

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE  <b>FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT</b> <b>ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY</b> <b>PART F IC - INTERNAL COMBUSTION PLANT</b>	BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048
	PLANT Beaver Island
	PERIOD ENDED December, 2015
INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.	

**SECTION A. INTERNAL COMBUSTION GENERATING UNITS**

NO.	UNIT NO. (a)	SIZE (kW) (b)	FUEL CONSUMPTION				OPERATING HOURS				BTU PER kWh (l)	
			OIL (1000 Gals.) (c)	GAS (1000 C.F.) (d)	OTHER (e)	TOTAL (f)	IN SERVICE (g)	ON STANDBY (h)	OUT OF SERVICE SCHED. (i)	OUT OF SERVICE UNSCH. (j)		GROSS GENER.(MWh) (k)
1.	1	1,250	4.79				98	8,662			89	
2.	2	1,250	4.84				99	8,661			89	
3.	3	900	4.63				93	8,667			62	
4.												
5.												
6.	<b>Total</b>	3,400	14.26	0.00	0.00			290	25,990	0	0	
7.	Average BTU		139,971.94				Station Service (MWh)				164.00	
8.	Total BTU (10 <sup>6</sup> )		1,996.00			1,996.00	Net Generation (MWh)				76.00	
9.	Total Del. Cost (\$)		54,762.00				Station Service % of Gross				68.33	26,263.16

**SECTION B. LABOR REPORT**

SECTION B. LABOR REPORT			SECTION C. FACTORS & MAXIMUM DEMAND			
NO.	ITEM	VALUE	NO.	ITEM	VALUE	
1.	No. Employees Full Time (Include Superintendent)		5.	Maintenance Plant Payroll (\$)		
2.	No. Employees Part Time			6.	Other Accounts Plant Payroll (\$)	
3.	<b>Total Employee Hours Worked</b>		7.		<b>Total Plant Payroll (\$)</b>	
4.	Operating Plant Payroll (\$)					
1.			1.	Load Factor (%)	1.01%	
			2.	Plant Factor (%)	0.81%	
			3.	Running Plant Capacity Factor (%)	72.74%	
			4.	15 Min. Gross Max. Demand (kW)	2,700	
			5.	Indicated Gross Max. Demand (kW)	2,700	

**SECTION D. COST OF NET ENERGY GENERATED**

NO.	PRODUCTION EXPENSE	ACCOUNT NUMBER	AMOUNT (\$) (a)	MILLS/NET (kWh) (b)	\$/10 <sup>6</sup> BTU (c)	
1.	Operation, Supervision and Engineering	546	0			
2.	Fuel, Oil	547.1	65,101			
3.	Fuel, Gas	547.2	0			
4.	Fuel, Other	547.3	0			
5.	Energy for Compressed Air	547.4	0			0.00
6.	<b>Fuel SubTotal (2 thru 5)</b>	547	65,101			856.59
7.	Generation Expenses	548	119,603			
8.	Miscellaneous Other Power Generation Expenses	549	0			
9.	Rents	550	0			
10.	<b>Non-Fuel SubTotal (1 + 7 thru 9)</b>		119,603			1,573.72
11.	<b>Operation Expense (6 + 10)</b>		184,704	2,430.32		
12.	Maintenance, Supervision and Engineering	551	0			
13.	Maintenance of Structures	552	0			
14.	Maintenance of Generating and Electric Plant	553	40,208			
15.	Maintenance of Miscellaneous Other Power Generating Plant	554	0			
16.	<b>Maintenance Expense (12 thru 15)</b>		40,208			529.05
17.	<b>Total Production Expense (11 + 16)</b>		224,912	2,959.37		
18.	Depreciation	403.4,411.10	57,625			
19.	Interest	427	0			
20.	<b>Total Fixed Cost (18 + 19)</b>		57,625			758.22
21.	<b>Power Cost (17 + 20)</b>		282,537	3,717.59		

Remarks (including Unscheduled Outages)

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0572-0032. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 15 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE  <b>FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT</b> <b>ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION</b>	BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048
	PERIOD ENDED December, 2015 (Prepared with Audited Data)
	BORROWER NAME Great Lakes Energy Cooperative

INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.

This information is analyzed and used to determine the submitter's financial situation and feasibility for loans and guarantees. You are required by contract and applicable regulations to provide the information. The information provided is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552)

**CERTIFICATION**

We recognize that statements contained herein concern a matter within the jurisdiction of an agency of the United States and the making of a false, fictitious or fraudulent statement may render the maker subject to prosecution under Title 18, United States Code Section 1001.

We hereby certify that the entries in this report are in accordance with the accounts and other records of the system and reflect the status of the system to the best of our knowledge and belief.

**ALL INSURANCE REQUIRED BY PART 1788 OF 7 CFR CHAPTER XVII, RUS, WAS IN FORCE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD AND RENEWALS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FOR ALL POLICIES DURING THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT PURSUANT TO PART 1718 OF 7 CFR CHAPTER XVII**  
(check one of the following)

All of the obligations under the RUS loan documents have been fulfilled in all material respects.

There has been a default in the fulfillment of the obligations under the RUS loan documents. Said default(s) is/are specifically described in Part D of this report.

Steven Boeckman

3/22/2016  
DATE

**PART A. STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

ITEM	YEAR-TO-DATE			THIS MONTH (d)
	LAST YEAR (a)	THIS YEAR (b)	BUDGET (c)	
1. Operating Revenue and Patronage Capital	189,493,758	185,392,635	185,793,602	16,851,724
2. Power Production Expense	197,078	224,912	198,920	20,536
3. Cost of Purchased Power	122,074,400	117,708,918	117,987,545	11,363,856
4. Transmission Expense				
5. Regional Market Expense				
6. Distribution Expense - Operation	10,909,294	11,292,495	11,111,580	1,156,087
7. Distribution Expense - Maintenance	11,103,107	13,978,527	12,752,623	2,223,819
8. Customer Accounts Expense	5,048,410	5,165,427	5,353,496	466,730
9. Customer Service and Informational Expense	2,784,844	2,885,742	3,008,136	246,977
10. Sales Expense	350,604	389,353	396,591	40,913
11. Administrative and General Expense	8,300,345	8,335,886	8,657,043	908,609
<b>12. Total Operation &amp; Maintenance Expense (2 thru 11)</b>	<b>160,768,082</b>	<b>159,981,260</b>	<b>159,465,934</b>	<b>16,427,527</b>
13. Depreciation and Amortization Expense	12,741,910	13,306,891	13,017,782	1,122,197
14. Tax Expense - Property & Gross Receipts				
15. Tax Expense - Other	13,769	11,618	10,000	1,336
16. Interest on Long-Term Debt	10,109,722	10,170,829	10,305,908	881,875
17. Interest Charged to Construction - Credit				
18. Interest Expense - Other	195,486	46,881	44,147	4,212
19. Other Deductions	151,303	181,765	106,000	19,548
<b>20. Total Cost of Electric Service (12 thru 19)</b>	<b>183,980,272</b>	<b>183,699,244</b>	<b>182,949,771</b>	<b>18,456,695</b>
<b>21. Patronage Capital &amp; Operating Margins (1 minus 20)</b>	<b>5,513,486</b>	<b>1,693,391</b>	<b>2,843,831</b>	<b>(1,604,971)</b>
22. Non Operating Margins - Interest	1,708,758	1,651,595	1,616,114	194,742
23. Allowance for Funds Used During Construction				
24. Income (Loss) from Equity Investments	4,929	(8,439)	5,525	(1,831)
25. Non Operating Margins - Other	(175,495)	(117,570)	(140,000)	(3,925)
26. Generation and Transmission Capital Credits	7,220,892	9,768,492	6,900,000	165,824
27. Other Capital Credits and Patronage Dividends	1,092,813	1,078,198	1,105,000	65,285
28. Extraordinary Items				
<b>29. Patronage Capital or Margins (21 thru 28)</b>	<b>15,365,383</b>	<b>14,065,667</b>	<b>12,330,470</b>	<b>(1,184,876)</b>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE			BORROWER DESIGNATION		
FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION			MI0048		
INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.			PERIOD ENDED December, 2015		
PART B. DATA ON TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION PLANT					
ITEM	YEAR-TO-DATE		ITEM	YEAR-TO-DATE	
	LAST YEAR (a)	THIS YEAR (b)		LAST YEAR (a)	THIS YEAR (b)
1. New Services Connected	777	771	5. Miles Transmission		
2. Services Retired	477	217	6. Miles Distribution – Overhead	11,000.00	10,988.00
3. Total Services in Place	133,494	134,048	7. Miles Distribution - Underground	3,245.00	3,307.00
4. Idle Services (Exclude Seasonals)	10,572	10,477	8. Total Miles Energized (5 + 6 + 7)	14,245.00	14,295.00
PART C. BALANCE SHEET					
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS			LIABILITIES AND OTHER CREDITS		
1. Total Utility Plant in Service	442,680,073		30. Memberships	519,740	
2. Construction Work in Progress	4,098,537		31. Patronage Capital	170,020,569	
3. Total Utility Plant (1 + 2)	446,778,610		32. Operating Margins - Prior Years	0	
4. Accum. Provision for Depreciation and Amort.	123,088,405		33. Operating Margins - Current Year	12,540,079	
5. Net Utility Plant (3 - 4)	323,690,205		34. Non-Operating Margins	1,525,586	
6. Non-Utility Property (Net)	0		35. Other Margins and Equities	4,575,977	
7. Investments in Subsidiary Companies	588,389		36. Total Margins & Equities (30 thru 35)	189,181,951	
8. Invest. in Assoc. Org. - Patronage Capital	114,496,213		37. Long-Term Debt - RUS (Net)	0	
9. Invest. in Assoc. Org. - Other - General Funds	0		38. Long-Term Debt - FFB - RUS Guaranteed	134,956,362	
10. Invest. in Assoc. Org. - Other - Nongeneral Funds	4,608,163		39. Long-Term Debt - Other - RUS Guaranteed	0	
11. Investments in Economic Development Projects	686,297		40. Long-Term Debt Other (Net)	131,953,243	
12. Other Investments	1,659,204		41. Long-Term Debt - RUS - Econ. Devel. (Net)	240,000	
13. Special Funds	0		42. Payments – Unapplied	21,862,272	
14. Total Other Property & Investments (6 thru 13)	122,038,266		43. Total Long-Term Debt (37 thru 41 - 42)	245,287,333	
15. Cash - General Funds	6,643,140		44. Obligations Under Capital Leases - Noncurrent	0	
16. Cash - Construction Funds - Trustee	0		45. Accumulated Operating Provisions and Asset Retirement Obligations	10,038,912	
17. Special Deposits	0		46. Total Other Noncurrent Liabilities (44 + 45)	10,038,912	
18. Temporary Investments	0		47. Notes Payable	0	
19. Notes Receivable (Net)	0		48. Accounts Payable	12,927,111	
20. Accounts Receivable - Sales of Energy (Net)	21,178,800		49. Consumers Deposits	1,609,306	
21. Accounts Receivable - Other (Net)	1,231,708		50. Current Maturities Long-Term Debt	5,784,221	
22. Renewable Energy Credits	0		51. Current Maturities Long-Term Debt - Economic Development	60,000	
23. Materials and Supplies - Electric & Other	2,755,331		52. Current Maturities Capital Leases	0	
24. Prepayments	1,478,585		53. Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	11,595,633	
25. Other Current and Accrued Assets	56,397		54. Total Current & Accrued Liabilities (47 thru 53)	31,976,271	
26. Total Current and Accrued Assets (15 thru 25)	33,343,961		55. Regulatory Liabilities	0	
27. Regulatory Assets	1,095,411		56. Other Deferred Credits	9,968,748	
28. Other Deferred Debits	6,285,372		57. Total Liabilities and Other Credits (36 + 43 + 46 + 54 thru 56)	486,453,215	
29. Total Assets and Other Debits (5+14+26 thru 28)	486,453,215				

