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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

2011

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2011 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2011 and ending 12-31-2011

B Check if applicable

☐ Address change

☐ Name change

☐ Initial return

☐ Terminated

☐ Amended return

☐ Application pending

C Name of organization

LIGNITE ENERGY COUNCIL

Doing Business As

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

Room/suite

PO BOX 2277

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

BISMARCK, ND 58502

F Name and address of principal officer

JOHN W DWYER

1016 E OWENS AVE

BISMARCK, ND 58503

D Employer identification number

45-0321174

E Telephone number

(701) 258-7117

G Gross receipts \$ 2,829,205

I Tax-exempt status

☐ 501(c)(3)

☒ 501(c) (6)

(insert no)

☐ 4947(a)(1) or

☐ 527

J Website: N/A

L Year of formation

1974

M State of legal domicile

ND

Part I

Summary

Activities & Governance	1	Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities PROMOTE POLICIES AND DIRECT ACTIVITIES THAT MAINTAIN A VIABLE LIGNITE INDUSTRY		
	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	24
	4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	24
	5	Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2011 (Part V, line 2a)	5	9
	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0
	7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
Revenue	b	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0
	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9	Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	984,815	1,073,129
	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	2,556,118	1,628,945
	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	27,570	20,482
	12	Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	372,019	69,992
			3,940,522	2,792,548
Expenses	13	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	0	0
	14	Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0
	15	Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	1,292,968	1,337,041
	16a	Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
	b	Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) $\rightarrow$ 0		
	17	Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	1,928,821	1,448,675
	18	Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	3,221,789	2,785,716
Net Assets or Fund Balances	19	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	718,733	6,832
	20	Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	21	Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	5,029,392	4,289,551
	22	Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	2,416,151	1,608,307
			2,613,241	2,681,244

Part II

Signature Block

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

2012-11-15

Date

JOHN W DWYER PRESIDENT

Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature

BETHANY STOCKDILL CPA

Date

Check if self-employed ☐

Preparer's taxpayer identification number (see instructions)

P01445922

Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4

WIDMER ROEL PC

3000 N 14TH STREET SUITE 3C

BISMARCK, ND 58503

EIN $\rightarrow$ 45-0334950

Phone no $\rightarrow$ (701) 221-2655

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat No 11282Y

Form 990 (2011)

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part III

1

Briefly describe the organization's mission

THE LIGNITE ENERGY COUNCIL SHALL PROTECT, MAINTAIN, AND ENHANCE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR REGION'S ABUNDANT LIGNITE RESOURCE

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 organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured 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 \$)

EDUCATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM TO KEEP THE PUBLIC AWARE OF AND EDUCATED AS TO THE RECLAMATION, MINING, AND ENERGY CONVERSION PROCESS OF LIGNITE RESOURCES, INCLUDING TEACHERS SEMINARS

4b

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

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM THAT PROMOTES ECONOMIC, EFFICIENT, AND CLEAN USES OF LIGNITE AND LIGNITE BY-PRODUCTS

4c

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

MEETING AND REGISTRATIONS FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS RELATED TO LIGNITE INDUSTRY, INCLUDING SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

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)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i>	1	No
2	Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)?	2	No
3	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i> 	3	No
4	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i>	4	
5	Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i> 	5	Yes
6	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i> 	6	No
7	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i> 	7	No
8	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i> 	8	No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i> 	9	No
10	Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i> 	10	No
11	If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is 'Yes,' then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
a	Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI.</i> 	11a	Yes
b	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII.</i> 	11b	No
c	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII.</i> 	11c	No
d	Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX.</i> 	11d	Yes
e	Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X.</i> 	11e	No
f	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 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X.</i> 	11f	No
12a	Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII</i> 	12a	Yes
b	Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered 'No' to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII is optional</i> 	12b	No
13	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i>	13	No
14a	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I</i>	14b	No
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 U S ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II and IV</i>	15	No
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 U S ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III and IV</i>	16	No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I</i>	17	No
18	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i>	18	No
19	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i>	19	No
20a	Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>	20a	No
b	If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach its audited financial statement to this return? Note. All Form 990 filers that operated one or more hospitals must attach audited financial statements	20b	

