

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

## FORM 424B4

Prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(4)

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### FILER

#### **BANGOR HYDRO ELECTRIC CO**

CIK: **9548** | IRS No.: **010024370** | State of Incorpor.: **ME** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**  
Type: **424B4** | Act: **33** | File No.: **033-52481** | Film No.: **94516475**  
SIC: **4911** Electric services

Mailing Address  
*PO BOX 932*  
*BANGOR ME 04401*

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*33 STATE ST*  
*BANGOR ME 04401*  
*2079455621*

PROSPECTUS

782,500 Shares

Bangor Hydro-Electric Company

Common Stock  
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The Common Stock of Bangor Hydro-Electric Company (the "Company") is listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "BGR." The last reported sale price of the Company's Common Stock on March 16, 1994 on the NYSE was \$17 per share.  
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THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

	Price to Public	Underwriting Discounts and Commissions<F1>	Proceeds to Company<F2>
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
Per Share	\$ 17.00	\$ .765	\$ 16.235
Total<F3>	\$13,302,500	\$598,612.50	\$12,703,887.50

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<FN>  
<F1> The Company has agreed to indemnify the Underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. See "Underwriting."  
<F2> Before deducting expenses payable by the Company estimated at \$95,000 including certain legal expenses of the Underwriter.  
<F3> The Underwriter has been granted an option, exercisable within 30 days after the date of this Prospectus, to purchase up to 117,375 additional shares of Common Stock from the Company on the same terms per share solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any. If all of such additional shares are purchased, the total Price to Public will be \$15,297,875, the total Underwriting Discounts and Commissions will be \$688,404.38, and the total Proceeds to Company will be \$14,609,470.63. See "Underwriting."

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The shares of Common Stock are offered by the Underwriter named below, subject to prior sale, when, as and if accepted by it, and subject to certain conditions. It is expected that certificates for the shares of Common Stock offered hereby will be available for delivery on or about

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Smith Barney Shearson Inc.

March 16, 1994

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#### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith files reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). All such reports, proxy statements and other information can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the Commission at Room 1024, Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 and at the following regional offices of the Commission: Chicago Regional Office, Suite 1400, 500 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511; and New York Regional Office, Seven World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048. Copies of such material can be obtained from the Public Reference Section of the Commission at Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 at prescribed rates. In addition, material filed by the Company can be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), the Company has filed with the Commission a registration statement on Form S-3 (herein, together with all amendments and exhibits, referred to as the "Registration Statement") with respect to the securities offered hereby. This Prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the Registration Statement, certain parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission. For further information, reference is hereby made to the Registration Statement.

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#### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents filed with the Commission pursuant to the Exchange Act are incorporated herein by reference:

- (i) the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1992;
- (ii) the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 1993 (as amended by Form 10-Q/A filed August 17, 1993), June 30, 1993 and September 30, 1993; and
- (iii) the Company's Current Reports on Form 8-K dated August 12, 1993, December 15, 1993 and March 2, 1994 (which contains the Company's 1993 audited financial statements and related information).

All documents filed by the Company pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this Prospectus and prior to the termination of this offering shall be deemed to be incorporated by

reference in this Prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Such documents, and the documents described above, are hereinafter referred to as "Incorporated Documents."

Any statement contained in an Incorporated Document shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed Incorporated Document modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

Certain information contained in this Prospectus summarizes, is based upon, or refers to, information and financial statements contained in one or more Incorporated Documents; accordingly, such information contained herein is qualified in its entirety by reference to such documents and should be read in conjunction therewith.

The Company hereby undertakes to provide without charge to each person to whom this Prospectus is delivered, on the written or oral request of any such person, a copy of any or all of the documents referred to above which have been incorporated in this Prospectus by reference, other than exhibits to such documents (unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into such documents). Requests for such documents should be addressed to: Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, 33 State Street, Bangor, Maine 04401, Attention: General Counsel; telephone (207) 945-5621.

