

ITC Holdings Corp.
Form S-3ASR
January 17, 2007

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 17, 2007

Registration No. 333-

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ITC HOLDINGS CORP.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Michigan
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

32-0058047
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

**39500 Orchard Hill Place
Suite 200
Novi, Michigan 48375
(248) 374-7100**

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Daniel J. Oginsky, Esq.
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
ITC Holdings Corp.
39500 Orchard Hill Place, Suite 200
Novi, Michigan 48375
(248) 374-7045

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)

With a copy to:

Risë B. Norman, Esq.
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
425 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10017-3954
(212) 455-2000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

If any of the securities being registered on this Form to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. _____.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. _____.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities To Be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, without par value	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)

(1) There is being registered hereby such indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices. There is also being registered such indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may be issuable with respect to the shares being registered hereunder as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

(2) Since an unspecified amount of shares of common stock registered hereby will be offered from time to time at indeterminate offering prices pursuant to an automatic shelf registration statement, the Registrant has elected to rely on Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, to defer payment of the registration fee.

PROSPECTUS

Common Stock

We or a selling stockholder may offer and sell shares of our common stock from time to time in amounts, at prices and on terms that will be determined at the time of any such offering. Each time our common stock is offered, we will provide a prospectus supplement and attach it to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus. This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell securities without a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering.

You should carefully read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, together with the documents we incorporate by reference, before you invest in our common stock.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "ITC."

Investing in our common stock involves risks. You should consider the risk factors described in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and in the documents we incorporate by reference. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 10.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

January 17, 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
About this Prospectus	i
Our Company	1
The METC Acquisition	3
Forward-Looking Statements	8
Risk Factors	10
Use of Proceeds	22
Description of Our Capital Stock	22
Plan of Distribution	28
Legal Matters	30
Experts	30
Where You Can Find Additional Information	30
Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference	31

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the "Commission," using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we and/or a selling stockholder or selling stockholders may offer and sell from time to time common stock in one or more offerings or resales. Each time shares of common stock are offered, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the offering and attach it to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will contain more specific information about the offering, including the names of any selling stockholders, if applicable. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find Additional Information."

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus prepared by us. Neither we nor any selling stockholder has authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. Neither we nor any selling stockholder is making an offer of shares of our common stock in any state where the offer is not permitted.

Neither the delivery of this prospectus nor any sale made under it implies that there has been no change in our affairs or that the information in this prospectus is correct as of any date after the date of this prospectus. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, including any information incorporated in this prospectus by reference, the accompanying prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus prepared by us, is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

Unless otherwise noted or the context requires, all references in this prospectus to:

"ITC Holdings" are references to ITC Holdings Corp. and not any of its subsidiaries;

"ITC*Transmission*" are references to International Transmission Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;

"METC" are references to Michigan Electric Transmission Company, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MTH;

"MTH" are references to Michigan Transco Holdings, Limited Partnership, the owner of all of the membership interests of METC and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings;

"We," "our" and "us" are references to ITC Holdings together with all of its subsidiaries;

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

the "FERC" are references to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

"kW" are references to kilowatts (one kilowatt equaling 1,000 watts); and

the "IT Holdings Partnership" are references to International Transmission Holdings Limited Partnership, a Michigan limited partnership.

OUR COMPANY

Overview

Through our operating subsidiaries, *ITCTransmission* and METC, we are the only publicly traded company engaged exclusively in the transmission of electricity in the United States. We are also the largest independent electric transmission company and the tenth largest electric transmission company in the country based on transmission load served. Our business strategy is to operate, maintain and invest in our transmission infrastructure in order to enhance system integrity and reliability and to reduce transmission constraints. By pursuing this strategy, we seek to reduce the overall cost of delivered energy for end-use consumers by providing them with access to electricity from the lowest cost electricity generation sources. *ITCTransmission* and METC operate contiguous, fully-regulated, high-voltage systems that transmit electricity to local electricity distribution facilities from generating stations throughout Michigan and surrounding areas. The local distribution facilities connected to our systems serve an area comprising substantially all of the lower peninsula of Michigan, which had a population of approximately 9.8 million people at December 31, 2005.

As transmission utilities with rates regulated by the FERC, our subsidiaries earn revenues through fees charged for the use of their electricity transmission systems by our customers, which include investor-owned utilities, municipalities, co-operatives, power marketers and alternative energy suppliers. As independent transmission companies, our subsidiaries are subject to rate regulation only by the FERC. The rates charged by our subsidiaries are established using a formulaic cost-of-service model and re-calculated annually, allowing for the recovery of actual expenses and income taxes and a return of and on invested capital.

Our Operations

Our operations are conducted through *ITCTransmission* and METC. We have no ownership of or financial interest in electricity generation or distribution assets, allowing us to focus exclusively on the transmission of electricity and investment in transmission infrastructure. Our primary operating responsibilities include maintaining, improving and expanding our transmission systems to meet our customers' ongoing needs, scheduling outages on transmission system elements to allow for maintenance and construction, balancing electricity generation and demand, maintaining appropriate system voltages and monitoring flows over transmission lines and other facilities to ensure physical limits are not exceeded.

Our operating subsidiaries' assets include over 8,000 circuit miles of high-voltage lines, 236 stations and substations, approximately 61,000 transmission towers and poles and 14 external interconnections, which connect our transmission lines to generation resources, distribution facilities and neighboring transmission systems. There are also nine interconnections between *ITCTransmission* and METC. The rate base of our operating subsidiaries, which is comprised primarily of transmission property, plant and equipment, was in excess of \$1.0 billion as of December 31, 2005.

We are committed to investing capital in our transmission systems to improve reliability and lower the delivered cost of energy to end-use consumers. By prudently investing capital in our transmission systems, we believe we will enhance our earnings growth as we continue to earn a regulated return on our expanding rate base.

Substantially all of our revenues are derived from providing transmission service. Our principal customers are The Detroit Edison Company, or Detroit Edison, a wholly-owned subsidiary of DTE Energy Company, and Consumers Energy Company, or Consumers Energy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CMS Energy Corporation.

Regulation and Ratemaking

Our utility subsidiaries operate in two different rate zones in each of which a different transmission service rate is charged. The rates of our utility subsidiaries are determined using a FERC-approved formulaic rate setting mechanism known as Attachment O. Attachment O is a rate template used by members of the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc., or MISO, that is completed with financial and load information to calculate a transmission rate. Under Attachment O, our subsidiaries' rates adjust annually to account for year-to-year changes in network load, expenses and a return of and on invested capital, among other items. These annual adjustments occur under Attachment O without the need to file a rate case at the FERC.

ITC*Transmission's* FERC-approved rate allows it to earn a return of 13.88% on the actual equity portion of its capital structure in calculating rates. ITC*Transmission's* network transmission rate of \$2.099 per kW/month, which became effective beginning on January 1, 2007, is based on ITC*Transmission's* implementation of a forward-looking Attachment O as described below, which consists of forecasted information for the upcoming year.

On July 14, 2006, the FERC authorized ITC*Transmission* to modify the implementation of its Attachment O formula rate so that, beginning January 1, 2007, ITC*Transmission* began to recover expenses and earn a return on and recover investments in transmission on a current rather than a historical basis. ITC*Transmission's* former rate-setting method for network transmission rates primarily used historical data to establish a rate.

Until December 31, 2005, METC's billed network transmission rate was subject to a rate freeze of \$0.98 per kW/month. On December 30, 2005, the FERC issued an order that authorized METC to bill rates determined using Attachment O, subject to specified adjustments. The December 2005 rate order also authorized METC to earn a return of 13.38% on the actual equity portion of its capital structure in calculating rates. Pursuant to the December 2005 rate order, METC began to charge a network transmission rate of \$1.567 per kW/month effective as of January 1, 2006, subject to refund based on the outcome of METC's current rate proceeding. METC began to charge a network transmission rate of \$1.524 per kW/month on June 1, 2006, subject to refund, based primarily on data from METC's 2005 FERC Form No. 1. On December 21, 2006, the FERC authorized METC to recover its expenses and investments in transmission property, plant and equipment on a current rather than a historical basis beginning January 1, 2007.

As a result of the FERC authorizations, ITC*Transmission* and METC are allowed to collect revenues based on their current expenses and capital investments, which are expected to result in higher revenues and cash flows in the initial years after implementation. During periods of capital expansion and increasing rate base, ITC*Transmission* and METC will recover the costs of these capital investments on a more timely basis than they would under the prior Attachment O method. The FERC also approved a true-up mechanism to correct for any differences between billed revenue based on forecasted costs and investment and revenues needed to recover actual costs and services.

Our principal executive offices are located at 39500 Orchard Hill Place, Suite 200, Novi, Michigan 48375 and our telephone number at that address is (248) 374-7100. ITC Holdings' website is located at www.itc-holdings.com. The information on our website is not part of this prospectus.

THE METC ACQUISITION

On October 10, 2006, ITC Holdings completed the acquisition of all of the outstanding equity interests in METC, ITC's neighboring transmission system, pursuant to a purchase agreement with TE Power Opportunities Investors, L.P., Mich 1400 LLC, MEAP US Holdings Ltd., Macquarie Essential Assets Partnership, Evercore Co-Investment Partnership II L.P., Evercore METC Capital Partners II L.P. and the other parties thereto, or the Purchase Agreement. The final consideration paid pursuant to the Purchase Agreement was valued at approximately \$557 million, consisting of \$484 million in cash and the remainder in shares of ITC Holdings' common stock. In addition, ITC Holdings assumed approximately \$309 million of debt and other liabilities. ITC Holdings funded the acquisition with net proceeds from a public offering of its common stock and a portion of the net proceeds from a private placement of its senior notes.

METC's Operating Contracts

METC is party to a number of operating contracts that govern the operations and maintenance of its transmission system. Among these contracts are the following:

Amended and Restated Easement Agreement. The easement agreement, dated as of April 29, 2002 and as further supplemented, is between METC and Consumers Energy. Under the easement agreement, Consumers Energy provides METC with an easement to the land, which we refer to as premises, on which METC's transmission towers, poles, lines and other transmission facilities used to transmit electricity at voltages of at least 120 kV are located, which we refer to collectively as the facilities. Consumers Energy retained for itself the rights to, and the value of activities associated with, all other uses of the premises and the facilities covered by the easement agreement, such as for distribution of electricity, fiber optics, telecommunications, gas pipelines and agricultural uses. Accordingly, METC is not permitted to use the premises or the facilities covered by the easement agreement for any purposes other than to provide electric transmission and related services, to inspect, maintain, repair, replace and remove electric transmission lines and to alter, improve, relocate and construct additional electric transmission lines. The easement is further subject to the rights of any third parties that had rights to use or occupy the premises or the facilities prior to April 1, 2001 in a manner not inconsistent with METC's permitted uses.

METC pays Consumers Energy annual rent of approximately \$10.0 million, in equal quarterly installments, for the easement and related rights under the easement agreement. Although METC and Consumers Energy share the use of the premises and the facilities covered by the easement agreement, METC pays the entire amount of any rentals, property taxes, inspection fees and other amounts required to be paid to third parties with respect to any use, occupancy, operations or other activities on the premises or the facilities and is generally responsible for the maintenance of the premises and the facilities used for electricity transmission at its expense. METC also must maintain commercial general liability insurance protecting METC and Consumers Energy against claims for personal injury, death or property damage occurring on the premises or the facilities and pay for all insurance premiums. METC is also responsible for patrolling the premises and the facilities by air at its expense at least annually and to notify Consumers Energy of any unauthorized uses or encroachments discovered. METC indemnifies Consumers Energy for all liabilities arising from the facilities covered by the easement agreement.

