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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	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 NORTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC		D Employer identification number 73-0375825	
	Doing business as		E Telephone number (580) 256-7425	
	Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) PO BOX 2707	Room/suite		
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code WOODWARD, OK 73802		G Gross receipts \$ 34,483,680	
	F Name and address of principal officer TYSON LITTAU PO BOX 2707 WOODWARD, OK 73802		H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? ☐ Yes ☒ No H(b) Are all subordinates included? ☐ Yes ☐ No If "No," attach a list (see instructions) H(c) Group exemption number ▶	
I Tax-exempt status ☐ 501(c)(3) ☒ 501(c) (12) ◀ (Insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527				
J Website: ▶ WWW.NWECOK.COOP				

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC POWER TO RURAL AREAS AT COST ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS			
	2 Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets			
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	9	
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	9	
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	62		
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0		
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	71,855		
7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	-325		
Revenue			Prior Year	Current Year
	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)		0	0
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	38,899,421	34,217,826	
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	132,511	109,060	
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	93,016	95,084	
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	39,124,948	34,421,970	
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	25,043	27,298	
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	3,132,007	2,228,123	
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	4,099,981	4,497,334	
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0	
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ☐ 0			
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	31,867,917	27,669,215	
	18 Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	39,124,948	34,421,970	
	19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	0	0	
Net Assets or Fund Balances			Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	76,866,635	80,803,783	
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	48,578,996	51,278,192	
	22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	28,287,639	29,525,591	

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	*****			2016-05-09	
	Signature of officer			Date	
	TYSON LITTAU CEO Type or print name and title				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name CELINDA J LEVERETT		Preparer's signature CELINDA J LEVERETT		Date 2016-05-09
	Check ☐ if self-employed			PTIN P01455941	
	Firm's name  BOLINGER SEGARS GILBERT AND MOSS LLP			Firm's EIN  75-0882037	
Firm's address  8215 NASHVILLE AVENUE LUBBOCK, TX 79423			Phone no (806) 747-3806		

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

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

- 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 \$	)
	PROVIDING ELECTRIC ENERGY TO OUR MEMBERS - 11,909 ACTIVE SERVICES AT YEAR END WERE PROVIDED ELECTRICITY ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS THROUGH THE ALLOCATION OF PATRONAGE CAPITAL				

[illegible][illegible]

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	No
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 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? <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	Yes
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	No
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	Yes
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	Yes
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</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 and XII 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, Parts I and IV</i>	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? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts 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 other assistance to or for foreign individuals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts 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> (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? <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 hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>	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	Yes	
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	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 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.	1a	48			
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	62			
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			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. 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	33,423,426			
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).	11b	1,265,315			
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		
b	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?	2	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?	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	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?	7a	Yes
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	Yes
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	No
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 this 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	Yes
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	OK
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	
	TYSON LITTAU 2925 WILLIAMS AVENUE WOODWARD, OK 73801 (580) 256-7425	

Part VII

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

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line 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 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

(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			
(1) KENNETH KNOWLES PRESIDENT	5 29	X		X				21,717	0	0
(2) RAY SMITH VICE PRESIDENT	2 47	X		X				18,497	0	0
(3) JOHN BRUCE JR SECRETARY-TREASURER	5 22	X		X				22,365	0	0
(4) GILBERT PERKINS TRUSTEE	4 25	X						20,757	0	0
(5) LEE R HUCKABY TRUSTEE	2 50	X						5,329	0	0
(6) DUANE HENDERSON TRUSTEE	3 33	X						18,315	0	0
(7) CLAIR CRAIGHEAD TRUSTEE	3 60	X						18,883	0	0
(8) MARVIN WILKINSON TRUSTEE	3 10	X						27,127	0	0
(9) WAYNE HALL TRUSTEE	3 66	X						7,082	0	0
(10) TYSON LITTAU CEO	40 00			X				208,048	0	95,399
(11) MONTY GOODMAN DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING & ENGINEERING	40 00					X		108,256	0	119,250
(12) JOHN KIRKWOOD DIRECTOR OF SAFETY & OPERATIONS	40 00					X		106,881	0	97,941
(13) BRENT MCDOWELL FOREMAN	50 00					X		104,410	0	48,400
(14) JAMIE RUBLE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION	40 00					X		104,301	0	47,533