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS OFFERING, THE UNDERWRITER MAY OVER-ALLOT OR EFFECT TRANSACTIONS WHICH STABILIZE OR MAINTAIN THE MARKET PRICE OF THE COMMON STOCK OF THE COMPANY AT A LEVEL ABOVE THAT WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE PREVAIL IN THE OPEN MARKET. SUCH TRANSACTIONS MAY BE EFFECTED ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE OR OTHERWISE. SUCH STABILIZING, IF COMMENCED, MAY BE DISCONTINUED AT ANY TIME.

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#### SUMMARY INFORMATION

The following summary information is qualified in its entirety by reference to information appearing elsewhere in this Prospectus and by the more detailed information and consolidated financial statements which are incorporated by reference herein. Except as otherwise indicated herein, all share and per share data in this Prospectus assume that the Underwriter's over-allotment option is not exercised.

#### THE COMPANY

The Company is a public utility engaged in the generation, purchase, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy in eastern and east coastal Maine. The Company's franchised service area covers about 4,900 square miles in and around Bangor, Maine, including the resort area of east coastal Maine, and includes the counties of Penobscot, Hancock and Washington and portions of Waldo, Piscataquis and Aroostook, Maine, having a population of approximately 195,000. In 1993, 31.2% of the Company's kilowatt-hour ("KWH") sales were to residential customers, 30.3% were to commercial customers, 37.3% were to industrial customers, and 1.2% were to other customers. The Company enjoys a diversified power supply profile, with



SELECTED INCOME STATEMENT DATA:

Total operating revenue . . . . .	\$ 177,972	\$ 176,789	\$ 162,243
Operating income . . . . .	16,799	18,516	16,445
Net income . . . . .	5,336	10,255	8,199
Earnings applicable to Common Stock	3,691	8,641	6,585
Earnings per common share . . . . .	\$ .63	\$ 1.60	\$ 1.33
Dividends declared per common share	1.32	1.32	1.29
Shares outstanding (average) . . .	5,862	5,393	4,947

As of December 31, 1993

	Actual	Ratio	As Adjusted<F3>	Ratio
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
CAPITALIZATION:				
Common Stock . . . . .	\$ 93,944	40.3%	\$106,553	43.4%
Redeemable preferred stock . . . . .	15,168	6.6	15,168	6.2
Non-redeemable preferred stock . . . . .	4,734	2.0	4,734	1.9
Long-term debt<F2> . . . . .	119,126	51.1	119,126	48.5
Total capitalization . . . . .	\$ 232,972	100.0%	\$ 245,581	100.0%
Short-term debt . . . . .	\$ 36,000		\$ 23,458	

As of December 31, 1993

<S>

<C>

SELECTED BALANCE SHEET  
DATA:

Net utility plant . . . . .	\$ 210,422
Total assets . . . . .	373,521
Book value per common share . . . . .	15.09

<FN>

<F1> 1993 results of operations were negatively impacted by the establishment of a \$5.6 million (after taxes) reserve against investments in certain proposed hydroelectric facilities. The reserve reduced 1993 earnings per share by \$.95. See "Recent Developments and Certain Investment Considerations."

<F2> Less sinking fund requirements of \$1.3 million due within one year.

<F3> Adjusted to reflect the use of the proceeds from the sale of the Common Stock offered hereby (estimated to be \$12.6 million) to repay short-term debt. See "Use of Proceeds."

Page 5 is a map entitled "Bangor Hydro-Electric Company Service Area." Inset in the upper right hand corner of the page is a map of the State of Maine with the service area of the Company shaded. The remainder of the page is a larger map depicting the counties in and around the Company's service area. In the larger map, the service area is shaded and sites of facilities, waterways and certain municipalities are labeled.

