Tuesday, September 3, 2024 Company Update

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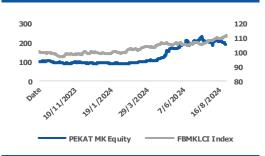
| Recommendation:               |                   | BUY      |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Current Price:</b>         |                   | RM 0.920 |
| <b>Previous Target Price:</b> |                   | RM 1.20  |
| Target Price:                 | $\leftrightarrow$ | RM 1.20  |
| Upside/Downside:              |                   | 30.4%    |

#### **Stock information**

| Board                    | ACE             |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Sector                   | Industrial      |
| Bursa / Bloomberg Code   | 0233 / PEKAT MK |
| Syariah Compliant        | Yes             |
| FTSE4Good Index          | No              |
| FTSE ESG Rating          | N/A             |
| Bloomberg ESG Rating     | N/A             |
| Shares issued (m)        | 645.0           |
| Market Cap (RM'm)        | 593.4           |
| 52-Week Price Range (RM) | 0.395-1.06      |
| Beta (x)                 | 0.8             |
| Free float (%)           | 31.8            |
| 3M Average Volume (m)    | 3.2             |
| 3M Average Value (RM' m) | 2.9             |

| Top 3 Shareholders | (%)  |
|--------------------|------|
| Chin Soo Mau       | 34.9 |
| Tai Yee Chee       | 10.4 |
| Wee Chek Aik       | 8.3  |

### **Share Price Performance**



|              | 1M   | 3M   | 12M  |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Absolute (%) | -2.6 | 15.0 | 89.7 |
| Relative (%) | -6.5 | 9.4  | 65.4 |

# **Pekat Group Berhad**

# **Bags New PPA Contract**

## **Summary**

- Pekat secured a 10-year PPA with Sun Investments for a project involving a 1,727 kWp solar plant with a BESS capacity of 1,398 kWh, featuring a lucrative tariff rate of USD 0.27/kWh.
- We expect this project to positively impact the Group's bottom line in the long run.
- We maintain our BUY recommendation with an unchanged target price of RM1.20, based on SOP valuation.

# **Company Update**

- Secured New PPA. Pekat's wholly-owned subsidiary, Solaroo RE (Maldives), has secured a 10-year PPA with Sun Investments. Pekat will undertake the EPCC of the solar PV systems and act as the investor, asset owner, and renewable energy electricity producer.
- Project details. The project includes a 1,727 kWp solar PV plant with a BESS capacity of 1,398 kWh, located at Sun Siyam Vilu Reef Maldives, Meedhufushi, Dhaalu Atoll, Maldives. COD is expected within 12 months of site possession. Contract value for the project is USD 6.9m, with a tariff rate of USD 0.27/kWh, expected to generate around 25.45 mkWh electricity over the 10-year period.
- Positive Contribution in the long run. We expect the project to be completed
  by next year, with meaningful contributions from the power plant beginning in
  2026. This is anticipated to positively impact Pekat's earnings over the next 10
  years.
- Valuation. We make no changes to our earnings forecast as we anticipate the
  development will not affect our projected figures in the immediate future. We
  maintain our BUY recommendation on Pekat with an unchanged target price of
  RM1.20, derived from SOP valuations.
- Moving forward, we anticipate most job inflows will stem from the award of CGPP contracts, with the Group targeting to secure RM200m to meet the tight COD deadlines by 2025. Separately, the Group is finalising a SPA for a 60% stake in EPE Switchgear, marking its venture into the power sector. These two developments are expected to be the main drivers of foreseeable earnings growth.
- Risks. (i) EPE acquisition took longer than expected, (ii) reversal of solar module prices and, (iii) CGPP project recognition was slower than anticipated and (iv) intense market competition.



