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## Overview



## H1 2024 Performance

#### Financial highlights

**\$230.4**m

Net Asset Value (NAV)<sup>1</sup> 31 Dec 2023: \$258.2m

\$**6.8**m

Dividends paid<sup>3</sup> H1 2023: \$9.3m

\$(2.0)m

IFRS loss for the year<sup>5</sup> 31 Dec 2023: Loss of \$(43.1)m **\$147.8**m

Market capitalisation<sup>1</sup> 31 Dec 2023: \$177m

0.62X

forecast to be fully covered by cash generated from operations

The 2024 dividend target is

Operational dividend cover<sup>4</sup> 31 Dec 2023: 0.50x

9.2%

Weighted average pre-tax discount rate 31 Dec 2023: 8.8%

**\$0.75** NAV per share

31 Dec 2023: \$0.78

**2.25** cents

Interim target dividend per share 2024 2023: 5.66 cents

39%

Gearing 31 Dec 2023: 36%

(3.1%)

NAV total return<sup>2</sup> 31 Dec 2023: (1.7%)

4.69%

Yield 2023: 9.54%

0%

RCF drawn 31 Dec 2023: 0%

During the period, the Company returned \$18.6million to shareholders via a tender offer.

2. NAV total return is based on dividends paid throughout the period and NAV movement since inception.

3. Includes Q1 2024 dividend declared in advance of the half-year end.

4. Presented on an operational coverage basis for a trailing 12-month period. As announced in April 2024, the Board revised the target dividend for 2024 to \$0.0225 per share in order to improve operational cash dividend coverage which will begin to be captured in this metric as dividends are paid at this revised rate.

. Includes unrealised losses on the portfolio fair value for the period ended 30 June 2024.



## H1 2024 Performance continued

#### **Operational highlights**

41

Operating solar assets 31 Dec 2023: 41

**365**GWh

Total electricity generation H1 2023: 362GWh (current portfolio)

(6.8%)

Generation against forecast 31 Dec 2023: (7.2%)

**443**MW<sub>DC</sub>

Total capacity 31 Dec 2023: 443MW<sub>DC</sub>

**11.4**years

Weighted average PPA term remaining<sup>7</sup> 31 Dec 2023: 11.9 years

BBB+

Average offtaker credit rating 2022: BBB+

Environmental highlights<sup>6</sup>

234,500

tCO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided H1 2023: 279,200 (current portfolio)

33,700

Equivalent US homes powered H1 2023: 36,700 (current portfolio)

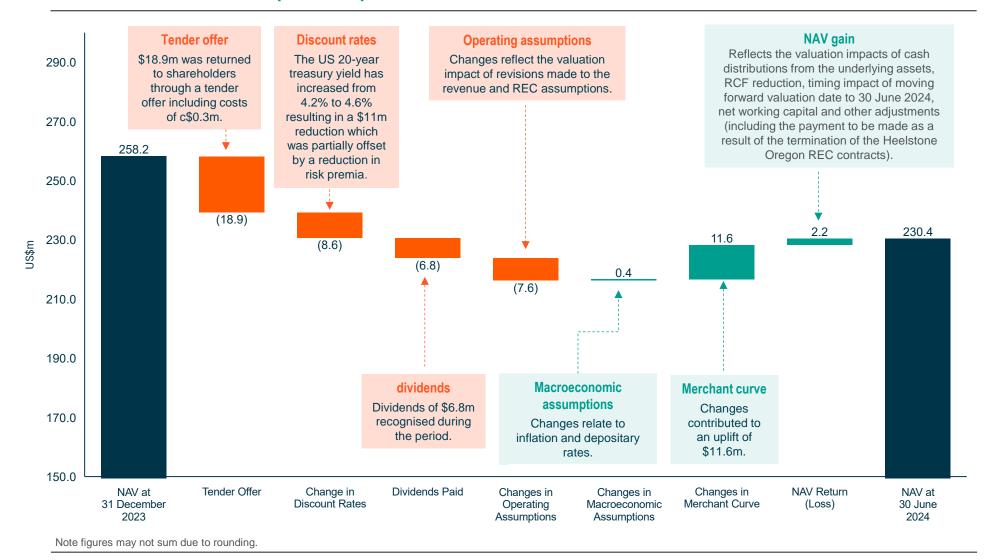
55,800

Equivalent US cars removed from the road H1 2023: 60,700 (current portfolio)

- 6. Environmental figures use actual generation figures for the period. The avoided CO2 emissions figure is calculated using data from the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 'Avoided Emissions and geneRation Tool' (AVERT). Equivalent US homes and cars removed figures are based on emissions avoided and data from the EPA and US Energy Information Administration (EIA).
- 7. Remaining PPA term from 30 June 2024.