#### THE COMPANY

The Company was incorporated under the laws of the State of Maine in 1924 as a public utility engaged in the generation, purchase, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy for residential, commercial, industrial and governmental uses in eastern and east coastal Maine. The Company has two material wholly owned subsidiaries, Penobscot Hydro Co., Inc. ("PHC") and Bangor Var. Co., Inc. ("Bangor Var Co."). PHC was incorporated in 1986 to own the Company's 50% interest in a joint venture, Bangor-Pacific Hydro Associates, which redeveloped the West Enfield hydroelectric project. Bangor Var Co. was incorporated in 1990 to hold the Company's 50% interest in a partnership that owns certain facilities used in the Hydro-Quebec Phase II transmission project in which the Company is a participant.

In 1993, 31.2% of the Company's kilowatt-hour sales were to residential customers, 30.3% were to commercial customers, 37.3% were to industrial customers, and 1.2% were to other customers. The Company enjoys a diversified power supply profile, with ownership interests in hydroelectric facilities, nuclear generation and fossil fuel generating stations. The Company supplements this generation with substantial purchases of power from NEPOOL, independent non-utility power producers using renewable resources in the Company's service area and Canadian sources.

The Company holds a 7% ownership share in Maine Yankee, which entitles the Company to purchase an approximately equal amount of the output of that company's 880 megawatt ("MW") nuclear generating facility, an entitlement of approximately 62 MW. Other New England utilities hold the remaining ownership shares of Maine Yankee. The Maine Yankee facility, which commenced commercial operation on January 1, 1973, is the only nuclear facility in which the Company has an ownership interest. Pursuant to a power purchase contract with Maine Yankee, the Company is obligated to pay its pro rata share of Maine Yankee's operating expenses, including fuel costs and decommissioning costs. In addition, under a Capital Funds Agreement entered into by the Company and the other sponsor utilities, the Company may be required to make its pro rata share of future capital contributions to Maine Yankee if needed to finance capital expenditures.

In 1993, 48.4% of the megawatt hours of electricity sold by the Company was purchased from NEPOOL and other utilities, 20.4% was purchased from Maine Yankee, 16.7% was generated by the Company's power stations and 14.5% was purchased from independent non-utility power producers. The Company, along with the major investor-owned utilities of New England, has been a party to

NEPOOL since 1971. NEPOOL contractual arrangements provide for joint planning and operation of generating and transmission facilities in New England, and govern generating capacity reserve obligations and provisions regarding the use of major transmission lines.

The Company is subject to the regulatory authority of the Maine Public Utilities Commission ("MPUC") as to retail rates, accounting, service standards, territory served, the issuance of securities and various other matters. The Company is also subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as to certain matters, including licensing of its hydroelectric stations and rates for wholesale purchases and sales of energy and capacity and transmission services. Maine Yankee is subject to extensive regulation by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The principal executive offices of the Company are located at 33 State Street, Bangor, Maine 04401; telephone (207) 945-5621.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND  
CERTAIN INVESTMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Recent Rate Case Results  
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On May 18, 1993, the Company filed with the MPUC a general base rate case proposing a \$22.8 million, or 32.9%, increase in base revenues. Subsequently, the Company reduced its revenue request to \$17.6 million. On February 17, 1994, the MPUC issued an order allowing the Company to increase its base rates by \$11.1 million effective March 1, 1994. This represents a 15.9% increase in base rates; however, when recent reductions in fuel and energy costs (which are billed to customers through the Company's fuel adjustment clause) are taken into

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account, the base rate increase results in an average rate increase of .6% over rates that were in place a year ago. The reductions in fuel and energy costs are primarily due to a buy-out in June 1993 of an expensive purchased power contract with an independent non-utility power producer and to the substantial completion of amortization of deferred costs accrued in the period 1987-1990 under contracts with such producers. The authorized rate of return on common equity in the new rate order is 10.6%. However, the Company may not earn its authorized return on equity in 1994 since the revenue allowance in the MPUC order is based on a more optimistic view of sales growth during 1994 than is anticipated by the Company, and the decision does not include the impact of the reduction in annual revenue associated with a recently authorized industrial customer contract or the costs to be recognized in 1994 relating to the Company's early retirement program, both of which are discussed below.