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE <b>FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT          ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION</b>	BORROWER DESIGNATION  MI0048
INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.	PERIOD ENDED December, 2015

**PART D. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

During 2015, Great Lakes Energy (GLE) refinanced approximately \$46.2 of RUS debt with Cobank. In conjunction with the RUS refinancing, GLE entered into an interest rate swap agreement with Cobank.

Appropriate hedge accounting standards have been followed in recording the swap transactions. As required by hedge standards, GLE has recorded \$1,813,413 as Other Comprehensive Loss related to the change in fair market value of the swap notes at 12/31/15. The accounting entry reduces equity and increases noncurrent liabilities. GLE's audited financial statements show the resulting liability on the audited balance sheet as a separate line item.

On this Financial and Operating Report, the interest swap liability is included in line 45 of Part C, Balance Sheet, and agrees to total noncurrent liabilities reported in GLE's audited financial statements.

The interest rate swap agreement is also disclosed in the audited financial statement footnotes as follows:

In 2015, GLE entered into three interest rate swap agreements. As of December 31, 2015, GLE had three variable rate notes outstanding with Cobank totaling \$46,264,123. This debt was refinanced in 2015 from fixed interest debt to variable rate debt. The notes accrue interest at 1-month LIBOR plus 1%. Prior to refinancing, the fixed rate debt bore interest at an average rate of 3.91%. In order to hedge interest rate risk, GLE entered into three corresponding interest rate swaps with notional amounts equaling the principal balances of the variable rate notes. The swap agreement notes bear interest at 1-month Libor plus 2.29%, 2.39% and 2.51%. The interest payments are due monthly with payments settled on a net basis. The net effect of the swap was to convert variable rate debt into fixed rate debt with an effective interest rate of 3.5%.

The notional amount under the swap decreases as principal payments are made on the note so that the notional amount equals the principal outstanding under the note. The swap is designed to hedge the risk of changes in interest payments on the note caused by changes in LIBOR.

<p style="text-align: center;">UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION</p>	<p>BORROWER DESIGNATION  MI0048</p>
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<p><b>PART D. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b></p>	
<p>The swap was issued at market terms so that it had no fair value at its inception. The carrying amount of the swap has been adjusted to its fair value at the end of the year, which because of changes in forecasted levels of LIBOR resulted in reporting a liability for the fair value of the future net payments forecasted under the swap. The liability is classified as noncurrent since management does not intend to settle it during 2016. Since the critical terms of the swap and the note are the same, the swap is assumed to be completely effective as a hedge, and none of the change in its fair value is included in operating income. Accordingly, all of the adjustment of the swap's carrying amount is reported as other comprehensive loss.</p>	

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<p>INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.</p>	<p>PERIOD ENDED December, 2015</p>
<p><b>PART D. CERTIFICATION LOAN DEFAULT NOTES</b></p>	
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

**FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION**

BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048

PERIOD ENDED December, 2015

INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.

**PART E. CHANGES IN UTILITY PLANT**

PLANT ITEM	BALANCE BEGINNING OF YEAR (a)	ADDITIONS (b)	RETIREMENTS (c)	ADJUSTMENTS AND TRANSFERS (d)	BALANCE END OF YEAR (e)
1. Distribution Plant	381,563,528	20,882,991	5,605,222		396,841,297
2. General Plant	29,727,584	2,272,011	2,513,222	104,445	29,590,818
3. Headquarters Plant	14,247,894	60,551		(91,016)	14,217,429
4. Intangibles	7,268		5,430		1,838
5. Transmission Plant	0				0
6. Regional Transmission and Market Operation Plant					
7. All Other Utility Plant	2,028,298	392			2,028,690
<b>8. Total Utility Plant in Service (1 thru 7)</b>	<b>427,574,572</b>	<b>23,215,945</b>	<b>8,123,874</b>	<b>13,429</b>	<b>442,680,072</b>
9. Construction Work in Progress	6,717,951	(2,619,414)			4,098,537
<b>10. Total Utility Plant (8 + 9)</b>	<b>434,292,523</b>	<b>20,596,531</b>	<b>8,123,874</b>	<b>13,429</b>	<b>446,778,609</b>

**PART F. MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES**

ITEM	BALANCE BEGINNING OF YEAR (a)	PURCHASED (b)	SALVAGED (c)	USED (NET) (d)	SOLD (e)	ADJUSTMENT (f)	BALANCE END OF YEAR (g)
1. Electric	2,763,213	5,551,772	76,588	5,668,760	59,497	92,014	2,755,330
2. Other	0						0

**PART G. SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

ITEM	AVERAGE MINUTES PER CONSUMER BY CAUSE				TOTAL (e)
	POWER SUPPLIER (a)	MAJOR EVENT (b)	PLANNED (c)	ALL OTHER (d)	
1. Present Year	12.210	737.310	4.770	158.050	912.340
2. Five-Year Average	19.160	473.570	6.790	155.610	655.130

**PART H. EMPLOYEE-HOUR AND PAYROLL STATISTICS**

1. Number of Full Time Employees	240	4. Payroll - Expensed	11,396,885
2. Employee - Hours Worked - Regular Time	487,766	5. Payroll - Capitalized	4,500,504
3. Employee - Hours Worked - Overtime	31,517	6. Payroll - Other	4,311,508

**PART I. PATRONAGE CAPITAL**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	THIS YEAR (a)	CUMULATIVE (b)
1. Capital Credits - Distributions	a. General Retirements	4,707,836	
	b. Special Retirements	382,020	
	<b>c. Total Retirements (a + b)</b>	<b>5,089,856</b>	
2. Capital Credits - Received	a. Cash Received From Retirement of Patronage Capital by Suppliers of Electric Power	1,686,076	
	b. Cash Received From Retirement of Patronage Capital by Lenders for Credit Extended to the Electric System	688,586	
	<b>c. Total Cash Received (a + b)</b>	<b>2,374,662</b>	

**PART J. DUE FROM CONSUMERS FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE**

1. Amount Due Over 60 Days	\$ 671,117	2. Amount Written Off During Year	\$ 276,325
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**ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM**

1. Anticipated Loan Delinquency %		4. Anticipated Loan Default %	
2. Actual Loan Delinquency %		5. Actual Loan Default %	
3. Total Loan Delinquency Dollars YTD	\$	6. Total Loan Default Dollars YTD	\$

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**PART K. kWh PURCHASED AND TOTAL COST**

No	ITEM	SUPPLIER CODE	RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM NAME	RENEWABLE FUEL TYPE	kWh PURCHASED	TOTAL COST	AVERAGE COST (Cents/kWh)	INCLUDED IN TOTAL COST - FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT	INCLUDED IN TOTAL COST - WHEELING AND OTHER CHARGES
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
1	Wolverine Pwr Supply Coop, Inc	20910			1,393,685,705	111,588,054	8.01		
2	Wolverine Pwr Supply Coop, Inc	20910	Wind	Wind	76,446,895	6,120,864	8.01		
	Total				1,470,132,600	117,708,918	8.01		



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<b>PART K. kWh PURCHASED AND TOTAL COST</b>		
<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>	
1		
2		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE <b>FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT          ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION</b>	BORROWER DESIGNATION  MI0048
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**PART L. LONG-TERM LEASES**

No	NAME OF LESSOR (a)	TYPE OF PROPERTY (b)	RENTAL THIS YEAR (c)
1	Antenna Designs	Tower	4,620
2	EW Marine	Tower	12,600
3	CSX	Railroad	4,469
4	State of Michigan	Railroad	195
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>21,884</b>