## NAV movements (US\$m)





### **Discount rates**

The discount rate applied to the forecast cashflows of the Company is determined by the independent valuer based on market observations. In the current period it has increased from 8.8% to 9.2%

#### **Valuation Process**

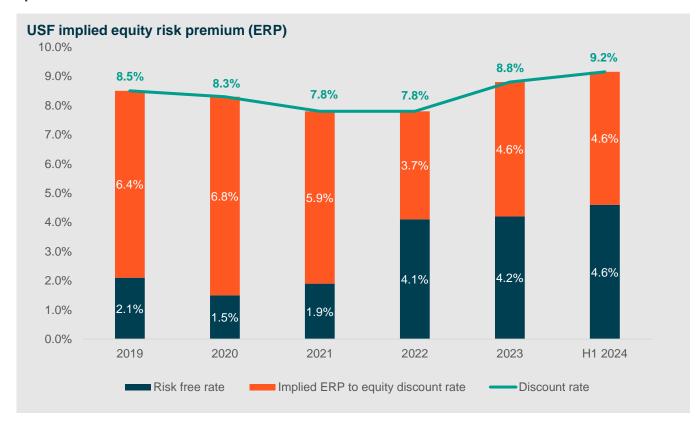
USF is valued by an independent valuer.

The valuation process takes into account market transactions, comparable companies and defines a risk premium to be applied to the assets within the portfolio.

The valuer provides a range for the risk premia to be applied.

In the current period, the highest discount rate and corresponding lowest valuation of the portfolio as provided by the independent valuer has been used.

Underlying asset valuations were impacted by increase in risk-free rates, which resulted in an increase in the discount rates used in the valuation of the assets.



	Dec-19	Jun-20	Dec-20	Jun-21	Dec-21	Jun-22	Dec-22	Jun-23	Dec-23	Jun-24
NAV	\$194.4m	\$192.9m	\$194.2m	\$313.3m	\$324.0m	\$321.2m	\$320.0m	\$284.2m	\$258.2m	\$230.4m



## Oregon renewable energy certificate (REC) contracts

- ♦ As previously announced, the Company's Board and Investment Manager, have determined that the contracts to sell renewable energy certificates ("REC") in relation to six of the Company's Oregon projects signed in November 2023, required termination
- RECs are tradeable certificates awarded to generators of renewable energy to incentivise production that can be sold in conjunction with, or separate to, the electricity
- ♦ The Oregon REC contracts were entered into in November 2023 under the delegated authority of the Company's previous investment manager in line with the investment management agreement, on terms that would have been cash flow accretive for the Company
- ♦ The impact of terminating the Oregon REC contracts are reflected in the Company's 30 June 2024 reporting
  - Consequent reductions in cash flow assumptions for the expected revenue arising from the termination of these REC contracts amount to approximately \$8.0m
  - The Company's subsidiaries incurred costs in connection with the termination of these contracts a payment was made based on the replacement cost being the difference between the cost of the Oregon solar RECs at the time the contracts were entered into (November 2023) and the cost of Oregon solar RECs at the date the contracts were terminated (September 2024). This type of termination payment is typical for termination of these types of contracts
- The matter is now resolved.
- ♦ A detailed review is being conducted by USF's retained legal counsel, and the Company will consider all remedies available to it to recover the losses associated with the termination of the Oregon REC contracts
- Recovery would enhance future NAV
- As part of the Investment Manager's review of this matter, in addition to the above-mentioned updates to cash flow assumptions, revisions were made to operating assumptions to calibrate forecasted project revenue to contracted PPA rates and PPA end dates, resulting in \$0.4m gain to NAV (see the change to operating assumptions of (\$7.6m) identified on slide 6)



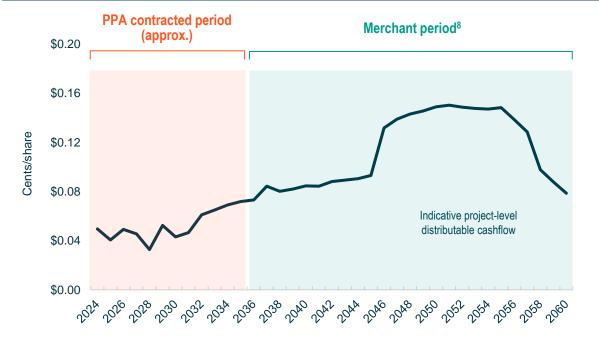
## Impact on inflation on operational cashflows and NAV

Inflation negatively impacts operational cashflows during the term of the power purchase agreements. Overall inflation has a net positive impact on NAV

#### Impact of inflation on the USF portfolio

- Each project sells power through a fixed price, nominal (unindexed) PPA
- In periods of high inflation, operating costs which fluctuate with inflation either through contractual terms or at the point where contracts for the provision of O&M services are renewed, increase. (Similarly in periods of low inflation operating cashflows would typically improve)
- The reduction in operating cashflows negatively impacts NAV
- Post the expiry of the fixed price, nominal contracts revenues are assumed to track merchant energy prices which typically move in line with inflation
- The overall effect is that NAV increases in periods of high inflation but short-term operating cashflows reduce
- Taken as a proportion of NAV the cashflows forecast to be received during the uncontracted term comprise around 63% of the H1 2024 NAV

Inflation rate impact	Increase	Impact on NAV (US\$ m)	Decrease	Impact on NAV (US\$ m)
Inflation rate impact on revenue	+1.0%	+43.25	-1.0%	-35.41
Inflation rate impact on operating expenses	+1.0%	(-16.59)	-1.0%	+14.11
Inflation impact on merchant vs PPA (net)	+1.0%	+26.66	-1.0%	-21.30



