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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 private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public

▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www IRS gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2015 , and ending 12-31-2015

B Check if applicable

☐ Address change

☐ Name change

☐ Initial return

☐ Final return/terminated

☐ Amended return

☐ Application pending

C Name of organization

American Coalition for Ethanol

Doing business as

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

5000 S Broadband Lane No 224

Room/suite

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

Sioux Falls, SD 57108

F Name and address of principal officer

Brian Jennings

5000 S Broadband Lane No 224

Sioux Falls,SD 57108

D Employer identification number

45-0407345

E Telephone number

(605) 334-3381

G Gross receipts \$ 1,411,047

I Tax-exempt status

☐ 501(c)(3)

☒ 501(c) (6) ◀ (insert no)

☐ 4947(a)(1) or

☐ 527

J Website: ▶

www ethanol org

K Form of organization

☒ Corporation

☐ Trust

☐ Association

☐ Other ▶

L Year of formation 1987

M State of legal domicile ND

Part I Summary				
Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities Deliver value to members through government relations, market development and public relations			
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> 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 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	6	
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	24	
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	52,225	
	b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	-625	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year		Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	39,700		87,810
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	1,412,395		1,322,677
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	252		432
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	0		128
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	1,452,347		1,411,047
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	6,422		4,543
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	0		0
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	471,044		497,839
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ ⁰	0		0
Net Assets or Fund Balances	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	847,302		930,083
	18 Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	1,324,768		1,432,465
	19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	127,579		-21,418
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year		End of Year
		734,355		538,941
		245,742		71,746
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	488,613		467,195
	22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20			

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

Brian Jennings Executive Vice President

Type or print name and title

2016-11-09

Date

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name

Laune Hanson

Preparer's signature

Laune Hanson

Date

2016-11-09

Check ☐ if self-employed

PTIN

P00851848

Firm's name ▶

EIDE BAILLY LLP

Firm's EIN ▶

45-0250958

Firm's address ▶

200 EAST 10TH ST PO BOX 5125

SIoux FALLS, SD 571175125

Phone no

(605) 339-1999

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(2015)

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

☐

1

Briefly describe the organization’s mission

American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) was formed to bring together a wide range of groups in support of making U S ethanol the consumer fuel of choice ACE unites agricultural producers, commodity and farm organizations, ethanol producers, rural electric cooperatives, businesses, and individuals behind coalition initiatives to support and promote the production and use of ethanol in the U S A national, nonprofit, grassroots advocacy organization, ACE delivers value to members through government relations, market development, public relations, and information strategies

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

Public Policy & Legislative Advocacy ACE’s public policy strategy is to provide grassroots-driven leadership and advocacy for legislation at the state and federal level that supports the production and use of ethanol Specific focus is on policies that create demand for ethanol Major Achievement within Program ACE launched an advertising campaign designed to put a human face on the benefits of ethanol and ethanol policies (specifically the Renewable Fuel Standard/RFS) The ads featured ACE members and fuel retailers making personal connections to other people on their own terms The campaign is called "Power by People " ACE once again organized our annual grassroots member "fly-in" to Washington, DC During this event more than 70 ACE members met with key EPA officials and nearly 200 Members of Congress ACE members focused on the need to overcome the E10 blend wall, the success of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), and Reid Vapor Pressure fairness for E15 and flex fuels

4b

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

Market Development, Research & Promotion ACE takes aggressive steps to develop new markets for ethanol by providing technical expertise and practical information to fuel marketers and retailers to increase the use of ethanol-blended fuel, such as E15, E20, E30 and E85 ACE targets retailers in emerging markets throughout the U S to ensure they have useful information on the benefits of ethanol ACE works closely with not just retailers but also with automakers to increase the use of ethanol-blended fuels Major Achievements within Program A) ACE launched a new campaign called "Flex Fuel Forward" designed for gas station owners The campaign included paid ads in the national fuel/retailer publications which featured actual retailers who have "been there, done that" when it comes to E15 and flex fuels B) ACE continued our national and targeted "Blend Your Own Ethanol" BYO Ethanol campaign which brings ACE, RFA, the National Corn Growers Association and several state corn grower associations together to expand ethanol’s availability nationwide C) Helped secure the installation of dozens of dispensers around the nation and raised the awareness of the benefits of blender pumps and midlevel blends D) Worked with key automakers and EPA to try and establish meaningful and long-lasting incentives for the production of Flexible Fuel Vehicles that will use blends such as E85 and on strategies to capitalize on ethanol’s clean octane to power future engine technologies