Part VII

(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			
1b Sub-Total										
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)							791,968	0	408,523	

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 ▶ 5

		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	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>		
	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
R&R POWERLINE CONSTRUCTION INC PO BOX 246 SAYRE, OK 73662	CONSTRUCTION	917,355
RIGGS TREE SERVICE PO BOX 453225 GROVE, OK 74345	RIGHT OF WAY TREE TRIMMING	597,648
JOE D HALL GENERAL CONTRACTORS LLC PO BOX 100 ELK CITY, OK 73648	CONSTRUCTION	446,572
SOUTHEASTERN DATA COOPERATIVE 100 ASHFORD CENTER NORTH STE 500 ATLANTA, GA 30338	SOFTWARE, IT SERVICES & TRAINING	169,170

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 ► 4

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

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

			(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	
			Total revenue	Related or exempt function revenue	Unrelated business revenue	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				
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$					
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f					
Program Service Revenue			Business Code				
	2a	ELECTRIC ENERGY	221000	32,605,651	32,605,651		
	b	PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS	221000	1,452,318	1,452,318		
	c	SERVICE FEES	221000	92,879	92,879		
	d	DISTRIBUTION LINE LEASE	221000	64,091	64,091		
	e	OTHER PROGRAM REVENUE	221000	2,887	2,887		
	f	All other program service revenue					
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		34,217,826			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		95,547		95,547	
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds					
	5	Royalties		698		698	
	6a	Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal			
		b	Less rental expenses				
		c	Rental income or (loss)				
	d	Net rental income or (loss)					
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other			
				41,202			
		b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses		27,689		
		c	Gain or (loss)		13,513		
	d	Net gain or (loss)		13,513		13,513	
	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				
			46,714				
	b	Less cost of goods sold	b	34,021			
	c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory		12,693	12,693		
	Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code				
11a	BILLING REVENUE	561499	71,855		71,855		
b	POLE ATTACHMENT INCOME	221000	9,838			9,838	
c							
d	All other revenue						
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d		81,693				
12	Total revenue. See Instructions		34,421,970	34,230,519	71,855	119,596	

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	16,298			
2	Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals See Part IV, line 22	11,000			
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	2,228,123			
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	463,519			
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	2,339,444			
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	498,356			
9	Other employee benefits	1,007,553			
10	Payroll taxes	188,462			
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management				
b	Legal				
c	Accounting				
d	Lobbying				
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)				
12	Advertising and promotion				
13	Office expenses				
14	Information technology				
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy				
17	Travel				
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings				
20	Interest	1,739,305			
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	2,790,037			
23	Insurance				
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	PURCHASED POWER	19,626,816			
b	DISTRIBUTION EXPENSE	1,391,346			
c	ADMIN AND GENERAL	963,153			
d	OPERATING TAXES	754,688			
e	All other expenses	403,870			
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	34,421,970			
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 ☐ 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			2,253,657	1	2,769,140
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments				2	
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net				3	
	4	Accounts receivable, net			3,405,290	4	2,923,367
	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			489,131	7	652,908
	8	Inventories for sale or use			1,018,068	8	1,106,248
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			1,898,986	9	1,679,299
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	85,359,773			
	b	Less accumulated depreciation	10b	26,615,876	55,398,940	10c	58,743,897
	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			12,394,253	13	12,920,614
14	Intangible assets				14		
15	Other assets See Part IV, line 11			8,310	15	8,310	
16	Total assets.Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)			76,866,635	16	80,803,783	
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			2,709,659	17	2,520,784
	18	Grants payable				18	
	19	Deferred revenue				19	
	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			44,835,926	23	47,468,111
	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			1,033,411	25	1,289,297
	26	Total liabilities.Add lines 17 through 25			48,578,996	26	51,278,192
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☐ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.						
	27	Unrestricted net assets				27	
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets				28	
	29	Permanently restricted net assets				29	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☒ and complete lines 30 through 34.						
	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds			0	30	0
	31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund			2,982,454	31	3,230,999
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds			25,305,185	32	26,294,592
	33	Total net assets or fund balances			28,287,639	33	29,525,591
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances			76,866,635	34	80,803,783

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	34,421,970
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	34,421,970
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	0
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	28,287,639
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	1,237,952
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	29,525,591

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 ☐ 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? 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 ☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	2a	No
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 ☒ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	2b	Yes
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	2c	No
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?	3a	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	3b	