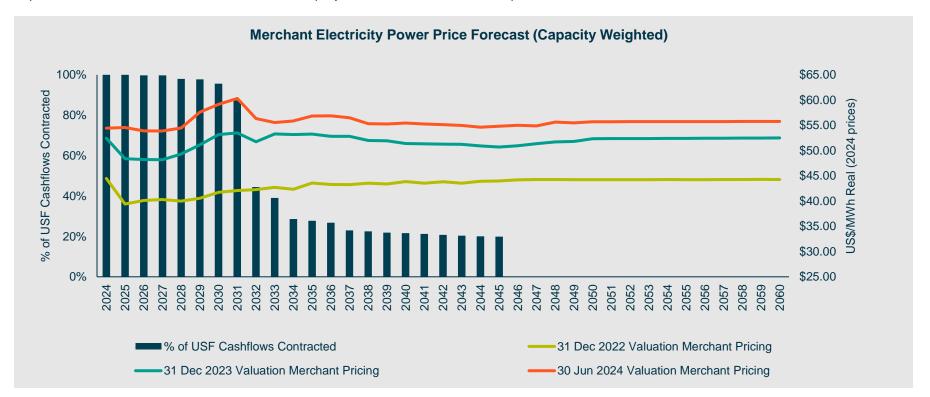
<sup>8.</sup> The Indicative project level distributable cashflow illustration represents a target only at 30 June 2024 and is not a profit forecast. There can be no assurance that this target will be met and this information is not a reliable indicator of future performance.



## **Merchant price assumptions**

#### Merchant energy, capacity and REC curves have increased in the current period when compared to 31 December 2023

- ◆ Future energy, capacity and REC prices are provided by two separate advisors
- ◆ Prices have increased across all regions USF owns assets in when compared to 31 December 2023, primarily driven by higher energy demand forecasts
- ◆ Updates to the merchant curve forecasts within project models contributed an uplift of \$11.6m to NAV







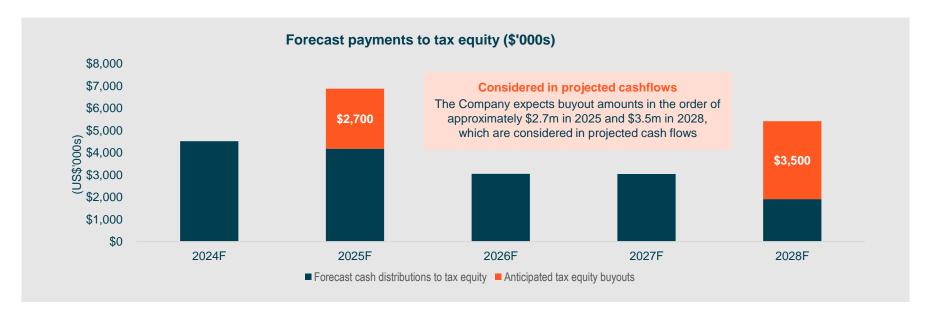
Additional disclosures



## Additional disclosures | Tax equity

Tax Equity is a term used to describe an element of the capital financing of transactions that include tax credits. It is common in the US Renewables market as a means to monetise the tax credits provided to renewable projects by the federal government

- Tax credits awarded to owners of renewable projects require a tax paying entity in order to monetise the credit. Given that renewable projects themselves do not typically have sufficient taxable income to monetise the credits a sophisticated market has arisen to structure ways for 3rd parties to access the credits and lower their tax bills in exchange for up-front payments to renewable projects
- These structures, which typically last for the first few years of the project life, assign some level of the cashflows and some level of the tax benefits to the 3rd party. Fixed payments are agreed at the outset to retire these structures once the tax benefits have been fully utilised
- Each of USF's projects included tax credits and tax equity. As at 30 June 2024, tax equity obligations remain active for the Milford, Euryalus and Olympos portfolios. The remaining forecast annual payments to tax equity providers and buyout amounts are included in the chart below
- These have been included in prior period cashflow forecasts and analysis but have not previously been specifically disclosed

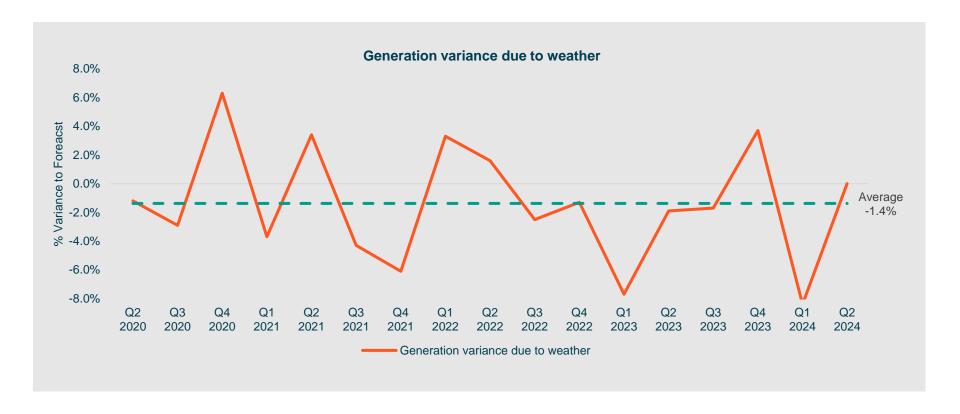




## Additional disclosures | Weather related portfolio performance

The portfolio has underperformed by 1.4% due to weather over the period 2020 – 2024. Monitoring underperformance and the adequacy of forecasts is being prioritised