Part IV

Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22		No
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, questions 3, 4, or 5, about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	Yes	
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? <i>If "Yes," answer questions 24b-24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25</i>	24a		No
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b		
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?	24c		
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25a		
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b		
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	27		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a		No
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b		No
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c		No
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29		No
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30		No
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>	31		No
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	32		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33		No
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1</i>	34		No
35a	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the filing organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a		No
b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b		No
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	36		
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>	37		No
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	38	Yes	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance							
Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part V ☐							
				Yes	No		
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable. .			1a	0		
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.			1b	0		
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?			1c			
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. .			2a	9		
b	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 (see instructions).			2b		Yes	
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?			3a			No
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.			3b			
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 or securities account)?			4a			No
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: See instructions for 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?			5a			No
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?			5b			No
c	If "Yes" to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?			5c			
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?			6a			No
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?			6b			
7 Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).							
a	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?			7a			
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?			7b			
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?			7c			
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.			7d			
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?			7e			
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?			7f			
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?			7g			
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?			7h			
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?				8			
9 Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.							
a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?			9a			
b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?			9b			
10 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter							
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.			10a			
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.			10b			
11 Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter							
a	Gross income from members or shareholders.			11a			
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).			11b			
12a Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?				12a			
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.			12b			
13 Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.							
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. All 501(c)(29) organizations must list in Schedule O each state in which they are licensed to issue qualified health plans, the amount of reserves required by each state, and the amount of reserves the organization allocated to each state.			13a			
b	Enter the aggregate amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.			13b			
c	Enter the aggregate amount of reserves on hand.			13c			
14a Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?				14a			No
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.			14b			

Part VI

Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.
Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VI ☒

Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year		
1a	24		
b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent	1b	24
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	No
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	No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4	No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5	No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6	No
7a	Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?	7a	No
b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b	No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following		
a	The governing body?	8a	Yes
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	Yes
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	No

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

		Yes	No
10a	Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	10a	No
b	If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?	10b	
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a	Yes
b	Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review the Form 990		
12a	Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	12a	Yes
b	Were officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	Yes
c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done	12c	Yes
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	No
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	Yes
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	Yes
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization	15b	Yes
	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	No
b	If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take 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 ▶ _____
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c) (3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made 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 made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public. See Additional Data Table.
20	State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization ▶ JOHN DWYER PO BOX 2277 BISMARCK, ND 58501 (701) 258-7117

Part VII

Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part VII

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.
- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation, and **current** key employees. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
 - List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. 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, or 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 neither the organization nor any related organizations compensated any current or former officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (describe hours for related organizations in Schedule O)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(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			
(1) BOB BENSON PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD	0 00	X		X				0	0	0
(2) DAVID SAGGAU DIRECTOR	0 00	X		X				0	0	0
(3) JOHN W DWYER PRESIDENT	40 00	X		X				347,638	0	55,453
(4) BRIAN BJELLA SECRETARY-TREASURER	0 00	X		X				0	0	0
(5) AL HODNIK CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD	0 00	X		X				0	0	0
(6) MAC MCLENNAN CHAIRMAN ELECT	0 00	X						0	0	0
(7) WADE BOESHANS DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(8) CARROLL DEWING DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(9) JAY KOST DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(10) TOM DURHAM DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(11) ANDY SERRI DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(12) GARY LOOP DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(13) DAVID GOODIN DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(14) CHUCK MACFARIANE DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(15) JOHN LEBERSBACK DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(16) DAVE BUTLER DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(17) SEAN MCCAUGHAN DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0

Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (describe hours for related organizations in Schedule O)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(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			
(18) CHUCK KERR DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(19) DAN BUTLER DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(20) LLOYD BUSHONG DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(21) PHILIP SOLSENG DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(22) STAN BRANNIN DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(23) PERRIE SCHAFER DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(24) TODD JOYNER DIRECTOR	0 00	X						0	0	0
(25) MICHAEL L JONES VP OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	40 00				X			181,816	0	37,033
(26) SANDRA TABOR VP OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	40 00					X		142,240	0	34,736
1b Sub-Total										
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)								671,694	0	127,222

2

Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization▶3

		Yes	No
3	Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		No
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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	Yes	
5	Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		No

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 Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

2

Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶0

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	1,073,129				
	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			1,073,129			
Program Service Revenue			Business Code					
	2a	VISION PROJECT INCOME	561499	660,000	660,000			
	b	MARKETING PROGRAM	561499	543,400	543,400			
	c	MEETING & CONVENTIONS	561499	220,825	220,825			
	d	R&D PROGRAM	561499	204,720	204,720			
	e							
	f	All other program service revenue						
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f			1,628,945			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest and other similar amounts)			20,482		20,482	
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . . .						
	5	Royalties						
	6a	(i) Real		(ii) Personal				
	b	Less rental expenses						
	c	Rental income or (loss)						
	d	Net rental income or (loss)						
	7a	(i) Securities		(ii) Other				
	b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses						
	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	36,950					
		b	Less direct expenses	b	36,657			
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . .			293		293	
	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							
	b	Less cost of goods sold	b					
c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . .							
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code						
11a	REIMBURSED COSTS	561499	69,300	69,300				
b	MISCELLANEOUS	561499	399	399				
c								
d	All other revenue							
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d			69,699				
12	Total revenue. See Instructions			2,792,548	1,698,644	0	20,775	

