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Form **990**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung
benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

OMB No 1545-0047

2009**Open to Public
Inspection****A** For the **2009** calendar year, or tax year beginning , and ending**B** Check if applicable☐ Address change☐ Name change☐ Initial return☐ Termination☐ Amended return☐ Application pendingPlease
use IRS
label or
print or
type.
See
Specific
Instruc-
tions.**C** Name of organization**BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC**

Doing Business As

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address)

PO BOX 137

Room/suite

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4

NEWELL**SD 57760****F** Name and address of principal officer**KEN WETZ****SAME AS C ABOVE****D** Employer identification number**46-0115942****E** Telephone number**605-456-2494****G** Gross receipts \$ **9,585,483****H(a)** Is this a group return for

affiliates?

☐ Yes☒ No**H(b)** Are all affiliates
included?☐ Yes☐ No

If "No," attach a list (see instructions)

I Tax-exempt status ☒ 501(c) (**12**) ◀ (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527**J** Website: **WWW.BUTTEELECTRIC.COM****K** Type of organization ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other ▶**L** Year of formation **1940****M** State of legal domicile **SD****H(c)** Group exemption number ▶**Part I Summary****1** Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities**IT IS THE MISSION OF BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE TO PROVIDE SAFE, RELIABLE
ELECTRIC SERVICE AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST CONSISTENT WITH SOUND BUSINESS
PRACTICES.****2** Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets**3** Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)**3** **9****4** Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)**4** **9****5** Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)**5** **23****6** Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)**6** **0****7a** Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12**7a** **4,090****b** Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34**7b** **3,090**

Activities & Governance

Revenue

8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)**9** Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)**10** Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)**11** Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)**12** Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)

Prior Year

Current Year

845,396 **486,995****79,591** **32,628****4,448,358** **5,099,325****5,373,345** **5,618,948**

Expenses

13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)**14** Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)**15** Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)**16a** Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)**b** Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶**17** Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f)**18** Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)**19** Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12**1,137,604** **1,356,847****3,240,070** **3,574,022****4,377,674** **4,930,869****995,671** **688,079**Net Assets or
Fund Balances**20** Total assets (Part X, line 16)**21** Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)**22** Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20

Beginning of Current Year

End of Year

36,402,272 **38,166,645****26,901,896** **28,205,094****9,500,376** **9,961,551****Part II Signature Block****Sign
Here**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Signature of officer

Kenneth Wetz**General Manager**

Date

7/6/10

Type or print name and title

**Paid
Preparer's
Use Only**Preparer's
signature

Date

Check if
self-
employed ☐Preparer's identifying number
(see instructions)
P00179985Firm's name (or yours
if self-employed),
address, and ZIP + 4**KETEL THORSTENSON, LLP****PO BOX 3140****RAPID CITY, SD 57709-3140**

EIN ▶

46-0257538

Phone

no ▶ 605-342-5630

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)

☒ Yes☐ No

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form **990** (2009)

DAA

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Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission:

IT IS THE MISSION OF BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE TO PROVIDE SAFE, RELIABLE ELECTRIC SERVICE AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST CONSISTENT WITH SOUND BUSINESS PRACTICES.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4 Describe the exempt purpose achievements for each of the organization's three largest program services by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
SALE OF ELECTRICITY TO APPROXIMATELY 4,993 CONSUMER ACCOUNTS.

4b (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses ►

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A		X
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors?		X
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		X
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		
5 Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations. Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and reporting requirement and proxy tax? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts where donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I		X
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II		X
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III		X
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV		X
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V		X
11 Is the organization's answer to any of the following questions "Yes"? If so, complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable	X	
• Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI		
• Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII		
• Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII		
• Did the organization report an amount for other assets related in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX		
• Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X		
• Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X		
12 Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII		X
12A Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," completing Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII is optional	Yes	No
		X
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		X
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?		X
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, and program service activities outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I		X
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II		X
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III		X
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I		X
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II		X
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III		X
20 Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? If "Yes," complete Schedule H		X