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<b>PART M. ANNUAL MEETING AND BOARD DATA</b>			
1. Date of Last Annual Meeting 8/26/2015	2. Total Number of Members 104,171	3. Number of Members Present at Meeting 0	4. Was Quorum Present? N
5. Number of Members Voting by Proxy or Mail 1,620	6. Total Number of Board Members 9	7. Total Amount of Fees and Expenses for Board Members \$ 381,240	8. Does Manager Have Written Contract? Y

**RUS Financial and Operating Report Electric Distribution**

**Revision Date 2014**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION			BORROWER DESIGNATION  MI0048		
INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.			PERIOD ENDED December, 2015		
<b>PART N. LONG-TERM DEBT AND DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS</b>					
No	ITEM	BALANCE END OF YEAR (a)	INTEREST (Billed This Year) (b)	PRINCIPAL (Billed This Year) (c)	TOTAL (Billed This Year) (d)
1	Rural Utilities Service (Excludes RUS - Economic Development Loans)	0	1,553,065	1,293,832	2,846,897
2	National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation	9,178,450	229,775	845,659	1,075,434
3	CoBank, ACB	122,374,793	3,865,881	5,275,563	9,141,444
4	Federal Financing Bank	134,956,362	4,493,784	2,632,195	7,125,979
5	RUS - Economic Development Loans	240,000	0	82,500	82,500
6	Payments Unapplied	21,862,272			
7	Principal Payments Received from Ultimate Recipients of IRP Loans				
8	Principal Payments Received from Ultimate Recipients of REDL Loans				
9	Principal Payments Received from Ultimate Recipients of EE Loans				
10	Economic Dev. City of Newwaygo	400,000			
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>245,287,333</b>	<b>10,142,505</b>	<b>10,129,749</b>	<b>20,272,254</b>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE		BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048		
FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION		PERIOD ENDED December, 2015		
INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.				
PART O. POWER REQUIREMENTS DATABASE - ANNUAL SUMMARY				
CLASSIFICATION	CONSUMER SALES & REVENUE DATA	DECEMBER (a)	AVERAGE NO. CONSUMERS SERVED (b)	TOTAL YEAR TO DATE (c)
1. Residential Sales (excluding seasonal)	a. No. Consumers Served	74,212	74,045	
	b. kWh Sold			695,450,652
	c. Revenue			97,722,221
2. Residential Sales - Seasonal	a. No. Consumers Served	38,580	38,387	
	b. kWh Sold			122,756,927
	c. Revenue			26,831,864
3. Irrigation Sales	a. No. Consumers Served			
	b. kWh Sold			
	c. Revenue			
4. Comm. and Ind. 1000 KVA or Less	a. No. Consumers Served	10,444	10,438	
	b. kWh Sold			168,670,520
	c. Revenue			21,969,546
5. Comm. and Ind. Over 1000 KVA	a. No. Consumers Served	337	329	
	b. kWh Sold			422,419,794
	c. Revenue			35,315,131
6. Public Street & Highway Lighting	a. No. Consumers Served			
	b. kWh Sold			
	c. Revenue			
7. Other Sales to Public Authorities	a. No. Consumers Served			
	b. kWh Sold			
	c. Revenue			
8. Sales for Resale - RUS Borrowers	a. No. Consumers Served			
	b. kWh Sold			
	c. Revenue			
9. Sales for Resale - Other	a. No. Consumers Served			
	b. kWh Sold			
	c. Revenue			
<b>10. Total No. of Consumers (lines 1a thru 9a)</b>		123,573	123,199	
<b>11. Total kWh Sold (lines 1b thru 9b)</b>				1,409,297,893
<b>12. Total Revenue Received From Sales of Electric Energy (lines 1c thru 9c)</b>				181,838,762
13. Transmission Revenue				0
14. Other Electric Revenue				3,553,869
15. kWh - Own Use				164,000
16. Total kWh Purchased				1,470,132,600
17. Total kWh Generated				240,000
18. Cost of Purchases and Generation				117,933,830
19. Interchange - kWh - Net				
20. Peak - Sum All kW Input (Metered) Non-coincident <input type="checkbox"/> Coincident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				262,369

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

**FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION**

BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048

PERIOD ENDED December, 2015

INSTRUCTIONS - See help in the online application.

**PART P. ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS**

CLASSIFICATION	ADDED THIS YEAR			TOTAL TO DATE		
	No. of Consumers (a)	Amount Invested (b)	Estimated MMBTU Savings (c)	No. of Consumers (d)	Amount Invested (e)	Estimated MMBTU Savings (f)
1. Residential Sales (excluding seasonal)	4,586	904,168	14,177	19,103	4,178,894	93,229
2. Residential Sales - Seasonal	768	151,337	2,373	2,761	585,685	12,902
3. Irrigation Sales						
4. Comm. and Ind. 1000 KVA or Less	86	529,406	11,983	494	2,491,484	55,020
5. Comm. and Ind. Over 1000 KVA	45	273,536	6,191	247	1,216,056	35,719
6. Public Street and Highway Lighting						
7. Other Sales to Public Authorities						
8. Sales for Resale - RUS Borrowers						
9. Sales for Resale - Other						
<b>10. Total</b>	<b>5,485</b>	<b>1,858,447</b>	<b>34,724</b>	<b>22,605</b>	<b>8,472,119</b>	<b>196,870</b>

RUS Financial and Operating Report Electric Distribution

Revision Date 2014

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE	BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048
FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION INVESTMENTS, LOAN GUARANTEES AND LOANS	PERIOD ENDED December, 2015

INSTRUCTIONS - Reporting of investments is required by 7 CFR 1717, Subpart N. Investment categories reported on this Part correspond to Balance Sheet items in Part C. Identify all investments in Rural Development with an 'X' in column (e). Both 'Included' and 'Excluded' Investments must be reported. See help in the online application.

**PART Q. SECTION I. INVESTMENTS (See Instructions for definitions of Income or Loss)**

No	DESCRIPTION (a)	INCLUDED (\$) (b)	EXCLUDED (\$) (c)	INCOME OR LOSS (\$) (d)	RURAL DEVELOPMENT (e)
<b>2</b>	<b>Investments in Associated Organizations</b>				
	Investment in Subsidiaries	588,389			
	WPC patronage - G&T		111,740,254		
	NRUCFC Patronage		770,763		
	Federated Patronage	440,101			
	CoBank patronage		1,040,380		
	NISC Patronage	156,966			
	Resco Patronage	331,198			
	Resco Stock	5,400			
	WPC Membership - G&T	600			
	NRUCFC Membership		1,000		
	CoBank Membership		1,000		
	NRTC Membership	2,000			
	NISC Membership	25			
	Geothermal Energy Membership	600			
	NRUCFC CTC's/Membership Certificates		4,597,538		
	NRTC patronage	16,552			
	Totals	1,541,831	118,150,935		
<b>3</b>	<b>Investments in Economic Development Projects</b>				
	IRP Loans		74,774		X
	Revolving Loan Fund		311,523		X
	Kilwins Confections		300,000		X
	Totals		686,297		
<b>4</b>	<b>Other Investments</b>				
	Homestead Funds - GLE employees Def. comp.		306,505		
	Homestead funds - Director Def. Comp.		47,774		
	American Funds - Mutual Funds		1,304,925		
	Totals		1,659,204		
<b>6</b>	<b>Cash - General</b>				
	Fifth Third Bank	4,440,853	250,000		
	West Shore Bank	277,579	250,000		
	Choice One Bank	310,708	118,446		
	Huntington Bank	31,529	250,000		
	United Bank of Michigan	1,529	175,580		
	Choice One Bank - Economic Dev.		442,924		X
	Choice One Bank - Revolving Loan Fund		89,910		X
	Choice One Bank - IRP Account		7		X
	Working Funds - Petty Cash	4,075			
	Totals	5,066,273	1,576,867		
<b>9</b>	<b>Accounts and Notes Receivable - NET</b>				
	Other Accounts Receivable - Net		1,231,708		
	Totals		1,231,708		
<b>11</b>	<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS (1 thru 10)</b>	6,608,104	123,305,011		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE  <b>FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT</b> <b>ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION</b> <b>INVESTMENTS, LOAN GUARANTEES AND LOANS</b>	BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048  PERIOD ENDED December, 2015
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INSTRUCTIONS - Reporting of investments is required by 7 CFR 1717, Subpart N. Investment categories reported on this Part correspond to Balance Sheet items in Part C. Identify all investments in Rural Development with an 'X' in column (e). Both 'Included' and 'Excluded' Investments must be reported. See help in the online application.

<b>PART Q. SECTION II. LOAN GUARANTEES</b>					
No	ORGANIZATION (a)	MATURITY DATE (b)	ORIGINAL AMOUNT (\$) (c)	LOAN BALANCE (\$) (d)	RURAL DEVELOPMENT (e)
	<b>TOTAL</b>				
	TOTAL (Included Loan Guarantees Only)				



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE  <b>FINANCIAL AND OPERATING REPORT</b> <b>ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION</b> <b>INVESTMENTS, LOAN GUARANTEES AND LOANS</b>	BORROWER DESIGNATION MI0048
	PERIOD ENDED December, 2015

INSTRUCTIONS - Reporting of investments is required by 7 CFR 1717, Subpart N. Investment categories reported on this Part correspond to Balance Sheet items in Part C. Identify all investments in Rural Development with an 'X' in column (e). Both 'Included' and 'Excluded' Investments must be reported. See help in the online application.