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 NORTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC	Employer identification number 73-0375825
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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? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
6	Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? ☐ Yes ☐ No	

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on 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 education) ☐ Preservation of an historically important land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space

2

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

	Held at the End of the 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?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

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 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

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

b

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

☐

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)	Accumulated (c)depreciation	(d)Book value
1a Land		242,818		242,818
b Buildings		1,667,582	908,876	758,706
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		82,716,560	25,707,000	57,009,560
e Other		732,813		732,813
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				58,743,897

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	34,356,324
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	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	34,356,324
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	65,646
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	65,646
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c.(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)	5	34,421,970

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	32,128,201
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	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	32,128,201
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	2,293,769
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	2,293,769
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)	5	34,421,970

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 COOPERATIVE HAS ADOPTED THE UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS PROVISIONS OF ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE PRIMARY TAX POSITION OF THE COOPERATIVE IS ITS FILING STATUS AS A TAX EXEMPT ENTITY. THE COOPERATIVE DETERMINED THAT IT IS MORE LIKELY THAN NOT THAT ITS TAX POSITION WILL BE SUSTAINED UPON EXAMINATION BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, OR OTHER STATE TAXING AUTHORITY AND THAT ALL TAX BENEFITS ARE LIKELY TO BE REALIZED UPON SETTLEMENT WITH TAXING AUTHORITIES.
Part XI, Line 4b - Other Adjustments	EXPENSES RECORDED IN NON-OPERATING MARGINS RECLASSSED TO EXPENSES 65,646
Part XII, Line 4b - Other Adjustments	EXPENSES RECORDED IN NON-OPERATING MARGINS RECLASSSED TO EXPENSES 65,646 PATRONAGE CAPITAL ASSIGNABLE 2,228,123
SCHEDULE D PART IX	THE AMOUNT OF OTHER ASSETS ON FORM 990, PAGE 11, PART X, LINE 15 DOES NOT EQUAL OR EXCEED 5% OF THE TOTAL ASSETS ON FORM 990, PAGE 11, PART X, LINE 16, COLUMN B. CONSEQUENTLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH IRS INSTRUCTIONS SCHEDULE D, PART IX HAS BEEN LEFT BLANK.
SCHEDULE D PART XII, LINE 4B	FOR THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, THE AMOUNT OF PATRONAGE CAPITAL ASSIGNABLE (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS PAID OR ALLOCATED) TO THE MEMBERS IS REPORTED AS AN INCREASE IN EQUITY AND NOT AS AN EXPENSE. THEREFORE, NET INCOME PER THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IS REPORTED GROSS OF THE AMOUNT OF PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS THAT ARE EITHER ALLOCATED OR TO BE ALLOCATED AT THE TIME THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE PREPARED. HOWEVER, BECAUSE THE ALLOCATION OF PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS IS ONE ASPECT OF HOW THE COOPERATIVE FULFILLS ITS TAX EXEMPT PURPOSE OF OPERATING ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS, THE AMOUNT OF PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS EITHER ALLOCATED OR TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE MEMBERS IS REPORTED ON FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 4 AS "BENEFITS PAID TO MEMBERS." PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ARE ALLOCATED ON A PATRONAGE BASIS AND DONE SO PURSUANT TO A PRE-EXISTING OBLIGATION AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE "NON-PROFIT OPERATION" ARTICLE OF THE COOPERATIVE'S BYLAWS.

[illegible]

Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations, Governments and Individuals in the United States

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.

▶ **Attach to Form 990.**

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

Employer identification number

73-0375825

1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance?

☒ Yes ☐ No

2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States

[illegible]

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table

3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table

Part III

Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22
Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed

(a)Type of grant or assistance	(b)Number of recipients	(c)Amount of cash grant	(d)Amount of non-cash assistance	(e)Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f)Description of non-cash assistance
FANNING-FUSSELL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS PAID DIRECTLY TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ON (1) BEHALF OF RECIPIENT	22	11,000			

Part IV

Supplemental Information. Provide the information required in Part I, line 2, Part III, column (b), and any other additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Part I, Line 2	THE COOPERATIVE USES A SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION BASED ON GRADES, LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND AN ESSAY. A SEPARATE SELECTION COMMITTEE REVIEWS THE APPLICATIONS AND SELECTS THE RECIPIENTS PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS IN THE APPLICATION.