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

	Yes	No
21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II		X
22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III		X
23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? If "Yes," complete Schedule J		X
24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25		X
b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		
c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?		
d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		
25a Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
26 Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II		X
27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor, or a grant selection committee member, or to a person related to such an individual? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III		X
28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):		
a A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
c An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee of the organization (or a family member) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		X
30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		X
31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I		X
32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II		X
33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I		X
34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1		X
35 Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		X
36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		
37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI		X
38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11 and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	X	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096, Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
1b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
1c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?		X
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.		
2b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file this return (see instructions).	X	
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year covered by this return?	X	
3b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.	X	
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		X
4b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		X
5b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		X
5c	If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T, Disclosure by Tax-Exempt Entity Regarding Prohibited Tax Shelter Transaction?		
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible?		X
6b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).		
7a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		
7b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		
7c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		
7d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.		
7e	Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		
7f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		
7g	For all contributions of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		
7h	For contributions of cars, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C as required?		
8	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a donor advised fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		
9	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.		
9a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		
9b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter		
10a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.		
10b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.		
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter		
11a	Gross income from members or shareholders.	8,867,961	
11b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	188,090	
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		
12b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.		

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.**Section A. Governing Body and Management**

- 1a** Enter the number of voting members of the governing body **9**
- b** Enter the number of voting members that are independent **9**
- 2** Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee? **2** **X**
- 3** Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person? **3** **X**
- 4** Did the organization make any significant changes to its organizational documents since the prior Form 990 was filed? **4** **X**
- 5** Did the organization become aware during the year of a material diversion of the organization's assets? **5** **X**
- 6** Does the organization have members or stockholders? **6** **X**
- 7a** Does the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who may elect one or more members of the governing body? **7a** **X**
- b** Are any decisions of the governing body subject to approval by members, stockholders, or other persons? **7b** **X**
- 8** Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following
- a** The governing body? **8a** **X**
- b** Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? **8b** **X**
- 9** Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O **9** **X**

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

- 10a** Does the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? **10a** **X**
- b** If "Yes," does the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with those of the organization? **10b**
- 11** Has the organization provided a copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? **11** **X**
- 11a** Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990
- 12a** Does the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13 **12a** **X**
- b** Are officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? **12b** **X**
- c** Does the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this is done **12c** **X**
- 13** Does the organization have a written whistleblower policy? **13** **X**
- 14** Does the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? **14** **X**
- 15** Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?
- a** The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official **15a** **X**
- b** Other officers or key employees of the organization **15b** **X**
- If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (See instructions)
- 16a** Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? **16a** **X**
- b** If "Yes," has the organization adopted a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and taken steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements? **16b**

Section C. Disclosure

- 17** List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed **NONE**
- 18** Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you make these available. Check all that apply.
☐ Own website ☐ Another's website ☒ Upon request
- 19** Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how), the organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public
- 20** State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization **KEN WETZ** **109 S DARTMOUTH**

NEWELL**SD 57760****605-456-2494**

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors**Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees**

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year. Use Schedule J-2 if additional space is needed.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
 - List all of the organization's **current** key employees. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
 - List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
 - List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
 - List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

☐ Check this box if the organization did not compensate any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week	(C) Position (check all that apply)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
DAN MARS DIRECTOR	4.00	X						6,075	0	1,587
THOMAS BRUNNER SECRETARY	4.00	X						5,850	0	2,842
CRIS MILLER PRESIDENT	3.00	X						4,725	0	1,686
STEVE SMEENK DIRECTOR	3.00	X						4,725	0	1,477
THOMAS CASTEEL DIRECTOR	3.00	X						3,825	0	1,515
DAN CONNER TREASURER	3.00	X						3,825	0	2,167
DAN HEFNER DIRECTOR	3.00	X						3,825	0	1,358
DARRELL NICHOLAS VICE PRES	3.00	X						3,375	0	1,327
FRANK DOBESH DIRECTOR	2.00	X						2,700	0	1,190
KENNETH WETZ GEN MANAGER	40.00			X				98,140	0	35,903