METC must notify Consumers Energy before altering, improving, relocating or constructing additional transmission lines on the facilities covered by the easement agreement. Consumers Energy may respond by notifying METC of reasonable work and design restrictions and precautions that are needed to avoid endangering existing distribution facilities, pipelines or communications lines, in which case METC must comply with these restrictions and precautions. METC has the right at its own expense to require Consumers Energy to remove and relocate these facilities, but Consumers Energy

may require payment in advance or the provision of reasonable security for payment by METC prior to removing or relocating these facilities, and Consumers Energy need not commence any relocation work until an alternative right-of-way satisfactory to Consumers Energy is obtained at METC's expense.

The term of the easement agreement runs through 2050 and is subject to 10 automatic 50-year renewals after that time unless METC provides one year's notice of its election not to renew the term. Consumers Energy may terminate the easement agreement 30 days after giving notice of a failure by METC to pay its quarterly installment if METC does not cure the non-payment within the 30-day notice period. At the end of the term or upon any earlier termination of the easement agreement, the easement and related rights terminate and revert to Consumers Energy.

Amended and Restated Operating Agreement. The operating agreement, dated as of April 29, 2002, is between METC and Consumers Energy. Under the operating agreement, METC agrees to operate its transmission system to provide all transmission customers with safe, efficient, reliable and non-discriminatory transmission service pursuant to its tariff. Among other things, METC is responsible under the operating agreement for maintaining and operating its transmission system, providing Consumers Energy with information and access to its transmission system and related books and records, administering and performing the duties of control area operator (that is, the entity exercising operational control over the transmission system) and, if requested by Consumers Energy, building connection facilities necessary to permit interaction with new distribution facilities built by Consumers Energy. Consumers Energy has corresponding obligations to provide METC with access to its books and records and to build distribution facilities necessary to provide adequate and reliable transmission services to wholesale customers. Consumers Energy must cooperate with METC as METC performs its duties as control area operator, including by providing reactive supply and voltage control from generation sources or other ancillary services and reducing load.

Amended and Restated Services Contract. The services contract, dated as of April 29, 2002, is between METC and Consumers Energy. Under the services contract, Consumers Energy provides contract services, under METC's direction, for METC's transmission assets for an initial five-year period. The services contract provides METC with labor for the following:

operating, maintenance and inspection work;

demand work;

major maintenance programs;

capital work at METC's request;

system control and system optimization; and

spare parts inventory management.

Under the services contract, METC paid Consumers Energy, excluding amounts for capital work, approximately \$21.1 million and \$19.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, and expects to pay Consumers Energy approximately \$21.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2006. Payments are made in monthly installments. METC pays Consumers Energy for the other services at escalating fixed annual fees or agreed-upon rates.

The services contract limits Consumers Energy's total liability arising out of its performance under the services contract to \$1 million. The parties also agreed to maintain certain insurance coverage under the services contract. Any disputes between the parties under the services contract will be brought to the administrative committee established under the operating agreement.

By its terms, the services contract is in effect through April 29, 2007. After that time, the services contract renews automatically every three years unless notice is given by either party at least 365 days

prior to the expiration of the then-current term. In addition, any services may be removed from the services contract after the initial five-year term upon 365 days' notice by either party.

METC gave Consumers Energy written notice of termination of the system control and system optimization portions of the services contract on November 2, 2004. METC gave Consumers Energy written notice of termination of the remainder of the services provided by Consumers Energy under the services contract on February 6, 2006. Each of these notices is effective in May 2007. METC has already arranged for services such as field operations, maintenance, construction work, inventory management and forestry work, which are currently provided by Consumers Energy under the services contract. We are hiring and training personnel for control room operations and are contracting with qualified parties who can provide these services starting in May 2007.

Amended and Restated Purchase and Sale Agreement for Ancillary Services. The ancillary services agreement, dated as of April 29, 2002 and effective May 1, 2002, is between METC and Consumers Energy. Since METC does not own any generating facilities, it must procure ancillary services from third party suppliers, such as Consumers Energy. Currently, under the ancillary services agreement, METC pays Consumers Energy for providing capacity to METC. METC must furnish Consumers Energy with forecasts of its requirements in connection with the provision of services under the ancillary services agreement. METC is not precluded from procuring these ancillary services from third party suppliers when available.

Amended and Restated Distribution Transmission Interconnection Agreement. The distribution agreement, dated April 29, 2002, is between METC and Consumers Energy. The distribution agreement provides for the interconnection of Consumers Energy's distribution system with METC's transmission system and defines the continuing rights, responsibilities and obligations of the parties with respect to the use of certain of their own and the other party's properties, assets and facilities. METC agrees to provide Consumers Energy interconnection service at agreed-upon interconnection points, and the parties have mutual responsibility for maintaining voltage and compensating for reactive power losses resulting from their respective services.

Amended and Restated Generator Interconnection Agreement. The generator interconnection agreement, dated as of April 29, 2002, is between METC and Consumers Energy. The generator interconnection agreement specifies the terms and conditions under which Consumers Energy and METC maintain the interconnection of Consumers Energy's generation resources and METC's transmission assets.

METC's 5.75% Senior Secured Notes due 2015

General. METC's 5.75% Senior Secured Notes due 2015, or Senior Secured Notes, were issued under a first mortgage indenture, dated as of December 10, 2003, between METC and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee, as supplemented by the first supplemental indenture, dated as of December 10, 2003, and as further supplemented by the second supplemental indenture, dated as of December 10, 2003. METC's Senior Secured Notes bear interest at a rate of 5.75% per annum.

Security and Ranking. Amounts outstanding under METC's Senior Secured Notes are secured by a first priority security interest in all of METC's assets equally with all other securities issued under the first mortgage indenture.

Redemption. METC's Senior Secured Notes may be redeemed at METC's option, in whole or in part, at any time or from time to time at a redemption price equal to the principal amount of METC's Senior Secured Notes plus a make whole amount and accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date.

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

Covenants. The indenture contains covenants limiting, among other things, METC's ability to:

incur additional indebtedness;

make capital expenditures prior to the final determination of METC's rate case, other than capital expenditures that METC reasonably believes are necessary to comply with its obligations as a regulated transmission company;

create or acquire subsidiaries;

create liens or other encumbrances; and

engage in sale and lease back transactions.

The indenture also contains a covenant requiring METC to maintain a ratio of EBITDA to interest expense of no less than 3.0 to 1.0 and a covenant requiring METC to maintain a ratio of debt to EBITDA of no more than 3.5 to 1.0 after the earlier to occur of final determination of METC's rate case and September 30, 2006. For purposes of these ratios, EBITDA is defined as net income plus interest expense, taxes and depreciation and amortization and debt is defined as the sum of liabilities for borrowed money and the deferred purchase price of property, capital lease and reimbursement obligations, obligations under hedging agreements and synthetic leases and those evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or similar instruments or guarantees of any of the foregoing, but excludes liabilities to independent power producers and subordinated deferred obligations to pay insurance premiums based on loss experience until the final determination of METC's rate case.

Events of Default. The indenture provides for events of default, which, if any of them occur, would permit or require the principal of and accrued interest on METC's Senior Secured Notes to become or to be declared due and payable and would prevent dividends from being paid.

METC's Revolving Credit Facility

In December 2003, METC entered into a \$35.0 million revolving credit agreement and swingline facility with Comerica Bank, as Syndication Agent, and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as administrative agent. The revolving credit facility expires in 2008. Amounts borrowed under the revolving credit facility are secured by a first priority security interest in all of METC's assets through the issuance of senior secured bonds, collateral series, under METC's first mortgage indenture and the second supplemental indenture thereto.

METC's revolving credit facility provides for both ABR and LIBOR loans, each with a different interest rate. Under the agreement, ABR is defined as, for any day, a rate per annum equal to the greater of (a) the prime rate in effect on that day and (b) the rates on overnight Federal funds in effect on that day plus 0.5%, and LIBOR is defined as a rate per annum determined in dollars based on Page 3750 of the Telerate screen as of 11:00 A.M., London time, two business days prior to the beginning of the relevant interest period. The interest rate per annum on borrowed amounts for ABR loans is equal to 0.25% plus ABR. The interest rate per annum on borrowed amounts for LIBOR loans is equal to 1.25% plus LIBOR determined for each day.

METC's revolving credit facility contains numerous financial and operating covenants that limit the discretion of METC's management with respect to certain business matters. These covenants place significant restrictions on, among other things, METC's ability to:

incur additional indebtedness;

create liens or other encumbrances;

engage in sale and lease back transactions;

create or acquire subsidiaries;

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

enter into any mergers, consolidations, liquidations or dissolutions, or sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets; and

pay dividends or make distributions on or redemptions of METC's member's capital.

In addition, the revolving credit facility requires METC to maintain a ratio of EBITDA to interest expense of no less than 3.0 to 1.0, a ratio of debt to capital of no more than 58% and, after the final determination of METC's rate case, a ratio of debt to EBITDA of no more than 3.5 to 1.0. For purposes of these ratios, EBITDA is defined as net income plus interest expense, taxes and depreciation and amortization and debt is defined as the sum of liabilities for borrowed money and the deferred purchase price of property, capital lease and reimbursement obligations, obligations under hedging agreements and synthetic leases and those evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or similar instruments or guarantees of any of the foregoing, but excludes, until the final determination of METC's rate case, liabilities to independent power producers.

METC's revolving credit facility provides for voluntary prepayments of the loans and voluntary reductions of the unutilized portions of the commitments, without penalty, subject to certain conditions pertaining to minimum notice and prepayment/reduction amounts and subject to payment of any applicable breakage costs of LIBOR loans.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes and incorporates by reference "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, and as defined in the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. We intend that those statements be covered by the safe harbors created under those laws. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning our plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, future revenue or performance, capital expenditures, financing needs, plans or intentions relating to acquisitions, business trends and other information that is not historical information. When used in this prospectus, the words "estimates," "expects," "anticipates," "projects," "plans," "intends," "believes," "forecasts" or future or conditional verbs, such as "will," "should," "could" or "may," and variations of such words or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those described in our periodic filings with the Commission, including those described under "Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference." All forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, management's examination of historical operating trends and data, are based upon our current expectations and various assumptions. Our expectations, beliefs and projections are expressed in good faith and we believe there is a reasonable basis for them. However, we cannot assure you that management's expectations, beliefs and projections will be achieved. There are a number of risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus. Such risks, uncertainties and other important factors which could cause our actual results to differ materially from those suggested by our forward-looking statements are set forth in our reports incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and include, among other things:

unless ITC Holdings receives dividends or other payments from *ITCTransmission* and/or METC, ITC Holdings will be unable to pay dividends to its stockholders and fulfill its cash obligations;

the FERC's December 2005 rate order authorizing METC's current rates may result in a settlement or may be subject to a hearing and possible judicial appeal and in any such proceedings, METC could be required to refund revenues to customers under the rates that became effective January 1, 2006 and June 1, 2006, and the rates that METC charges for services could be reduced;

certain elements of *ITCTransmission's* and METC's cost recovery through rates can be challenged which could result in lowered rates and have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows;

the regulations to which we are subject may limit our ability to raise capital and/or pursue acquisitions or development opportunities or other transactions;

point-to-point revenues received by *ITCTransmission* and METC vary from period to period and may be unpredictable, which could have an adverse effect on our financial condition and cash flows;

changes in federal energy laws, regulations or policies could reduce the dividends we may be able to pay our stockholders;

our network load may be lower than expected;