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

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

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

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

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
NORTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC

Employer identification number
73-0375825

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 on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items. ☐ First-class or charter travel ☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use ☒ Travel for companions ☐ Payments for business use of personal residence ☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments ☒ Health or social club dues or initiation fees ☐ Discretionary spending account ☐ Personal services (e g , maid, chauffeur, chef)		
b	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 of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain	1b	Yes
2	Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?	2	Yes
3	Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III. ☐ Compensation committee ☐ Written employment contract ☐ Independent compensation consultant ☒ Compensation survey or study ☐ Form 990 of other organizations ☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4	During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:		
a	Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?	4a	No
b	Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?	4b	No
c	Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.	4c	No
	Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.		
5	For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:		
a	The organization?	5a	
b	Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.	5b	
6	For persons listed on 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?	6a	
b	Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.	6b	
7	For persons listed on 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.	7	
8	Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.	8	
9	If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	9	

Part II

Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on 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, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(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 in column(B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		Base (i) compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 TYSON LITTAUCEO	(i)	203,918	2,220	1,910	75,138	20,261	303,447	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 MONTY GOODMAN DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING & ENGINEERING	(i)	104,220	2,345	1,691	99,756	19,494	227,506	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 JOHN KIRKWOOD DIRECTOR OF SAFETY & OPERATIONS	(i)	102,842	2,345	1,694	78,463	19,478	204,822	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 BRENT MCDOWELL FOREMAN	(i)	73,732	2,470	28,208	29,140	19,260	152,810	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 JAMIE RUBLE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION	(i)	101,428	2,220	653	28,055	19,478	151,834	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part IIISupplemental Information

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, SCHEDULE J, PART II, COLUMN C	INCLUDED IN THIS AMOUNT IS THE INCREASE IN ACTUARIAL VALUE OF BENEFITS PAYABLE UNDER A DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN. THE CONTRIBUTION RATE FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE NRECA R&S DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN ARE THE SAME FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS IN THIS MULTI-EMPLOYER PLAN. THE CHANGE IN ACTUARIAL VALUE FOR EACH PARTICIPANT, HOWEVER, VARIES WITH AGE, YEARS OF SERVICE AND THE CURRENT INTEREST RATE ENVIRONMENT. IN OTHER WORDS, THE OLDER A PLAN PARTICIPANT IS, THE GREATER THE INCREASE IN THAT INDIVIDUAL'S CHANGE IN ACTUARIAL VALUE, ALL OTHER THINGS BEING EQUAL. BECAUSE THIS RELATES TO A MULTI-EMPLOYER PLAN, CASH CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PLAN IN LIEU OF THE ACTUARIAL INCREASE ARE EXPENSED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. TYSON LITTAU: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN \$ 70,946; EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION TO 401(K) PLAN 4,192; TOTAL REPORTED IN COLUMN C 75,138; LESS: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN (70,946); ADD: CASH CONTRIBUTED TO DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN 60,120; EXPENSE TO THE COOPERATIVE \$ 64,312. MONTY GOODMAN: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN \$ 97,573; EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION TO 401(K) PLAN 2,183; TOTAL REPORTED IN COLUMN C 99,756; LESS: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN (97,573); ADD: CASH CONTRIBUTED TO DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN 31,384; EXPENSE TO THE COOPERATIVE \$ 33,567. JOHN KIRKWOOD: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN \$ 76,315; EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION TO 401(K) PLAN 2,148; TOTAL REPORTED IN COLUMN C 78,463; LESS: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN (76,315); ADD: CASH CONTRIBUTED TO DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN 30,720; EXPENSE TO THE COOPERATIVE \$ 32,868. BRENT MCDOWELL: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN \$ 27,555; EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION TO 401(K) PLAN 1,585; TOTAL REPORTED IN COLUMN C 29,140; LESS: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN (27,555); ADD: CASH CONTRIBUTED TO DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN 22,560; EXPENSE TO THE COOPERATIVE \$ 24,145. JAMIE RUBLE: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN \$ 25,908; EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION TO 401(K) PLAN 2,147; TOTAL REPORTED IN COLUMN C 28,055; LESS: ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN (25,908); ADD: CASH CONTRIBUTED TO DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN 30,846; EXPENSE TO THE COOPERATIVE \$ 32,993.