- ♦ In prior periods reporting on weather variances has focused on the reasons for under / over performance during the period
- Amber is actively monitoring the long-term trends to analyse the need to adjust or amend weather expectations or forecasts of production based on the weather





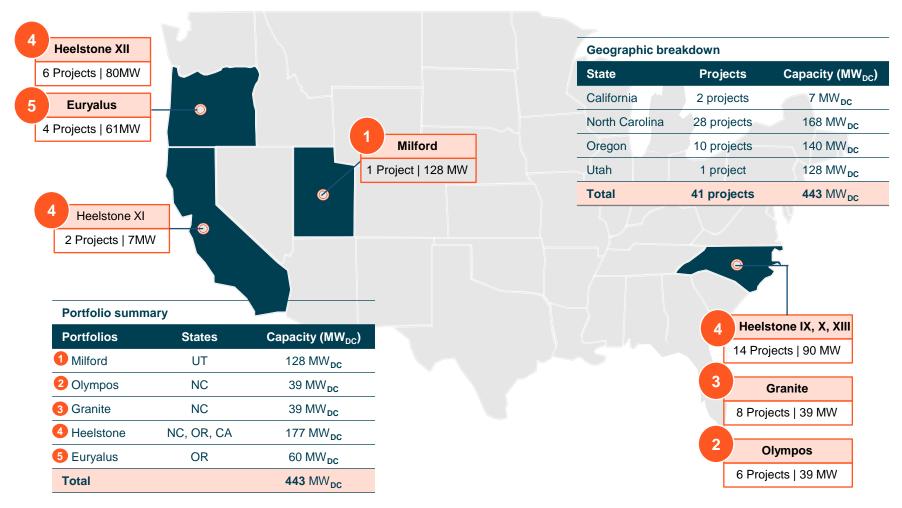


# Operational performance



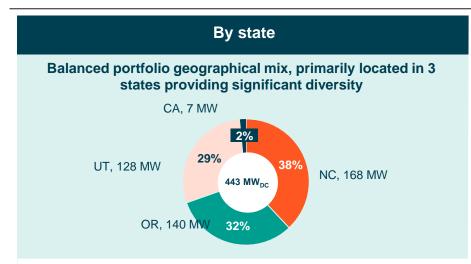
## Portfolio overview

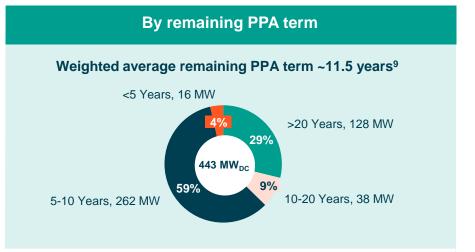
#### The Portfolio is divided into five sub-portfolios based on the date of acquisition

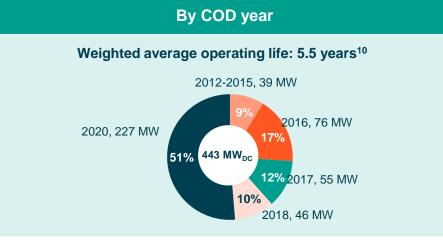




## Portfolio overview (capacity breakdown<sup>9</sup>)

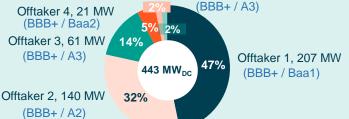








By high quality offtaker



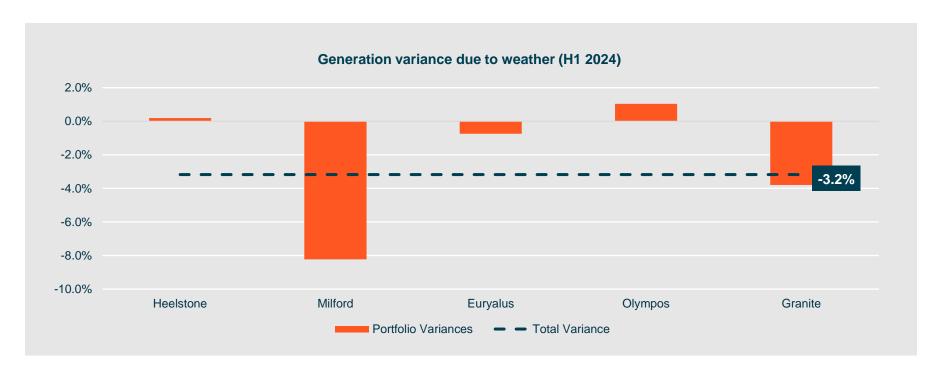
- 9. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding
- 10. As at 30 June 2024
- 11. S&P/Moody's



## Weather related portfolio performance

The portfolio has underperformed by 3.2% due to weather over the six-month period to June. The majority of this underperformance occurred during Q1 and related to the Milford project