Part VII	Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)
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(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week	(C) Position (check all that apply)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
1b Total								137,065		51,052

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in reportable compensation from the organization ► 0

- 3 Did the organization list any **former** officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated
employee on line 1a? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual
- 4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from
the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such
individual
- 5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization for
services rendered to the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person

	Yes	No
3		X
4		X
5		X

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
SWANSON CONSTRUCTION BLACK HAWK SD 57718	7353 RENA LANE POWER LINES	124,399

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization ►

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514
Contributions, gifts, grants and other similar amounts	1a Federated campaigns	1a				
	b Membership dues	1b				
	c Fundraising events	1c				
	d Related organizations	1d				
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e				
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f				
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$					
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f					
Program Service Revenue		Busn. Code				
	2a G&T CAPITAL CREDITS		373,884	373,884		
	b OTHER CAPITAL CREDITS		59,149	59,149		
	c OTHER ELECTRIC REVENUE		53,962	53,962		
	d					
	e					
	f All other program service revenue					
	g Total. Add lines 2a-2f		486,995			
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		32,628			32,628
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds					
	5 Royalties					
		(i) Real	(ii) Personal			
	6a Gross Rents		26,100			
	b Less rental exps					
	c Rental inc or (loss)		26,100			
	d Net rental income or (loss)		26,100	22,010	4,090	
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other			
	b Less cost or other basis & sales exps					
	c Gain or (loss)					
	d Net gain or (loss)					
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18	a				
	b Less direct expenses	b				
	c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events					
	9a Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19	a				
	b Less direct expenses	b				
	c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities					
	10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a	9,039,760			
	b Less cost of goods sold	b	3,966,535			
c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory		5,073,225	5,073,225			
Miscellaneous Revenue		Busn. Code				
11a						
b						
c						
d All other revenue						
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d						
12 Total Revenue. See instructions			5,618,948	5,582,230	4,090	32,628

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns.

All other organizations must complete column (A) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the U S See Part IV, line 21				
2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the U S See Part IV, line 22				
3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the U S See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	188,117			
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages	660,929			
8 Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)	65,170			
9 Other employee benefits	384,183			
10 Payroll taxes	58,448			
11 Fees for services (non-employees)				
a Management				
b Legal	11,988			
c Accounting	19,385			
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other	211,427			
12 Advertising and promotion	90,253			
13 Office expenses	196,324			
14 Information technology	117,218			
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	206,093			
17 Travel	229,017			
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	11,801			
20 Interest	1,219,346			
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	1,202,696			
23 Insurance	15,652			
24 Other expenses Itemize expenses not covered above (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below)				
a MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	19,210			
b TRANSMISSION EXPENSE	18,568			
c ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	4,339			
d MAINTENANCE EXPENSE	705			
e				
f All other expenses				
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f	4,930,869			
26 Joint costs. Check here ☐ if following SOP 98-2 Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation				

Part X Balance Sheet

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest bearing	413,495	1	374,288
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	931,061	2	2,377,459
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net		3	
	4 Accounts receivable, net	996,793	4	1,121,910
	5 Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L	120	5	
	6 Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B). Complete Part II of Schedule L		6	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8 Inventories for sale or use	1,553,334	8	1,084,262
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	51,844	9	29,973
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 43,720,989		
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b 14,343,219	10c 28,846,250	29,377,770
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities		11	
	12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11	3,433,795	12	3,737,501
	13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14 Intangible assets		14	
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	175,580	15	63,482
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	36,402,272	16	38,166,645	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	681,390	17	620,208
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue	838,476	19	914,076
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	21,912,640	23	26,161,605
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties	3,000,000	24	
	25 Other liabilities. Complete Part X of Schedule D	469,390	25	509,205
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	26,901,896	26	28,205,094
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here ☐ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.			
	27 Unrestricted net assets		27	
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets		28	
	29 Permanently restricted net assets		29	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ☒ and complete lines 30 through 34.			
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30	
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund	154,627	31	171,895
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds	9,345,749	32	9,789,656
	33 Total net assets or fund balances	9,500,376	33	9,961,551
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	36,402,272	34	38,166,645	

