China Recycling Energy Corp.<br>OTC BB: CREG Industry: Clean Tech

UPDATE
Buy, \$ 6.00

| January 25, 2010 |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| MARKET DATA |  |
| Share Price: | 4.68 |
| Market Cap: | 181.49 M |
| 52wk Range: | $0.22-4.95$ |
| Ave. Volume: | 76.000 |
| Basic S/O: | 38.78 M |
| Diluted S/O: | 50.78 M |
| Float: | 11.92 M |
| Institutional \%: | $0 \%$ |
| Insider \%: | $69 \%$ |
|  |  |

FINANCIAL DATA (mrq)
Cash:
10.08 M

ST Debt:
2.93 M

LT (Convertible) Debt:
8.00 M

Book Value:
43.69 M

EBITDA (ttm):
14.00 M
18.80 M

| USD | 2008A | 2009e | 2010e | 2011e |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Revenue (in Millions of USD) |  |  |  |  |
| March | 0.00 | 4.32 A | 12.21 | 10.39 |
| June | 2.62 | 11.14 A | 10.40 | 30.70 |
| Sept | 4.26 | 18.43 A | 24.42 | 10.39 |
| Dec | 12.34 | 11.99 | 42.91 | 30.70 |
| REV $^{*}$ | 19.22 | 45.87 | 89.93 | 82.18 |
| P/S | 9.44 | 3.96 | 2.02 | 2.21 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| EPS |  |  |  |  |
| March | $(0.04)$ | 0.02 A | 0.06 | 0.09 |
| June | $(0.11)$ | 0.07 A | 0.06 | 0.12 |
| Sept | 0.01 | 0.08 A | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| Dec | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.14 | 0.14 |
| EPS | $\mathbf{( 0 . 0 4 )}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 2 4}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 3 7}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 4 5}$ |
| P/E | N/A | 19.50 | 12.65 | 10.40 |

[^0]
## First 9MW of Erdos contract completed, with the next 61MW now scheduled for completion in 2010.

## Key Updates

The Company installed the first 9MW of Phase I of the Erdos Project, which will be recognized in Q4:09. The second 9MW of Phase I is scheduled to be completed during Q1:10. The JV has changed the timeline of the installation schedule, moving from seven phases for the initial 70MW to three phases. Phase II will consist of three-9MW units and Phase III will consist of one-25MW unit, all of which should be completed in 2010. The funding for Phases II and III will come from the capital raise discussed below. We now expect the remaining 50MW will be installed in 2011 (the funding for all projects post-2010 could come from a mix of debt and equity however for modeling purposes we are assuming only debt).
China Recycling raised RMB 206.88 million, or approximately $\$ 30.29$ million, in loan capital to fund the construction of its Erdos projects (the Company can expand this facility to RMB 300 million, or roughly $\$ 44.0$ million). The capital was raised through the formation of the Low Carbon Fortune-Energy Recycling No. 1 Collective Capital Trust Plan, with the proceeds to be loaned to the JV for use on Phase II and Phase III. RMB 165.5 million will be funded by Beijing International Trust, with the remaining RMB 41.38 million funded by the JV and China Recycling.
The Company announced it expects Q4 revenue to be in the range of \$11-\$12 million and net income between $\$ 2.5$ - $\$ 3.0$ million, or $\$ 0.05-$ $\$ 0.06$ per diluted share. This translates into 2009 sales between $\$ 45-$ $\$ 46$ million and net income of $\$ 10.5-\$ 11.0$ million, or $\$ 0.22-\$ 0.23$ per diluted share. Management expects to issue 2010 guidance by March 31, 2010.

## Valuation

We are maintaining our Buy rating on China Recycling Energy Corp. and raising our target price from $\$ 4.50$ to $\$ 6.00$. The new target price is based on a P/E multiple of 16 times our revised 2010 diluted EPS estimate of $\$ 0.37$. The increased estimate reflects the acceleration of the original seven-phase Erdos project into three phases, all of which should be completed in 2010. Looking into 2011, we expect the Company to complete the remaining 50MW of the Erdos project and continue to fulfill the Zhonggang (Sinosteel) contract.

