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Part III Statement of Program Service AccomplishmentsCheck if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III ☒**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission:

The purpose of this corporation is to promote the interconnection between agriculture, the environment and rural communities to improve ecological health, economic viability and rural vitality.

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 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 \$ 78,469.21 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 0.00)

3rd Crop Initiative - The core of our work, is an effort to promote alternative crops that supply ecological uplift and diversify the landscape while providing economic return to the farm family and supports society in general. Developing educational programming and delivering that programming through workshops, on farm demonstrations, field days, research, educational materials and one on one technical assistance to farmers are the major outreach methods we utilize.

In October 2014 Rural Advantage was donated a 120 acre farm to be used as a model farm for demonstration, education and research. This farm will increase our capacity to deliver our 3rd crop work to a broader audience and to demonstrate our recommendations on the land. We will be developing a long range strategic plan for the farm in 2015-16.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 68,375.97 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 0.00)

MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program - Rural Advantage led an effort to develop a pilot program for assessing farmers fields to evaluate how they matched up environmentally based on their management practices. We assessed 24 farmers and one met the criteria. The program promotes installing additional conservation practices on farms.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ 33,978.12 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 0.00)

Local Foods Initiative - Rural Advantages provides technical assistance and support to expand local food programming in south central Minnesota. We lead a learning Group during the winter months to bring in speakers on growing, marketing, storage and harvest of local food. We coordinate the Fairmont Community Garden with 155 20 feet x 20 feet garden plots serving 85 families. We assist several farmer's markets in the region and operate a merchant terminal at the Fairmont Farmer's Market each time that takes EBT, credit or debit transactions and gives the buyers tokens they can use to purchase fresh produce from the market vendors. In addition we collaborate on a variety of workshops and meetings to promote and market local foods.

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)(Expenses \$ 44,535.54 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$ 0.00)**4e** Total program service expenses ▶

SCHEDULE L
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Transactions With Interested Persons

► **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.**
► **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
► **Information about Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2014

Open To Public Inspection

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

Rural Advantage

86-1087174

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations only).

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b.

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No
(1)					
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					
(5)					
(6)					

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958. \$

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization \$

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or Form 990, Part IV, line 26; or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
(1)												
(2)												
(3)												
(4)												
(5)												
(6)												
(7)												
(8)												
(9)												
(10)												
Total						\$						

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance
(1)				
(2)				
(3)				
(4)				
(5)				
(6)				
(7)				
(8)				
(9)				
(10)				

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Oct. 16, 2015 LTR 2694C 0 R
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RURAL ADVANTAGE
1243 LAKE AVENUE STE 222
FAIRMONT MN 56031



DECLARATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the return identified in this letter, including any accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct and complete. I understand that this declaration will become a permanent part of that return.

Julia Meschke
Signature of officer or trustee

11-9-15
Date

President
Title

018877