Part XI Financial Statements and Reporting

- 1** Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual ☐ Other _____
If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O
- 2a** Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?
- b** Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?
- c** If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?
If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O
- d** If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were issued on a consolidated basis, separate basis, or both
☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis
- 3a** As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?
- b** If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits

	Yes	No
2a		X
2b		X
2c		
3a	X	
3b	X	

Form **990** (2009)

**SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990,
Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

► Attach to Form 990. ► See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

46-0115942

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		
5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?		☐ Yes ☐ No
6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?		☐ Yes ☐ No

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or pleasure)	☐ Preservation of an historically important land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat	☐ Preservation of certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space	

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

	Held at the End of the Tax Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06	2d

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the taxable year ► _____

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ► _____

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► _____

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► \$ _____

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

9 In Part XIV, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIV, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1	► \$ _____
(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X	► \$ _____

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 relating to these items

a Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1	► \$ _____
b Assets included in Form 990, Part X	► \$ _____

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)

- a ☐ Public exhibition
 b ☐ Scholarly research
 c ☐ Preservation for future generations
 d ☐ Loan or exchange programs
 e ☐ Other _____

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV and complete the following table

- c Beginning balance
 d Additions during the year
 e Distributions during the year
 f Ending balance

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21?

☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the year end balance held as

- a Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶ _____ %
 b Permanent endowment ▶ _____ %
 c Term endowment ▶ _____ %

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by

- (i) unrelated organizations
 (ii) related organizations

b If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

	Yes	No
3a(i)		
3a(ii)		
3b		

4 Describe in Part XIV the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI Investments—Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of investment	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land		49,257		49,257
b Buildings				
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment				
e Other		43,671,732	14,343,219	29,328,513
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c))				29,377,770

Part XIV Supplemental Information (continued)

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SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

Supplemental Information to Form 990

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

Employer identification number
46-0115942

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 6 - CLASSES OF MEMBERS OR STOCKHOLDERS

BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. PROVIDES ELECTRICITY WITHIN A DEFINED
TERRITORY. ALL CONSUMERS OF ELECTRICITY ARE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 7A - ELECTION OF MEMBERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

THE MEMBERS OF BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., ELECT NINE DIRECTORS TO
REPRESENT THREE DISTRICTS AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN OCTOBER EVERY YEAR.

THREE DIRECTOR POSITIONS, ONE FROM EACH DISTRICT, ARE UP FOR ELECTION
EVERY YEAR.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 11A - ORGANIZATION'S PROCESS TO REVIEW FORM 990

FORM 990 IS PREPARED BY AN OUTSIDE ACCOUNTING FIRMED AND ASSISTED BY THE
ORGANIZATION'S GENERAL MANAGER, MANAGER OF OFFICE SERVICES, AND ACCOUNTANT.
THE COMPLETED 990 IS REVIEWED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER AND THE MANAGER OF
OFFICE SERVICES, SIGNED, DATED AND MAILED. THE GENERAL MANAGER UPDATES THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON THE FORM 990 AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING.
AT THIS TIME, THE GENERAL MANAGER ANSWERS ANY QUESTIONS THE BOARD MAY HAVE
REGARDING THE RETURN.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 12C - ENFORCEMENT OF CONFLICTS POLICY

IN OCTOBER, DURING ELECTION OF THE BOARD MEMBERS, ALL CANDIDATES AND
CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS SIGN A FORM ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR AWARENESS OF THE
CONFLICTS POLICY AND AFFIRMING NO KNOWN CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 15A - COMPENSATION PROCESS FOR TOP OFFICIAL