**SECTION III. RATIO**

RATIO OF INVESTMENTS AND LOAN GUARANTEES TO UTILITY PLANT [Total of Included Investments (Section I, 11b) and Loan Guarantees - Loan Balance (Section II, 5d) to Total Utility Plant (Line 3, Part C) of this report]	1.48 %
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**SECTION IV. LOANS**

No	ORGANIZATION (a)	MATURITY DATE (b)	ORIGINAL AMOUNT (\$) (c)	LOAN BALANCE (\$) (d)	RURAL DEVELOPMENT (e)
1	Employees, Officers, Directors		17,168	7,262	
2	Energy Resources Conservation Loans				
	<b>TOTAL</b>		17,168	7,262	



Consolidated Financial Statements  
December 31, 2015 and 2014

# Great Lakes Energy Cooperative

# GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE

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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

The Board of Directors  
Great Lakes Energy Cooperative  
Boyer City, Michigan

### **Report on the Consolidated Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of revenues and net margins, changes in equities, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Report Issued in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated April 15, 2016, on our consideration of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. Those reports are an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

The image shows a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eide Sully LLP". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and date.

Fargo, North Dakota  
April 15, 2016

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Consolidated Balance Sheets  
as of December 31, 2015 and 2014

ASSETS	2015	2014	EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES	2015	2014
ELECTRIC PLANT:			EQUITIES:		
Distribution and generation plant, at cost	\$ 446,778,610	\$ 434,292,524	Memberships	\$ 519,740	\$ 519,740
Less accumulated depreciation	123,088,405	118,937,146	Patronage capital	182,165,318	173,125,003
Net electric plant	323,690,205	315,355,378	Donated capital	4,575,977	3,885,138
			Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,920,916	4,102,581
			Total equities	189,181,951	181,632,462
OTHER ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS:					
Nonutility property, net of accumulated depreciation	-	996	LONG-TERM DEBT, net of current maturities	245,287,333	239,917,056
Investments and memberships	120,763,580	112,413,369			
Notes and other receivables	368,436	473,171	OBLIGATION UNDER INTEREST RATE SWAP	1,813,413	-
Total other assets and investments	121,132,016	112,887,536			
			OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	8,225,499	6,761,992
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Cash	7,199,816	3,189,831	CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible accounts of \$1,404,241 in 2015 and \$1,440,313 in 2014	22,513,000	24,431,036	Current maturities of long-term debt	5,844,221	5,566,020
Materials and supplies	2,755,330	2,763,213	Notes payable	-	158,487
Other current assets, including current portion of notes and other receivables	2,574,821	2,546,615	Accounts payable	12,926,989	13,300,143
Total current assets	35,042,967	32,930,695	Accrued expenses	11,595,632	10,687,045
			Customer deposits	1,609,306	1,600,152
DEFERRED CHARGES	6,587,905	6,970,326	Total current liabilities	31,976,148	31,311,847
			DEFERRED CREDITS	9,968,749	8,520,578
Total assets	\$ 486,453,093	\$ 468,143,935	Total equities and liabilities	\$ 486,453,093	\$ 468,143,935

The accompanying notes are a part of these consolidated financial statements.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Consolidated Statements of Revenues and Net Margins  
for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
OPERATING REVENUES	\$ 185,392,635	\$ 189,493,758
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Purchased and produced power	117,933,830	122,271,478
Distribution expenses:		
Operations	11,292,495	10,909,294
Maintenance	13,978,527	11,103,107
Customer accounts and service expense	8,440,522	8,183,858
Administration and general	8,336,211	8,300,670
Depreciation and amortization	13,306,911	12,741,957
Other operating expenses	219,103	211,056
Total operating expenses	173,507,599	173,721,420
OPERATING MARGINS BEFORE FIXED CHARGES	11,885,036	15,772,338
FIXED CHARGES, interest expense	10,217,710	10,305,208
OPERATING MARGINS AFTER FIXED CHARGES	1,667,326	5,467,130
NON-OPERATING MARGINS:		
Interest income	1,654,235	1,712,043
Other expenses, net of other income	(92,638)	(114,604)
Total non-operating margins	1,561,597	1,597,439
CAPITAL CREDITS, from associated organizations	10,846,690	8,313,705
Net margins before federal income taxes	14,075,613	15,378,274
PROVISION FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX	9,946	12,890
Net margins	\$ 14,065,667	\$ 15,365,384

The accompanying notes are a part of these consolidated financial statements.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows  
for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net margins	\$ 14,065,667	\$ 15,365,384
Adjustments to reconcile net margins to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	13,306,911	12,741,987
Capital credits from associated organizations	(10,846,690)	(8,313,705)
Net gain on sale of assets	(120,966)	(149,130)
Unrealized appreciation on investments	7,480	(27,208)
Bad debt provision	292,500	292,500
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	1,320,795	(2,238,677)
Materials and supplies	84,470	(96,181)
Retirement security plan prepayment	(107,008)	(50,517)
Other assets and deferred charges	580,315	104,163
Accounts payable	(373,927)	22,178
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	908,588	1,859,270
Customer deposits	9,155	166,463
Other non-current liabilities and deferred credits	2,031,769	128,070
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>21,159,059</u>	<u>19,804,597</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net investments and memberships	2,428,150	5,409,382
Proceeds from sale of assets	159,970	159,966
Property additions	(20,841,481)	(24,186,806)
Plant removal costs	(2,716,394)	(2,327,698)
Additions to notes receivable	(11,367)	(256,258)
Collection on notes receivable	90,893	71,400
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(20,890,229)</u>	<u>(21,130,014)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Contributions in aid of construction received net of refunds	2,268,161	972,355
Net proceeds from (payment of) short-term debt	(158,488)	247
Proceeds from long-term debt	15,001,856	17,912,000
Payment of long-term debt	(9,353,377)	(11,166,908)
Capital credits paid out	(4,707,836)	(7,143,391)
Capital credits paid out of donated capital	(449)	(262)
Recovery of previously paid out capital credits	691,288	233,573
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>3,741,155</u>	<u>807,614</u>
Net change in cash	4,009,985	(517,803)
CASH, beginning of year	3,189,831	3,707,634
CASH, end of year	<u>\$ 7,199,816</u>	<u>\$ 3,189,831</u>

The accompanying notes are a part of these consolidated financial statements.



GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equities  
Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	Memberships	Patronage Capital	Donated Capital	AOCI	Total
Balance at December 31, 2013	\$ 519,740	\$ 165,057,286	\$ 3,651,828	\$ 4,073,555	\$ 173,302,409
Net margins	-	15,365,384	-	-	15,365,384
Other comprehensive income (expense):					
Unrealized holding gain on securities	-	-	-	12,563	12,563
Directors' Pension and Retiree Welfare Benefit Plan liability adjustment	-	-	-	16,463	16,463
Sales tax returned	-	181,864	-	-	181,864
Undeliverable retired patronage refunds to members and other adjustments	-	-	233,310	-	233,310
Patronage refunds to members:					
Cash refunds	-	(7,143,392)	-	-	(7,143,392)
Non-cash refunds	-	(336,139)	-	-	(336,139)
Balance at December 31, 2014	519,740	173,125,003	3,885,138	4,102,581	181,632,462
Net margins	-	14,065,667	-	-	14,065,667
Other comprehensive income (expense):					
Unrealized holding loss on securities	-	-	-	(60,847)	(60,847)
Directors' Pension and Retiree Welfare Benefit Plan liability adjustment	-	-	-	(307,405)	(307,405)
Unrealized loss on interest rate swap	-	-	-	(1,813,413)	(1,813,413)
Sales tax returned	-	58,831	-	-	58,831
Undeliverable retired patronage refunds to members and other adjustments	-	-	690,839	-	690,839
Patronage refunds to members:					
Cash refunds	-	(4,707,837)	-	-	(4,707,837)
Non-cash refunds	-	(376,346)	-	-	(376,346)
Balance at December 31, 2015	<u>\$ 519,740</u>	<u>\$ 182,165,318</u>	<u>\$ 4,575,977</u>	<u>\$ 1,920,916</u>	<u>\$ 189,181,951</u>

The accompanying notes are a part of these consolidated financial statements.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income  
for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
NET MARGINS	\$ 14,065,667	\$ 15,365,384
Other comprehensive income (expense):		
Unrealized holding gain on securities arising during year	(60,847)	12,563
Directors' pension liability adjustment	-	164,470
Employees' Postretirement Health Insurance Benefit Plan liability adjustment	(307,405)	(148,007)
Reduction in fair value of interest rate swap	(1,813,413)	-
Net other comprehensive income (loss)	(2,181,665)	29,026
Comprehensive income	\$ 11,884,002	\$ 15,394,410

The accompanying notes are a part of these consolidated financial statements.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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**NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Nature of Operations**

Great Lakes Energy Cooperative (the Company) is an electric distribution company servicing rural areas in parts of 26 counties located in the western portion of Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

The Company is organized as a member cooperative with all customers being members. Each member who joins the cooperative is entitled to certain membership rights, including the right to vote on certain corporate matters. The Company is governed by a board of directors elected by the members.

As a cooperative, annual net margins are assigned to members as capital credits based on their relative purchase of electric power during the year. It is the Company's policy to retire these capital credits when the financial condition of the Company permits.

The Company has a wholly-owned subsidiary which engages in certain business activities unrelated to the distribution of electricity.

The Company is a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code, except for tax on any unrelated business income. The Company's subsidiary is a corporation that is not exempt from federal income tax. The Company and its subsidiary are both exempt from income taxes levied by The State of Michigan.

**Basis of Accounting**

The Company is subject to the accounting and reporting rules and regulations of Rural Utilities Service, a Federal Government agency. The Company follows the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Uniform System of Accounts prescribed for Class A and B Electric Utilities as modified by the Rural Utilities Service.

**Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Great Lakes Utilities Services Corporation (GLUS). All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

**Electric Plant**

Electric plant includes the electric distribution system, a small generating plant, real estate and various buildings and operating equipment. These assets are recorded at cost, net of any contributions received from customers to defray the cost of constructing the distribution system. Assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives under the straight-line method.

The cost of any distribution system and generating plant that is retired, plus the cost of removal, net of any salvage value realized, is charged, in total, against accumulated depreciation; a gain or loss is not recognized. The cost and related accumulated depreciation of buildings and operating equipment retired or sold are removed from their respective accounts and a gain or loss is recognized.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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**Nonutility Property**

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, non-utility property consisted of equipment being depreciated under the straight-line method over its estimated useful life using the lives permitted for income tax purposes.

**Investments and Memberships**

Investments and memberships include investments in other cooperatives and various mutual funds. The investments in cooperatives, which comprise the majority of investments, are carried at cost plus assigned capital credits less any capital credits paid to the Company. Income from investments in other cooperatives is recognized when capital credits are assigned by those cooperatives.

Investments in mutual funds are carried at market value. Certain of these investments are directly related to deferred-compensation obligations and changes in market value are recorded as changes in the related liability. The remaining investments are classified as available-for-sale with changes in market value reported in other comprehensive income until realized.

**Notes and Other Receivables**

Notes and other receivables include primarily low or zero interest loans made under Federal Rural Economic Development programs. These receivables, as reported in the balance sheets, are net of related allowances for uncollectible accounts of \$116,987 in 2015 and \$104,987 in 2014 with any additions to the allowance charged against margins. Interest income is recognized on these receivables by applying the stipulated interest rates to any unpaid balance; any fee revenue is recognized when assessed.

**Electric Revenues and Accounts Receivable**

Rates for electricity charged to members are established by the Board of Directors. Revenue is recognized when electricity is delivered to customers. Bills are rendered in staggered cycles throughout each month for economic and business reasons. Consequently, at the end of each month a portion of the recorded revenue remains unbilled. The unbilled revenue is computed by applying approved revenue rates to the difference between total kilowatt hours (KWH) delivered to customers, as determined from electronic meter readings taken at month end, and the KWH used for cycle billing purposes.

The Company bills and collects Michigan sales tax related to electric revenue from most of its customers. The sales tax billed is reflected in accounts receivable and recorded as a liability; it is not recorded as revenue or as an expense.

Any electric accounts receivable not collected within one month of billing are assessed a one-time late fee of 2 percent. This fee is included as part of operating revenue.

Allowances are provided for accounts receivable that may become uncollectible, with additions to the allowance charged against margins. Past collection experience is tracked by the Company and is used to determine additions to the allowance. Accounts receivable are written off by a charge against the allowance only after collection efforts have been exhausted and future collection appears unlikely.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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**Materials and Supplies**

Materials and supplies, which are recorded at average cost, consist primarily of items necessary to construct and maintain the distribution system and fuel to operate the generating plant.

**Deferred Charges**

Deferred charges consist primarily of preliminary survey, pole inspection, pension related costs, and deferred Energy Optimization program costs. The preliminary survey and pole inspection costs are being amortized straight-line over periods not exceeding twenty years, the Energy Optimization costs over a four-year period ending December 31, 2015, and the other deferred costs over various periods. In 2013, the Company made a prepayment which totaled \$7,329,821 to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association for the Retirement Security Plan to enhance the Plan's funded status. The prepayment is being amortized over 18 years, which is the weighted average life of the Company's workforce.

**Deferred Credits**

Deferred credits consist primarily of refundable contributions in aid of construction, which are refundable for a certain period of time, contributions received for future construction, and Energy Optimization program revenues. Upon expiration of the refund period, any contributions not refunded are credited to the electric plant's distribution system. Contributions for future construction are applied against the distribution system when construction costs related to the contribution are incurred. Energy Optimization program revenues are recognized as program expenses are incurred.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

Certain investment assets are recorded at fair value, which is determined in accordance with fair value measuring criteria under generally accepted accounting principles. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received in exchange for an asset or the price that would be paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at year end, the measurement date, in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability being valued at its fair value.

Under generally accepted accounting principles a hierarchy has been established which prioritizes the techniques for determining fair value. The highest priority, level 1, is quoted market prices in an active market. Level 2 involves quoted market prices in a market that is not considered active while level 3 involves fair value established using other factors but without a market. The valuation level used in determining fair value depends on the Company's ability to access the markets at the measurement date.

Financial instruments, such as cash, temporary investments and special funds, accounts receivable, accounts payable, accrued expenses and customer deposits are carried in the consolidated financial statements at cost. These amounts approximate the fair value of such instruments due to their short maturity. Notes and other receivables are carried at cost as they are made under various government programs which specify below-market interest rates. Investments and memberships in other cooperatives are carried at cost plus undistributed capital credits assigned by the investee cooperatives as there is no practical way to determine a market value for these investments. Investments in mutual funds are carried at active published market prices as of year-end.

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**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of any contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses. Areas requiring the use of significant estimates by management include useful lives of plant, potential uncollectible accounts, notes and other receivables, and postretirement benefit costs. Actual results could differ from the estimates embedded in the consolidated financial statements.

**Cash Flows**

The Company reports its cash flows using the indirect method in order to present a reconciliation of net margins to significant changes in cash. Cash reported on the consolidated statement of cash flows is cash reflected on the consolidated balance sheet.

**NOTE B - ELECTRIC PLANT**

Major classes of electric plant as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

	2015	2014
Distribution System	\$ 396,841,297	\$ 381,563,528
Generation plant	2,028,690	2,028,298
General plant	43,808,247	43,975,478
Intangible plant	1,839	7,269
Construction work in progress, net of related contributions in aid of construction	4,098,537	6,717,951
	446,778,610	434,292,524
Less accumulated depreciation	123,088,405	118,937,146
Total	\$ 323,690,205	\$ 315,355,378

During 2015 and 2014, the various components of the electric plant were depreciated based on management's estimate of their useful lives. The lives used equate to an annual composite rate of approximately 2.9 percent for the distribution system and 2.8 percent for the generation plant for 2015 and 2.9 percent for the distribution system and 4.3 percent for the generation plant for 2014.

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General plant is being depreciated over the following lives:

<u>General Plant</u>	<u>Life</u>
Structures and improvements	50 years
Office furniture and equipment:	
General office equipment and general purpose data processing equipment	3-16 years
Special purpose data processing equipment	3 years
Computer software	3 years
Transportation equipment:	
Automobile and pickup trucks	5-8.5 years
Heavy trucks	10 years
Power operated equipment	8 years
Communications equipment	5-12.5 years
Load control equipment	10 years
Other	10-20 years

**NOTE C - INVESTMENTS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

Investments consisted of the following as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Wolverine Power Cooperative, Inc:		
Patronage capital credits and membership	\$ 111,740,854	\$ 103,658,438
National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation:		
Capital Term Certificates	4,597,538	4,638,563
Patronage capital credits and membership	771,763	769,662
Other memberships, patronage capital and mutual fund investments	<u>3,653,425</u>	<u>3,346,706</u>
Total	<u>\$ 120,763,580</u>	<u>\$ 112,413,369</u>

Wolverine Power Cooperative, Inc. (Wolverine) is an electric generating and transmission cooperative in which the Company has an approximate 53 percent interest. According to the contract with Wolverine, all electric power required by the Company is to be purchased from Wolverine (see Note Q).

The Company carries its investments in various mutual funds at their fair values. A portion of the investments aggregating \$354,279 at December 31, 2015 and \$336,992 at December 31, 2014 represent investments held on behalf of current and former directors and employees. Accordingly, annual changes in the fair values of these investments are recorded as an adjustment to their related liability accounts rather than as a part of accumulated other comprehensive income.

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Management classifies the remaining investments as available-for-sale. Annual changes in fair value are determined under level 1 valuation techniques and are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income. A comparison of cost and fair value of these investments at December 31, 2015 and 2014 follows:

	2015	2014
Cost of remaining mutual fund investments	\$ 1,152,452	\$ 1,091,672
Unrealized gain (loss)	152,473	213,320
Fair value	\$ 1,304,925	\$ 1,304,992

**NOTE D - NOTES AND LOANS RECEIVABLE**

Notes receivable consisted of the following as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Rural Economic Development loans, net of allowance for uncollectable loans	\$ 569,309	\$ 662,018
Land contract receivable	37,246	37,718
Employee loans	7,262	5,801
	613,817	705,537
Less current portion	245,381	232,366
Total	\$ 368,436	\$ 473,171

The current portion of notes receivable is classified with other current assets in the consolidated balance sheets.

**Rural Economic Development Loans Receivable**

The Rural Economic Development loans receivable are zero or low interest loans due in periodic installments of principal and, where appropriate, interest until final maturity. The loans are financed from grants or loans obtained by the Company under various federal programs established for the purpose of promoting loans through electric cooperatives to qualifying entities within their communities for the purpose of promoting economic development. The loans are collateralized by real estate mortgages or an irrevocable stand-by letter of credit.