Establishment of a Reserve for Certain Proposed Hydroelectric Investments  
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The Company established a reserve in December 1993 against amounts invested through 1993 in licensing activities for proposed additional hydroelectric facilities at two sites on the Penobscot River. The reserve amounted to \$5.6 million after taxes and had an after-tax negative impact on 1993 earnings of \$.95 per common share. The reserve was established primarily because of concern over the effect of capital-intensive projects



such as new hydroelectric facilities on the level of the Company's electric rates and because of the Company's inability to predict the outcome of further required licensing and permitting activities. The projects in question would require a total investment of about \$140 million. Expenditures for ongoing licensing activities for these proposed facilities are expected to be minimal in 1994, and will be expensed as incurred.

#### The Effect of Competition on Future Sales, Earnings and Dividend Policy

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An important factor which will impact the Company's future profitability is the infusion of competition into the electric utility business in the United States. As utilities adjust to competition their ability to compete on price becomes increasingly important. Maine utilities, including the Company, have been experiencing increases in their costs as a result of legal obligations to purchase power from independent non-utility power producers, policies regarding utility-financed conservation and demand-side management, expenditures for low income assistance subsidies, and various other mandates. These costs have translated into higher rates to customers. Over the last six years, Maine's electric rates, on average, have increased faster than the average electric rates in New England, exclusive of Maine. Maine's rates had been substantially lower, on average, than elsewhere in New England, but with the rate of increase experienced recently, the average rate in Maine is now just below the New England average. The Company's average rates are about equal to the New England average.

As a result of the impact of the foregoing, competition for the electric customers' business in Maine is keen. Other utilities that purchase electricity from Maine utilities have access to the competitive power supply markets, which is causing Maine's utilities to reduce prices to those customers or lose the business altogether. Although retail electric customers in Maine are generally unable to purchase directly from other electricity suppliers under current law, customers are increasingly turning to alternative methods of providing the desired end-use, or are otherwise curtailing their purchases of electric energy. In order to meet the competition for existing business, the Company is having to negotiate prices for customers that have competitive alternatives for their energy needs, or that would otherwise leave the system.

In the near term, the necessity to reduce prices to retain sales causes a shortfall in revenues needed to satisfy the Company's overall revenue requirement. In order to avoid an adverse impact on earnings, this revenue shortfall must be made up by adjusting rates to other customers, or by increasing sales, or some combination thereof. The Company believes the MPUC will allow rate adjustments to account for this impact as necessary as long as the Company has prudently managed this competitive factor, although public resistance to rate increases and the possibility of municipalization of electric service (a practice that is not widespread in Maine) are likely to act as a constraint in making these adjustments. In the longer term, the Company believes it could perform successfully in a competitive market, because despite the Company's current high cost structure the marginal cost of providing electric service is relatively low. The Company expects that, if public and regulatory policies were adjusted to permit the active pursuit of greater sales, the price that could be charged in a competitive environment, while lower than many of the Company's current rates, would recover more than the marginal cost of providing the service. The Company also believes a strategy of greater electrification would, in addition, produce desirable

environmental quality improvement. If the Company is successful in expanding its market share with competitive rates, the increased revenue in excess of marginal cost will enhance earnings and offset the need for other rate increases. In addition, alternative regulatory methods, which are in the early stages of exploration at the MPUC, could mitigate the impact on earnings and accommodate greater pricing flexibility on the part of utilities.

Under current regulatory policies, the Company has only limited authority to adjust its prices to meet the competition as described above. However, the Company is pressing for changes in those policies to expand its pricing flexibility. The Company has negotiated and put into effect a number of competitive energy rate arrangements, and more negotiations are under way. Two of those arrangements have provided for the sale of interruptible energy to major customers of the Company. For the largest customer, LCP Chemicals, a chemical manufacturer served largely on an interruptible basis, the Company

implemented a contract whereby the price was reduced substantially. This lost revenue has been incorporated into the rates of other customers. A second contract was entered into to secure new revenues from a large pulp and paper company. This customer has historically generated its own power, and the new contract provides for the capability for the Company to sell or buy up to 20 MW of interruptible energy and provides benefits to both the customer and the Company.