4c

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

Public Relations & Information ACE proactively promotes the benefits of ethanol to the public, media, and opinion leaders through a wide variety of mediums and tools ACE public relations efforts include outreach through television, print, and radio media, editorial board meetings, reporter desk-side briefings, press releases and op-ed placements ACE mobilizes its grassroots membership to engage in public relations, including letter to the editor writing, and by contacting policymakers More than 2200 members and key opinion leaders receive "Ethanol Today" magazine Published six times per year, Ethanol Today covers risk management issues, legislative developments, emerging ethanol markets, and hot industry topics ACE hosts an annual ethanol conference providing timely and relevant information on the challenges and opportunities facing the ethanol industry ACE maintains WWW ETHANOL ORG, an authoritative online resource about ethanol for members, media, and the general public ACE has a robust social media public relations platform and is active in promoting ethanol via Twitter and Facebook Major Accomplishment within Program We continued the "Power by People" featuring a more engaging digital experience at www ethanol org, social media friendly videos and infographics that are easily sharable, and paid advertising The goal of the campaign is to do a better job of conveying the human good ethanol delivers to people of all walks of life, connecting to people on their terms, and putting a human face on the benefits of ethanol

4d
















Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)

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

4e

Total program service expenses ▶

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1	No
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)? 	2	Yes
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I 	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III 	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part 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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II 	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III 	8	No
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV 	9	No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V 	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI 	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII 	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII 	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX 	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X 	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)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X 	11f	Yes
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII 	12a	No
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional 	12b	No
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b	No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	15	No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II	18	No
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government 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 or other assistance to or for domestic individuals 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, line 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		No
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 lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</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), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) 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	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <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 employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <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 direct or indirect 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, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	34		No
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a		No
b	If 'Yes' to line 35a, 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		
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 11b 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 or note to any line in this Part V

			Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.	1a8		
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.	1b0		
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	Yes	
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.	2a6		
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	Yes	
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.	3b	Yes	
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	4a		No
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).			
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 as charitable contributions?	6a	Yes	
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?	6b	Yes	
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. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?	8		
9a	Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a		
b	Did the sponsoring 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. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.	13a		
b	Enter the 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 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 or note to any line 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 If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O		
1b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent		
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?	Yes	
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?		No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?		No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	Yes	
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?	Yes	
7b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?		No
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following		
8a	The governing body?	Yes	
8b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	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		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?		No
10b	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?		
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?		No
11b	Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990		
12a	Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	Yes	
12b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	Yes	
12c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done	Yes	
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?		No
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?		No
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?		
15a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official		No
15b	Other officers or key employees of the organization		No
	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?		No
16b	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?		

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 ☐ Other (explain in Schedule O)

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 during the tax year

20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records
 ► Brian Jennings 5000 S Broadband Lane Ste 224 Sioux Falls, SD 57108 (605) 334-3381

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII ☐

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. 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 organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

[illegible]

Part VII

1b	Sub-Total	▶			
c	Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A	▶			
d	Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	▶	234,082	0	16,102

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 ► 2

		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>	3	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>	4	No
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>	5	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
Astronaut 315 N Main Ave Ste 301 Sioux Falls, SD 57104	Trade Shows/Market Development	233,073
American Capitol Group 122 C Street NW Suite 500 Washington, DC 20001	Lobbying	111,249

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 ► 2

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns . . .	1a					
	b	Membership dues	1b					
	c	Fundraising events	1c					
	d	Related organizations	1d					
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	87,810				
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$						
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f			87,810			
Program Service Revenue			Business Code					
	2a	Membership Dues	900099	1,153,950	1,153,950			
	b	Conferences/Trade Show	900099	83,814	83,814			
	c	Ethanol Today Magazine	541800	52,225		52,225		
	d	BYO Income	900099	32,688	32,688			
	e							
	f	All other program service revenue						
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f			1,322,677			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		432			432	
	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				
		b Less direct expenses		b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . .						
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19		a				
		b Less direct expenses		b				
c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities							
10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances		a					
	b Less cost of goods sold		b					
c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . .							
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code						
11a	Miscellaneous	900099	128	128				
b								
c								
d	All other revenue							
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d			128				
12	Total revenue. See Instructions			1,411,047	1,270,580	52,225	432	