ITCTransmission and METC depend on their primary customers for a substantial portion of their revenues, and any material failure by those customers to make payments for transmission services would adversely affect our revenues and our ability to service our debt obligations;

deregulation and/or increased competition may adversely affect *ITCTransmission's* customers, METC's customers, Detroit Edison's customers or Consumers Energy's customers;

ITCTransmission's and METC's actual capital investments may be lower than planned, which would decrease *ITCTransmission* and METC's expected rate base;

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

hazards associated with high-voltage electricity transmission may result in suspension of *ITCTransmission's* or *METC's* operations or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties;

ITCTransmission and *METC* are subject to environmental regulations and to laws that can give rise to substantial liabilities from environmental contamination;

we may encounter difficulties consolidating *METC's* business into ours and may not fully attain or retain, or achieve within a reasonable time frame, expected strategic objectives, cost savings and other expected benefits of the acquisition;

acts of war, terrorist attacks and threats or the escalation of military activity in response to such attacks or otherwise may negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations;

we may be materially and adversely affected by the termination of *METC's* service contracts with Consumers Energy;

METC does not own the majority of the land on which its transmission assets are located and therefore it must comply with the provisions of an easement agreement with Consumers Energy;

the ability of stockholders of ITC Holdings, other than the IT Holdings Partnership, to influence our management and policies will be limited as a result of the ownership of our common stock by the IT Holdings Partnership;

we are highly leveraged and our dependence on debt may limit our ability to pay dividends and/or obtain additional financing;

adverse changes in our credit ratings may negatively affect us;

certain provisions in our debt instruments limit our capital flexibility;

ITCTransmission's and *METC's* ability to raise capital may be restricted which may, in turn, restrict our ability to make capital expenditures or dividend payments to our stockholders;

future transactions may limit our ability to use our federal income tax operating loss carryforwards; and

other risk factors discussed herein and listed from time to time in our public filings with the Commission.

Because our forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions that are subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control or are subject to change, actual results could be materially different and any or all of our forward-looking statements may turn out to be wrong. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made and can be affected by assumptions we might make or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many factors mentioned in our discussion in this prospectus will be important in determining future results. Consequently, we cannot assure you that our expectations or forecasts expressed in such forward-looking statements will be achieved. Actual future results may vary materially.

Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking or other statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. We provide a cautionary discussion of risks and uncertainties under the "Risk Factors" section in this prospectus. These are factors that we think could cause our actual results to differ materially from expected results. Other factors besides those listed here could adversely affect our business and results of operations. You should carefully consider the risks described under "Risk Factors" in this prospectus, together with any risks described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves risks. You should carefully consider the risks described below, together with the other information included in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference, before deciding to purchase any shares of our common stock.

Risks Related to Our Business

ITC Holdings is a holding company with no operations, and unless ITC Holdings receives dividends or other payments from ITCTransmission, METC or its other subsidiaries, ITC Holdings will be unable to pay dividends to its stockholders and fulfill its cash obligations.

As a holding company with no business operations, ITC Holdings' material assets consist only of the common stock of ITCTransmission, indirect ownership interests in METC, ownership interests of its other subsidiaries, deferred tax assets relating primarily to federal income tax operating loss carryforwards and cash. ITC Holdings' material cash inflows are only from dividends and other payments received from time to time from ITCTransmission, METC or its other subsidiaries and the proceeds raised from the sale of debt and equity securities. ITC Holdings may not be able to access cash generated by ITCTransmission or METC or any other subsidiaries in order to fulfill cash commitments or to pay dividends to stockholders. The ability of ITCTransmission and METC to make dividend and other payments to ITC Holdings is subject to the availability of funds after taking into account ITCTransmission's and METC's respective funding requirements, the terms of ITCTransmission's and METC's respective indebtedness, the regulations of the FERC under the Federal Power Act, or the FPA, and applicable state laws. Each of ITCTransmission, METC and each other subsidiary, however, is legally distinct from ITC Holdings and has no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to make funds available to ITC Holdings.

The FERC's December 2005 rate order authorizing METC's current rates is subject to a hearing and possible judicial appeals. In any such proceedings, METC could be required to refund revenues to customers and the rates that METC charges for services could be reduced, thereby materially and adversely impacting our results of operations, financial condition, cash flows and future earning capacity.

On December 30, 2005, the FERC issued an order authorizing METC, beginning on January 1, 2006, to charge rates for its transmission service using the rate setting formula contained in Attachment O, which results in an authorized rate for network and point-to-point transmission service of \$1.567 per kW/month from January 1, 2006 to May 31, 2006 and \$1.524 per kW/month from June 1, 2006 to May 31, 2007. The FERC's December 2005 rate order authorizes METC to collect this rate, subject to any refunds that might be ordered as a result of further hearings currently pending before the FERC on this matter or the approval by the FERC of a settlement of the issues set for hearing. In particular, the FERC has set for hearing issues regarding the calculation of METC's rates, including:

the need for a mechanism to avoid over-collection of amounts that METC could not collect during the period from January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2005, when METC was subject to a rate freeze, but which METC was authorized to defer for subsequent collection;

the accuracy of the computation of those deferred amounts and the adequacy of information reflected in METC's FERC Form No. 1;

the reasonableness of the recovery of fees for services provided by METC's affiliate, Trans-Elect Inc., or Trans-Elect;

the proper calculation of the adjustment to METC's equity account balance resulting from the sale, in December 2003, of the limited partnership interests in MTH; and

the need for additional information regarding expenses associated with METC's operation and maintenance of facilities that are jointly owned with others.

Consumers Energy, the Michigan Public Service Commission, or the MPSC, and METC filed requests for rehearing on matters not set for further hearing by the FERC in the December 2005 order. On August 22, 2006, the FERC issued an order denying these rehearing requests, except that the FERC required METC to maintain certain accounting records related to pushdown accounting of goodwill. The issues addressed in the August 22, 2006 order are final and are no longer subject to further rehearing or judicial review.

With respect to the issues set for further hearing in the December 2005 rate order, following a recent suspension of the schedule due to the acquisition of METC by ITC Holdings, the FERC trial staff filed testimony in the case on September 15, 2006. Consumers Energy filed cross answering testimony on October 13, 2006. On November 10, 2006, METC filed rebuttal testimony.

On December 5, 2006, METC and other parties to the rate case jointly filed a motion to suspend the procedural schedule and the FERC chief administrative law judge approved the suspension. METC and the other parties are negotiating an agreement in principle for settlement of all matters set for hearing in the rate case. The terms of the agreement are expected to be filed by January 26, 2007, but these terms would be subject to FERC approval.

In the event a settlement does not become effective and the procedural schedule resumes, we would continue to support the rates METC charged beginning January 1, 2006 as modified by the rebuttal testimony filed by METC in November 2006. We cannot estimate the amount of refunds that may result from any determinations made on the issues set for hearing. In the event of adverse determinations on all matters set for hearing, we estimate that the maximum potential refund amount relating to 2006 revenues could be approximately \$23.0 million. Additional refund amounts could result for periods subsequent to 2006 through the date of the FERC's determination. An adverse determination on any of these matters could also affect components used in determining the rate to be charged to customers in METC's service territory in periods subsequent to the determination.

After any FERC ruling on the issues set for further hearing in the December 2005 rate order, interested parties may seek a rehearing or judicial review of any order issued as a result of or after those hearings. Although we cannot predict if any subsequent requests for rehearing or appeals will be filed, the FERC, in response to the requests for rehearing or on remand after a successful appeal, could modify the terms of its authorization of METC's current rates, including reducing those rates retroactively to January 1, 2006 and ordering refunds. This could result in a significant reduction in METC's earnings from what we currently expect and, accordingly, our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Certain elements of ITCTransmission's and METC's cost recovery through rates can be challenged which could result in lowered rates and/or refunds of amounts previously collected and thus have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

ITCTransmission and METC provide transmission service under rates regulated by the FERC. The FERC has approved ITCTransmission's and METC's use of the rate setting formula under Attachment O, but it has not expressly approved the amount of ITCTransmission's or METC's actual capital and operating expenditures to be used in that formula. In addition, all aspects of ITCTransmission's or METC's rates approved by the FERC, including the Attachment O rate mechanism, ITCTransmission's and METC's respective allowed 13.88% and 13.38% return of and on the actual equity portion of their respective capital structures, and the data inputs provided by ITCTransmission and METC for calculation of each year's rate, are subject to challenge by interested parties at the FERC in a Section 206 proceeding under the FPA. If a challenger can establish that any

of these aspects are unjust, unreasonable, imprudent or unduly discriminatory, then the FERC will make appropriate prospective adjustments to them and/or disallow ITCTransmission's or METC's inclusion of those aspects in the rate setting formula. This could result in lowered rates and/or refunds of amounts collected after the date that a Section 206 challenge is filed. In addition, the FERC's order approving our acquisition of METC is conditioned upon ITCTransmission and METC not recovering acquisition-related costs in their rates unless a separate informational filing is submitted to the FERC. The informational filing, which could be challenged by interested parties, would need to identify those costs and show that such costs are outweighed by the benefits of the acquisition. Determinations by ITCTransmission or METC that expenses included in Attachment O for recovery are not acquisition-related costs are also subject to challenge by interested parties at the FERC. If challenged at the FERC and ITCTransmission or METC fail to show that costs included for recovery are not acquisition-related, this also could result in lowered rates and/or refunds of amounts collected. Such events could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

ITCTransmission's or METC's actual capital investments may be lower than planned, which would decrease expected rate base and therefore our revenues.

Each of ITCTransmission's and METC's rate base is determined in part by additions to property, plant and equipment when placed in service. If ITCTransmission's or METC's capital investments and the resulting in-service property, plant and equipment are lower than anticipated for any reason, including, among other things, the impact of weather conditions, union strikes, labor shortages, material and equipment prices and availability, our ability to obtain financing for such expenditures, if necessary, limitations on the amount of construction that can be undertaken on our system at any one time or regulatory approvals for reasons relating to environmental, siting or regional planning issues or as a result of legal proceedings and variances between estimated and actual costs of construction contracts awarded, ITCTransmission or METC will have a lower than anticipated rate base thus causing its revenue requirement and future earnings to be potentially lower than anticipated.

The regulations to which we are subject may limit our ability to raise capital and/or pursue acquisitions, development opportunities or other transactions or may subject us to liabilities.

Each of ITCTransmission and METC is a "public utility" under the FPA and, accordingly, is subject to regulation by the FERC. Approval of the FERC is required under Section 203 of the FPA for a disposition or acquisition of regulated public utility facilities, either directly or indirectly through a holding company. Such approval also is required to acquire securities in a public utility. Under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, or the Energy Policy Act, Section 203 of the FPA also provides the FERC with explicit authority over utility holding companies' purchases or acquisitions of, and mergers or consolidations with, a public utility. Finally, each of ITCTransmission and METC must also seek approval by the FERC under Section 204 of the FPA for issuances of its securities.

In addition, we are subject to local regulations relating to, among other things, regional planning and siting. If we fail to comply with these local regulations, we may incur liabilities for such failure.