- The portfolio was impacted by unfavourable weather during the period, particularly during the first quarter of 2024. During the first quarter of 2024, data provided by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) indicates that above average precipitation (rain and snow) was recorded in Utah, Oregon, Southern California and western North Carolina, with "much above average" precipitation recorded in Beaver County, Utah where the Milford project is located
- The Milford asset is the Company's single largest asset with a capacity of 128MWDC

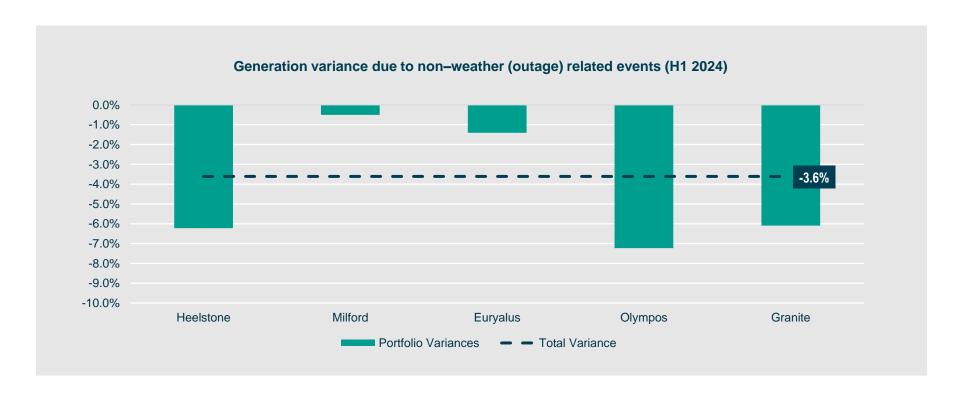




## Outage related portfolio performance

The portfolio has underperformed by 3.6% due to unscheduled outages and other non-irradiance related factors over the sixmonth period to June.

- In the second quarter solar irradiance met forecast levels although frequent, low impact unscheduled outages and failures of inverters and other electrical components remained a material cause of lost generation during the entire period
- For the most part these outages were readily repairable, and the focus is now on reducing the time taken to identify individual outages, improving the availability of replacement parts, and reducing lead times for repair crews to mobilise to site





## Outage related portfolio performance continued

Total generation variance by portfolio represents the variance from Forecast generation to Actual generation. The total generation variance for the period was -6.8%

Portfolio	Performance Commentary
Heelstone	Portfolio generation c.6.2% below the weather-adjusted forecast.
	<b>Oregon:</b> Largest individual losses attributable to continuing intermittent feeder line outages at Chiloquin and inverter outages at Dairy with several possible rectification options continuing to be assessed by the asset management team.
	California: There were also tracker and intermittent inverter outages at Granger and Valley Center. An ongoing decline in service quality from the O&M subcontractor for the sites, including failures to adequately respond to outage events and monitor site conditions was identified, leading to the replacement of that O&M subcontractor during the period.
Milford	Generation was c.0.5% below the weather-adjusted forecast, with these losses primarily attributable to a feeder line outage and intermittent inverter outages.
Euryalus	Generation was c.1.4% below the weather-adjusted forecast, primarily attributable to an extended grid outage and intermittent inverter outages at West Hines.
Olympos	Generation was c.7.2% below the weather-adjusted forecast, attributable to frequent low impact outages across the portfolio.
Granite	Generation was c.6.1% below the weather-adjusted forecast, attributable to premature module failures (that remain under ongoing warranty claims), and intermittent inverter and electrical equipment outages at NC Solar 1, South Robeson and Faison.

#### Portfolio Performance Summary (H1 2024) – Non-Weather Lost Generation

Asset	Size (MW <sub>DC</sub> )	State	Non- weather loss (% total)	Non- weather loss (\$'000s)	Outage causes	Repair Status
Chiloquin (Heelstone XII)	14.0	OR	10.6%	\$150.9	Rodent damage	Ongoing
West Hines (Euryalus)	15.3	OR	9.4%	\$133.3	Inverters; grid outages	Resolved
Dairy (Heelstone XII)	14.0	OR	5.8%	\$82.9	Inverters; grid outages	Resolved
Granger (Heelstone XI)	3.9	CA	5.8%	\$82.5	Inverters & trackers	Dec-24
Milford	126.0	UT	5.4%	\$76.4	Inverters	Resolved
Tumbleweed (Heelstone XII)	14.0	OR	5.1%	\$72.3	Inverters	Resolved
Gauss	7.0	NC	4.3%	\$61.3	Communications	Dec-24
Remaining assets	249	NC, OR, CA	c.54%	\$760.1		



## Portfolio performance | Pro-active management

Operational performance was 6.8% below forecast for generation and 8.4% below forecast for revenue (-8.6% H1 2023)

#### Remediation and performance improvement initiatives

AM team seeks to address ongoing underperformance through:

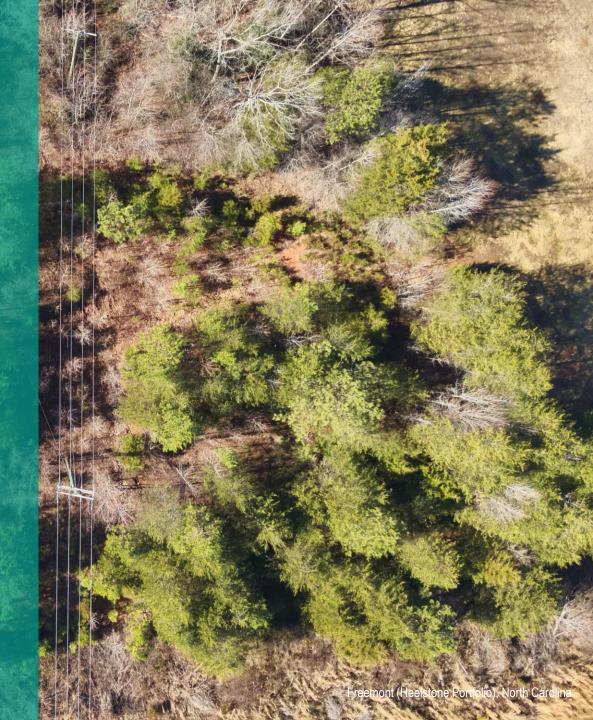
- Improved facility operations and data capturing (through advanced analytics and controls software pilots). A pilot program for plant operations and data collection is being trialed at the two Californian sites within the Heelstone portfolio, and if successful will be rolled out to other sites within the broader portfolio. Among other benefits, this program would enable certain elements of operations to be undertaken remotely and enhance data collection, delivering improved efficiency and introducing potential costs savings
- Continued proactive identification of DC health issues contributing to underperformance of facilities (including through the utilization of aerial drone scans and advanced data analytics)
- Working with key subcontractors and technical advisors to improve spare parts management, to support maintenance effectiveness and initiatives to reduce outage times
- Ongoing review of contractor performance to identify opportunities for improvement and alignment of interests with the Company, including replacement of certain contractors







# Sustainable investment



## Sustainable investment

The Company is focused on sustainability, both in its driving purpose as an investor in solar generation capacity and in the way it manages its investments

#### Overview

Through investing in solar power assets, USF generates clean energy, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and supports the transition to a low-carbon economy. In addition to these core benefits, USF aligns with recognised sustainability frameworks to consider ESG risks and communicate environmental and community benefits.

#### Delivered in H1 2024

- ◆ The Company released the 2023 Sustainability Report, including updated Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD), EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) and EU Taxonomy disclosures
- Updated internal disclosure processes to align with the UK Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR) anti-greenwashing rule
- The Company has engaged with USF third-party asset managers and operations & maintenance companies about data collection processes and quality requirements

#### Planned for H2 2024

- USF can potentially be categorised as a Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) Article 9 Financial Product. Over the period, the Company will consider alignment, and relative merits considering the launch of UK SDR sustainability labels
- The Company will actively explore shareholder requirements to inform its approach to sustainability labelling under the UK SDR
- ◆ The Company will update its approach to considering climate change risk to incorporate scenario analysis, as per TCFD compliance requirements

41

Operating solar assets

**443**MW<sub>DC</sub>

Total capacity

>1.3m

Solar panels generating emission-free energy

**365**GWh

Total electricity generation H1 2024

33,700

Equivalent US homes powered in H1 2024

55,800

Equivalent US cars removed from the road in H1 2024

234,500

tCO<sub>2</sub> avoided in H1 2024



Sustainable Development Goals supported





## **Looking Forward**



## **Market Update**

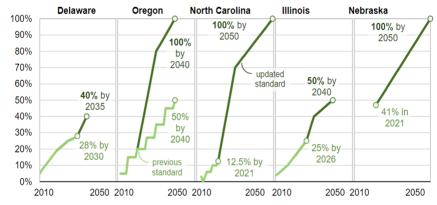
The installed base of US solar assets continues to grow strongly with record new installations in 2023 of approximately 32GW12.

## Outlook for continued growth in solar deployment remains robust with several key drivers:

- State, Local and Corporate renewable objectives driving renewable development and supporting the prices of renewable generated electricity through higher demand than for other forms of generation
- Federal tax credit extensions and other government incentives including the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, continue to provide material funding support for new projects
- Ongoing development and build-out of firming capacity, including battery storage capacity to better manage and mitigate the inherent intermittency of solar and other renewable generation
- Forecast load growth from the rapid build-out of data centers and growing domestic investment in the onshoring and reshoring manufacturing capacity in critical industries

## Clean energy standard targets for select states (2010–2050) percentage of retail electricity sales





Source: Graph by the U.S. Energy Information Administration, based on states' renewable portfolio standards or clean energy standards passed into law in 2021

While the demand picture remains strong, new development activity continues to face headwinds resulting from several factors including:

- transmission system bottlenecks and lack of spare capacity
- trade policy and tariffs increasing costs of imported equipment
- resistance to new development in urban and other populated areas
- ♦ The US Presidential election
- 12. National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Spring 2024 Solar Industry Update. (Spring 2024 Solar Industry Update (nrel.gov))



## **Market Update – State Level**

The states in which the Company's assets are located, and its primary offtake counterparties, continue to provide a supportive backdrop for renewable generation