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).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line 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 domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21.	4,543			
2	Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22.				
3	Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.				
4	Benefits paid to or for members.				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.	234,112			
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.	206,090			
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions).	5,491			
9	Other employee benefits.	19,728			
10	Payroll taxes.	32,418			
11	Fees for services (non-employees):				
a	Management.				
b	Legal.				
c	Accounting.				
d	Lobbying.	118,509			
e	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17.				
f	Investment management fees.				
g	Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.)	39,300			
12	Advertising and promotion.	110,083			
13	Office expenses.	34,163			
14	Information technology.	2,017			
15	Royalties.				
16	Occupancy.	98,056			
17	Travel.	60,504			
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials.				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings.	63,243			
20	Interest.	464			
21	Payments to affiliates.				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization.	18,121			
23	Insurance.	3,174			
24	Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a	Legislative Expense.	180,921			
b	Publication Expenses.	81,487			
c	Special Project Expense.	67,036			
d	BYO Expenses.	35,032			
e	All other expenses.	17,973			
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e.	1,432,465			
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

Part X

Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

☐

				(A)		(B)
				Beginning of year		End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing			1	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		626,858	2	429,344
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			3	7,500
	4	Accounts receivable, net		49,408	4	28,853
	5	Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L			5	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) 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		12,696	9	14,562
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	276,382		
	b	Less accumulated depreciation	10b	217,700	45,393	10c 58,682
	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			15	
	16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)		734,355	16	538,941
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		86,992	17	70,196
	18	Grants payable			18	
	19	Deferred revenue		158,750	19	1,550
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities			20	
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D			21	
	22	Loans and other 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			23	
	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		245,742	26	71,746
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.					
	27	Unrestricted net assets		488,613	27	467,195
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets			28	
	29	Permanently restricted net assets			29	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> 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		488,613	33	467,195
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		734,355	34	538,941

Part XI

Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	1,411,047
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	1,432,465
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	-21,418
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	488,613
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	0
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	467,195

Part XII

Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> 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? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
2b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
2c	If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O	Yes	
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
3b	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		

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 45-0407345
Name: American Coalition for Ethanol

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(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			
Ron Alverson President	2 00	X		X				0	0	0
Duane Kristensen Vice President	2 00	X		X				0	0	0
Dave Sovereign Secretary	2 00	X		X				0	0	0
Owen Jones Treasurer	2 00	X		X				0	0	0
Brian Wilcox Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Merle Anderson Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Scott Parsley Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Todd Sneller Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Ron Wetherell Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Gary Marshall Director	1 00	X						0	0	0

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(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			
Greg Knssek Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Chuck DeGrote Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Dale Tolifson Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
David Kolsrud Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Keith Kor Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Bob Sather Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Wallie Hardie Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Paul Enstad Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Doug Punke Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
John Christianson Director	1 00	X						0	0	0

Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(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			
Lars Herseth Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Steve Vander Griend Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Chns Wilson Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Troy Knecht Director	1 00	X						0	0	0
Brian Jennings Executive Vice President	40 00			X				126,022	0	4,162
Ron Lamberty Senior Vice President	40 00			X				108,060	0	11,940

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.
▶Information about Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047
2015
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If the organization answered "Yes" on 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" on 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" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

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

Name of the organization American Coalition for Ethanol	Employer identification number 45-0407345
--	--

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 in Part IV	
2	Political expenditures	\$ 0
3	Volunteer hours	0

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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
4a	Was a correction made?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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 function activities	\$	0
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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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-
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

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><thead><tr><th>If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th><th>The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th></tr></thead><tbody><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></tbody></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?														
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2012	(b) 2013	(c) 2014	(d) 2015	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots nontaxable 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)).

For each "Yes" response on lines 1a through 1i below, provide in Part IV a detailed description of the lobbying activity

	(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?			
j Total Add 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 carry over lobbying and political expenditures from the prior year?	3	Yes

Part III-B

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

1 Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	1,153,950
2 Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).		
a Current year	2a	442,252
b Carryover from last year	2b	
c Total	2c	442,252
3 Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues	3	576,975
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	-134,723

Part IV

Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1, Part I-B, line 4, Part I-C, line 5, Part II-A (affiliated group list), Part II-A, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions), and Part II-B, line 1 Also, complete this part for any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation
Part I-A, Line 1	The Action Committee for Ethanol is ACE's political action committee ACE PAC is active at the state level supporting legislators and statewide office holders who take the lead on beneficial public policies for ethanol During 2015 the filing organization did not transfer any of the organization's funds to the PAC, only outside contributions from individuals were received

SCHEDULE D

(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.
► Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization American Coalition for Ethanol	Employer identification number 45-0407345
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Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1	Total number at end of year	
2	Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)	
3	Aggregate value of 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? <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</div>	
6	Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</div>	