Changes in federal energy laws, regulations or policies could impact cash flows and could reduce the dividends we may be able to pay our stockholders.

Attachment O, the rate formula mechanism used by ITCTransmission and METC to calculate their respective annual revenue requirements, will be used by ITCTransmission and METC for that purpose until and unless it is determined by the FERC to be unjust and unreasonable or another mechanism is determined by the FERC to be just and reasonable. Such determinations could result from challenges initiated at the FERC by interested parties or the FERC in a proceeding under Section 206 of the FPA, or by an application initiated by ITCTransmission or METC under Section 205 of the FPA. We cannot predict whether the approved rate methodologies will be changed.

Transmission costs constitute a relatively small portion of end-use consumers' overall electric utility costs. However, some large end-use consumers and entities supplying electricity to end-use consumers may attempt to influence government and/or regulators to change the rate setting system that applies to ITCTransmission and METC, particularly if rates for delivered electricity increase substantially.

Each of ITCTransmission and METC is regulated by the FERC as a "public utility" under the FPA and is a transmission owner in MISO. The FERC could propose new policies and regulations concerning transmission services or rate setting methodologies. In addition, the U.S. Congress periodically considers enacting energy legislation that could shift new responsibilities to the FERC, modify provisions of the FPA or provide the FERC or another entity with increased authority to regulate transmission matters. ITCTransmission and METC cannot predict whether, and to what extent, ITCTransmission and METC may be affected by any such changes in federal energy laws, regulations or policies in the future.

If the network load or point-to-point transmission service on either ITCTransmission's or METC's transmission system is lower than expected, the timing of collection of revenues would be delayed.

If the network load on either ITCTransmission's or METC's transmission system is lower than expected due to weather, a weak economy, changes in the nature or composition of the transmission grid in Michigan or surrounding regions, poor transmission quality of neighboring transmission systems, or for any other reason, the timing of the collection of our revenue requirement would be delayed until such circumstances are adjusted through the true-up mechanism in ITCTransmission's or METC's formula rate mechanism.

ITCTransmission's and METC's revenues and net income typically fluctuate on a seasonal and quarterly basis.

Demand for electricity varies significantly with weather conditions. As a result, ITCTransmission and METC's overall revenues and net income typically fluctuate substantially on a seasonal basis, thereby impacting ITCTransmission's, METC's and our operating results. In general, ITCTransmission's and METC's revenues typically are higher in summer months, although a particularly cool summer could reduce electricity demand and revenues for that period as compared to the same period of the previous year.

Each of ITCTransmission and METC depends on its primary customer for a substantial portion of its revenues, and any material failure by those primary customers to make payments for transmission services would adversely affect our revenues and our ability to service ITCTransmission's and METC's and our debt obligations.

ITCTransmission derives a substantial portion of its revenues from the transmission of electricity to Detroit Edison's local distribution facilities. Payments from Detroit Edison, billed by MISO, constituted approximately 77% of ITCTransmission's total operating revenues for the year ended December 31, 2005 and are expected to constitute the majority of ITCTransmission's revenues for the foreseeable future. Detroit Edison is rated BBB/stable and Baa1/stable by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services and Moody's Investors Services, Inc., respectively. Similarly, Consumers Energy accounted for approximately 73% of METC's revenues for the year ended December 31, 2005 and is expected to constitute the majority of METC's revenues for the foreseeable future. Consumers Energy is rated BB/stable and Baa3/stable by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services and Moody's Investors Service, Inc., respectively. Any material failure by Detroit Edison or Consumers Energy to make payments for transmission services would adversely affect our revenues and our ability to service ITCTransmission's and METC's and our debt obligations.

We may be materially and adversely affected by the termination of METC's services contract with Consumers Energy.

Consumers Energy provides METC with operating, maintenance, inspection and other services relating to METC's transmission assets pursuant to a services contract. For the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, METC paid approximately \$21.1 million and \$19.7 million, respectively, to Consumers Energy for these services and expects to pay Consumers Energy approximately \$21.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2006. METC gave Consumers Energy notice of termination of the system control and system optimization portions of the services contract on November 2, 2004 and of the remainder of the services provided by Consumers Energy under the services contract on February 6, 2006. Each of these notices is effective in May 2007. We have nearly completed the process of hiring staff and procuring services to replace those provided under the services contract and will contract with qualified parties on the most economically attractive terms available to METC. After the termination of the services contract, METC may not be able to replace these services in a timely manner or on terms and conditions, including service levels and costs, as favorable as those METC has received from Consumers Energy.

Consumers Energy also provides certain transmission control functions for METC at an integrated transmission and distribution control center in Jackson, Michigan. Effective upon the termination of the services contract in May 2007, METC will be performing these functions. METC may not be able to hire all of the qualified staff required to operate the new operations and control center or the new operations and control center may not be fully functional by the anticipated transition date, in which event METC will be required to continue to rely on Consumers Energy for the performance of those services even after the termination of the services contract.

METC does not own the majority of the land on which its transmission assets are located and, as a result, it must comply with the provisions of an easement agreement with Consumers Energy.

METC does not own the majority of the land on which the transmission assets it acquired from Consumers Energy are located. Instead, under the provisions of an easement agreement with Consumers Energy, METC pays an annual fee of approximately \$10.0 million to Consumers Energy in exchange for rights-of-way, leases, fee interests and licenses which allow METC to use the land on which its transmission lines are located. Under the terms of the easement agreement, METC's easement rights could be eliminated if METC fails to meet certain requirements, such as paying contractual rent to Consumers Energy in a timely manner.

Deregulation and/or increased competition may adversely affect ITCTransmission's and METC's customers, or Detroit Edison's and Consumers Energy's customers, which in turn may reduce our revenues.

The business of ITCTransmission's and METC's primary customers is subject to regulation that has undergone substantial change in accordance with Michigan Public Act 141 of 2000, which mandates the implementation of retail access, as well as changes in federal regulatory requirements. The utility industry has also been undergoing dramatic structural change for several years, resulting in increasing competitive pressures on electric utility companies, such as Detroit Edison and Consumers Energy. The manufacturing sector in Detroit Edison's and Consumers Energy's service territories has also been subject to increasing competitive pressures. As a result, demand for electricity transmission service by manufacturing companies in ITCTransmission's and METC's service territories may be negatively impacted. These factors may create greater risks to the stability of Detroit Edison's and Consumers Energy's revenues and may affect Detroit Edison's and Consumers Energy's ability to make payments for transmission service to MISO and thus to ITCTransmission and METC, which would adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

On April 1, 2005, MISO began centrally dispatching generation resources throughout much of the Midwest with the launch of its Midwest Energy Markets. Because of this restructuring of power markets throughout the Midwest, the risk profile of some of our customers may have changed, which may affect their ability to pay for the services provided by *ITCTransmission* and METC.

Hazards associated with high-voltage electricity transmission may result in suspension of ITCTransmission's or METC's operations or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

ITCTransmission's and METC's operations are subject to the usual hazards associated with high-voltage electricity transmission, including explosions, fires, inclement weather, natural disasters, mechanical failure, unscheduled downtime, equipment interruptions, remediation, chemical spills, discharges or releases of toxic or hazardous substances or gases and other environmental risks. The hazards can cause personal injury and loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property and equipment and environmental damage, and may result in suspension of operations and the imposition of civil or criminal penalties. We maintain property and casualty insurance, but we are not fully insured against all potential hazards incident to our business, such as damage to poles and towers or losses caused by outages.

ITCTransmission and METC are subject to environmental regulations and to laws that can give rise to substantial liabilities from environmental contamination.

ITCTransmission's and METC's operations are subject to federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations, which impose limitations on the discharge of pollutants into the environment, establish standards for the management, treatment, storage, transportation and disposal of hazardous materials and of solid and hazardous wastes, and impose obligations to investigate and remediate contamination in certain circumstances. Liabilities to investigate or remediate contamination, as well as other liabilities concerning hazardous materials or contamination such as claims for personal injury or property damage, may arise at many locations, including formerly owned or operated properties and sites where wastes have been treated or disposed of, as well as at properties currently owned or operated by *ITCTransmission* or METC. Such liabilities may arise even where the contamination does not result from noncompliance with applicable environmental laws. Under a number of environmental laws, such liabilities may also be joint and several, meaning that a party can be held responsible for more than its share of the liability involved, or even the entire share. Environmental requirements generally have become more stringent in recent years, and compliance with those requirements more expensive.

ITCTransmission and METC have incurred expenses in connection with environmental compliance, and we anticipate that each will continue to do so in the future. Failure to comply with the extensive environmental laws and regulations applicable to each could result in significant civil or criminal penalties and remediation costs. *ITCTransmission's* and METC's assets and operations also involve the use of materials classified as hazardous, toxic, or otherwise dangerous. Some of *ITCTransmission's* and METC's facilities and properties are located near environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands and habitats of endangered or threatened species. In addition, certain properties in which *ITCTransmission* has an ownership interest or at which *ITCTransmission* or METC operates are, and others are suspected of being, affected by environmental contamination. Compliance with these laws and regulations, and liabilities concerning contamination or hazardous materials, may adversely affect our costs and, therefore our business, financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, claims have been made or threatened against electric utilities for bodily injury, disease or other damages allegedly related to exposure to electromagnetic fields associated with electricity transmission and distribution lines. We cannot assure you that such claims will not be asserted against us or that, if determined in a manner adverse to our interests, would not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Acts of war, terrorist attacks and threats or the escalation of military activity in response to such attacks or otherwise may negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Acts of war, terrorist attacks and threats or the escalation of military activity in response to such attacks or otherwise may negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations in unpredictable ways, such as increased security measures and disruptions of markets. Strategic targets, such as energy related assets, including, for example, ITC Transmission's and METC's transmission facilities and Detroit Edison's and Consumers Energy's generation and distribution facilities, may be at risk of future terrorist attacks. In addition to the increased costs associated with heightened security requirements, such events may have an adverse effect on the economy in general. A lower level of economic activity could result in a decline in energy consumption, which may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Risks Relating to the Acquisition of METC

We may encounter difficulties consolidating METC into our business and may not fully attain or retain, or achieve within a reasonable time frame, expected strategic objectives, cost savings and other expected benefits of the acquisition.

We expect to realize strategic and other benefits as a result of ITC Holdings' acquisition of the indirect ownership interests in METC. Our ability to realize these benefits or successfully consolidate METC's business with ours, however, is subject to certain risks and uncertainties, including, among others:

the challenges of consolidating businesses;

the costs of consolidating METC and upgrading and enhancing its operations may be higher than we expect and may require more resources, capital expenditures and management attention than anticipated;

delay of capital investments in METC's system due to uncertainty around the timing of procurement of construction materials;

employees important to METC's operations may decide not to continue employment with us; and

we may be unable to anticipate or manage risks that are unique to METC's historical business, including those related to its workforce, customer demographics and information systems.

In addition, METC may incur costs relating to the termination of contracts for engineering and other services performed on behalf of METC prior to the acquisition. METC may choose not to utilize these services following consummation of ITC Holdings' acquisition of METC. We are in the process of identifying such contracts, and METC has received invoices from one of its vendors for aggregate termination payments of approximately \$2.8 million, which we are disputing. Any such termination payments made by METC may have an adverse impact on our financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Our failure to manage these risks, or other risks related to the acquisition that are not presently known to us, could prevent us from realizing the expected benefits of the acquisition and also may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition, which could cause the value of our common stock to decline.