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)

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part IX

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 United States See Part IV, line 21				
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States See Part IV, line 22				
3	Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees				
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	1,016,839			
8	Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)	21,621			
9	Other employee benefits	3,016			
10	Payroll taxes	295,565			
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management	33,000			
b	Legal	216,239			
c	Accounting	171,108			
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees				
g	Other				
12	Advertising and promotion	194,374			
13	Office expenses	77,372			
14	Information technology	12,844			
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy	40,479			
17	Travel	55,855			
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings	147,278			
20	Interest				
21	Payments to affiliates	11,802			
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	33,896			
23	Insurance	7,692			
24	Other expenses Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24f If line 24f amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24f expenses on Schedule O)				
a	VISION 21 PROJECT	287,500			
b	MARKETING PROGRAM EXPEN	148,119			
c	ENTERTAINMENT	5,660			
d	MISCELLANEOUS	5,457			
e					
f	All other expenses				
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f	2,785,716			
26	Joint costs. Check here ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720) 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)		(B)
					Beginning of year		End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing			1,202,711	1	1,527,609
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			768,937	2	505,862
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			1,774,000	3	1,011,700
	4	Accounts receivable, net			138,729	4	51,585
	5	Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L				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				8	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			8,697	9	8,211
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment, cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	690,185	318,853	10c	357,035
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	333,150			
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities				11	
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11				12	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11				13	
	14	Intangible assets				14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11			817,465	15	827,549
16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)			5,029,392	16	4,289,551	
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			197,181	17	313,113
	18	Grants payable				18	
	19	Deferred revenue			2,029,861	19	1,115,757
	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			189,109	23	179,437
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties				24	
	25	Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D				25	
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25			2,416,151	26	1,608,307
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			1,078,004	27	1,263,788
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets			1,535,237	28	1,417,456
	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				31	
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds				32	
	33	Total net assets or fund balances			2,613,241	33	2,681,244
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances			5,029,392	34	4,289,551

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	2,792,548
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	2,785,716
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	6,832
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	2,613,241
5	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	5	61,171
6	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3, 4, and 5 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	6	2,681,244

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part XII

		Yes	No
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?		No
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?	Yes	
c	If "Yes," to 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	Yes	
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 separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☐ Separate basis ☒ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separated 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?		No
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		

SCHEDULE C

(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527

▶ Complete if the organization is described below.

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

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

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If the organization answered “Yes,” to Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations Complete Parts I-A and B Do not complete Part I-C
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations Complete Parts I-A and C below Do not complete Part I-B
- Section 527 organizations Complete Part I-A only

If the organization answered “Yes,” to Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-A Do not complete Part II-B
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-B Do not complete Part II-A

If the organization answered “Yes,” to Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) or Form 990-EZ, line 35c (Proxy Tax), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations Complete Part III

Name of the organization LIGNITE ENERGY COUNCIL	Employer identification number 45-0321174
--	--

Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

1	Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office in Part IV	
2	Political expenditures	▶ \$
3	Volunteer hours	

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

1	Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955	▶ \$
2	Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955	▶ \$
3	If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?	☐ Yes ☐ No
4a	Was a correction made?	☐ Yes ☐ No
b	If "Yes," describe in Part IV	

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) except section 501(c)(3).

1	Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities	▶ \$	0
2	Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt funtion activities	▶ \$	
3	Total exempt function expenditures Add lines 1 and 2 Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b	▶ \$	
4	Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	☐ Yes ☐ No	
5	Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC) If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV		

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds If none, enter -0-	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization If none, enter -0-

Part II-A

Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

- A
- Check
- ☐
- if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures)
- B
- Check
- ☐
- if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)		(a) Filing Organization's Totals	(b) Affiliated Group Totals												
1a Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)															
b Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)															
c Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)															
d Other exempt purpose expenditures															
e Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)															
f Lobbying nontaxable amount Enter the amount from the following table in both columns															
<table><tr><td>If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</td><td>The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</td></tr><tr><td>Not over \$500,000</td><td>20% of the amount on line 1e</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td><td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td><td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td><td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000</td></tr><tr><td>Over \$17,000,000</td><td>\$1,000,000</td></tr></table>		If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:														
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e														
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000														
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000														
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000														
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000														
g Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)															
h Subtract line 1g from line 1a If zero or less, enter -0-															
i Subtract line 1f from line 1c If zero or less, enter -0-															
j If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?		☐ Yes ☐ No													