More recently, the Company has been negotiating on a case-by-case basis with customers that have demonstrated that, without rate relief, they will curtail their purchases from the Company. The MPUC has recently authorized the Company to enter into a five-year contract (terminable by the customer with two years' notice) for the supply of power to one of the Company's largest firm industrial customers at reduced rates. At the same time, the MPUC issued an accounting order that would mitigate the negative impact on earnings of a reduced base rate contribution from this customer. Nevertheless, since these reduced rates were not considered in the Company's most recent base rate proceeding, the Company expects that the new contract will reduce the base rate contribution from that customer by about \$1 million annually from historical levels and will negatively affect earnings unless the Company can reduce its costs or increase its revenues from other sources. However, the Company believes that without the contract, its earnings would have been affected to a significantly greater degree had the customer opted for its lower cost energy alternatives. In authorizing the contract, the MPUC specifically reserved for a future proceeding any determination of the Company's prudence in entering into the arrangement. The Company believes it can demonstrate this transaction is prudent and in the best interest of all of its customers.

Another of the Company's largest firm industrial customers recently contacted the Company seeking rate concessions in order to maintain current levels of electric purchases. The Company cannot yet assess the likelihood of rate reductions for that customer.

More generally, the impact of competition poses the challenge of minimizing rates to the extent possible. This includes aggressive cost-cutting in all areas, while continuing to improve the quality of service to customers. Strategies to compete might also include the acceptance of lower stockholder returns, forbearance from seeking rate increases, and reconsideration of recovery of various embedded costs. Two priorities being pursued in 1994 to cut costs and improve efficiency and effectiveness in providing service to customers are moving toward a centralized telephone

customer service system and implementing bi-monthly meter reading. Management is also pursuing other cost-containment measures including implementing an early retirement program in early 1994, reengineering business processes to provide greater efficiencies, and identifying new areas of revenue enhancement in an effort to enhance earnings.

Some initiatives to reduce costs and increase competitiveness will have a short-term cost that must be recognized in order to achieve long-term savings. One such initiative is the early retirement program, which will produce long-term savings by reason of a reduction in the workforce, but which will cause the Company to recognize a cost in the year of implementation. In connection with the 1994 early retirement program, the Company expects to record a cost of approximately \$2.45 million (before taxes) in the first quarter of 1994, which will reduce reported earnings for the quarter by about \$.15 per common share after taxes. Some of this impact will be made up by reduced payroll costs and reduced active employee health cost for the remainder of 1994.

The competitive factors discussed above may affect the level and consistency of common dividend payout for the Company and other electric utilities. Historically, a secure, geographically protected market and a reasonably assured ability to adjust rates to cover increases in costs has, in general, permitted electric utilities to

establish a pattern of common dividend payment continuity at relatively high payout ratios, reasonably free of volatility, and with an expectation of consistent growth over time. This, in turn, has facilitated utilities' efforts to attract, at reasonable cost, the capital to invest in the plant and equipment necessary to provide utility service at prices explicitly capped by a return on investment limited by regulation. With the infusion of competition into the electric utility business, however, the continuity of dividend payments will be less certain. As electric utilities lose the ability to increase prices to cover increased costs, dividend policies will have to depend more heavily on shorter term expectations for sales and earnings. Additionally, a perception of greater investment risk in the industry may require an increase in equity ratios and higher retention of earnings. Therefore, it is likely that more competition in the electric utility industry will introduce more volatility in dividend payouts than has historically been the case. Offsetting these uncertainties, however, is the possibility of growth in electric sales and earnings which may result from greater pricing flexibility (depending upon MPUC actions) and an increased emphasis on marketing and cost-control by the Company. However, there can be no assurance that such growth in electric sales will in fact occur in amounts sufficient to offset completely the effects of competition or provide the ability to maintain consistent dividend levels.