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 NORTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC	Employer identification number 73-0375825
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Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 2	TYSON LITTAU (CEO) AND RAY SMITH (VICE PRESIDENT) BOTH SERVED ON THE BOARD OF WESTERN FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE AT THE REQUEST OF AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COOPERATIVE

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 6	THE COOPERATIVE WAS FORMED BY THE MEMBERS TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC SERVICE AT COST ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 7a	THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE VOTE ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS ARE DONE ON A ONE MEMBER ONE VOTE BASIS BY VOTING DISTRICT

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 7b	THE FOLLOWING ACTS REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE. 1 DISSOLUTION/LIQUIDATION OF THE COOPERATIVE, 2 MERGER OR CONSOLIDATION OF THE COOPERATIVE WITH ANOTHER ORGANIZATION, 3 DISPOSAL OF A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THE COOPERATIVE'S ASSETS, 4 AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, AND 5 AMENDMENTS TO THE COOPERATIVE'S BYLAWS

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 8b	FROM TIME TO TIME THE ENTIRE BOARD WILL GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSING ITEMS OF A SENSITIVE AND CONFIDENTIAL NATURE. WHEN THIS OCCURS, MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE ARE REMOVED FROM THE MEETING ROOM. ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ARE NOT DOCUMENTED. HOWEVER, ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSIONS ARE ADJOURNED ARE FULLY DOCUMENTED IN THE WRITTEN MINUTES.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 11	MANAGEMENT PRESENTED A COPY OF THE FORM 990 TO THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL PRIOR TO FILING THE DISCUSSION AND REVIEW WAS PERFORMED AT THE BOARD MEETING IMMEDIATELY BEFORE FILING THE FORM 990

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 12c	THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS ARE REQUIRED TO REVIEW AND BE FAMILIAR WITH THE POLICIES OUTLINED IN THE COOPERATIVE'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS ARE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY ACTION OR SITUATION THAT MIGHT VIOLATE THE POLICY TO THE FULL BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY IS REVIEWED AND REDISTRIBUTED TO EACH EMPLOYEE, OFFICER AND DIRECTOR AT LEAST ONCE EVERY OTHER YEAR

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 15	THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES USE A COMPENSATION SURVEY WHEN DETERMINING THE COMPENSATION OF THE CEO THE SURVEY SHOWS COMPARATIVE SALARIES FOR CEOS FROM SIMILARLY SITUATED COOPERATIVES LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA AND THE NATION THE CEO, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND AN INDEPENDENT COMPENSATION CONSULTANT USE A COMPENSATION SURVEY WHEN DETERMINING THE COMPENSATION OF THE COOPERATIVES OTHER EMPLOYEES MEETING THE DEFINITION OF OFFICER AND KEY EMPLOYEES, IF ANY THE SURVEY INCLUDES SALARIES FROM SIMILARLY SITUATED COOPERATIVES THROUGHOUT OKLAHOMA AND THE NATION

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, line 19	THE COOPERATIVE WILL PROVIDE A COMPLETE COPY OF ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, EXTERNAL POLICIES, AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO ANY MEMBER WHO REQUESTS A COPY OF ANY SUCH DOCUMENT ANNUALLY THE COOPERATIVE PROVIDES THE YEAR END BALANCE SHEET AND INCOME STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE WITH THE ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE AND ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONALLY AN OPERATING REPORT, WHICH SUMMARIZES VARIOUS FINANCIAL STATISTICS, IS PUBLISHED IN AND DISTRIBUTED TO THE MEMBERS VIA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER THE COOPERATIVE'S BYLAWS ARE ALSO MADE AVAILABLE ON THE COOPERATIVE'S WEBSITE

