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Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2010 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2010 , and ending 12-31-2010

B Check if applicable

☐ Address change

☐ Name change

☐ Initial return

☐ Terminated

☐ Amended return

☐ Application pending

C Name of organization INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ENERGY AND OUR FUTURE	
Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) PO Box 270762	Room/suite
City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 Fort Collins, CO 805270762	

D Employer identification number

26-1233189

E Telephone number

(303) 942-6209

F Group Exemption
Number

G Accounting method ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual Other (specify) ☐ _____

I Website: <http://www.iseof.org>

J Tax-Exempt status(check only one)—☒ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c)() (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

H Check ☐ if the organization is **not** required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

K Check ☐ if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization **and** its gross receipts are normally **not** more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). But if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ 22,895

Part I **Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (See the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☐

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received		1	22,558
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts		2	312
	3	Membership dues and assessments		3	0
	4	Investment income		4	25
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a0	5c	0
	b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b0		
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)			
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		6d	0
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a0		
	b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 0 of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceed \$15,000)			
	c	Less direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c0		
	d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (Add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)			
	7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a0	7c	0
b	Less cost of goods sold	7b0			
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)				
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)		8	0	
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8		9	22,895	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)		10	0
	11	Benefits paid to or for members		11	0
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits		12	0
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors		13	21,982
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance		14	0
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping		15	0
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)		16	0
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16		17	21,982
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)		18	913
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)		19	68,046
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)		20	0
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 18 through 20		21	68,959

Part II Balance Sheets

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☐

(See the instructions for Part II)		(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year	
22	Cash, savings, and investments	68,046	22	68,959
23	Land and buildings	0	23	0
24	Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	0	24	0
25	Total assets	68,046	25	68,959
26	Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	0	26	0
27	Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21) .	68,046	27	68,959

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☐

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?
The purpose and mission of the Institute for the Study of Energy and Our Future includes the advancement of education and science through research, study, and analysis of global and domestic energy supply, production, and capacity, research and analysis regarding the functions and operations of energy markets and governmental regulation, and raising awareness and facilitating of civil, evidence-based discussion of energy issues. The primary means by which the Institute fulfills its mission is through the publication of an on-line periodical called The Oil Drum. Relevant articles are posted on the The Oil Drum daily and members of the public comment and discuss the articles and current events.

Describe what was achieved in carrying out the organization's exempt purposes. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

28 We publish The Oil Drum, an on-line, daily periodical devoted to energy news, research, and discussion. A digest of relevant news items, called the DrumBeat, is published every morning, and one to three articles of original research or commentary are added during the day. In 2010, The Oil Drum featured over 1,000 articles and over 180,000 community comments and was viewed by an average of 23,000 visitors a day. (Grants \$ 0) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐

Expenses
(Required for section 501 (c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others.)

29	(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	29a	21,214
30	(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	30a	
31	Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	31a	
32	Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	21,214

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees. List each one even if not compensated. (See the instructions for Part IV.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☐

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
Kyle Saunders PO Box 270762 Fort Collins, CO 805270762	Vice-President 20	0		
Nathan Hagens PO Box 270762 Fort Collins, CO 805270762	President 20	0		
David Goldberg PO Box 270762 Fort Collins, CO 805270762	Secretary/Treasurer 20	0		

Part V

Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V ☒

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	No
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	34	No
35	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, explain in Schedule O why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T		
a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?	35a	No
b	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year? (see instructions)	35b	
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions  37a 0		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	No
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	No
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911  0, section 4912  0, section 4955  0		
b	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	No
c	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958  0		
d	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization  0		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed  CO		
42a	The organization's books are in care of  Zakhem Atherton LLC Telephone no  (303) 228-1200 700 17th St 20th Floor Located at  Denver, CO ZIP + 4  80202		
b	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)? 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 .	42b	No
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country 	42c	No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here  and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year  43		
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes", Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ.	44a	No
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	No
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	No
d	If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	

		Yes	No
45	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If 'Yes,' Form 990 and Schedule R must be completed instead of Form990-EZ		No
45a	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If 'Yes,' Form 990 and Schedule R must be completed instead of Form990-EZ		No
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No

Part VI

Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.

All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 47-49b and 52.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

	Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	No
48	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	No
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?	No
49b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?	

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization If there is none, enter "None "				
(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
NONE				

50(f) Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization If there is none, enter "None "		
(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

51(d) Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **NOTE:** All Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A

☒ Yes☐ No

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.

Sign Here	Signature of officer		2011-04-29 Date	
	David Goldberg Deputy Director Type or print name and title			
Paid Preparer's Use Only	Preparer's signature	Date	Check if self-employed ☐	Preparer's taxpayer identification number (See instructions)
	Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4			EIN
				Phone no

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

☐ Yes☐ No

SCHEDULE A

(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2010

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ENERGY AND OUR FUTURE	Employer identification number 26-1233189
--	--

Part I

Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 1

☐

A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**
- 2

☐

A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E)
- 3

☐

A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).**
- 4

☐

A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state
- 5

☐

An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II)
- 6

☐

A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**
- 7

☐

An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 8

☐

A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9

☒

An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III)
- 10

☐

An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See**section 509(a)(4).**
- 11

☐

An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h

a

☐

Type I

b

☐

Type II

c

☐

Type III - Functionally integrated

d

☐

Type III - Other

e

☐

By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)

f

☐

If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II or Type III supporting organization, check this box

g

☐

Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

(i)

a person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the the supported organization?

(ii)

a family member of a person described in (i) above?

(iii)

a 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

h

☐

Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

Part II

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public Support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						

Section B. Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
11 Total support (Add lines 7 through 10)						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (See instructions)					12	

13 First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ▶

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage		
14 Public Support Percentage for 2010 (line 6 column (f) divided by line 11 column (f))	14	
15 Public Support Percentage for 2009 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	
16a 33 1/3% support test—2010. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
b 33 1/3% support test—2009. If the organization did not check the box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2010. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2009. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
18 Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶		

Part IIIPart III

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants ")		106,680	0	6,447	22,558	135,685
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose		0	0	0	0	0
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513		0	0	0	0	0
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf		0	0	0	0	0
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge		0	0	0	0	0
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	0	106,680	0	6,447	22,558	135,685
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons		0	0	0	0	0
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year		0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 7a and 7b	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Public Support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						135,685

Section B. Total Support							
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)		(a) 2006	(b) 2007	(c) 2008	(d) 2009	(e) 2010	(f) Total
9	Amounts from line 6	0	106,680	0	6,447	22,558	135,685
10a	Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources		1,128	2,606	80	25	3,839
b	Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975		9,734	0	0	0	9,734
c	Add lines 10a and 10b	0	10,862	2,606	80	25	13,573
11	Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on		0	0	0	0	0
12	Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)		0	0	0	0	0
13	Total support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11 and 12)	0	117,542	2,606	6,527	22,583	149,258
14	First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here 						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage			
15	Public Support Percentage for 2010 (line 8 column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	15	
16	Public support percentage from 2009 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage			
17	Investment income percentage for 2010 (line 10c column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	17	
18	Investment income percentage from 2009 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	
19a	33 1/3% support tests—2010. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3% and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐		
b	33 1/3% support tests—2009. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐		
20	Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐		

Part IV

Supplemental Information. Supplemental Information. Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

SCHEDULE O

(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury

Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

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

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No 1545-0047

2010

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ENERGY AND OUR FUTURE

Employer identification number

26-1233189

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F99Z_P05_S00_L35	Form 990-EZ, Part V, Line 35	We had \$307 of business income. This was not reported on Form 990-T because it is below the threshold of \$1000 required for filing Form 990-T.