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1	Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply) <div><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education)<div><input type="checkbox"/> Protection of natural habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of open space</div><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of an historically important land area <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of a certified historic structure</div>	
2	Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year	
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, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	
3	Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax 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? <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</div>	
6	Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ►	
7	Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► \$	
8	Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? <div><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</div>	
9	In Part XIII, 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" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a	If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), 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 XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items	
b	If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), 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)	Revenue included on 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 (ASC 958) relating to these items	
a	Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1	► \$
b	Assets included in Form 990, Part X	► \$

Part III

Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets

(continued)

3

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

a

☐ Public exhibition

d

☐ Loan or exchange programs

b

☐ Scholarly research

e

☐ Other

c

☐ Preservation for future generations

4

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

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" on 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 XIII 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, for escrow or custodial account liability?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

☐

Part V

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

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

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as

a Board designated or quasi-endowment

b Permanent endowment

c Temporarily restricted endowment

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

3a

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

(i) unrelated organizations

(ii) related organizations

b

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

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

4

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

Part VI

Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. 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				
c Leasehold improvements		27,209	23,224	3,985
d Equipment		111,909	97,327	14,582
e Other		137,264	97,149	40,115
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c))				58,682

Schedule D (Form 990) 2015

Part XI

Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a		
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	
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 XIII)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c.(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)		5	

Part XII

Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	
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 XIII)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	
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 XIII)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c.(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)		5	

Part XIII

Supplemental Information

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, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Part X, Line 2	The Organization is organized as a North Dakota nonprofit corporation and has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Organization is annually required to file a Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax (Form 990) with the IRS. In addition, the organization is subject to income tax on net income that is derived from business activities that are unrelated to its exempt purposes. The Organization files an Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return (Form 990-T) with the IRS to report its unrelated business taxable income. The Organization believes that it has appropriate support for any tax positions taken affecting its annual filing requirements, and as such, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the financial statements. The organization would recognize future accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits and liabilities in income tax expense if such interest and penalties are incurred.

Part XIII **Supplemental Information** *(continued)*

Return Reference	Explanation

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 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at
www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015**Open to Public
Inspection**Name of the organization
American Coalition for Ethanol**Employer identification number**

45-0407345

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 1	The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two additional Directors appointed by the Board shall constitute the ACE Executive Committee. The Executive Committee reviews and acts on the annual audited or reviewed financial statements, reviews and acts on budgetary matters, helps oversee ACE management activities, makes recommendations to the Board of Directors, and completes other duties as deemed necessary.
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 2	Chris Wilson and Doug Punke have a business relationship. Chuck DeGrote and Dale Tolifson have a business relationship.

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 6	<p>There are two categories of membership</p> <p>1 Voting Member Qualifications - An ethanol or biofuel production entity, - Represents producers of agricultural commodities and other feedstocks used to produce ethanol or biofuel, - A rural electrification entity, - Firms that market ethanol, biofuels, or coproducts and firms that design or build ethanol or biofuel facilities, or - Any other party who demonstrates the highest level of support to the success of the ethanol industry</p> <p>2 Non-Voting Member Qualifications - Associate Members Any natural person, partnership, association or corporation which provides goods and services in support of ethanol, biofuel, or coproduct production or the ethanol industry, other than those listed as Voting Members - Individual Member Any person, other than those listed as voting members or associate members, who supports the advancement of the ethanol industry</p>
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 7a	ACE voting and ethanol producer members elect board directors at the annual business meeting

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 11	The 990 is reviewed by the Executive Vice President. After his review, it is made available to Board members upon request.
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 12c	<p>Any ACE director, principal officer, or member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest through business, investment, or family are interested persons and are covered by the conflict of interest policy. Annually, all interested persons are asked to sign the conflict of interest policy. In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the directors and members of committees with governing board delegated powers considering the proposed transaction or arrangement. After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the governing body or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists. An interested person may make a presentation at the governing board or committee meeting, but after the presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest. The chairperson of the governing board or committee shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement. After exercising due diligence, the governing board or committee shall determine whether ACE can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest. If the governing board or committee has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the member of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose. If, after hearing the member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the governing board or committee determines the member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action. The minutes of the governing board or all committees with board delegated powers shall contain the discussions on all possible conflicts of interest.</p>

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 15	The executive committee discusses job performance and accomplishments of the Executive Vice President and determines based upon performance and accomplishment his compensation. A performance review was completed in 2015. The Executive Vice President determines the compensation for the Senior Vice President.
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, line 19	These documents are available upon request.