Although the Company faces near-term challenges as a result of having relatively high rates in an increasingly competitive market, and the factors described above will play a larger role in dividend payment considerations, the Company does not presently anticipate the need to reduce the level of the common dividend. This judgment is based on assumptions of at least a modest increase in sales, the ability of the Company to control operation and maintenance expenses and capital expenditures, and the feasibility of relatively modest rate increases in future years. While the Company believes these assumptions to be reasonable at this time, no assurance can be given

that these assumptions will be accurate or that developments will not change the prospects for dividend payments. The Company expects that future growth in earnings and dividends will be derived primarily from the growth in the business necessary to serve an expanding economy, success in achieving a larger share of the energy market in a competitive environment, and management's continued commitment to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Company's operations.

#### USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds of the shares of Common Stock offered hereby (estimated to be \$12.6 million) will be applied to reduce outstanding short-term debt incurred primarily to finance construction expenditures, and for other working capital needs. The Company's short-term debt totalled \$37 million at February 28, 1994 and bore interest at that date at a weighted average annual rate of 3.6%.

#### CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM AND FUTURE FINANCING

The Company's construction program consists primarily of extensions and improvements to its transmission and distribution facilities, capital improvements to existing generating stations and licensing and relicensing costs of hydroelectric projects. Construction expenditures amounted to \$33.6 million in 1993. Construction expenditures, including allowance for funds used during construction, are expected to aggregate about \$66 million for the 1994-1996 period. It is expected that the Company's net cash flow provided from operations (after deducting preferred and common stock dividends paid) will be approximately 60% of construction expenditures over this three-year period. The balance of funds required are expected to be obtained from bank borrowings (on an interim basis) and issuances of first mortgage bonds,

preferred stock and additional shares of Common Stock.

Long-term debt and preferred stock sinking fund requirements for 1994 through 1996 total approximately \$4.4 million and \$3 million, respectively. An additional \$9.3 million is anticipated to be retired as a result of optional redemption and sinking fund payments during that period.

#### COMMON STOCK DIVIDENDS AND PRICE RANGE

Future dividends will be dependent upon the Company's earnings, financial condition, capital requirements and other factors as the Board of Directors of the Company may deem relevant. See "Recent Developments and Certain Investment Considerations."

The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices of the Common Stock as reported by the NYSE and dividends per share on the Common Stock for the periods indicated.

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

Dividends

Fiscal Period	High	Low	Declared Per Share
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
1992			
First Quarter	\$18 1/8	\$17 1/4	\$ .33
Second Quarter	18 1/4	17 1/4	.33
Third Quarter	19 7/8	16 3/4	.33
Fourth Quarter	20 1/4	18 1/4	.33
1993			
First Quarter	\$24 1/8	\$17 7/8	\$ .33
Second Quarter	23 5/8	19 5/8	.33
Third Quarter	23 1/8	20 7/8	.33
Fourth Quarter	21 3/8	18 1/8	.33
1994			
First Quarter (through March 16, 1994)	\$19	\$16 3/4	*

</TABLE>

\* Management currently intends to recommend to the Board of Directors that the Company declare a regular quarterly dividend on March 21, 1994 of \$.33 per share on the Company's Common Stock, payable on April 20, 1994 to shareholders of record on March 31, 1994. Holders, as of the record date, of the Common Stock offered hereby will be entitled to receive this dividend, if declared.

On March 16, 1994, the last reported sale price of the Common Stock as reported on the NYSE was \$ 17 per share. The number of record holders of the Company's Common Stock was 7,504 as of February 25, 1994.

The Company maintains a Dividend Reinvestment and Common Stock Purchase Plan ("Plan"), the terms of which are set forth in a separate prospectus. The Plan provides holders of record of the Company's Common Stock and holders of the Company's cumulative preferred stock, \$100 par value, with a convenient method of purchasing Common Stock by having their cash dividends automatically reinvested and/or by making additional cash payments. No brokerage commissions or service charges are charged to participants for

purchases made under the Plan. The price per share of Common Stock purchased pursuant to the Plan will be 100% of the average of the high and low sale prices for the Company's Common Stock as reported by the NYSE on the date that dividends are paid.

