |

Source: Company data, RHB

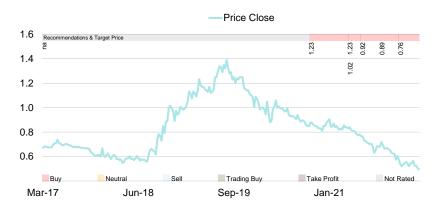


Figure 1: SOP valuation

| Assets                        | Stake   | FY22F FCFE | Per share | Remark  |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------|-----------|---|
| Water Asset - SAJ             | 80%     | 993.3      | 0.77      | CoE 8.5%                                      |
| Ranhill Powertron I           | 60%     | 3.1        | 0.00      | CoE 9.7%                                      |
| Ranhill Powertron II          | 80%     | 45.1       | 0.04      | CoE 9.7%                                      |
| Associates                    |         | 110.2      | 0.09      | 8x FY22F Target P/E                           |
| LSS4                          | 100%    | 55.5       | 0.04      | WACC 4.9%                                     |
| Services (Worley & Bersekutu) | various | 169.5      | 0.13      | 80% of Purchase Price (Share swap @ MYR 0.95) |
|                               |         |            |           |   |
| No. of shares                 |         | 1287.5     |           |   |
| Gross value                   |         | 1372.3     | 1.07      |   |
| 30% SOP discount              |         |            | -0.32     |   |
| Intrinsic value               |         |            | 0.75      |   |
| 2% ESG premium                |         |            | 0.01      |   |
| SOP-derived TP                |         | 1,097.9    | 0.76      |   |

Source: Company data, RHB

## **Recommendation Chart**

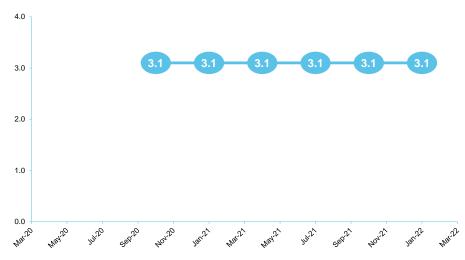


Target Price Price Date Recommendation 2021-11-30 Buy 0.76 0.60 2021-09-01 0.89 0.68 Buy Buy 2021-05-31 0.92 0.77 2021-03-31 1.02 0.82 Buy 2020-09-25 Buy 1.23 0.85

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

# **ESG** Rating History



Source: RHB

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Buy: Share price may exceed 10% over the next 12 months

Trading Buy: Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however longer-

term outlook remains uncertain

Neutral: Share price may fall within the range of +/- 10% over the next

12 months

Take Profit: Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels Sell: Share price may fall by more than 10% over the next 12 months

Not Rated: Stock is not within regular research coverage

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