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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
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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 HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC		D Employer identification number 81-0218593
	Doing business as		E Telephone number (406) 394-7804
	Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) 2121 US HIGHWAY 2 NW PO BOX 2330	Room/suite	
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code HAVRE, MT 59501		G Gross receipts \$ 14,433,623
	F Name and address of principal officer CRAIG GATES 2121 US HIGHWAY 2 NW PO BOX 2330 HAVRE, MT 59501		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.HCELECTRIC.COM			

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY TO RURAL AREAS		
	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	5
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	5
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	176	
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0	
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0	
7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	0	0
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	13,164,690	14,010,936
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	57,311	29,955
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	-27,742	-27,020
		13,194,259	14,013,871
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	2,550	2,941
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	297,898	573,460
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	3,203,703	2,502,843
	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)	9,522,894	10,934,627
	18 Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	13,027,045	14,013,871
	19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	167,214	0
Net Assets or Fund Balances		Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	32,626,847	32,851,301
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	18,085,116	17,965,199
	22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	14,541,731	14,886,102

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	*****		2016-07-28		
	Signature of officer		Date		
Paid Preparer Use Only	CRAIG GATES GENERAL MANAGER				
	Type or print name and title				
	Print/Type preparer's name LAURIE HANSON	Preparer's signature LAURIE HANSON	Date 2016-07-28	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		

Part IIIPart III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

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

☐Yes☒No

1

Briefly describe the organization's mission

HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC PROVIDES OUR MEMBERS AND CUSTOMERS WITH HIGH QUALITY, RELIABLE AND SAFE ELECTRIC SERVICES AND ASSOCIATED PRODUCTS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE USING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WHEN AVAILABLE AND COST-EFFECTIVE, WE STRIVE TO EXCEED THE EXPECTATIONS OF OUR CUSTOMERS BY GIVING UNCOMPROMISING CUSTOMER SERVICE BASED ON CORE PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION, MUTUAL RESPECT AND APPRECIATION FOR THEIR PATRONAGE

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 \$)

PROVIDED ELECTRIC SERVICE TO APPROXIMATELY 2,347 MEMBERS AND ADDED/REPLACED 18 MILES OF LINES

4b

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

4c

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

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	No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i> 	11d	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		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.	68	
1b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.	0	
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.	2a	176
b If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).		2b	Yes
3a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		3a	No
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.		3b	
4a At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, 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	14,168,577
b Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).		11b	558,230
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	No
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3	No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4	No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5	No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6	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	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?	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	MT
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	MARK MAJERESPO BOX 2330 HAVRE, MT 59501 (406) 394-7804

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) STUART SMITH PRESIDENT	13 00	X		X				19,685	0	0
(2) CLARENCE KELLER VICE PRESIDENT	12 00	X		X				20,425	0	0
(3) LON WAID SECRETARY/TREASURER	10 00	X		X				14,690	0	0
(4) GERALD RUTLEDGE TRUSTEE	10 00	X						15,985	0	0
(5) MERLE BELCOURT TRUSTEE	8 00	X						12,470	0	0
(6) RICHARD STEVENS GENERAL MANAGER/CEO	7 00			X				33,346	0	22,869
(7) GAIL RAINEY ASST GM/COO	7 00			X				21,828	0	13,056
(8) MARK MAJERES CONTROLLER	11 00			X				25,781	0	10,859

Part VII

1b	Sub-Total			
c	Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A			
d	Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	164,210	0	46,784

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed in Item 1) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ▶ 0

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
OUTBACK POWER CO INC 1324 CENTRAL AVE W 3 BOX 358 GREAT FALLS, MT 59404	CONSTRUCTION	580,948

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 ► 1

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	SALE OF POWER	221000	13,932,296	13,932,296	
	b	CAPITAL CREDITS	221000	66,598	66,598	
	c	OTHER NONOPERATING	900099	12,042		12,042
	d					
	e					
	f	All other program service revenue				
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		14,010,936		
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		29,955		29,955
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . .				
	5	Royalties				
	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		
		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			
			392,732			
		b	Less cost of goods sold	b	419,752	
	c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . .		-27,020	-27,020	
	Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code			
	11a					
	b					
c						
d	All other revenue					
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d					
12	Total revenue. See Instructions		14,013,871	13,971,874	0	41,997