The following description is a summary of certain provisions with respect to the Company's Common Stock contained in the Company's Certificate of Organization and By-Laws. Such summary is qualified in its entirety to the more detailed provisions of such documents, which have been incorporated by reference as exhibits to Incorporated Documents described under "Incorporation of Certain Documents By Reference."

#### General

The Company's authorized capital stock consists of 7,500,000 shares of Common Stock, \$5 par value, and 400,000 shares of Preferred Stock, \$100 par value. At December 31, 1993, 6,225,394 shares of Common Stock were outstanding and 197,340 shares of Preferred Stock (in 4 separate series) were outstanding.

The Common Stock has no conversion rights nor is it subject to any redemption or sinking fund provisions. The issued and outstanding Common Stock is, and the additional shares of Common Stock issued hereby will be, after issuance, fully paid and nonassessable. No Common Stock may be purchased by the Company when there is an arrearage of dividends on Preferred Stock.

#### Dividend Rights

Holders of Common Stock are entitled to participate in dividends as and when declared by the Company's Board of Directors, provided that all dividends on the Company's Preferred Stock (which are fully cumulative) have been paid or provided for to the date of payment of a proposed dividend on Common Stock. Cash dividends have been declared and paid on Common Stock on a quarterly basis.

#### Voting Rights

Holders of Common Stock currently have general voting rights of one-twelfth of one vote per share. Holders of Preferred Stock have general voting rights of one vote per share, except for holders of the Company's 8.76% Preferred Stock, which does not carry voting rights except as discussed below. On issues determined by general voting rights, it would be possible for votes represented by Preferred Stock to combine with votes represented by less than a majority of Common Stock to affect the rights of holders of all Common Stock.

Neither the Common Stock nor the Preferred Stock has cumulative voting rights.

Holders of Preferred Stock, including holders of the 8.76% Preferred Stock, voting as a single class, also have the power to elect at any annual meeting the smallest number of directors necessary to constitute a majority of the full Board of Directors in the event of a default in the payment of an amount equal to or exceeding four quarterly dividend payments or in the event of a failure to make any required sinking fund payment with respect to the Preferred Stock, in such case which is in existence at the time of such annual meeting. This special voting right expires when any such default or

failure is cured.

The Company's Certificate of Organization contains provisions stating that: (i) the Board of Directors shall be divided into three classes, as nearly equal in number as possible, each of which will serve for three years, with one class being elected each year, (ii) directors may be removed without cause only with the approval of the holders of at least 80% of the votes

entitled to be cast by the holders of all the then outstanding shares of Voting Stock of the Company, (iii) any vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the Continuing Directors, though less than a quorum, and (iv) unless recommended by a majority of Continuing Directors, the foregoing provisions may be amended only by approval of the holders of at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by the holders of all of the then outstanding shares of voting stock, voting together as a single class. These provisions also apply in the event of the exercise by holders of Preferred Stock of the right to elect a majority of the Board of Directors upon a default or failure to pay dividends or make sinking fund payments, as described above. If such an election occurs, the Continuing Directors shall have the right to designate which of the existing directors will be temporarily displaced by the new directors so elected.

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#### Liquidation Rights

Subject to the rights of senior securities, holders of Common Stock are entitled to a distribution of assets upon liquidation, according to their respective shares.

#### Preemptive Rights

The Company's By-Laws provide that prior to the issuance of any stock having voting rights, the Company's Board of Directors shall determine whether such stock will be subject to preemptive rights of the holders of outstanding stock. No holders of the Company's outstanding Common Stock or Preferred Stock will be given any such preemptive rights with respect to shares of Common Stock offered hereby. Except to the extent that the Board of Directors shall determine as above provided, no preemptive rights shall apply to any of the stock of the Company.