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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**NOTE E – ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

Accounts receivable include both billed and unbilled revenues. At December 31, 2015 and 2014 accounts receivable consisted of the following:

	2015	2014
Billed accounts	\$ 13,166,439	\$ 13,992,889
Unbilled accounts	10,750,802	11,878,460
	23,917,241	25,871,349
Less allowance for uncollectible accounts	1,404,241	1,440,313
	\$ 22,513,000	\$ 24,431,036

**NOTE F - DEFERRED CHARGES**

Deferred charges at December 31, 2015 and 2014 consisted of the following:

	2015	2014
Unamortized debt costs	\$ 2,394	\$ 13,337
Preliminary survey costs	177,893	91,753
Pension related costs	6,882,199	7,333,518
Deferred Energy Optimization Program costs	321,407	334,006
	7,383,893	7,772,614
Less current portion	795,988	802,288
	\$ 6,587,905	\$ 6,970,326

**NOTE G - EQUITY**

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, cumulative transactions in patronage capital consisted of the following:

	2015	2014
Assigned and assignable margins	\$ 249,684,249	\$ 235,559,751
Retired	(63,070,057)	(58,362,220)
Undeliverable, transferred to donated capital	(4,448,874)	(4,072,528)
	\$ 182,165,318	\$ 173,125,003

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It is the practice of the Company to make patronage refunds to its patrons or members. Such refunds may be made provided total equity, after such refunds are made and excluding the results of GLUS, is greater than 20 percent of total assets. At December 31, 2015 and 2014 equities of the Company, excluding GLUS, represented approximately 39.1 percent and 38.7 percent, respectively, of its total assets.

**NOTE H - LONG-TERM DEBT**

Long-term debt consisted of the following at December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Rural Utilities Service ("RUS")	\$ -	\$ 48,109,971
Federal Financing Bank ("FFB")	138,009,201	127,641,396
Less RUS Cushion of Credit, advance payment Earning 5 pct. Interest	(27,225,743)	(28,207,453)
	110,783,458	147,543,914
National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation ("CFC")	10,044,632	8,888,435
CoBank ACB ("CoBank")	129,603,464	88,268,227
Rural Economic Development Loan Program ("REDLG")	700,000	782,500
	251,131,554	245,483,076
Less current maturities	5,844,221	5,566,020
Total long-term debt	\$ 245,287,333	\$ 239,917,056

FFB and REDLG loans are payable primarily in either monthly or quarterly installments, including principal and interest, and have various maturity dates through 2047. The FFB loans bear interest at various rates, which ranged between 2.55 percent and 7.43 percent. The REDLG borrowings bear no interest or interest at one percent.

The loan agreement with FFB is collateralized by a joint mortgage agreement with RUS, CFC and CoBank. Under the joint agreement, substantially all of the Company's assets, except transportation and power operated equipment, certain investments and memberships, certain temporary investments, and some office equipment, are pledged as collateral under terms of the joint agreement.

CFC loans are payable in quarterly or bi-annual installments, including principal and interest, and have various maturity dates through 2044. They bear interest at variable or fixed rates ranging between 1.38 percent and 4.4 percent.

CoBank loans are payable in monthly or quarterly installments, including principal and interest, and have various maturity dates through 2033. They bear interest at fixed rates ranging between 2.85 percent and 4.93 percent.

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Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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In 2015, GLE entered into three interest rate swap agreements. As of December 31, 2015, GLE had three variable rate notes outstanding with CoBank totaling \$46,264,123. This debt was refinanced in 2015 from fixed interest debt to variable rate debt. The notes accrue interest at 1-month LIBOR plus 1%. Prior to refinancing, the fixed rate debt bore interest at an average rate of 3.91%. In order to hedge interest rate risk, GLE entered into three corresponding interest rate swaps with notional amounts equaling the principal balances of the variable rate notes. The swap agreement notes bear interest at 1-month Libor plus 2.29%, 2.39% and 2.51%. The interest payments are due monthly with payments settled on a net basis. The net effect of the swap was to convert variable rate debt into fixed rate debt with an effective interest rate of 3.5%.

The notional amount under the swap decreases as principal payments are made on the note so that the notional amount equals the principal outstanding under the note. The swap is designed to hedge the risk of changes in interest payments on the note caused by changes in LIBOR.

The swap was issued at market terms so that it had no fair value at its inception. The carrying amount of the swap has been adjusted to its fair value at the end of the year, which because of changes in forecasted levels of LIBOR resulted in reporting a liability for the fair value of the future net payments forecasted under the swap. The liability is classified as noncurrent since management does not intend to settle it during 2016. Since the critical terms of the swap and the note are the same, the swap is assumed to be completely effective as a hedge, and none of the change in its fair value is included in operating income. Accordingly, all of the adjustment of the swap's carrying amount is reported as other comprehensive loss.

In addition to pledging its assets as collateral for the above loans, the Company has agreed under terms of loan agreements with the RUS, CFC and CoBank, to maintain margins at adequate levels to meet certain financial ratios of times interest earned and debt service coverage. RUS, CFC and CoBank use the three most recent years, including the current year, to determine whether these loan covenants have been met through an averaging computation. The Company was in compliance with these loan covenants during 2015 and 2014.

Aggregate annual future maturities of long-term debt, net of amortization of the cushion of credit, are as follows:

<u>Years</u>	<u>Loans</u>
2016	\$ 5,844,221
2017	6,203,819
2018	6,543,146
2019	7,130,066
2020	7,034,490
2021 and beyond	<u>218,375,812</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 251,131,554</u></u>

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
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**NOTE I – OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES**

The other non-current liabilities at December 31, 2015 and 2014 consisted of the following:

	2015	2014
Accumulated provision for directors' pension plan and employees' postretirement health insurance benefits	\$ 5,865,760	\$ 6,011,144
Employees' and directors' deferred compensation	894,886	750,848
Accumulated power supply cost recovery charges	1,464,853	-
Total	\$ 8,225,499	\$ 6,761,992

**NOTE J - NOTES PAYABLE**

The Company has two revolving lines of credit aggregating \$35,000,000. The first line of credit is with CFC and is an unsecured perpetual line in the amount of \$25,000,000. The other line of credit is with CoBank. It is a one-year line expiring October 31, 2016 in the amount of \$10,000,000. Any borrowings under the CoBank line are subject to a statutory first lien on the Company's equity, but are otherwise unsecured. At December 31, 2015 there were no outstanding loans under either of the lines of credit. The remaining available balance under the two lines of credit aggregated \$35,000,000 at December 31, 2015.

**NOTE K - DEFERRED CREDITS**

Deferred credits at December 31, 2015 and 2014 consisted of the following:

	2015	2014
Customer advances to defray system construction costs:		
Non-refundable	\$ 540,252	\$ 540,252
Refundable	4,053,147	3,961,381
Total customer advances	4,593,399	4,501,633
Estimated labor cost associated with initial installation of transformers and meters	379,164	281,254
Deferred Energy Optimization Program surcharge Revenue	4,429,520	3,737,691
Other Deferred Credits	566,666	-
Total	\$ 9,968,749	\$ 8,520,578

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**NOTE L - CASH FLOW INFORMATION**

Additional cash flow information for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 is as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Cash paid during the year for:		
Interest	\$ 10,142,505	\$ 10,120,283
Federal income tax	13,488	11,602

**NOTE M - FEDERAL INCOME TAX**

The Company, as a tax exempt entity, is exempt from federal income tax except for the rent it receives on its towers. Its subsidiary is subject to federal income tax. The Company and subsidiary file separate federal income tax returns to report their respective taxable income.

Management believes that positions taken during prior years and to be taken for 2015 in reporting federal taxable income for the Company and for its subsidiary are not controversial and have a high degree of being sustained upon any future examination by the taxing authority.

The Company's Federal income tax returns are subject to examination by the IRS, generally for three years after they were filed. The Company's State tax returns are subject to examination by State authorities, generally for four years after they are filed.

**NOTE N - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK**

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to a significant concentration of credit risk consist primarily of cash, investments and memberships, and accounts receivable.

Cash is maintained in credit worthy banks. Accordingly, the Company believes it has no significant credit risk regarding cash and temporary investments. Cash on deposit at December 31, 2015 and 2014, exceeded the Federal Depository Insurance limits by \$8,116,183 and \$4,598,718, respectively.

The majority of the Company's investments and memberships are invested in Wolverine, the Company's exclusive power supplier, in Capital Term Certificates issued by CFC, and in other cooperatives. The Company believes there is no significant credit risk associated with these investments. Mutual fund investments, which comprise 1.4 percent of investments, are subject to normal market fluctuations.

Any credit risk relative to accounts receivable is dissipated due to the large number of customers throughout the Company's service area.

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**NOTE O - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

The Company currently offers most employees several types of employee benefits, including retirement plans and health insurance benefits. The Company also provides certain directors a retirement plan.

**Retirement Plans for Employees**

The Company participates with other electric cooperatives in a multi-employer retirement and security program sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Substantially all employees are covered by this program. The NRECA Retirement Security Plan (RS Plan) is a defined benefit pension plan qualified under Section 401 and tax exempt under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is considered a multiemployer plan under the accounting standards. The plan sponsor's Employer Identification Number is 53-0116145 and the Plan Number is 333.

A unique characteristic of a multiemployer plan compared to a single employer plan is that all plan assets are available to pay benefits of any plan participant. Separate asset accounts are not maintained for participating employers. This means that assets contributed by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers.

The NRECA retirement and security program provides benefits based on years of service and the highest five years of compensation during the last 10 years of employment. The Company makes contributions to the program equal to the amounts reflected as an expense in the consolidated financial statements. The Company's contributions to the RS Plan in 2015 and 2014 represented less than 5 percent of the total contributions made to the plan by all participating employers. The Company's contributions to the program for 2015 and 2014 were \$2,389,999 and \$2,246,701, respectively. In 2013, the company elected to participate in a prepayment option offered to participating employers. See the description below for more information on the prepayment program.

In the RS Plan, a "zone status" determination is not required, and therefore not determined, under the Pension Protection Act (PPA) of 2006. In addition, the accumulated benefit obligations and plan assets are not determined or allocated separately by individual employer. In total, the Retirement Security Plan was over 80 percent funded on January 1, 2015 and over 80 percent funded on January 1, 2014, based on the PPA funding target and PPA actuarial value of assets on those dates.