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	2,941			
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	573,460			
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	188,575			
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	1,842,387			
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	324,670			
9	Other employee benefits				
10	Payroll taxes	147,211			
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	520,967			
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	1,334,450			
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	COST OF POWER	8,123,060			
b	ADMIN & GENERAL	1,006,761			
c	DISTRIBUTION-OPERATIONS	748,866			
d	DISTRIBUTION-MAINTENANC	687,122			
e	All other expenses	-1,486,599			
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	14,013,871			
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				1	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			1,196,074	2	1,142,233
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net				3	
	4	Accounts receivable, net			1,925,863	4	1,519,596
	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			898,087	7	846,743
	8	Inventories for sale or use			667,360	8	587,203
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			161,895	9	178,569
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment—cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D.	10a	45,433,268			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	17,498,738	27,154,180	10c	27,934,530
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities				11	
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11.			5,222	12	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11.			612,303	13	636,622
	14	Intangible assets				14	
Liabilities	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11.			5,863	15	5,805
	16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34).			32,626,847	16	32,851,301
	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			2,401,925	17	2,145,583
	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			15,581,122	23	15,724,374
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties				24	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	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.			102,069	25	95,242
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25.			18,085,116	26	17,965,199
		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			0	31	0
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds			14,541,731	32	14,886,102
	33	Total net assets or fund balances			14,541,731	33	14,886,102
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances			32,626,847	34	32,851,301

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	14,013,871
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	14,013,871
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	14,541,731
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	344,371
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	14,886,102

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	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?	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
HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC

Employer identification number
81-0218593

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		65,707		65,707
b Buildings		3,839,780	1,698,286	2,141,494
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		41,342,042	15,727,708	25,614,334
e Other		185,739	72,744	112,995
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				27,934,530

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	14,010,930	
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	14,010,930	
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	2,941	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	2,941	
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c.(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)	5	14,013,871	

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	13,437,470	
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	13,437,470	
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	576,401	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	576,401	
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)	5	14,013,871	

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 IS EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAXES UNDER SECTION 501 (C)(12) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE THE COOPERATIVE IS SUBJECT TO INCOME TAX ON ITS UNRELATED BUSINESS INCOME THE COOPERATIVE EVALUATES ITS INCOME TAX POSITIONS ON AN ANNUAL BASIS MANAGEMENT HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE WERE NO UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 THAT MET THE CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS THE COOPERATIVE WOULD RECOGNIZE FUTURE ACCRUED INTEREST AND PENALTIES RELATED TO UNRECOGNIZED TAX BENEFITS IN INCOME TAX EXPENSE IF INCURRED
PART XI, LINE 4B - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	MISC INCOME DEDUCT - DONATIONS 2,941
PART XII, LINE 4B - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	ALLOCATION OF 2015 MARGINS TO MEMBERS IN 2016 573,460 MISC INCOME DEDUCT - DONATIONS 2,941

[illegible]