## Business Summary

China Recycling Energy Corp., located in Xi'an, China, leases three types of energy generation systems through its BOT model that use captured industrial process waste streams as the fuel for its systems. It currently offers Pressure-to-Energy (TRT), Heat-to-Energy (CHPG), and Gas-to-Energy (WGPG and CCPP) Systems.

## COMPANY UPDATE

## Erdos Phase I Installation \& Project Changes

The Company installed the first 9MW of Phase I of the Erdos Project, which will be recognized in Q4:09. The second 9MW of Phase I is scheduled to be completed during Q1:10. The JV has changed the timeline of the installation schedule, moving from seven phases for the initial 70MW to three phases. Phase II will consist of three-9MW units and Phase III will consist of one-25MW unit, all of which should be completed in 2010. The funding for Phases II and III will come from the capital raise discussed below. We now expect the remaining 50MW will be installed in 2011 (the funding for all projects post-2010 could come from a mix of debt and equity however for modeling purposes we are assuming only debt).

## Bank Debt Financing

Over the course of two tranches in December, China Recycling raised RMB 206.88 million, or approximately $\$ 30.29$ million, in loan capital to fund the construction of its Erdos projects (the Company can expand this facility to RMB 300 million, or roughly $\$ 44.0$ million). The capital was raised through the formation of the Low Carbon Fortune-Energy Recycling No. 1 Collective Capital Trust Plan, with the proceeds to be loaned to the Erdos TCH joint venture for use on Phase II and Phase III of the project. The plan includes a series of preferred trust units, each with a price of RMB 1. The Category A funds were financed by Beijing International Trust, with the Category B funds coming from the Erdos TCH Joint Venture and China Recycling (Xi'an TCH). Erdos TCH will also share the benefits of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) gained under the Kyoto Protocol equally with Beijing Trust during the term of the loan.

|  | Units | Value (RMB) | Value (USD) | Int. Rate | Term | Lender |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Category A1 | 32,450,000 | 32,450,000 | \$ 4.75 M | 9.94\% | 2 years | Beijing Trust |
| Category A2 | 15,000,000 | 15,000,000 | \$ 2.20 M | 11.00\% | 3 years | Beijing Trust |
| Category A3 | 118,050,000 | 118,050,000 | \$ 17.28 M | 12.05\% | 4 years | Beijing Trust |
| Preferred A Trust | 165,500,000 | 165,500,000 | \$ 24.23 M |  |  |  |
| Category B1 | 9,100,000 | 9,100,000 | \$ 1.33 M | 8.35\% | 4 years | Erdos TCH |
| Category B2 | 32,280,000 | 32,280,000 | \$ 4.73 M | 8.35\% | 4 years | Xi'an TCH |
| Secondary B Trust | 41,380,000 | 41,380,000 | \$ 6.06 M |  |  |  |
| Total | 206,880,000 | 206,880,000 | \$ 30.29 M |  |  |  |

## Preliminary Q4:09 and FY:09 Results

The Company announced it expects fourth quarter revenue to be in the range of $\$ 11-\$ 12$ million and net income between $\$ 2.5-\$ 3.0$ million, or $\$ 0.05-\$ 0.06$ per diluted share. This translates into 2009 sales between $\$ 45-\$ 46$ million and net income of $\$ 10.5-\$ 11.0$ million, or $\$ 0.22-\$ 0.23$ per diluted share. Management expects to issue 2010 guidance by March 31, 2010.

## New Board Member

The Company added Robert Chanson to the Board of Directors, naming him Chairman of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Chanson currently serves as Chairman of Calventis SA and Chairman of Samba Minerals, after holding the positions of Chairman and CEO of AmbioCare Holdings. This addition gives the Company an independent board (4-3).