#### **OREGON**

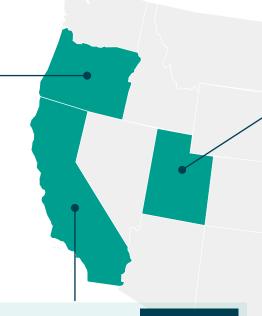


#### State mandates

 Net-zero emissions electricity by 2050

#### **Utility targets**

 Duke Energy: in Carolinas aiming to add 2.7GW of solar by 2026, and to reach 4.1GW of solar by 2030 and growing to 16.3GW by 2040



7MW<sub>DC</sub>

#### **UTAH**

#### State mandates

♦ Voluntary goal of 20% renewable by 2025

#### **Utility targets**

 ◆ PacifiCorp: corporate target of ~74% reduction in carbon emissions from 2005 level by 2030

#### NORTH CAROLINA

168MW<sub>DC</sub> \*

#### State mandates

♦ Net-zero emissions electricity by 2050

#### **Utility targets**

 Duke Energy: in Carolinas aiming to add 2.7GW of solar by 2026, and to reach 4.1GW of solar by 2030 and growing to 16.3GW by 2040

128MW<sub>DC</sub> \*

#### **CALIFORNIA**

#### State mandates

♦ Net-zero emissions electricity by 2045

#### **Utility targets**

 California Public Utility Commission: identified a need for 40GW of new solar capacity by 2045 to achieve stated emissions reduction targets



<sup>\*</sup> USF portfolio capacity



Q&A





# Appendices



## **About Amber**<sup>13</sup>



#### **EXPERIENCED INFRASTRUCTURE FUND MANAGER**

- Investing in transport, energy, digital and public infrastructure
- ♦ Local presence across Europe, Australia and North America
- Specialist team across investment origination, asset and fund management

#### **CULTURE OF ORIGINATION**

- Strong track record of capital deployment and outperformance across credit cycles
- 70% of investments have been primary or off-market opportunities
- Over 175 investments made to date

#### SPECIALISED SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

- Full-service approach and ability to manage assets in-house
- Rigorous approach to reporting, disclosure, corporate governance and investor relations
- Award winning approach to ESG



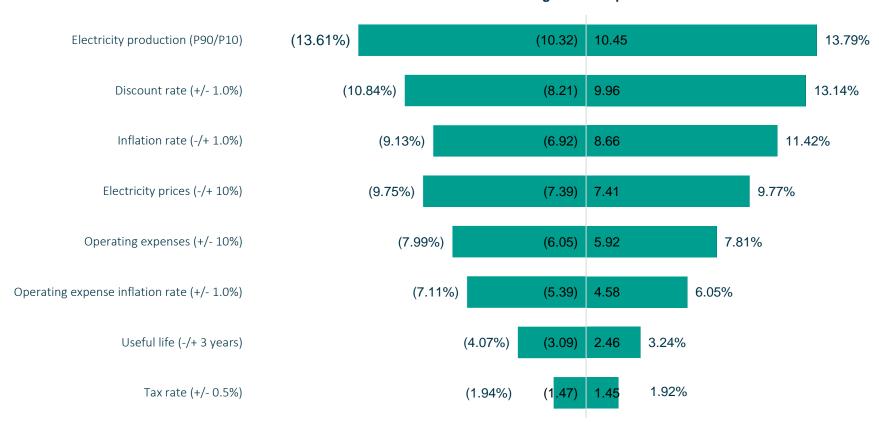
<sup>13.</sup> The information provided above describes the Amber Infrastructure Group, does not describe the Investment Manager, and is not included for the purpose of illustrating the Investment Manager's experience or capabilities. This information is included solely for the purpose of illustrating the experience and capabilities of the broader Amber platform upon which the Investment Manager expects to rely. As at September 2024.

<sup>14.</sup> Refers to the Amber group.

## **NAV Sensitivity Analysis**

The key assumptions the Directors believe would have a material impact on the fair value of the investments are set out below

#### Change in cents per share





## **Historic NAV**

#### NAV<sup>15</sup> PER SHARE (\$) SINCE INCEPTION



15. The Company's approach to calculating the NAV has been set out in the Valuation Methodology Section of the 2023 Annual Report.



## Milford portfolio overview

**127.8**MW<sub>DC</sub>

CAPACITY

278,781mwn

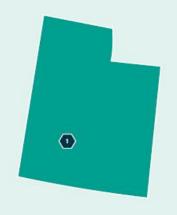
**ANNUAL PRODUCTION (P50)** 

**NOV** 2020

COD

1

# OF PLANTS





#### Portfolio details

USF Acquisition	September 2019 (from Longroad Energy Partners, LLC)				
PPA	Investment grade offtaker   Busbar PPA   MW Weighted Avg. Remaining Term: 21.4 years 16   <b>Unbundled</b>				
REC Agreement Investment grade offtaker   MW Weighted Avg. Remaining Term: 21.4 years <sup>16</sup>					
QF Eligible	No <sup>17</sup>				
Site Control	Long-term lease				
Debt	Mini-perm term loan + LC facility   Legal maturity 2027   Outstanding balance \$46.5m <sup>16</sup>				
Tax Equity	Yes. Scheduled buy-out 2028.				