Name of the organization

BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

Employer identification number

46-0115942

PROCESS FOR DETERMINING COMPENSATION FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER IS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1.) EMPLOYEE EVALUATION FORM IS MAILED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ONE MONTH PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING.
- 2.) SALARY RANGE IS DETERMINED USING THE SDREA SALARY PUBLICATION WHICH INCLUDES WAGES IN SPECIFIC CATEGORIES THROUGHOUT COOPERATIVES IN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA.
- 3.) THE BOARD THEN REVIEWS THE ABOVE INFORMATION AT THEIR SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING AND CONDUCTS A GENERAL MANAGER APPRAISAL AND ESTABLISHES THE COMPENSATION SALARY.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 15B - COMPENSATION PROCESS FOR OFFICERS
PROCESS FOR DETERMINING COMPENSATION FOR THE MANAGER OF OFFICE SERVICES IS
AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) SALARY RANGE IS DETERMINED USING THE SDREA SALARY PUBLICATION WHICH INCLUDES WAGES IN SPECIFIC CATEGORIES THROUGHOUT COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH DAKOTA.
- 2) THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES THE SALARY RANGE.
- 3) THE MANAGER CONDUCTS AN EMPLOYEE EVALUATION AND ESTABLISHES THE MANAGER OF OFFICE SERVICES COMPENSATION SALARY IN JANUARY.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 19 - GOVERNING DOCUMENTS DISCLOSURE EXPLANATION
BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST
POLICY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THEIR MEMBERS UPON
REQUEST AND NO INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

PART IX, LINE 7-10

THE COOPERATIVE, AS A PART OF ITS NORMAL OPERATIONS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH

Name of the organization

BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

Employer identification number

46-0115942

RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE GUIDELINES CAPITALIZES A PORTION OF ITS SALARIES AND RELATED BENEFITS. THESE CAPITALIZED SALARIES AND RELATED BENEFITS ARE INCLUDED IN THE LAND, BUILDINGS, AND EQUIPMENT. (LINE 10A OF PART X)

Forms
990 / 990-PF

Mortgages and Other Notes Payable

2009

For calendar year 2009, or tax year beginning , and ending

Name

Employer Identification Number

BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

46-0115942

FORM 990, PART X, LINE 23 - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Name of lender	Relationship to disqualified person
(1) RUS AND CFC DEBT - MORTGAGES	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
(10)	

Original amount borrowed	Date of loan	Maturity date	Repayment terms	Interest rate
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
(5)				
(6)				
(7)				
(8)				
(9)				
(10)				

Security provided by borrower	Purpose of loan
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
(10)	

Consideration furnished by lender	Balance due at beginning of year	Balance due at end of year
(1)	21,912,640	26,161,605
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)		
Totals	21,912,640	26,161,605

Forms 990 / 990-PF	Receivables Due from Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees	2009
For calendar year 2009, or tax year beginning		, and ending

Name BUTTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC	Employer Identification Number 46-0115942
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FORM 990, PART X, LINE 5 - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Name of borrower	Title
(1) KENNETH WETZ	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
(10)	

Original amount borrowed	Date of loan	Maturity date	Repayment terms	Interest rate
(1) 729		06/15/09		
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
(5)				
(6)				
(7)				
(8)				
(9)				
(10)				

Security provided by borrower	Purpose of loan
(1)	COMPUTER LOAN
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
(10)	

Consideration furnished by lender	Balance due at beginning of year	Balance due at end of year	Fair market value (990-PF only)
(1)	120		
(2)			
(3)			
(4)			
(5)			
(6)			
(7)			
(8)			
(9)			
(10)			
Totals	120		

Federal Statements**Statement 1 - Form 990-T, Part I, Line 12 - Other Income**

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
TOWER RENTAL	\$ 4,090
TOTAL	\$ 4,090