Because the provisions of the PPA do not apply to the RS plan, funding improvement plans and surcharges are not applicable. Future contribution requirements are determined each year as part of the actuarial valuation of the plan and may change as a result of plan experience.

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**RS Plan Prepayment Option**

At the December 2012 meeting of the I&FS Committee of the NRECA Board of Directors, the Committee approved an option to allow participating cooperatives in the RS Plan to make a contribution prepayment and reduce future required contributions. In 2013, the Company made the prepayment which totaled \$7,329,821 to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association for the Retirement Security Plan to enhance the Plan's funded status. The prepayment amount is a cooperative's share, as of January 1, 2013, of future contributions required to fund the RS Plan's unfunded value of benefits earned to date using RS Plan actuarial valuation assumptions. The prepayment amount will typically equal approximately 2.5 times a cooperative's annual RS Plan required contribution as of January 1, 2013. After making the prepayment, for most cooperatives, the billing rate is reduced by approximately 25%, retroactive to January 1, 2013. The 25% differential in billing rates is expected to continue for approximately 15 years. However, changes in interest rates, asset returns and other plan experience different from expected, plan assumption changes and other factors may have an impact on the differential in billing rates and the 15 year period. The prepayment will be amortized over 18 years which is the weighted average life of the Company's workforce. The amortization expense was \$407,208 in 2015 and \$407,208 in 2014.

**Retirement Plan for Directors**

The Company has a non-qualified unfunded pension plan for certain directors. The plan covers directors who serve on the Board for at least ten years, who were on the Board as of June 22, 2005, and who, under normal circumstances, retire before reaching the age of 72. Directors elected to the Board subsequent to that date are not eligible for the Plan. The plan provides only for retirement benefits; it does not provide for death or disability benefits.

The Company accrues the annual cost associated with this plan and reports a liability for any unpaid benefits. However, there is no trust associated with this plan and monies to fund the plan come from the unrestricted assets of the Company.

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The following table provides information regarding projected benefit obligations, plan assets and funded status of the directors' plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at January 1	\$ 2,151,497	\$ 2,278,791
Service cost	14,857	14,857
Interest cost	77,948	85,455
Actuarial loss (gain)	-	(107,606)
Benefits paid	(120,000)	(120,000)
Benefit obligation at December 31	\$ 2,124,302	\$ 2,151,497
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets at January 1	\$ -	\$ -
Company contributions	120,000	120,000
Benefits paid	(120,000)	(120,000)
Fair value of plan assets at December 31	\$ -	\$ -
Reconciliation of funded status of plans:		
Projected benefit obligation	\$ 2,124,302	\$ 2,151,497
Fair value of plan assets	-	-
Recorded accrued benefit cost at December 31	\$ 2,124,302	\$ 2,151,497
Weighted average assumptions used to determine the benefit obligations as of December 31:		
Discount rate	3.75%	3.75%
Rate of compensation increase	3.00%	3.00%

Net period costs for the directors' plan were as follows for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Service cost	\$ 14,857	\$ 14,857
Interest cost	77,948	85,455
Amortization of loss	27,154	27,154
Recorded net benefit cost	\$ 119,959	\$ 127,466



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Future benefits expected to be paid during the next 10 years are as follows:

2016	\$ 145,758
2017	144,346
2018	142,917
2019	142,317
2020	128,369
2021 – 2025	<u>633,941</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,337,648</u>

The Company believes its contributions for the Plan during 2016 will approximate the expected benefits to be paid for that year, as indicated above.

#### **Benefit Restoration Plan**

The Company adopted a non-qualified benefit restoration plan (BRP) for corporate employees subject to an RS Plan pension limitation as provided by Sections 415 and 401(a)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. This plan provides for a lump sum payment to the participants or their estate, if deceased, upon the lapse of substantial risk of forfeiture specified by the Company in the amount of the RS Plan payment calculation.

#### **Retirement Savings Plan for Employees**

The Company offers selective retirement savings plans to employees. The plans are offered to employees, pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Company and employees make contributions to the employees' accounts. The Company's contributions are equal to the amounts reflected as an expense in the consolidated financial statements. The Company contributed approximately \$450,594 and \$419,358 during 2015 and 2014, respectively. Employees vest immediately in their contributions and in the contributions made by the Company.

#### **Postretirement Health Insurance Benefits for Employees**

The Company sponsors a defined benefit postretirement medical plan which covers most retired employees and provides partial or full medical insurance benefits for these employees and, under certain circumstances, their spouses and covered dependents. Determination of benefits is based on an employee's status upon retirement.

On May 3, 2012, the Company changed its post-retirement healthcare plan for employees retiring after January 2, 2013. The change reduced company plan contributions and limited the duration of coverage to retiring employees from the age of 62 through 64 years of age, after which no coverage or company contribution would be made.

Plan assets have been placed in a separate trust with a conservative investment approach and a strategy of diversification. The allocation of Plan assets at December 31, 2015 includes 2.35 percent in a money market fund, 10.68 percent in a fixed income fund, and 86.97 percent in an equity fund. The estimated overall long-term rate of return on Plan assets, based on historical rates for similar investments, is 7.75 percent.

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The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act (Act) provides for a refund to companies who provide a drug benefit as a part of their postretirement health benefit program that is at least actuarially equivalent to Medicare. The Company's program provides a level of drug benefits that meet these criteria. During 2015 and 2014, the Company received refunds under the Act in the amount of \$31,808 and \$30,518, respectively. These amounts have been included in net margins. Future refunds under this Act will be recorded in net margins during the year received.

The following table provides information regarding accumulated postretirement benefit obligations, plan assets and funded status of the plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at January 1	\$ 7,342,398	\$ 7,245,350
Service cost	58,495	67,297
Interest cost	184,338	177,308
Plan Changes	-	-
Actuarial loss (gain)	51,327	327,765
Benefits paid from plan assets	<u>(509,317)</u>	<u>(475,322)</u>
Benefit obligation at December 31	<u>\$ 7,127,241</u>	<u>\$ 7,342,398</u>
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets at January 1	\$ 3,482,750	\$ 3,112,306
Actual return on plan assets	(37,143)	370,444
Company contributions	509,317	475,322
Benefits paid	<u>(509,317)</u>	<u>(475,322)</u>
Fair value of plan assets at December 31	<u>\$ 3,445,607</u>	<u>\$ 3,482,750</u>
Reconciliation of funded status of plans:	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Benefit plan obligation at December 31	\$ (7,127,241)	\$ (7,342,398)
Fair value of plan assets at December 31	<u>3,445,607</u>	<u>3,482,750</u>
Recorded accrued benefit cost at December 31	<u>\$ (3,681,634)</u>	<u>\$ (3,859,648)</u>
Weighted average assumptions as of December 31:		
Discount rate used to determine accumulated postretirement benefit obligation	4.71%	4.29%
Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets	7.75%	7.75%

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Net periodic costs include the following components for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	2015	2014
Service cost	\$ 58,495	\$ 67,297
Interest cost	184,338	177,308
Expected return on plan assets	(269,913)	(241,204)
Amortization of prior service cost	(632,340)	(640,770)
Amortization of net loss	683,318	691,287
Recorded net benefit cost	\$ 23,898	\$ 53,918

Future benefits expected to be paid during the next 10 years are as follows:

2016	\$ 518,963
2017	480,789
2018	505,503
2019	516,393
2020	527,241
2021 – 2025	2,707,856
Total	\$ 5,256,745

The Company expects 2016 benefits to be paid by the Plan will approximate those listed above.

The 2015 costs were developed based on the health insurance plan in effect at January 1, 2015 and information regarding newly electing grandfathered participants as of May 3, 2012. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the assumptions are that retiree medical cost increases would be 10.00 percent and would gradually decrease each year until the rate of increase was 5.00 percent by 2019. The health care cost trend rate assumption significantly affects the amounts reported. For example, a one percentage point increase in each year would increase the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation as of December 31, 2015 by approximately \$429,490 and the interest cost components of net periodic retiree medical costs for 2015 by approximately \$20,229.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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**NOTE P – LEASES**

The Company rents radio tower space under terms of non-cancelable operating leases expiring at various dates, including renewal options, through October 2030. Rent expense for 2015 and 2014 was approximately \$17,220 and \$17,220, respectively.

Future rentals under the non-cancelable leases, including renewals with escalation clauses, are as follows:

2016	\$	17,220
2017		17,220
2018		13,815
2019		7,200
2020		7,200
2021 and beyond		<u>2,400</u>
Total	\$	<u><u>65,055</u></u>

**NOTE Q - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Wolverine, the Company's exclusive power supplier, is owned by its member cooperative customers. The Company's investment in Wolverine includes a membership and Wolverine's capital credits allocated to the Company.

During 2005, the Company entered into an agreement with Wolverine to extend the 1949 power purchase agreement through 2041. This agreement requires the Company to purchase all the electric power it sells from Wolverine at Wolverine's current prices. The cost of electric power purchased from Wolverine amounted to \$117,708,918 in 2015 and to \$122,074,400 in 2014.

The Company also joined Wolverine and two of its other cooperative members during 2009 in the operation of a phone and radio communication system. The Company's share of the operating costs of these systems was \$290,964 during 2015 and \$269,539 during 2014.

At December 31, 2015, the Company's share of Wolverine's capital credits amounted to \$111,740,854, which equates to approximately 53 percent of all capital credits allocated by Wolverine. Capital Credits in the amount of \$1,686,076 and \$4,697,805 were paid by Wolverine in 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Amounts payable to Wolverine at December 31, 2015 and 2014 were \$11,513,595 and \$10,596,044, respectively. These payables were related to obligations under the purchase power agreement and the communication agreement.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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**NOTE R – COMMITMENTS & CONTINGENCIES**

At December 31, 2015, the Company also has approximately 53% of its employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement. The collective bargaining agreement was renegotiated and a new contract was entered into in January of 2015 which expires in January of 2018.