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 HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC	Employer identification number 81-0218593
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990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 6	HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC HAS TWO CLASSES OF MEMBERS LARGE INDUSTRIAL MEMBERS WHOSE CAPITAL CREDITS ARE CALCULATED BASED ON AGREEMENTS, AND THE REMAINING MEMBERS
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 7A	EACH MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO ONE VOTE FOR ANY TRUSTEE SEAT THAT IS UP FOR ELECTION REGARDLESS OF CLASS
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 7B	THE COOPERATIVE MAY NOT SELL, MORTGAGE, LEASE, OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF OR ENCUMBER ALL OR ANY SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF ITS PROPERTY UNLESS APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS OF ALL THE MEMBERS BY VOTE AT A DULY HELD MEETING THE COOPERATIVE SHALL NOT BECOME A MEMBER OF OR PURCHASE OR ACQUIRE STOCK OR OTHER OWNERSHIP INTERESTS IN ANY CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY OR ORGANIZATION WITHOUT AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THE MEMBERS AT A DULY HELD MEETING
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 8B	THE ORGANIZATION DOES NOT HAVE COMMITTEES
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11	THE GENERAL MANAGER AND ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER WILL REVIEW THE PREPARED FORM 990 IN DETAIL PRIOR TO FILING ADDITIONALLY, A COPY WILL BE GIVEN TO BOARD MEMBERS PRIOR TO ITS FILING THE GENERAL MANAGER OR ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER WILL PRESENT THE FORM 990 AT A BOARD MEETING PRIOR TO FILING THE RETURN IF SO DESIRED BY THE BOARD
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	TRUSTEES AND MANAGEMENT ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY ANNUALLY STATING THAT THEY WILL ADVISE MANAGEMENT OF ANY QUESTIONABLE OWNERSHIP INTERESTS OR RELATIONSHIPS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING WHETHER A CONFLICT OF INTEREST EXISTS IF A CONFLICT EXISTS, THE AFFECTED BOARD MEMBER IS REQUIRED TO ABSTAIN FROM DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON THE ITEM
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15A	THE COMPENSATION OF THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO IS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EACH TRUSTEE COMPLETES A WRITTEN EVALUATION OF THE CEO'S PERFORMANCE WHICH IS COMPILED WITH THE OTHER EVALUATIONS AND PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED WITH THE CEO COMPENSATION FOR THE NEXT YEAR IS PART OF THIS EVALUATION AND DISCUSSION PROCESS THE LAST DETERMINATION OF CEO COMPENSATION WAS COMPLETED IN OCTOBER 2014 (NEW CEO AS OF 01/04/2016) THE COMPENSATION OF THE ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER/COO IS DETERMINED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO AFTER CONSIDERING PERFORMANCE, EXPERIENCE, MARKET DATA AND THE SALARY RANGE ESTABLISHED FOR THE POSITION THIS WAS LAST COMPLETED IN DECEMBER, 2015 THE COMPENSATION OF OTHER MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES IS DETERMINED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO AND THE ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER/COO AFTER CONSIDERING PERFORMANCE, EXPERIENCE, MARKET DATA AND THE SALARY RANGE ESTABLISHED FOR THE POSITION THE PROCESS FOR DETERMINING COMPENSATION WAS UNDERTAKEN IN 2015
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	THESE DOCUMENTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST
FORM 990, PART XI, LINE 9	ALLOCATION OF 2015 MARGINS TO MEMBERS IN 2016 573,460 RETIREMENT OF CAPITAL - 229,089
FORM 990, PART V, LINE 2A	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ON WAGE AND TAX STATEMENT HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC, IS THE COMMON PAY MASTER FOR TWO AFFILIATED, UNRELATED ORGANIZATIONS AS SUCH, THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES REPORTED ON FORM W-3 INCLUDES THREE COMPANIES
FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 9	RICHARD STEVENS THE CEO AS OF 12/31/15 RETIRED AS OF 1/1/16 CRAIG GATES HAS BEEN HIRED AS THE NEW CEO AS OF 1/4/16 AND CAN BE REACHED AT THE ADDRESS LISTED
FORM 990, PART VII, SECTION A	OFFICER COMPENSATION THE W-2 COMPENSATION AND NONTAXABLE BENEFITS REPORTED IN PART VII REPRESENT THE PORTION OF COMPENSATION THAT IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER/COO, AND CONTROLLER EACH OF THESE INDIVIDUALS PERFORMS SIGNIFICANT WORK FOR AN UNRELATED COOPERATIVE THROUGH A SHAREHOLDERS AGREEMENT COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE UNRELATED COOPERATIVE HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED FROM FORM 990 PART VII HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC PAYS THESE EMPLOYEES AND THE UNRELATED COOPERATIVE REIMBURSES HILL COUNTY FOR THEIR SHARE OF COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS
FORM 990, PART VII, COLUMN F, OTHER COMPENSATION	OTHER COMPENSATION INCLUDED IN OTHER COMPENSATION IS THE ESTIMATED CURRENT YEAR INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE ACTUARIAL VALUE OF THE DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER, AND CONTROLLER THE CURRENT YEAR INCREASE OR DECREASE DOES NOT REPRESENT CURRENT YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PLAN RATHER, IT IS AN ESTIMATE OF THE INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE ACTUARIAL VALUE OF THE PLAN AS CALCULATED BY THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR
FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 24E STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	ALLOCATED AND OTHER EXPENSE THE LABOR, PENSION AND PAYROLL TAXES REPORTED ON LINES 6-10 ARE INCLUDED IN DISTRIBUTION EXPENSE, ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL EXPENSE AND CUSTOMER EXPENSE THEREFORE, LABOR, PENSION AND PAYROLL TAXES ARE SHOWN AS A REDUCTION TO OTHER EXPENSES ON LINE 24E
FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 4, BENEFITS PAID TO OR FOR MEMBERS	THE COOPERATIVE HAS INTERPRETED THE INSTRUCTIONS TO PART IX, LINE 4, TO MEAN PATRONAGE CAPITAL ALLOCATED FOR THE YEAR, RATHER THAN PATRONAGE CAPITAL RETIRED THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH THE BY-LAWS OF THE COOPERATIVE