MTH's independent accountants identified a material weakness in its internal control over financial reporting and we cannot assure you that the accounting staff at MTH has the technical resources and expertise to account for and disclose more complex items.

In performing the audit of MTH's financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2005, MTH's independent accountants noted a matter involving MTH's internal control over financial reporting that MTH's independent accountants consider to be a material weakness. MTH's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A material weakness is a control deficiency, or a combination of control deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected.

MTH's independent accountants noted as a material weakness that the accounting staff at MTH requires additional technical resources and expertise to properly account for and disclose more complex items. MTH's independent accountants also noted that MTH's principal accountant left the company in the second quarter of 2006, which has further reduced the expertise of MTH's accounting function and level of institutional knowledge. Finally, MTH's independent accountants noted that MTH does not have formal policies and procedures for identifying, researching and ensuring compliance with new accounting pronouncements.

MTH had begun the process of hiring additional accounting and related staff; however, this process was halted in light of the announcement of the acquisition of METC by ITC Holdings. ITC Holdings' accounting and other personnel with the required expertise are addressing the material weakness identified by MTH's independent accountants, and MTH and METC are now subject to ITC Holdings' system of internal control. We are in the process of reviewing MTH's and METC's accounting records and will reflect any necessary adjustments identified in our December 31, 2006 financial statements. Given the material weakness in MTH's internal control over financial reporting described above, there is a risk that MTH has not prevented or detected material misstatements or irregularities in its historical financial statements.

Risks Related to Our Capital Structure and Leverage

The ability of stockholders of ITC Holdings other than the IT Holdings Partnership, to influence our management and policies will be limited as a result of the ownership of our common stock by the IT Holdings Partnership.

As of December 31, 2006, the IT Holdings Partnership owned 26.9% of our common stock, compared to 53.4% as of December 31, 2005. Even though the IT Holdings Partnership owns less than 50% of our common stock, it continues to be our largest single stockholder. The ability of our stockholders, other than the IT Holdings Partnership, to influence our management and policies continues to be limited, including with respect to our acquisition or disposition of assets, the approval of a merger or similar business combination, the incurrence of indebtedness, the issuance of additional shares of common stock or other equity securities and the payment of dividends or other distributions on our common stock. In addition, we cannot take certain actions that would adversely affect the limited partners of the IT Holdings Partnership without their approval. We cannot assure you that the interests of the IT Holdings Partnership and/or its limited partners will not conflict with the interests of other holders of our common stock.

We are highly leveraged and our dependence on debt may limit our ability to pay dividends and/or obtain additional financing.

As of December 31, 2006, we had approximately \$1.3 billion of consolidated indebtedness.

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

As of December 31, 2006, ITC *Transmission* had outstanding \$185.0 million aggregate principal amount of 4.45% First Mortgage Bonds, Series A, due July 15, 2013 and \$100.0 million aggregate principal amount of 6.125% First Mortgage Bonds, Series C, due March 31, 2036 and ITC Holdings had outstanding \$267.0 million aggregate principal amount of 5.25% Senior Notes due July 15, 2013. Additionally, at December 31, 2006, we had total revolving credit facility commitments at ITC *Transmission* and ITC Holdings of \$75.0 million and \$50.0 million, respectively, with \$12.5 million and no amounts drawn, respectively. At December 31, 2006, ITC Holdings had outstanding \$255.0 million aggregate principal amount of 5.875% Senior Notes due 2016 and \$255.0 million aggregate principal amount of 6.375% Senior Notes due 2036.

As of December 31, 2006, METC had outstanding \$175.0 million aggregate principal amount of Senior Secured Notes and total revolving credit facility commitments of \$35.0 million, with \$14.0 million drawn.

This capital structure can have several important consequences, including, but not limited to, the following:

If future cash flows are insufficient, we or our subsidiaries may need to incur further indebtedness in order to make the capital expenditures and other expenses or investments planned by us.

Our indebtedness will have the general effect of reducing our flexibility to react to changing business and economic conditions insofar as they affect our financial condition and, therefore, may pose substantial risk to our stockholders. A substantial portion of the dividends and payments in lieu of taxes we receive from ITC *Transmission* and METC will be dedicated to the payment of interest on our indebtedness, thereby reducing the funds available for the payment of dividends on our common stock.

In the event that we are liquidated, any of our senior or subordinated creditors and any senior or subordinated creditors of our subsidiaries will be entitled to payment in full prior to any distributions to the holders of our shares of common stock.

Our credit facilities mature in March 2010, and our ability to secure additional financing prior to or after that time, if needed, may be substantially restricted by the existing level of our indebtedness and the restrictions contained in our debt instruments.

We may incur substantial indebtedness in the future. The incurrence of additional indebtedness would increase the leverage-related risks described in this prospectus.

Certain provisions in our debt instruments limit our capital flexibility.

Our debt instruments include senior notes, secured notes, first mortgage bonds and revolving credit facilities containing numerous financial and operating covenants that place significant restrictions on, among other things, our ability to:

incur additional indebtedness;

engage in sale and lease back transactions;

create liens or other encumbrances;

enter into mergers, consolidations, liquidations or dissolutions, or sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets;

make capital expenditures at METC prior to the final determination of METC's rate case, other than capital expenditures that METC reasonably believes are necessary to comply with its obligations as a regulated transmission company; and

pay dividends or make distributions on ITC Holdings' and ITC*Transmission's* capital stock.

The revolving credit facilities and METC's Senior Secured Notes also require us to meet certain financial ratios. Our ability to comply with these and other requirements and restrictions may be affected by changes in economic or business conditions, results of operations or other events beyond our control. A failure to comply with the obligations contained in any of our debt instruments could result in acceleration of the related debt and the acceleration of debt under other instruments evidencing indebtedness that may contain cross acceleration or cross default provisions.

Adverse changes in our credit ratings may negatively affect us.

Our ability to access capital markets is important to our ability to operate our business. Increased scrutiny of the energy industry and the impacts of regulation, as well as changes in our financial performance could result in credit agencies reexamining our credit rating. A downgrade in our credit rating could restrict or discontinue our ability to access capital markets at attractive rates and increase our borrowing costs. A rating downgrade could also increase the interest we pay under our revolving credit facilities.

Our recent public offering caused us to undergo an "ownership change" for purposes of Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code which will limit the amount of our net operating loss carryforwards that we may use to reduce our tax liability in a given period.

As of December 31, 2005, we had net operating loss carryforwards, or NOLs, of \$71.1 million. These NOLs may be used to offset future taxable income and thereby reduce our U.S. federal income taxes otherwise payable. Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, imposes an annual limit on the ability of a corporation that undergoes an "ownership change" to use its NOLs to reduce its tax liability. In the event of an ownership change, we would not be able to use our pre-ownership change NOLs in excess of the limitation imposed by Section 382 for each annual period. Our recent public offering caused us to experience an ownership change.

In addition, ITC Holdings estimates that it acquired approximately \$50.0 million of NOLs when we acquired all of the indirect ownership interests in METC in October 2006. We will be subject to annual limitations on the use of such NOLs as a result of the acquisition of all of the indirect ownership interests in METC by ITC Holdings, as well as limitations resulting from prior transactions by the acquired entities.

While our NOLs may be subject to an annual limitation as a result of the ownership changes described above, we expect that our ability to use the NOLs over time will not be materially affected by such limitation, although we cannot assure you in this regard.

We may not be able to pay dividends, and the reduction or elimination of dividends would negatively affect the market price of our common stock.

While we currently intend to continue to pay quarterly dividends on our common stock, we have no obligation to do so. Dividend payments are within the absolute discretion of our board of directors and will depend on, among other things, our results of operations, working capital requirements, capital expenditure requirements, financial condition, contractual restrictions, anticipated cash needs and other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant. For example, we may not generate sufficient cash from operations in the future to pay dividends on our common stock in the intended amounts or at all. In addition, ITC Holdings is a holding company and its ability to pay dividends may be limited by restrictions upon transfer of funds applicable to its subsidiaries (including, for example, those which are contained in ITC*Transmission's* revolving credit facility, METC's Senior Secured Notes, METC's revolving credit facility and the ITC Holdings Partnership agreement). As a holding company without any specific operations, ITC Holdings is dependent on receiving dividends from its operating subsidiaries,

such as ITC *Transmission* and METC and its other subsidiaries, in order to be able to make dividend distributions of its own. Any reduction or elimination of dividends could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

Provisions in the Articles of Incorporation and bylaws of ITC Holdings and Michigan corporate law may prevent efforts by our stockholders to change the direction or management of our company.

The Articles of Incorporation and bylaws of ITC Holdings contain provisions that might enable our management to resist a proposed takeover. These provisions could discourage, delay or prevent a change of control or an acquisition at a price that our stockholders may find attractive. These provisions also may discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for our stockholders to elect directors and take other corporate actions. The existence of these provisions could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. These provisions include:

a requirement that special meetings of our stockholders may be called only by our board of directors, the chairman of our board of directors, our president or the holders of a majority of the shares of our outstanding common stock;

a requirement of unanimity when stockholders are acting by consent without a meeting if the IT Holdings Partnership owns less than 35% of our shares of common stock;

advance notice requirements for stockholder proposals and nominations; and

the authority of our board to issue, without stockholder approval, common or preferred stock, including in connection with our implementation of any stockholders rights plan, or "poison pill."

Provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of ITC Holdings restrict market participants from voting or owning 5% or more of the outstanding shares of capital stock of ITC Holdings.

ITC *Transmission* was granted favorable rate treatment by the FERC based on its independence from market participants. The FERC defines a "market participant" to include any person or entity that, either directly or through an affiliate, sells or brokers electricity, or provides ancillary services to MISO. An affiliate, for these purposes, includes any person or entity that directly or indirectly owns, controls or holds with the power to vote 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of a market participant. To help ensure that ITC Holdings and its subsidiaries will remain independent of market participants, ITC Holdings' Articles of Incorporation impose certain restrictions on the ownership and voting of shares of capital stock of ITC Holdings by market participants. In particular, the Articles of Incorporation provide that ITC Holdings is restricted from issuing any shares of capital stock or recording any transfer of shares if the issuance or transfer would cause any market participant, either individually or together with members of its "group" (as defined in Commission beneficial ownership rules), to beneficially own 5% or more of any class or series of our capital stock. Additionally, if a market participant, together with its group members, acquires beneficial ownership of 5% or more of any series of the outstanding shares of capital stock of ITC Holdings, such market participant or any stockholder who is a member of a group including a market participant will not be able to vote or direct or control the votes of shares representing 5% or more of any series of ITC Holdings' outstanding capital stock. Finally, to the extent a market participant, together with its group members, acquires beneficial ownership of 5% or more of the outstanding shares of any series of capital stock of ITC Holdings, the Articles of Incorporation allow the board of directors of ITC Holdings to redeem any shares of capital stock of ITC Holdings so that, after giving effect to the redemption, the market participant, together with its group members, will cease to beneficially own 5% or more of that series of ITC Holdings' outstanding capital stock.

Future sales of our shares could depress the market price of our common stock.

The market price of our common stock could decline as a result of sales of a large number of shares of our common stock in the market or the perception that these sales could occur. These sales, or the possibility that these sales may occur, also might make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at a time and at a price that we deem appropriate.