<sup>17.</sup> Milford is the only asset within the Company's portfolio that is not a qualifying facility (QF), as defined under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA). OFs are a special class of generating facility defined by law and categorised as either a cogeneration facility or small power production facilities, being generating facility. In the case of the Company's portfolio, its assets (other than Milford) are eligible small power production facilities, being generating facilities with a production capacity of less than 80MW whose primary energy source is renewable. Among other benefits, being a QF affords the asset owner certain rights to sell energy or capacity to a utility, the right to purchase certain services from utilities such as back-up power at a reasonable rate, and relief from certain regulatory obligations.



As at 30 June 2024

## Olympos portfolio overview

39MW<sub>DC</sub>

60,518MWh ANNUAL PRODUCTION (P50)

We shall the state of the state

**JUL-OCT** 2020

COD

6 # OF PLANTS





P	orti	0	in	d	0	tai	c

USF Acquisition	December 2019 (from Cypress Creek Renewables)				
PPA Investment grade offtakers   Busbar PPA   MW Weighted Avg. Remaining Term: 9.3 years <sup>16</sup>   Unbundled					
REC	Unrated offtakers   Remaining term of 2.5 years <sup>16</sup>				
QF Eligible	Yes				
Site Control	Long-term leases				
Debt	None				
Tax Equity	Yes. Scheduled buy-out 2025.				

16. As at 30 June 2024



## **Granite portfolio overview**





			tail	

<b>USF Acquisition</b>	January 2020 (from Greenbacker Renewable Energy)
PPA	Investment grade offtaker   Busbar PPA   MW Weighted Avg. Remaining Term: 5.5 years <sup>16</sup>   <b>Unbundled</b>
REC Agreement	Rated and unrated offtakers   Remaining term of 6 years <sup>16</sup>
QF Eligible	Yes
Site Control	Long-term leases
Debt	None
Tax Equity	None (buy-out completed 2020).

 $39_{MW_{DC}}$ 

CAPACITY

**46,279**<sub>MWh</sub>

**ANNUAL PRODUCTION (P50)** 

2012 (Progress Solar 1; South Robeson)

2013 (Progress Solar 2)

2015 (Faison; Four Oaks; Nitro;

Princeton; Sarah)

COD

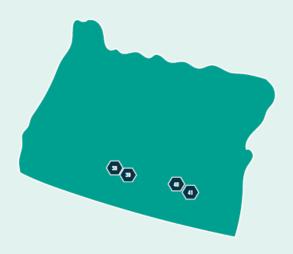
# OF PLANTS

16. As at 30 June 2024



## **Euryalus portfolio overview**





#### Portfolio details

USF Acquisition	May 2020 (from Southern Current)
PPA	Investment grade offtaker   Busbar PPA   MW Weighted Avg. Remaining Term: 7.1 years <sup>16</sup>   <b>Bundled</b>
QF Eligible	Yes
Site Control	Long-term lease
Debt	Mini-perm term loan + LC facility   Legal maturity 2026   Outstanding balance \$34.3m16
Tax Equity	Yes. Scheduled buy-out 2025.

61<sub>MWDC</sub>

CAPACITY

105,333MW<sub>DC</sub>

**JUNE** 2020

COD

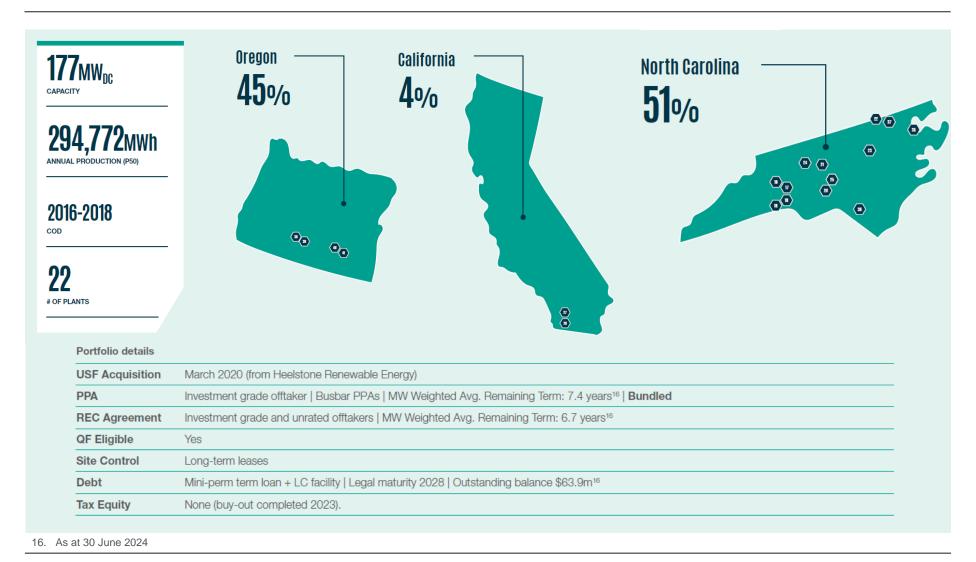
4

# OF PLANTS

16. As at 30 June 2024



## Heelstone portfolio overview







## **Contacts**

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