## RISKS

## The Chinese Economy

A slowdown in the growth of the economy could dampen demand for the products manufactured in its lessee's facilities, such as steel and cement, which would reduce demand for CREG's systems.

## Government Stimulus

The Company is indirectly dependent on the Chinese government's stimulus investments in infrastructure. Should it stop investing in infrastructure, as has been discussed, China Recycling may find it difficult to enter into contracts for guaranteed minimum lease payments at the same rate it currently enjoys.

Quarterly Results Volatility
Due to the nature of the Company's revenue recognition it will report lumpy sales results based on the timing of systems put into operation. While the figures are important and show the start of new leases, the Sales-Type Lease Interest Income line may be the better figure to track the Company's financial performance.

Competition
Although the Company enjoys relatively little competition and high returns on investment, it should be expected that competitors will quickly enter the market and drive down margins.
Potential Dilution
China Recycling will need to obtain additional funds to continue working through its project pipeline. While we have estimated this will be funded by bank debt ( $\$ 35$ million spread over 2010 and 2011), the Company could choose to issue new equity.
Large Shareholders
CEO Ku Guohua owns 18.71 million and Carlyle Asia Growth Partners owns 16.72 million shares and share equivalents, together accounting for $70 \%$ of the total share and share equivalents outstanding.
Liquidity
The stock is thinly traded, which may make it difficult to take a position.

## VALUATION

We are maintaining our Buy rating on China Recycling Energy Corp. and raising our target price from $\$ 4.50$ to $\$ 6.00$. The new target price is based on a P/E multiple of 16 times our revised 2010 diluted EPS estimate of $\$ 0.37$. The increased estimate reflects the acceleration of the original seven-phase Erdos project into three phases, all of which should be completed in 2010. Looking into 2011, we expect the Company to complete the remaining 50MW of the Erdos project and continue to fulfill the Zhonggang (Sinosteel) contract
ESTIMATED INCOME STATEMENT

| 2008A | Q1:09A Q2:09A Q3:09A Q4:09e | 2009e | Q1:10e Q2:10e Q3:10e Q4:10e | 2010 e | Q1:11e Q2:11e Q3:11e Q4:11e | 2011e |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 10,395 | 30,696 | 10,395 | 30,696 | 82,183 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| - | - | - | - | - |
| 10,395 | 30,696 | 10,395 | 30,696 | 82,183 |


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 | 5,946 | 5,111 | 6,839 | 22,132 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

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## DISCLOSURES

## Distribution of Ratings

## I.B. last 12 months

| Rating | Count | Percent | Count | Percent |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BUY | 8 | $89 \%$ | 0 | $00 \%$ |
| HOLD | 1 | $11 \%$ | 0 | $00 \%$ |
| SELL | 0 | $00 \%$ | 0 | $00 \%$ |
| NO RATING | 0 | $00 \%$ | 0 | $00 \%$ |

## Explanation of Ratings

BUY: $\quad$ Describes stocks we expect to provide a total return (capital appreciation + yield) of $15 \%$ or more in the next 12-month period.
HOLD: Describes stocks we expect to provide a total return (capital appreciation + yield) of plus or minus $15 \%$ or more in the next 12-month period.
SELL: Describes stocks we expect to provide a total negative return (capital depreciation + yield) of $15 \%$ or more in the next 12-month period.
NO RATING: Describes stocks that have their investment rating and/or target price temporarily removed for fundamental or compliance-based reasons.

## Analyst Certification

I, William Gregozeski, certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject security and subject company. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in this research report.

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## Other Disclosures

| Company | Disclosures |
| :---: | :---: |
| China Recycling Energy Corp. | 6 |

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## DISCLOSURES (continued)

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## Rating History

Rating \& Target Price History for China Recycling Energy Corp. (CREG) as of 01/25/10


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[^0]:    *Revenue is recorded only at the start of a new lease. Interest Income in Sales-Type Leases, as can be seen on $p$. 4, provides a better picture of CREG's operations.

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