Pursuant to the management stockholder's agreements that we entered into with each of our employees who have purchased or been granted shares of our common stock under the 2003 Stock Purchase and Option Plan, generally these employee stockholders have the right, upon the sale by the IT Holdings Partnership of shares of our common stock in any underwritten offering, to sell a percentage of the shares of our common stock that the employee stockholders hold at the time of the offering and any shares of our common stock underlying then exercisable options. Under the management stockholder's agreements, as a percentage of total shares held, the employee stockholders would be eligible to sell a percentage equal to the percentage sold by the IT Holdings Partnership in any underwritten offering. Otherwise, each of these employee stockholders is restricted from selling any common stock he or she holds until the fifth anniversary of the date of the execution of the employee stockholder's respective management stockholder's agreement (which were generally entered into between February 2003 and November 2004), which date in all cases falls after 90 days from the date of this prospectus. The "piggyback" registration rights described above also expire on such fifth anniversary. However, the management stockholder's agreements have been modified with respect to new employees hired after November 16, 2005 who have received restricted stock grants after that date so that such employees will not have "piggyback" registration rights with respect to such stock and will not have vesting rights in such stock upon any change of control of our company.

In the past, ITC Holdings has received from all management stockholders with "piggyback" registration rights agreements to waive their "piggyback" registration rights in public offerings of our common stock by the IT Holdings Partnership. In exchange for these waivers, we have provided these management stockholders the right to sell, pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-8, at any time, all or any portion of the same number of shares of ITC Holdings' common stock that those management stockholders could have disposed of by exercising their "piggyback" registration rights in the relevant public offering.

Management stockholder's agreements do not apply to grants under the 2006 Long Term Incentive Plan. The compensation committee of our board of directors may approve restrictions on shares granted under that plan. On August 16, 2006, the compensation committee approved grants of shares of restricted stock that vest on August 16, 2011 and options to purchase shares of our common stock which vest 20% per year over a five-year period from the date of the grant.

As of the date of this prospectus, we had approximately 42,403,760 shares of common stock outstanding. Of those shares, 27,982,263 shares, will be freely tradable. Approximately 458,196 shares subject to options held by our employees are eligible for resale as of the date of this prospectus, subject to restrictions under the Securities Act. Approximately 14,421,497 shares outstanding as of the date of this prospectus are eligible for resale from time to time, subject to the contractual restrictions on sales referred to above and to the volume, manner of sale and other conditions of Rule 144.

In addition, as of the date of this prospectus, 4,446,660 shares were available for future issuance under our 2003 Stock Purchase and Option Plan, Employee Stock Purchase Plan and 2006 Long Term Incentive Plan, including 1,168,831 shares issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options, of which 2,650,023 were vested as of the date of this prospectus. In the future, we may issue our common stock in connection with investments or repayment of our debt. The amount of such common stock issued could constitute a material portion of our then outstanding common stock.

USE OF PROCEEDS

In the case of a sale of common stock by us, the use of proceeds will be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. In the case of a sale of securities by any selling stockholder, we will not receive the proceeds from such sale.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR CAPITAL STOCK

The following is a summary of the material terms of ITC Holdings' capital stock and the provisions of ITC Holdings' Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and amended and restated bylaws, which we refer to as "our capital stock," "our Articles of Incorporation" and "our bylaws," respectively. It also summarizes relevant provisions of the Michigan Business Corporation Act, or MBCA. Since the terms of our Articles of Incorporation, bylaws and the MBCA are more detailed than the general information provided below, we urge you to read the actual provisions of those documents and the MBCA. The following summary of our capital stock is subject in all respects to the MBCA, our Articles of Incorporation and our bylaws. Our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws are incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

General

As of the date of this prospectus, ITC Holdings' authorized capital stock consisted of:

100 million shares of common stock, without par value; and

10 million shares of preferred stock, without par value.

As of the date of this prospectus, there were 42,403,760 shares of our common stock outstanding and no shares of preferred stock outstanding and 324 holders of record of our common stock.

Common Stock

All of the outstanding shares of our common stock are fully paid and nonassessable.

Voting Rights. Each holder of our common stock, including holders of common stock subject to restricted stock awards, is entitled to cast one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors, subject to the restrictions on market participants described below. Holders of our common stock have no cumulative voting rights.

Dividends. Holders of our common stock, including holders of common stock subject to restricted stock awards, are entitled to receive dividends or other distributions declared by the board of directors. The right of the board of directors to declare dividends is subject to the right of any holders of ITC Holdings' preferred stock, to the extent that any preferred stock is authorized and issued, and the availability under the MBCA of sufficient funds to pay dividends. We have not issued any shares of preferred stock. The declaration and payment of dividends is subject to the discretion of ITC Holdings' board of directors and depends on various factors, including our net income, financial condition, cash requirements, future prospects and other factors deemed relevant by our board of directors. As a holding company with no business operations, ITC Holdings' material assets consist only of the stock of any subsidiaries ITC Holdings may have, deferred tax assets relating primarily to federal income tax operating loss carryforwards and cash on hand. ITC Holdings' only sources of cash to pay dividends to its stockholders are dividends and other payments received by ITC Holdings from time to time from its subsidiaries and the proceeds raised from the sale of our debt and equity securities. Each of ITC Holdings' subsidiaries, however, is legally distinct from ITC Holdings and has no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to make funds available to ITC Holdings for the payment of dividends to ITC Holdings' stockholders or otherwise. The ability of ITC Holdings' subsidiaries to pay dividends and make other payments to ITC Holdings is subject to, among other things, the availability of funds, after taking into

account capital expenditure requirements, the terms of its indebtedness, applicable state laws and regulations of the FERC and the FPA. The debt agreements to which ITC Holdings, ITCTransmission, MTH and METC are parties contain covenants that could limit our ability to pay dividends, as well as covenants that prohibit us from paying dividends if we are in default under our revolving credit facilities.

Liquidation Rights. If our company is dissolved, the holders of our common stock will share ratably in the distribution of all assets that remain after we pay all of our liabilities and satisfy our obligations to the holders of any of ITC Holdings' preferred stock, to the extent that any preferred stock is authorized and issued.

Preemptive and Other Rights. Holders of our common stock have no preemptive rights to purchase or subscribe for any stock or other securities of our company and, other than as described below, there are no conversion rights or redemption or sinking fund provisions with respect to our common stock.

Repurchases. In August 2005, we repurchased 28,675 shares of our common stock for an aggregate of \$0.8 million, which represented shares of common stock delivered to us by employees as payment of tax withholdings due to us upon the vesting of restricted stock awards. During the fourth quarter of 2006, we repurchased 30,605 shares of our common stock for an aggregate amount of \$1.0 million, which represented shares of common stock delivered to us by employees as payment of tax withholdings due to us upon the vesting of restricted stock awards.

Restrictions on Ownership by Market Participants. Our Articles of Incorporation include the following restrictions on issuance to, and ownership and voting of ITC Holdings' capital stock by, "market participants," as defined below, which are provisions that were designed to ensure that ITCTransmission remains an "independent" transmission company eligible for favorable regulatory treatment, consistent with FERC orders.

We are restricted from issuing any shares of capital stock or recording any transfer of shares if the issuance or transfer would cause any market participant, either individually or together with members of its "group" (as defined in Commission beneficial ownership rules), to beneficially own 5% or more of any class or series of our capital stock, provided that we may issue shares in excess of 5% to underwriters or initial purchasers in underwritten offerings or private placements approved by our board of directors. In addition, this restriction will not preclude settlement of any transfer that occurs on the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE (or another national securities exchange or automated inter-dealer quotation system on which the shares may trade).

If a market participant, together with its group members, beneficially owns 5% or more of any class or series of our capital stock, that market participant, together with its group members, will not be permitted to exercise voting rights on shares constituting 5% or more of that class or series.

We will have the right to redeem shares of capital stock beneficially owned by a market participant (or its group members) if that market participant, together with its group members, beneficially owns 5% or more of any class or series of our capital stock so that the market participant, together with its group members, ceases to beneficially own 5% or more of that class or series.

Prior to redeeming any shares, we will be required to give at least 45 days' written notice to the holder of the shares. Prior to the redemption date, the stockholder may sell any shares that would otherwise be redeemed to avoid redemption of those shares. The redemption price for any shares redeemed will be the fair market value of the shares, as determined by our board of directors in good faith. If our shares are listed on the NYSE (or another national securities exchange or automated inter-

dealer quotation system), the fair market value will be equal to the lesser of (x) the volume weighted average price for the shares over the 10 most recent trading days immediately prior to the delivery of the redemption notice and (y) the volume weighted average price for the shares over the 10 trading days immediately prior to the date the shares are redeemed.

A "market participant" has the meaning given to that term by the FERC and includes:

any person or entity that, either directly or through an affiliate, sells or brokers electric energy, or provides ancillary services to *ITCTransmission* or to a Regional Transmission Organization, or RTO, to which we belong (unless the FERC finds that the person or entity does not have economic or commercial interests that would be significantly affected by the actions or decisions of *ITCTransmission* or an RTO to which we belong); or

any other person or entity that the FERC finds to be a market participant because it has economic or commercial interests that would be significantly affected by the actions or decisions of *ITCTransmission* or any RTO to which we belong.

An affiliate, for these purposes, includes any person or entity that directly or indirectly owns, controls or holds with the power to vote 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of a market participant.

A determination by our board of directors, acting in good faith, that a person or entity is a market participant will be binding on all stockholders. In determining whether any shares of capital stock are beneficially owned by a market participant, or its group members, our board of directors may rely solely on our stock transfer records, public filings with the Commission on Schedule 13G or Schedule 13D by beneficial owners of our shares and on the declarations described below.

Certain Stockholders Required to Certify as to Market Participant Relationships. Our Articles of Incorporation permit, and require if we request, the following persons or entities to make certain declarations to us:

any person or entity that, together with its group members, acquires beneficial ownership of 5% or more of any class or series of capital stock of ITC Holdings and which has made a filing with the Commission under Regulation 13D-G in respect of such beneficial ownership; or

any person or entity (other than a depository institution or broker-dealer who is not a beneficial owner for purposes of Regulation 13D-G) that is a record holder of 5% or more of any class or series of capital stock of ITC Holdings.

The declaration must be delivered to us within 10 days of any request and must include the following information:

the number of shares of capital stock beneficially owned by such person or entity, together with its group members, together with the name of the record holders of such shares; and

a certification by such person or entity that neither it nor its group members is a market participant (or, in lieu of such certification, the stockholder may deliver a certified list of all of such person's or entity's activities and investments related to the sale, marketing, trading, brokering or distribution of electric energy or provision of ancillary services to *ITCTransmission* or to the RTO to which we belong).

Any person, entity or group that fails to deliver the declaration when requested by us to do so will be deemed to be a market participant for purposes of the voting restrictions and redemption provisions described above, unless that person, entity or group subsequently delivers the required declaration to ITC Holdings and the board of directors determines that such person, entity or group is not a market participant.

Preferred Stock

Our Articles of Incorporation authorize our board of directors to establish one or more series of preferred stock. Unless required by law or by any stock exchange on which our common stock is listed, the authorized shares of preferred stock will be available for issuance without further action by you. Our board of directors is authorized to determine, with respect to any series of preferred stock, the terms and rights of that series including:

the number of shares of the series;

the designation of the series;

the rights with respect to dividends, if any, of the series;

the conversion and redemption rights, if any, of the series;

the rights of holders of the series upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of ITC Holdings, or in the event of any merger, consolidation or sale of assets;

the terms of any sinking fund, redemption, repurchase or purchase account, if any, to be provided for shares of the series;

the preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights, if any, and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions of the series; and

the voting rights, if any, of the holders of the series.