**NOTE S – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Company reviewed events occurring subsequent to December 31, 2015 for any requiring disclosure in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. No such events had occurred. The review covered the period from year end through April 15, 2016, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.



Supplementary Information  
December 31, 2015 and 2014

# Great Lakes Energy Cooperative



## Independent Auditor's Report on Supplementary Information

The Board of Directors  
Great Lakes Energy Cooperative  
Boyne City, Michigan

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and our report thereon dated April 15, 2016, which expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements, appears on page 1. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information presented on pages 28-30 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the consolidated financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the consolidated financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements or to the consolidated financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated financial statements as a whole.

Fargo, North Dakota  
April 15, 2016

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
 DETAIL CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET  
 as of December 31, 2015

ASSETS	Great Lakes Energy Cooperative	Great Lakes Utilities Services Corporation	Adjustments and Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>ELECTRIC PLANT:</b>				
Distribution and generation plant, at cost	\$ 446,778,610	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 446,778,610
Less accumulated depreciation	123,088,405	-	-	123,088,405
Net electric plant	<u>323,690,205</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>323,690,205</u>
<b>OTHER ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS:</b>				
Investments and memberships	121,351,969	-	(588,389)	120,763,580
Notes and other receivables	331,190	37,246	-	368,436
Total other assets and investments	<u>121,683,159</u>	<u>37,246</u>	<u>(588,389)</u>	<u>121,132,016</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>				
Cash	6,643,140	556,676	-	7,199,816
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible accounts	22,520,234	2,729	(9,963)	22,513,000
Materials and supplies	2,755,330	-	-	2,755,330
Other current assets	2,573,242	1,579	-	2,574,821
Total current assets	<u>34,491,946</u>	<u>560,984</u>	<u>(9,963)</u>	<u>35,042,967</u>
<b>DEFERRED CHARGES</b>	6,587,905	-	-	6,587,905
Total assets	<u>\$ 486,453,215</u>	<u>\$ 598,230</u>	<u>\$ (598,352)</u>	<u>\$ 486,453,093</u>



GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
 DETAIL CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET  
 as of December 31, 2015

EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES	Great Lakes Energy Cooperative	Great Lakes Utilities Services Corporation	Adjustments and Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>EQUITIES:</b>				
Memberships	\$ 519,740	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 519,740
Patronage capital	182,165,318	-	-	182,165,318
Equity in subsidiaries	-	588,389	(588,389)	-
Total memberships, patronage capital, including equity in subsidiaries	182,685,058	588,389	(588,389)	182,685,058
Donated capital	4,575,977	-	-	4,575,977
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	1,920,916	-	-	1,920,916
Total equities	189,181,951	588,389	(588,389)	189,181,951
LONG-TERM DEBT, net of current maturities	245,287,333	-	-	245,287,333
OBLIGATION UNDER INTEREST RATE SWAP	1,813,413	-	-	1,813,413
OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	8,225,499	-	-	8,225,499
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>				
Current maturities of long-term debt	5,844,221	-	-	5,844,221
Accounts payable	12,927,111	9,841	(9,963)	12,926,989
Accrued expenses	11,595,632	-	-	11,595,632
Customer deposits	1,609,306	-	-	1,609,306
Total current liabilities	31,976,270	9,841	(9,963)	31,976,148
DEFERRED CREDITS	9,968,749	-	-	9,968,749
Total equities and liabilities	<u>\$ 486,453,215</u>	<u>\$ 598,230</u>	<u>\$ (598,352)</u>	<u>\$ 486,453,093</u>

GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
 DETAIL CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND NET MARGINS  
 for the year ended December 31, 2015

	Great Lakes Energy Cooperative	Great Lakes Utilities Services Corporation	Adjustments and Eliminations	Consolidated
OPERATING REVENUES	\$ 185,392,635	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 185,392,635
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
Purchased and produced power	117,933,830	-	-	117,933,830
Distribution expenses:				
Operations	11,292,495	-	-	11,292,495
Maintenance	13,978,527	-	-	13,978,527
Customer accounts, service and selling expenses	8,440,522	-	-	8,440,522
Administration and general	8,335,886	325	-	8,336,211
Depreciation and amortization	13,306,891	20	-	13,306,911
Other operating expenses	184,122	34,981	-	219,103
Total operating expenses	<u>173,472,273</u>	<u>35,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,507,599</u>
OPERATING MARGINS BEFORE FIXED CHARGES	11,920,362	(35,326)	-	11,885,036
FIXED CHARGES, interest expense	10,217,710	-	-	10,217,710
OPERATING MARGINS AFTER FIXED CHARGES	<u>1,702,652</u>	<u>(35,326)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,667,326</u>
NON-OPERATING MARGINS:				
Interest income	1,651,595	2,640	-	1,654,235
Other income (expense), net	(116,885)	24,247	-	(92,638)
Total non-operating margins	<u>1,534,710</u>	<u>26,887</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,561,597</u>
CAPITAL CREDITS, and equity in subsidiary's net income:				
From associated organizations	10,846,690	-	-	10,846,690
Equity in subsidiary's net income	(8,439)	-	8,439	-
Total capital credits	10,838,251	-	8,439	10,846,690
Net margins before federal income tax	<u>14,075,613</u>	<u>(8,439)</u>	<u>8,439</u>	<u>14,075,613</u>
PROVISION FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX	9,946	-	-	9,946
NET MARGINS	<u>\$ 14,065,667</u>	<u>\$ (8,439)</u>	<u>\$ 8,439</u>	<u>\$ 14,065,667</u>



**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

The Board of Directors  
Great Lakes Energy Cooperative  
Boyne City, Michigan

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the consolidated financial statements of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of revenues and net margins, cash flows, and changes in equities for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 15, 2016.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the consolidated financial statements, we considered Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's consolidated financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we considered to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not yet been identified.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of consolidated financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control or on compliance. This communication is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eide Bailly LLP".

Fargo, North Dakota  
April 15, 2016



## **Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Aspects of Contractual Agreements and Regulatory Requirements**

The Board of Directors  
Great Lakes Energy Cooperative  
Boyne City, Michigan

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the consolidated financial statements of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative which comprise the balance sheets as of December 31, 2015, and the related consolidated statements of operations, statements of comprehensive income, changes in equities and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 15, 2016. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 15, 2016 on our consideration of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. No reports other than the reports referred to above and our schedule of findings and recommendations related to our audit have been furnished to management.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that Great Lakes Energy Cooperative failed to comply with the terms, covenants, provisions, or conditions of their loan, grant, and security instruments as set forth in 7 CFR Part 1773, *Policy on Audits of Rural Utilities Service Borrowers*, §1773.33 and clarified in the RUS policy memorandum dated April 15, 2016, insofar as they relate to accounting matters as enumerated below. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's noncompliance with the above-referenced terms, covenants, provisions, or conditions of the contractual agreements and regulatory requirements, insofar as they relate to accounting matters. In connection with our audit, we noted no matters regarding Great Lakes Energy Cooperative's accounting and records to indicate that Great Lakes Energy Cooperative did not:

Maintain adequate and effective accounting procedures;

Utilize adequate and fair methods for accumulating and recording labor, material, and overhead costs, and the distribution of these costs to construction, retirement, and maintenance or other expense accounts;

Reconcile continuing property records to the controlling general ledger plant accounts;

Clear construction accounts and accrue depreciation on completed construction;

Record and properly price the retirement of plant;

Seek approval of the sale, lease or transfer of capital assets and disposition of proceeds for the sale or lease of plant, material, or scrap;

Maintain adequate control over materials and supplies;

Prepare accurate and timely Financial and Operating Reports;

Obtain written RUS approval to enter into any contract for the management, operation, or maintenance of the borrower's system if the contract covers all or substantially all of the electric system;

Disclose material related party transactions in the financial statements, in accordance with requirements for related parties in generally accepted accounting principles;

Record depreciation in accordance with RUS requirements (See RUS Bulletin 183-1, Depreciation Rates and Procedures);

Comply with the requirements for the detailed schedule of deferred debits and deferred credits; and

Comply with the requirements for the detailed schedule of investments.

#### **Detailed Schedule of Deferred Debits and Deferred Credits**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Deferred debits		
Preliminary survey and investigation charges	\$ 177,893	\$ 91,753
Unamortized debt refinancing costs	2,394	13,337
Deferred energy optimization program costs	321,407	334,006
Pension related costs	<u>6,882,199</u>	<u>7,333,518</u>
	<u>\$ 7,383,893</u>	<u>\$ 7,772,614</u>
Deferred credits		
Consumer advances for contributions in aid of construction	\$ 4,593,398	\$ 4,501,633
Estimated installation cost - special equipment	379,164	281,254
Deferred energy optimization program surcharge	<u>4,429,520</u>	<u>3,737,691</u>
Total deferred credits	<u>\$ 9,968,748</u>	<u>\$ 8,520,578</u>

## Detailed Schedule of Investments

	<u>Great Lakes Utilities Service Corporation</u>
Book value of investment as of December 31, 2013	\$ 591,898
Dividends paid to parent	-
Undistributed earnings as of December 31, 2014	<u>4,929</u>
Book value of investment as of December 31, 2014	596,827
Dividends paid to parent	-
Undistributed earnings as of December 31, 2015	<u>(8,439)</u>
Book value of investment as of December 31, 2015	<u><u>\$ 588,388</u></u>

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management of Great Lakes Energy Cooperative and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Fargo, North Dakota  
April 15, 2016