4-Year Averaging Period Under Section 501(h)
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the instructions for lines 2a through 2f on page 4.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) Total
2a Lobbying non-taxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots non-taxable amount					
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

		(a)		(b)
		Yes	No	Amount
1	During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion on a legislative matter or referendum, through the use of			
a	Volunteers?			
b	Paid staff or management (include compensation in expenses reported on lines 1c through 1i)?			
c	Media advertisements?			
d	Mailings to members, legislators, or the public?			
e	Publications, or published or broadcast statements?			
f	Grants to other organizations for lobbying purposes?			
g	Direct contact with legislators, their staffs, government officials, or a legislative body?			
h	Rallies, demonstrations, seminars, conventions, speeches, lectures, or any similar means?			
i	Other activities? If "Yes," describe in Part IV			
j	Total lines 1c through 1i			
2a	Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?			
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912			
c	If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912			
d	If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?			

Part III-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

		Yes	No
1	Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?	1	No
2	Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?	2	No
3	Did the organization agree to carryover lobbying and political expenditures from the prior year?	3	No

Part III-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) if BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2 are answered "No" OR if Part III-A, line 3 is answered "Yes".

1	Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	1,073,129
2	Section 162(e) non-deductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).		
a	Current year	2a	47,557
b	Carryover from last year	2b	
c	Total	2c	47,557
3	Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues	3	160,969
4	If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?	4	
5	Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures (see instructions)	5	-113,412

Part IV Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1, Part I-B, line 4, Part I-C, line 5, and Part II-B, line 1i. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
------------	------------------	-------------

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b
► Attach to Form 990. ► See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization LIGNITE ENERGY COUNCIL	Employer identification number 45-0321174
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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 may 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 importantly land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space

2

Complete lines 2a–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 Year
a	Total number of conservation easements
b	Total acreage restricted by conservation easements
c	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)
d	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06

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 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 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 the 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	Investment earnings or 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

3a(i)

Yes

No

3a(ii)

3b

b

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

4

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

Part VI

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

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b)Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land				
b Buildings		313,399	63,453	249,946
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		320,744	264,093	56,651
e Other		56,042	5,604	50,438
Total. Add lines 1a-1e (Column (d) should equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) ▶				357,035

Part XI

Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets from Form 990 to Financial Statements

1	Total revenue (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	2,792,548
2	Total expenses (Form 990, Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	2,785,716
3	Excess or (deficit) for the year Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	6,832
4	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	4	1,001
5	Donated services and use of facilities	5	
6	Investment expenses	6	
7	Prior period adjustments	7	
8	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	8	60,170
9	Total adjustments (net) Add lines 4 - 8	9	61,171
10	Excess or (deficit) for the year per financial statements Combine lines 3 and 9	10	68,003

Part XII

Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements	1	2,866,620
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12		
a	Net unrealized gains on investments	2a	
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	2d	74,072
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	74,072
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	2,792,548
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	0
5	Total Revenue Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)	5	2,792,548

Part XIII

Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements	1	2,798,617
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25		
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	
b	Prior year adjustments	2b	
c	Other losses	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	2d	12,901
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	12,901
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	2,785,716
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	0
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)	5	2,785,716

Part XIV

Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, Part XI, line 8, Part XII, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XIII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
PART XI, LINE 8 - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		MANAGEMENT FEE 60,170
PART XII, LINE 2D - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		INTERFUND ELIMINATIONS 73,071 UNREALIZED GAIN/LOSS ON INVESTMENT 1,001
PART XIII, LINE 2D - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		INTERFUND ELIMINATION 12,901

Open to Public Inspection

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

45-0321174

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

Revenue			(a) Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c) Other Events	(d) Total Events
			SUMMER CELEBRATION GOLF TOURNAMENT	(event type)	(total number)	(Add col (a) through col (c))
			(event type)			
	1	Gross receipts	36,950			36,950
Direct Expenses	2	Less Charitable contributions				
	3	Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	36,950			36,950
	4	Cash prizes				
	5	Non-cash prizes				
	6	Rent/facility costs				
	7	Food and beverages				
	8	Entertainment				
	9	Other direct expenses	36,657			36,657
	10	Direct expense summary Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d)				(36,657)
	11	Net income summary Combine lines 3 and 10 in column (d).				293

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

Revenue			(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming
						(Add col (a) through col (c))
Direct Expenses	1	Gross revenue				
	2	Cash prizes				
	3	Non-cash prizes				
	4	Rent/facility costs				
	5	Other direct expenses				
	6	Volunteer labor	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	
	7	Direct expense summary Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d)				()
	8	Net gaming income summary Combine lines 1 and 7 in column (d)				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization operates gaming activities _____

a Is the organization licensed to operate gaming activities in each of these states? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "No," Explain _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," Explain _____

- 11

Does the organization operate gaming activities with nonmembers?