Provisions That May Discourage Takeovers

The MBCA and our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws contain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging transactions involving an actual or threatened change of control. These provisions could protect the continuity of our directors and management and possibly deprive our stockholders of an opportunity to sell their shares of common stock at prices higher than the prevailing market prices. The following description is subject in its entirety to applicable provisions of the MBCA and our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws.

Availability of Authorized but Unissued Shares. Under the terms of our Articles of Incorporation, our board of directors may issue shares of authorized common stock without stockholder approval. However, the listing requirements of the NYSE, which would apply so long as our common stock is listed on the NYSE, require stockholder approval of certain issuances equal to or exceeding 20% of the then-outstanding voting power or then-outstanding number of shares of common stock. If our board of directors decides to issue shares to persons supportive of current management, this could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control of our company by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise. Authorized but unissued shares also could be used to dilute the stock ownership of persons seeking to obtain control of our company, including dilution through a stockholder rights plan of the type commonly known as a "poison pill," which the board of directors could adopt without a stockholder vote.

Issuance of Preferred Stock. In addition, our board of directors could issue shares of preferred stock having voting rights that adversely affect the voting power of holders of our common stock, which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or impeding a change in control of our company.

No Cumulative Voting. Under the MBCA, stockholders do not have cumulative voting rights for the election of directors unless the Articles of Incorporation so provide. Our Articles of Incorporation do not provide for cumulative voting.

Limitation on Calling Special Meetings of Stockholders. The MBCA allows the board of directors or officers, directors or stockholders authorized in our bylaws to call special meetings of stockholders. Our bylaws provide that a special meeting may be called by our board of directors, the chairperson of the board (if the office is filled) or president, and shall be called by the president or secretary at the written request of stockholders holding a majority of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote at the proposed special meeting. Business to be transacted at a special meeting is limited by our bylaws to the purpose or purposes stated in the notice of the meeting.

Action Without Meeting of Stockholders. As long as the IT Holdings Partnership, or its affiliates or limited partners or their respective affiliates, hold less than 35% of the outstanding capital stock of ITC Holdings, any action required or permitted by the MBCA to be taken at a meeting of stockholders may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, only if consent in writing to such action is signed by the holders of all of the outstanding capital stock.

Advance Notice Requirements for Stockholder Proposals and Director Nominations. Our bylaws provide that stockholders seeking to nominate candidates for election as directors or to bring business before an annual or special meeting of stockholders must provide timely notice of their proposal in writing to the corporate secretary. Generally, to be timely, a stockholder's notice must be received at our principal executive offices not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the first anniversary date of the previous year's annual meeting or, in the case of a special meeting, the date of the special meeting. Our bylaws also specify requirements as to the form and content of a stockholder's notice. These provisions may impede stockholders' ability to bring matters before an annual or special meeting of stockholders or make nominations for directors at an annual or special meeting of stockholders.

Business Combinations and Change of Control. The MBCA contains statutes which regulate business combinations and changes in control of Michigan corporations.

Chapter 7A of the MBCA provides that a business combination subject to Chapter 7A between a covered Michigan corporation or any of its subsidiaries and a beneficial owner of shares entitled to 10% or more of the voting power of such corporation generally requires the affirmative vote of 90% of the votes of each class of stock entitled to vote, and not less than two thirds of the votes of each class of stock entitled to vote (excluding voting shares owned by such 10% or more owner), voting as a separate class. These requirements do not apply if (1) the corporation's board of directors approves the transaction before the 10% or more owner becomes such or (2) the transaction satisfies certain fairness standards, certain other conditions are met and the 10% or more owner has been such for at least five years. Chapter 7A business combinations include, among other transactions, mergers, significant asset transfers, certain disproportionate issuances of shares to an interested stockholder, certain reclassifications and recapitalizations disproportionately favorable to such stockholder, and the adoption of a plan of liquidation or dissolution in which such a stockholder would receive anything other than cash. Chapter 7A does not restrict the purchase of shares from other stockholders in the open market, through private transactions or acquired through a tender offer.

As permitted by Chapter 7A, our Articles of Incorporation provide that we are not governed by the provisions of that Chapter. In order for ITC Holdings to become subject to the provisions of Chapter 7A, our stockholders would have to vote affirmatively to amend our Articles of Incorporation.

Chapter 7B of the MBCA provides that, unless a corporation's articles of incorporation or bylaws provide that Chapter 7B does not apply, "control shares" of a corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except as granted by the stockholders of the corporation. "Control shares" are outstanding shares which, when added to shares previously owned by a stockholder, increase such stockholder's voting power, acting alone or in a group, to exceed three separate thresholds of the outstanding shares: (1) one-fifth or more but less than one-third, (2) one-third or

more but less than a majority, or (3) more than a majority of the shares entitled to vote for the election of directors. To confer voting rights, a control share acquisition must be approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by holders of all shares entitled to vote, excluding shares owned by the acquiror and certain officers and employee directors. However, no such approval is required for gifts or other transactions not involving consideration, for a merger to which the corporation is a party or for certain other transactions described in Chapter 7B. Although control shares include, for the purpose of determining whether the thresholds have been met, shares beneficially owned by persons acting as a group, the formation of a group does not constitute a control share acquisition of shares held by members of the group.

Chapter 7B applies to Michigan corporations which have 100 or more stockholders of record, their principal place of business or substantial assets in Michigan and at least one of the following characteristics: (a) more than 10% of their shares are owned of record by Michigan residents; (b) more than 10% of their stockholders of record are Michigan residents; or (c) 10,000 of their stockholders of record are Michigan residents.

As permitted by Chapter 7B, our bylaws provide that we will not be governed by the provisions of that Chapter. In order for ITC Holdings to become subject to the provisions of Chapter 7B, our board of directors or stockholders may at any time amend our bylaws to cause Chapter 7B to become applicable to us if the statutory conditions for applicability are satisfied.

Limitation on Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors

As permitted by the MBCA, our Articles of Incorporation and bylaws generally limit the personal liability of our directors to us and our stockholders for breach of their fiduciary duty and require us to indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by the MBCA. Specifically, our bylaws require us to indemnify directors and officers against expenses (including actual and reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, penalties, fines, excise taxes and settlements actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action or proceeding brought against a director or officer by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director or officer of ITC Holdings or, while serving as a director or officer, is or was serving at the request of ITC Holdings as a director, officer, member, partner, trustee, employee, fiduciary or agent of another enterprise to the maximum extent permitted by, and in accordance with the procedures and requirements specified in, the MBCA. Our bylaws also provide that indemnification is a contractual right between us and the officer or director, who may not be adversely affected by a repeal of the indemnification provisions of our bylaws.

The MBCA and our bylaws authorize us to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of ITC Holdings or who serves at the request of ITC Holdings as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another enterprise, whether or not we would have the power to indemnify him or her under the bylaws or the laws of the State of Michigan. We maintain a directors' and officers' insurance policy. The policy insures directors and officers against unindemnified losses from certain wrongful acts in their capacities as directors and officers and reimburses us for those losses for which we have lawfully indemnified the directors and officers.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to officers and directors pursuant to the provisions described above or otherwise, we have been advised that, in the opinion of the Commission, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. is the transfer agent and registrar for our common stock.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We and/or a selling stockholder may sell shares of common stock from time to time in any of the following ways:

through underwriters or dealers;

directly to a limited number of purchasers or to a single purchaser; or

through agents.

The prospectus supplement will set forth the terms of the offering of such shares of common stock, including:

the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents and the amounts of shares of common stock underwritten or purchased by each of them; and

the public offering price of the shares of common stock and the proceeds to us and/or the selling stockholder, if applicable, and any discounts, commissions or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers.

Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

We and/or the selling stockholder, if applicable, may affect the distribution of the shares from time to time in one or more transactions either:

at a fixed price or at prices that may be changed;

at market prices prevailing at the time of the sale;

at prices relating to such prevailing market prices;

at varying prices determined at the time of sale; or

at negotiated prices.

Transactions through dealers may include block trades in which dealers will attempt to sell the shares of common stock as agent but may position and resell the block as principal to facilitate the transaction. The shares of common stock may be sold through dealers or agents or to dealers acting as market makers.

If underwriters are used in the sale of any shares of common stock, the shares will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The shares of common stock may be either offered to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters, or directly by underwriters. Generally, the underwriters' obligations to purchase the shares of common stock will be subject to certain conditions precedent. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the shares of common stock if they purchase any of the shares of common stock (other than any shares of common stock purchased upon exercise of any over-allotment option, if any).

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

We and/or a selling stockholder may sell the shares of common stock through agents from time to time. The prospectus supplement will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the shares of common stock and any commissions paid to them. Generally, any agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment. Any underwriters, broker-dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the shares of common stock may be deemed to be "underwriters" as defined in Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act. Any commissions paid or any discounts, commissions or concessions allowed to any such persons, and any profits they receive on resale of the shares of

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

common stock, may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We will identify any underwriters or agents and describe their compensation in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The shares of common stock may be sold on any national securities exchange on which the common stock may be listed at the time of sale, in the over-the-counter market or in transactions otherwise than on such exchanges or in the over-the-counter market or in transactions that include special offerings and exchange distributions pursuant to and in accordance with the rules of such exchanges.

We or a selling stockholder may enter into derivative transactions or forward sale agreements on shares of common stock with third parties. In such event, we or the selling stockholder, if applicable, may pledge the shares underlying such transactions to the counterparties under such agreements, to secure our or the selling stockholder's delivery obligations. The counterparties or third parties may borrow shares of common stock from us, the selling stockholder or third parties and sell such shares in a public offering. This prospectus may be delivered in conjunction with such sales. Upon settlement of such transactions, we and/or the selling stockholder, if applicable, may deliver shares of common stock to the counterparties that, in turn, the counterparties may deliver to us, the selling stockholder or third parties, as the case may be, to close out the open borrowings of shares of common stock. The counterparty in such transactions will be an underwriter and will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

A prospectus supplement may be used for resales from time to time by any holder of our shares of common stock that may acquire such shares of common stock upon an in-kind distribution by any existing stockholder of all or a portion of such existing stockholder's shares of common stock to its limited and general partners. Such selling stockholder may include direct and indirect transferees, pledgees, donees and successors of a selling stockholder. Further, a prospectus supplement may be used in connection with sales or resales by any general partner of a selling stockholder in connection with sales by such general partner for cash or subsequent transfers by such general partner to its limited partners of their ratable portion of the shares then owned by such general partner, together with resales of such shares by such limited partners.

Underwriters or agents may purchase and sell the shares of common stock in the open market. These transactions may include over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which creates a short position. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids or purchases for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the securities and are permitted so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Syndicate covering transactions involve the placing of any bid on behalf of the underwriting syndicate or the effecting of any purchase to reduce a short position created in connection with the offering. The underwriters or agents also may impose a penalty bid, which permits them to reclaim selling concessions allowed to syndicate activities that may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the shares of common stock, which may be higher than the price that might otherwise prevail in the open market. These activities, if begun, may be discontinued at any time. These transactions may be effected on any exchange on which the shares of common stock are traded, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Our common stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol "ITC."