#### Provisions Concerning Business Combinations

The Company's Certificate of Organization requires that certain "Business Combinations," including mergers, consolidations, share exchanges and sales of a substantial amount of assets, between the Company and a "Related Person" be approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 80% of the outstanding Voting Stock unless the transaction is approved by a majority of the "Continuing Directors" of the Company. A "Related Person" is defined as any person who is the beneficial owner of (i) 10% or more of the then outstanding shares of any class of "Voting Stock" (as hereinafter defined) of the Company or (ii) Voting Stock representing 10% or more of the votes entitled to be cast by the holders of all the then outstanding shares of Voting Stock of the Company. "Continuing Directors" are defined as members of the Board as constituted prior to the time such Related Person became a Related Person with such additional persons as such members shall appoint or nominate for election by the stockholders. In addition to the voting requirements set forth above, the Certificate of Organization requires that as a result of such business combination, stockholders of every class or series of outstanding securities of the Company receive at least a certain minimum price for their shares and that certain other conditions are satisfied. The Company's "Voting Stock" consists of all outstanding shares of Capital Stock of the Company having general voting rights including preferred stock. These provisions along with the other provisions discussed above under "Voting Rights," may deter

attempts to change control of the Company (by proxy contest, tender offer or otherwise) and may make more difficult a change in control of the Company that is opposed by the Company's Board of Directors.

Registrar and Transfer Agent

Chemical Bank and Mellon Securities Trust Company are the Co-Registrars and Chemical Bank is the Transfer Agent for the Common Stock of the Company.

#### UNDERWRITING

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Underwriting Agreement, the Company has agreed to sell to Smith Barney Shearson Inc. (the "Underwriter"), and the Underwriter has agreed to purchase from the Company an aggregate of 782,500 shares of Common Stock. The nature of the Underwriter's obligations is such that it is committed to take and pay for all the shares of Common Stock offered hereby if any are taken.

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The Company has been advised by the Underwriter that it proposes to offer the shares of Common Stock to the public at the initial public offering price set forth on the cover page of this Prospectus and to certain dealers at a price which represents a concession not in excess of \$.45 per share below the price to the public. The Underwriters may allow, and such dealers may reallow, a concession not in excess of \$.10 per share to certain other dealers.

The Company has granted an option to the Underwriter, exercisable within 30 days after the date of the Underwriting Agreement, to purchase up to a maximum of 117,375 additional shares of Common Stock at the same price per share that the Company will receive for shares being purchased by the Underwriter as described above. The Underwriter may purchase such shares only to cover over-allotments made in connection with the sale of the 782,500 shares.

The Company has agreed to indemnify the Underwriter against certain liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933. The Company has also agreed to pay up to \$25,000 of the legal expenses of the Underwriter.

The Company has agreed (with certain exceptions) not to sell any Common Stock for a period of 90 days after the date of this Prospectus without the prior written consent of the Underwriter.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters with respect to the Common Stock offered hereby will be passed upon for the Company by Frederick S. Samp, Esq., General Counsel of the Company. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriter by Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts, New York, New York. From time to time, Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts provides legal services to the Company.

#### EXPERTS

The consolidated balance sheets and statements of capitalization as of December 31, 1993 and 1992 and the consolidated statements of income,



retained earnings and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 1993, incorporated by reference in this Prospectus, have been incorporated herein in reliance on the report of Coopers & Lybrand, independent accountants, given on the authority of that Firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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No dealer, salesperson or other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Prospectus and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Company or any of the Underwriters or by any other person. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy a security other than the shares of Common Stock offered hereby, nor does it constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any of the securities offered hereby to any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation to such person. Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor any sale made hereunder shall under any circumstances create any implication that the information contained herein is correct as of any date subsequent to the date hereof.

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782,500 Shares

Bangor  
Hydro-Electric  
Company

Common Stock

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PROSPECTUS

March 16, 1994

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Smith Barney Shearson Inc.