# APEX SECURITIES BERHAD

| uesday, September 3, 2                      | 2024       |           |          |               |        |                                      |       |       |       | Comp   | any Up |
|---|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|--------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Financial Highlights                        |            |           |          |               |        |                                      |       |       |       |        |        |
| Income Statement                            |            |           |          |               |        | Balance Sheet                        |       |       |       |        |        |
| FYE Dec (RM m)                              | FY21       | FY22      | FY23     | FY24F         | FY25F  | FYE Dec (RM m)                       | FY21  | FY22  | FY23  | FY24F  | FY25F  |
| Revenue                                     | 178.5      | 179.2     | 227.5    | 302.7         | 503.4  | Cash                                 | 42.9  | 29.1  | 27.0  | 34.3   | 53.8   |
| Gross Profit                                | 45.5       | 44.8      | 53.5     | 75.1          | 132.9  | Receivables                          | 35.4  | 47.9  | 55.0  | 85.1   | 95.3   |
| EBITDA                                      | 18.4       | 17.4      | 20.3     | 36.4          | 74.9   | Inventories                          | 34.3  | 25.6  | 24.9  | 40.2   | 44.2   |
| Depreciation & Amortisation                 | -0.8       | -1.5      | -1.7     | -5.9          | -17.6  | Other current assets                 | 57.9  | 51.9  | 39.2  | 39.4   | 61.0   |
| EBIT  | 17.6       | 15.8      | 18.7     | 30.4          | 57.3   | <b>Total Current Assets</b>          | 170.5 | 154.5 | 146.1 | 199.0  | 254.2  |
| Net Finance Income/ (Cost)                  | -0.6       | -1.4      | -1.1     | -2.6          | -7.0   | PPE                                  | 20.8  | 23.3  | 23.4  | 108.2  | 109.3  |
| Associates & JV                             | 0.5        | 0.0       | 0.6      | 0.6           | 0.6    | Other non-current assets             | 9.2   | 11.8  | 12.8  | 12.9   | 13.1   |
| Pre-tax Profit                              | 17.4       | 14.4      | 18.1     | 28.4          | 50.9   | Total Non-current assets             | 30.0  | 35.1  | 36.3  | 121.1  | 122.4  |
| Tax   | -4.8       | -4.4      | -4.4     | -6.8          | -12.2  | Short-term Debt                      | 25.3  | 19.4  | 1.0   | 19.7   | 21.3   |
| Profit After Tax                            | 12.6       | 10.0      | 13.8     | 21.6          | 38.7   | Payables                             | 39.7  | 14.5  | 27.0  | 85.1   | 95.3   |
| Minority Interest                           | 0.0        | 0.0       | 0.0      | 1.6           | 9.2    | Other Current Liabilities            | 12.4  | 21.9  | 14.1  | 19.7   | 32.6   |
| Net Profit                                  | 12.7       | 10.0      | 13.7     | 19.9          | 29.5   | <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>     | 77.4  | 55.8  | 42.1  | 124.4  | 149.2  |
| Exceptionals                                | 0.1        | -0.9      | -0.6     | -0.6          | -0.6   | Long-term Debt                       | 2.5   | 1.6   | 0.6   | 78.6   | 85.4   |
| Core Net Profit                             | 12.8       | 9.1       | 13.2     | 19.4          | 29.0   | Other non-current liabilities        | 1.2   | 2.7   | 2.9   | 3.0    | 3.1    |
|   |            |           |          |               |        | <b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b> | 3.6   | 4.3   | 3.5   | 81.6   | 88.5   |
| Key Ratios                                  |            |           |          |               |        | Shareholder's equity                 | 119.4 | 129.4 | 136.7 | 112.3  | 128.0  |
| YE Dec (RM m)                               | FY21       | FY22      | FY23     | FY24F         | FY25F  | Minority interest                    | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   | 1.8    | 10.9   |
| BITDA margin                                | 10.3%      | 9.7%      | 8.9%     | 12.0%         | 14.9%  | Total Equity                         | 119.4 | 129.5 | 136.8 | 114.1  | 138.9  |
| BIT margin                                  | 9.8%       | 8.8%      | 8.2%     | 10.0%         | 11.4%  |                                      |       |       |       |        |        |
| PBT margin                                  | 9.8%       | 8.1%      | 8.0%     | 9.4%          | 10.1%  |                                      |       |       |       |        |        |