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VII, Column F	IN ORDER TO PROVIDE RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO ITS EMPLOYEES, THE COOPERATIVE HAS ESTABLISHED A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN UNDER SECTION 401(K) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE. EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PLAN ARE MADE PURSUANT TO THE PLAN DOCUMENT. ADDITIONALLY, THE COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATES IN A MULTI-EMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS PLAN ARE BASED ON THE FULL FUNDING LIMITATION OF SUCH PLAN. EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BOTH PLANS ARE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING OFFICER AND HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES, MEETING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF SUCH PLANS. THE COOPERATIVE ALSO PROVIDES HEALTH, DENTAL AND LIFE INSURANCE TO ALL ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES THROUGH A QUALIFIED PLAN. THE AMOUNTS REPORTED ON PART VII, COLUMN (F) FOR THE OFFICER AND HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES IS COMPRISED OF ACTUARIAL INCREASE IN THE DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN, THE TOTAL AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED BY THE COOPERATIVE TO THE DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN AND INSURANCE PAID ON BEHALF OF AND FOR THEIR BENEFIT. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE BENEFIT PLANS, THE COOPERATIVE ALSO PROVIDES POST-RETIREMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS THROUGH AN UNFUNDED WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN. THE VALUE OF THESE BENEFITS HAS NOT BEEN ESTIMATED.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VII, Section A	THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSIDERS THE CEO TO BE BOTH THE TOP MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL AND THE TOP FINANCIAL OFFICIAL. THEREFORE, ONLY THE CEO IS LISTED AS AN EMPLOYEE OFFICER.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VIII, Line 2	PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS RESULT FROM THE PURCHASE OF WHOLESALE POWER FROM A GENERATION & TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE. PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ALSO RESULT FROM THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST FROM COOPERATIVE BANKS AND THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES FROM OTHER COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS. THE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH PURCHASES FROM AND PAYMENTS TO SUCH COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS ARE A DIRECT COMPONENT OF COST OF THE ELECTRIC SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZATION TO ITS MEMBERS.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX	THE ACCOUNTING RECORDS OF THE COOPERATIVE ARE MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE (RUS) UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS AS PRESCRIBED RUS ELECTRIC BORROWERS. THE UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS DOES NOT RECORD EXPENSES IN THE GENERAL EXPENSE CATEGORIES PROVIDED ON PART IX LINES 1 - 23. THE COOPERATIVE SEPARATELY REPORTS SALARIES AND WAGES, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND PAYROLL TAXES THAT ARE ALLOCATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, BUT OTHER EXPENSES THAT ARE DESCRIBED IN LINES 1 - 23 ARE REPORTED ON LINE 24 UNDER THE EXPENSE CATEGORIES REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Lines 5-7	SALARIES AND WAGES ARE ALLOCATED TO ASSET, LIABILITY , AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS BASED ON THE ACCOUNTING SYSTEM DESCRIBED ABOVE. THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE RECONCILES THE AMOUNTS REPORTED ON LINES 5-7 TO TOTAL WAGES ACCRUED AND/OR PAID. TOTAL PER LINES 5-7 \$ 2,802,963 LESS TRUSTEES FEES REPORTED ON 1099-MISC (160,072) LESS EMPLOYEE OFFICER BENEFITS REPORTED ON LINE 5 (95,399) PLUS SALARIES AND WAGES ALLOCATED TO NONOPERATING MARGINS 452 PLUS SALARIES AND WAGES CAPITALIZED DIRECTLY TO PLANT 867,464 PLUS SALARIES AND WAGES CAPITALIZED/EXPENSED INDIRECTLY THROUGH CLEARING & OTHER ACCOUNTS 369,161 TOTAL WAGES ACCRUED AND/OR PAID \$3,784,569

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Line 24	ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSE IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICE SUPPLIES AND EXPENSES \$ 311,552 OUTSIDE SERVICES EMPLOY ED 52,340 EMPLOY EE EXPENSE 138,406 TRUSTEES' EXPENSE 56,716 INJURIES AND DAMAGES 62,817 PROPERTY & GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE 92,016 DUES TO ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS 102,680 ANNUAL AND DISTRICT MEETING EXPENSE 78,788 MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL EXPENSE 33,137 MAINTENANCE OF GENERAL PLANT 34,701 TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSE PER 990 \$ 963,153