Agents and underwriters may be entitled to indemnification by us and the selling stockholder, if applicable, against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments which the agents or underwriters may be required to make in respect thereof. Agents and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business. The specific terms of the lock-up provisions in respect of any given offering will be described in the prospectus supplement.

LEGAL MATTERS

Dykema Gossett PLLC will pass upon the validity of the issuance of our common stock and as to certain matters of Michigan law. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, New York, New York. In addition, Stuntz, Davis & Staffier, P.C., Washington, D.C. is advising us on matters relating to the FERC. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP is relying upon the opinion of Dykema Gossett PLLC as to certain matters of Michigan law. Certain partners of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, members of their families, related persons and others have an indirect interest, through limited partnerships who are investors in KKR Millennium Fund, L.P., in less than 1% of our shares of common stock.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of ITC Holdings and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2005 and the period from February 28, 2003 (Date of Acquisition) through December 31, 2003, management's report on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005 and the related financial statement schedule, and the financial statements of International Transmission Company, LLC (Predecessor ITC*Transmission*) for the two-month period ended February 28, 2003, incorporated in this prospectus by reference from the Annual Report on Form 10-K of ITC Holdings have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of Michigan Transco Holdings, Limited Partnership as of December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004 and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004 and the periods January 1, 2003 to December 9, 2003 and December 10, 2003 to December 31, 2003 incorporated by reference in this prospectus have been so incorporated by reference in reliance on the report (which contains an explanatory paragraph relating to Michigan Transco Holdings, Limited Partnership's restatement of its statement of cash flows as described in Note 2 to the financial statements) of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act, and, in accordance therewith, file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Commission. Our Commission filings are available to the public over the Internet at the Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file with the Commission at its public reference facility located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our common stock is listed on the NYSE. You may inspect reports and other information concerning us at the offices of the NYSE, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005. In addition, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act are available free of charge through our website at <http://www.itc-holdings.com> as soon as reasonably practicable after they are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Commission. Information contained on our website, however, is not and should not be deemed a part of this prospectus.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The Commission allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information contained in documents that we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Information in this prospectus supersedes information incorporated by reference that we filed with the Commission prior to the date of this prospectus, while information that we file later with the Commission will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents (other than any portion of such document that is furnished rather than filed) listed below and any future filings we will make with the Commission under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus until the registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part, has been terminated:

our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005;

our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2006, June 30, 2006 and September 30, 2006;

our current reports on Form 8-K filed on February 14, 2006, March 30, 2006, May 12, 2006, May 17, 2006, May 23, 2006, May 26, 2006, July 18, 2006, July 25, 2006, August 7, 2006, August 16, 2006 (as amended August 17, 2006), August 18, 2006, September 1, 2006, September 25, 2006, October 6, 2006, October 10, 2006 (as amended December 22, 2006), October 16, 2006, November 8, 2006, November 14, 2006 and December 27, 2006; and

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 001-32576) filed on July 20, 2005.

We will provide to each person, including a beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You may request a copy of these filings at no cost, by writing or calling us at:

ITC Holdings Corp.
39500 Orchard Hill Place
Suite 200
Novi, Michigan 48375
Attention: General Counsel
Tel: (248) 374-7045

You should read the information relating to us in this prospectus together with the information in the documents incorporated by reference. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to, but not filed with, the Commission.

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The actual and estimated expenses in connection with offerings under this registration statement, all of which will be borne by ITC Holdings Corp., a Michigan corporation (the "Registrant"), are as follows:

Commission registration fee	(1)
NASD filing fee	(2)
Printing and engraving expenses	(2)
Legal fees	(2)
Accounting fees	(2)
NYSE listing fees	(2)
Miscellaneous	(2)
Total	(2)

(1) Deferred in reliance on Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r).

(2) The amount of these expenses is not presently known.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

As permitted by the Michigan Business Corporation Act, or MBCA, the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant generally limit the personal liability of its directors to the Registrant and its stockholders for breach of their fiduciary duty. The Articles of Incorporation, however, do not eliminate or limit the liability of a director for any of the following: (1) the amount of a financial benefit received by a director to which he or she is not entitled; (2) intentional infliction of harm on the Registrant or its stockholders; (3) a violation of the MBCA provision relating to unlawful distributions or loans; and (4) an intentional criminal act.

Sections 561 through 571 of the MBCA authorize indemnification of directors and officers of Michigan corporations. The Registrant's Articles of Incorporation and bylaws require the Registrant to indemnify directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by the MBCA. Specifically, the Registrant's bylaws require it to indemnify directors and officers against expenses (including actual and reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, penalties, fines, excise taxes and settlements actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action or proceeding brought against a director or officer by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director or officer of the Registrant or, while serving as a director or officer, is or was serving at the request of the Registrant as a director, officer, member, partner, trustee, employee, fiduciary or agent of another enterprise to the maximum extent permitted by the MBCA. The bylaws further require the Registrant to indemnify officers and directors whose defense on the merits or otherwise has been successful.

Although the Registrant's bylaws require indemnification in the situations described above, each request by an officer or director for indemnification must be individually authorized upon a determination that indemnification is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct provided in the MBCA. The determination may be made in any one of the following ways: (1) by a majority of a quorum of the board consisting of directors who are not parties or threatened to be made parties to the action, suit or proceeding; (2) if the quorum in (1) is not obtainable, then by majority vote of a committee of at least two directors who are not at the time parties or threatened to be made parties to the action, suit or proceeding; (3) by independent legal counsel in a written opinion; (4) the Registrant's stockholders, other than directors, officers, employees

or agents who are parties or threatened to be made parties; or (5) by all directors meeting the MBCA definition of "independent director" who are not parties or threatened to be made parties to the action, suit or proceeding. However, because the Registrant's Articles of Incorporation contain a provision limiting monetary liability of directors, the Registrant may indemnify a director without a determination that the applicable standard of conduct has been met unless the director received a financial benefit to which he or she was not entitled, intentionally inflicted harm on the Registrant or its stockholders, violated the MBCA provision relating to unlawful distributions or loans or intentionally violated criminal law. The authorization of payment may be made in any one of the following ways: (1) if there are two or more directors who are not parties or threatened to be made parties to the action, suit or proceeding, by a majority of all such directors or by majority vote of a committee of at least two such directors; (2) by a majority vote of any directors of the Registrant meeting the MBCA definition of "independent director" who are not parties or threatened to be made parties to the action, suit or proceeding; (3) if there are no "independent directors" and fewer than two directors who are not parties or threatened to be made parties to the action, suit or proceeding, by majority vote of the board; or (4) the Registrant's stockholders, other than directors, officers, employees or agents who are parties or threatened to be made parties. The bylaws also provide that indemnification is a contractual right between the Registrant and the officer or director, who may not be adversely affected by a repeal of the indemnification provisions of the Registrant's bylaws.

Section 567 of the MBCA and the Registrant's bylaws authorize the Registrant to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Registrant or who serves at the request of the Registrant as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another enterprise, whether or not the Registrant would have the power to indemnify him or her under the bylaws or the laws of the State of Michigan. The Registrant maintains a directors' and officers' insurance policy. The policy insures directors and officers against uninsured losses from certain wrongful acts in their capacities as directors and officers and reimburses the Registrant for those losses for which the Registrant has lawfully indemnified the directors and officers. The policy contains various exclusions, none of which apply to offerings under this registration statement.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to officers and directors pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the Registrant has been informed that, in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

Item 16. Exhibits.

See Index to Exhibits.

Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement;

Provided, however, that clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) above do not apply if this registration statement is on Form S-3 or Form F-3 and the information required to be included in the post-effective amendment by those clauses is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of this registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) If the registrant is relying on Rule 430B:

(A) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in this registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in this registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in this registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. *Provided, however,* that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of this registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of this registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in this registration statement or prospectus that was part of this registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or

(ii) If the registrant is subject to Rule 430C, each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than registration statements relying on Rule 430B or other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A, shall be deemed to be

Edgar Filing: ITC Holdings Corp. - Form S-3ASR

part of and included in this registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of this registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into this registration statement or prospectus that is part of this registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in this registration statement or prospectus that was part of this registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

- (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;
- (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and
- (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing a Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Novi, State of Michigan, on January 16, 2007.

ITC Holdings Corp.

By: /s/ JOSEPH L. WELCH

Name: Joseph L. Welch
 Title: Director, President, Chief Executive Officer and Treasurer

We, the undersigned directors and officers of ITC Holdings Corp., do hereby constitute and appoint Joseph L. Welch, Edward M. Rahill and Daniel J. Oginsky, or any of them, our true and lawful attorneys and agents, to do any and all acts and things in our name and on our behalf in our capacities as directors and officers and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys and agents, or either of them, may deem necessary or advisable to enable said registrant to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with this Registration Statement, including specifically, but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) hereto and registration statements filed pursuant to Rule 462 under the Securities Act of 1933, and we do hereby ratify and confirm all that said attorneys and agents, or any of them, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on January 16, 2007.

Signature	Title
/s/ JOSEPH L. WELCH Joseph L. Welch	Director, President, Chief Executive Officer and Treasurer (Principal Executive Officer)
/s/ EDWARD M. RAHILL Edward M. Rahill	Senior Vice President-Finance and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)
/s/ LEWIS M. EISENBERG Lewis M. Eisenberg	Director
/s/ EDWARD G. JEPSEN Edward G. Jepsen	Director
/s/ LEE C. STEWART Lee C. Stewart	Director
/s/ GORDON BENNETT STEWART, III Gordon Bennett Stewart, III	Director
/s/ WILLIAM J. MUSELER William J. Museler	Director

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibit
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement
2.1	Stock Purchase Agreement by and between DTE Energy Company and the Registrant, dated December 3, 2002 (incorporated by reference from Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 10, 2005)
2.2	Purchase Agreement, dated May 11, 2006, among Evercore Co-Investment Partnership II L.P., Evercore METC Capital Partners II L.P., MEAP US Holdings, Ltd., Macquarie Essential Assets Partnership, TE Power Opportunities Investors, L.P., the management shareholders named therein, Mich 1400 LLC, the Registrant, GFI Transmission Opportunities GP, LLC, OCM/GFI Power Opportunities Fund II, L.P., OCM/GFI Power Opportunities Fund II (Cayman) LP and Macquarie Holdings (USA), Inc. (incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 17, 2006)
3.1	Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (incorporated by reference from Amendment No. 3 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on June 30, 2005 ("S-1 Amendment No. 3"))
3.2	Form of Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference from Amendment No. 2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on June 10, 2005)
4.1	Form of Certificate of Common Stock (incorporated by reference from S-1 Amendment No. 3)
5.1**	Opinion of Dykema Gossett PLLC
23.1**	Consent of Dykema Gossett PLLC (included as part of its opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1 hereto)
23.2**	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP relating to International Transmission Company, LLC
23.3**	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP relating to the Registrant
23.4**	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP relating to Michigan Transco Holdings, Limited Partnership
24.1**	Powers of Attorney of the directors and officers of the Registrant (included in the signature page to this registration statement)

*
To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a document to be incorporated by reference herein.

**
Filed herewith.

QuickLinks

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

OUR COMPANY

THE METC ACQUISITION

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

RISK FACTORS

USE OF PROCEEDS

DESCRIPTION OF OUR CAPITAL STOCK

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

LEGAL MATTERS

EXPERTS

WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

SIGNATURES

EXHIBIT INDEX