| PAT margin                                  | 7.1%       | 5.6%      | 6.0%     | 7.1%          | 7.7%   | Cash Flow                            |       |       |       |        |        |
| NP margin                                   | 7.1%       | 5.6%      | 6.0%     | 6.6%          | 5.9%   | FYE Dec (RM m)                       | FY21  | FY22  | FY23  | FY24F  | FY25F  |
| Core NP margin                              | 7.1%       | 5.1%      | 5.8%     | 6.4%          | 5.8%   | Pre-tax profit                       | 17.4  | 14.4  | 18.1  | 28.4   | 50.9   |
| Dividend yield                              | 0.0%       | 0.0%      | 1.0%     | 1.5%          | 2.2%   | Depreciation                         | 0.2   | 0.2   | 0.2   | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| ROE   | 10.6%      | 7.8%      | 10.0%    | 17.5%         | 21.3%  | Changes in working capital           | -10.4 | -31.2 | 11.2  | 18.0   | -12.6  |
| ROA   | 6.3%       | 5.3%      | 7.5%     | 6.2%          | 7.8%   | Others                               | -4.0  | -2.3  | -3.0  | 1.2    | 11.9   |
| let gearing                                 | Net Cash   | Net Cash  | Net Cash | 56.1%         | 38.1%  | Operating cash flow                  | 3.2   | -18.9 | 26.6  | 47.6   | 50.1   |
|   |            |           |          |               |        | Net capex                            | -0.8  | -1.6  | -0.7  | -42.7  | -18.7  |
| Valuation                                   |            |           |          |               |        | Others                               | -26.2 | 16.5  | 0.0   | -58.4  | 0.5    |
| Sum of Parts (SOP)                          | Equity Val | ue (RM' n | 1)       | Valuation     | method | Investing cash flow                  | -26.9 | 14.9  | -0.7  | -101.1 | -18.2  |
| EPCC  |            | 469.8     |          | 30x FY25F     | PER    | Dividends paid                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | -6.4  | -9.4   | -13.9  |
| ELP   |            | 61.2      |          | 15x FY25F PER |        | Others                               | 36.9  | -10.0 | -9.7  | 70.2   | 1.4    |
| rading                                      |            | 47.8      |          | 15x FY25F     | PER    | Financing cash flow                  | 36.9  | -10.0 | -16.2 | 60.8   | -12.5  |
| EPE .                                       |            | 160.4     |          | 15x FY25F     | PER    | Net cash flow                        | 13.1  | -14.0 | 9.7   | 7.3    | 19.4   |
| Solar assets                                |            | 29.3      |          | WACC = 5.     | 3%     | Forex                                | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| Proceeds from exercise of warrants/ESOS 0.0 |            |           | Others   | 0.0           | 0.0    | 0.0                                  | 0.0   | 0.0   |       |        |        |
| SOP Value                                   |            | 768.5     |          |               |        | Beginning cash                       | 15.1  | 28.2  | 14.2  | 23.9   | 31.3   |
| Enlarged share base (m share)               |            | 645.0     |          |               |        | Ending cash                          | 28.2  | 14.2  | 23.9  | 31.3   | 50.7   |

Source: Company, Apex Securities

Fair Value (RM)

1.20

Tuesday, September 3, 2024 **Company Update** 

#### **APEX SECURITIES BERHAD – CONTACT LIST**

#### **APEX SECURITIES BHD**

### **DEALING TEAM**

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#### RESEARCH RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK

#### STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

**BUY**: Total returns\* are expected to exceed 10% within the next 12 months.

**HOLD**: Total returns\* are expected to be within +10% to - 10% within the next 12 months.

**SELL**: Total returns\* are expected to be below -10% within the next 12 months.

**TRADING BUY:** Total returns\* are expected to exceed 10% within the next 3 months. **TRADING SELL**: Total returns\* are expected to be below -10% within the next 3 months.

\*Capital gain + dividend yield

### SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

**OVERWEIGHT:** The industry defined by the analyst is expected to exceed 10% within the next 12 months. **NEUTRAL**: The industry defined by the analyst is expected to be within +10% to -10% within the next 12 months. UNDERWEIGHT: The industry defined by the analyst, is expected to be below -10% within the next 12 months.

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