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 4	PURSUANT TO THE FORM 990 INSTRUCTIONS, THE AMOUNT OF PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS PAID TO THE MEMBERS (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "PATRONS") SHOULD BE REPORTED ON PART IX, LINE 4. THE PHRASE "PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS PAID" REFERS TO THE PROCESS, SUBSEQUENT TO YEAR-END, BY WHICH THE COOPERATIVE ALLOCATES PATRONAGE CAPITAL TO AND, THEREFORE, OPERATES AT COST WITH ITS PATRONS. THE COOPERATIVE'S TAX EXEMPT PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY TO ITS PATRONS AND TO DO SO ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS. TAX LAW DEFINES "OPERATING ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS" AS SUBORDINATION OF CAPITAL, DEMOCRATIC CONTROL, AND OPERATION AT COST. THE COOPERATIVE OPERATES AT COST THROUGH THE ALLOCATION OF TRUE PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS (ALSO REFERRED TO AS ALLOCATIONS OF PATRONAGE CAPITAL) TO ITS PATRONS. PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ARE CONSIDERED PAID IF THE ALLOCATION IS MADE (1) PURSUANT TO A PRE-EXISTING OBLIGATION, (2) FROM THE MARGINS PRODUCED FROM THE TRANSACTIONS DONE WITH OR FOR PATRONS, AND (3) IN A FAIR AND EQUITABLE MANNER ON THE BASIS OF PATRONAGE (I.E. PURCHASES). ADDITIONALLY, THE ALLOCATION OF PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS SHOULD BE MADE WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME PERIOD AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE COOPERATIVE'S YEAR-END OF DECEMBER 31. EACH ONE OF THESE REQUIREMENTS FOR A TRUE PATRONAGE DIVIDEND IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE NON-PROFIT OPERATION ARTICLE OF THE COOPERATIVE'S BYLAWS. EXCESS OF OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES PROPERLY CHARGEABLE AGAINST SUCH SERVICES (I.E. MARGINS FROM THE PROVISION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY). THE AMOUNT REPORTED ON PART IX, LINE 4 REPRESENTS THE AMOUNT OF PATRONAGE CAPITAL THAT IS EITHER ALLOCATED OR TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE PATRONS RESULTING FROM THEIR PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY FROM THE COOPERATIVE FOR THE 2015 CALENDAR YEAR. BECAUSE PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ARE THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE COOPERATIVE OPERATES AT COST WITH ITS PATRONS AND THEREBY A KEY COMPONENT TO ACCOMPLISHING ITS EXEMPT PURPOSE, THE COOPERATIVE HAS REPORTED SUCH AMOUNTS AS AN EXPENSE FOR FORM 990 REPORTING. PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ARE NOT AN EXPENSE FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES, HOWEVER.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Line 24E	OTHER EXPENSES IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING CUSTOMER SERVICE \$ 338,224 OTHER DEDUCTIONS 65,646 TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES PER FORM 990, LINE 24E \$ 403,870

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, LINE 1	ALL GRANTS, SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS ARE MADE TO NON-PROFIT AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE LOCATED IN THE COOPERATIVE'S SERVICE AREA. ALL DONATIONS ARE INTENDED TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH OUR MEMBERS RESIDE. EACH GRANT, SCHOLARSHIP AND/OR DONATION MADE DURING THE YEAR WAS BELOW THE REPORTING THRESHOLD OF SCHEDULE I, PART II.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part X, LINES 17 AND 25	THE COOPERATIVE PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED "ACCRUED PAYROLL AND COMPENSATED ABSENCES AND "OTHER CURRENT ACCRUED LIABILITES" AS COMPONENTS OF OTHER LIABILITIES ON LINE 25 OF PART X. HOWEVER, FOR THE 2015 CALENDAR YEAR, THE COOPERATIVE BEGAN REPORTING THESE AMOUNTS ON LINE 17 IN ACCORDANCE WITH FORM 990 INSTRUCTIONS. TO INCREASE CONSISTENCY, THE AMOUNT OF \$298,298 FOR "ACCRUED PAYROLL AND COMPENSATED ABSENCES AND \$3,070 FOR "OTHER CURRENT ACCRUED LIABILITES" FOR THE 2014 CALENDAR YEAR HAVE BEEN RECLASSED FROM LINE 25 TO LINE 17.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part XI, line 9	NET CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIPS -203,369 PATRONAGE CAPITAL ASSIGNABLE 2,228,123 PATRONAGE CAPITAL RETIRED - TOTAL -1,035,347 PATRONAGE CAPITAL RETIRED - DISCOUNT 22,680 UNCLAIMED PATRONAGE CAPITAL RETIREMENT CHECKS 225,865

Return Reference	Explanation
Service	THE BOARD AS A WHOLE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT AND SELECTING THE INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDITOR. PROCEDURAL CHANGES DID NOT OCCUR DURING THE YEAR.