Yes

No
- 12

Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming?

Yes

No

13

Indicate the percentage of gaming activity operated in

a	The organization's facility	13a
b	An outside facility	13b

14

Provide the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records

Name

Address

15a

Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue?

Yes

No

b

If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization \$ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party \$

c

If "Yes," enter name and address

Name

Address

16

Gaming manager information

Name

Gaming manager compensation \$

Description of services provided

Director/officer

Employee

Independent contractor

17

Mandatory distributions

a

Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license?

Yes

No

b

Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year \$

Part IV

Complete this part to provide additional information for responses to question on Schedule G (see instructions.)

Identifier	ReturnReference	Explanation
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Schedule J
(Form 990)

Compensation Information

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

Open to Public Inspection

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, question 23.

▶ Attach to Form 990. ▶ See separate instructions.

Name of the organization
LIGNITE ENERGY COUNCIL

Employer identification number
45-0321174

Part I

Questions Regarding Compensation

	Yes	No
1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items		
☐ First-class or charter travel		
☐ Travel for companions		
☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments		
☐ Discretionary spending account		
☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use		
☐ Payments for business use of personal residence		
☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees		
☐ Personal services (e g , maid, chauffeur, chef)		
1b If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain		
2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all officers, directors, trustees, and the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?		
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the organization uses to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director Check all that apply		
☒ Compensation committee		
☐ Independent compensation consultant		
☐ Form 990 of other organizations		
☒ Written employment contract		
☐ Compensation survey or study		
☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4 During the year, did any person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a with respect to the filing organization or a related organization		
4a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?		No
4b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?		No
4c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?		No
If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III		
Only 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations only must complete lines 5-9.		
5 For persons listed in form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of		
a The organization?		
b Any related organization?		
If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III		
6 For persons listed in form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of		
a The organization?		
b Any related organization?		
If "Yes," to line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III		
7 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III		
8 Were any amounts reported in Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regs section 53 4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III		
9 If "Yes" to line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53 4958-6(c)?		

Part II **Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees.** Use Schedule J-1 if additional space needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported in Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions on row (ii) Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, columns (D) and (E) for that individual

(A) Name		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation reported in prior Form 990 or Form 990-EZ
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
(1) JOHN W DWYER	(i)	261,352	86,286	0	0	55,453	403,091	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(2) MICHAEL L JONES	(i)	163,000	18,816	0	0	37,033	218,849	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(3) SANDRA TABOR	(i)	123,687	18,553	0	0	34,736	176,976	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
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	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							
	(i)							
	(ii)							

Part III **Supplemental Information**

Complete this part to provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
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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

2011**Open to Public
Inspection**Name of the organization
LIGNITE ENERGY COUNCIL**Employer identification number**

45-0321174

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11	IT IS STANDARD POLICY THAT THE PRESIDENT & CEO REVIEW THE IRS FORM 990 PRIOR TO FILING
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	THE ORGANIZATION HOLDS PERIODIC STAFF MEETINGS TO REVIEW AND DIRECT THE ACTIVITIES OF ALL EMPLOYEES ALL BOARD MEMBERS AND KEY EMPLOYEES MUST SIGN THE CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY WHICH ADDRESSES CONFLICT OF INTEREST STANDARDS AND REMEDIES ANNUALLY IF ANY CONFLICTS ARISE, THESE ARE ADDRESSED AS NECESSARY TO ELIMINATE THE CONFLICT
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15	THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE DETERMINES THE COMPENSATION OF THE PRESIDENT & CEO OF THE ORGANIZATION AND REVIEWS THE COMPENSATION OF OTHER KEY EMPLOYEES
	FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	THE ORGANIZATION MAKES ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY WHICH ADDRESSES CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS OR FUND BALANCES	FORM 990, PART XI, LINE 5	NET UNREALIZED GAINS ON INVESTMENTS 1,001 MANAGEMENT FEE 60,170 TOTAL TO FORM 990, PART XI, LINE 5 61,171
	FORM 990, PART XII, LINE 2C	AS IN PRIOR YEARS, THE ORGANIZATION HAS AN AUDIT COMMITTEE THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSIGHT OF THE AUDIT PROCESS AND REPORT