



See a Social Security Number? Say Something!
Report Privacy Problems to <https://public.resource.org/privacy>
Or call the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490



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
HIGH WEST ENERGY INC

Doing business as

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address)
PO BOX 519

Room/suite

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
PINE BLUFFS, WY 82082

F Name and address of principal officer
BRIAN HEITHOFF
PO BOX 519
PINE BLUFFS, WY 82082

D Employer identification number
83-0143525

E Telephone number
(307) 245-3261

G Gross receipts \$ 42,283,688

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates?
No
H(b) Are all subordinates included?
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.HIGHWESTENERGY.COM

K Form of organization
☒ Corporation
☐ Trust
☐ Association
☐ Other

L Year of formation 1936
M State of legal domicile WY

Part I Summary			
Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities TO PROVIDE QUALITY AND RELIABLE ELECTRIC SERVICE TO MEMBERS AT COST ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	7
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	7
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	101
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0
Revenue	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
	b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0
	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	0	0
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	36,586,995	41,973,845
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	104,368	31,869
Expenses	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	48,810	28,230
	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	36,740,173	42,033,944
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	15,730	14,391
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	2,387,252	1,638,124
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	3,596,305	4,389,545
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶0	0	0
Net Assets or Fund Balances	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	30,714,116	35,828,146
	18 Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	36,713,403	41,870,206
	19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	26,770	163,738
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	124,261,528	113,287,535
	22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	92,882,530	80,814,940
Part II Signature Block			
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge			
Sign Here	***** Signature of officer		
	2016-11-09 Date		
Paid Preparer Use Only	BRIAN HEITHOFF CEO/GENERAL MANAGER Type or print name and title		
	Print/Type preparer's name Matt R Willis	Preparer's signature Matt R Willis	PTIN P00419741
	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

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat No 11282Y

Form 990 (2015)

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

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

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission

THE MISSION OF HIGH WEST ENERGY, A MEMBER-OWNED, NOT-FOR-PROFIT COOPERATIVE, IS TO SERVE OUR MEMBERS BY PROVIDING SAFE, RELIABLE, AND COMPETITIVELY PRICED ENERGY AND SERVICES FOCUSING ON THE NEEDS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

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 - 9,860 CONSUMERS AT YEAR END WERE PROVIDED ELECTRICITY ON A COOPERATIVE BASIS THROUGH THE ALLOCATION OF PATRONAGE CAPITAL	

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)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1	No
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (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? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I	3	No
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	4	
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I	6	No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III	8	No
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV	9	No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V	10	No
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI	11a	Yes
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII	11b	No
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII	11c	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? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11e	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)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X	11f	Yes
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII	12a	No
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional	12b	Yes
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13	No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b	No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	15	No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	16	No
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)	17	No
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II	18	No
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules *(continued)*

21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21		No
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22		No
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	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	Yes	
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a	Yes	
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	Yes	
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.	77	
b	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	
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	101
b	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	48,952,746
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).	11b	852,387
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	1a 7		
b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent	1b 7		
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 Yes		
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▶

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
 ▶LINDSAY FOREPAUGH 6270 CO ROAD 212 PINE BLUFFS, WY 820820519 (307) 245-3261

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) RUSSELL NIELSEN PRESIDENT	17.00 1.00	X		X				24,592	0	0
(2) TROY FREEBURG VICE-PRESIDENT (JAN - NOV 2015)	10.00 1.00	X		X				22,854	0	0
(3) DANIEL ACHESON SECRETARY	11.00 1.00	X		X				24,000	0	0
(4) JERRY BURNETT TREASURER	10.00 1.00	X		X				24,000	0	0
(5) GARY SMITH DIRECTOR	9.00 1.00	X						24,459	0	0
(6) ED PROSSER DIRECTOR	8.00 1.00	X						24,518	0	0
(7) MICHAEL LERWICK DIRECTOR (NOV - DEC 2015)	7.00 1.00	X						4,000	0	0
(8) JAMIE FOWLER DIRECTOR	13.00 1.00	X						26,932	0	0
(9) BRIAN HEITHOFF CEO/GENERAL MANAGER	47.00			X				174,728	0	41,029
(10) KAREN RINTELMANN CFO (JAN - SEPT 2015)	43.00			X				72,409	0	25,021
(11) LINDSAY FOREPAUGH CFO (OCT - CURRENT)	42.50			X				17,238	0	404
(12) MARVIN D POWELL LEAD LINEMAN	55.00					X		122,849	0	34,010
(13) KENNETH HAAS LEAD LINEMAN	50.00					X		108,663	0	32,317
(14) LLOYD SISSON ENGINEERING MANAGER	45.00					X		112,540	0	22,877

[illegible]

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 ► 6

Section B. Independent Contractors

(A)	(B)	(C)
Name and business address	Description of services	Compensation
WARD ELECTRIC COMPANY INC 3690 STAGECOACH ROAD LONGMONT, CO 80504	LINE CONSTRUCTION	2,517,227
HORIZON HOMES INC 7805 YARINA WAY CHEYENNE, WY 82009	GENERAL CONTRACTOR	1,653,057
INTERSTATE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS INC 12421 W 49TH AVE UNIT 8 WHEAT RIDGE, CO 80033	BUILD SUBSTATION	1,271,098
BRINK CONSTRUCTORS INC 22950 N PLAZA DRIVE RAPID CITY, SD 57702	BUILD SUBSTATION	657,648
HIGH WEST DIGITAL SOLUTIONS PO BOX 549 PINE BLUFFS, WY 82082	IT SERVICES	585,865

Form **990** (2015)

Part VIII **Statement of Revenue**

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

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514			
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns	1a _____							
	b	Membership dues	1b _____							
	c	Fundraising events	1c _____							
	d	Related organizations	1d _____							
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e _____							
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f _____							
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$	_____							
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f	▶							
Program Service Revenue	2a	ELECTRICITY SALES	Business Code 221000	40,251,424	40,251,424					
	b	PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS	221000	1,722,421	1,722,421					
	c	_____								
	d	_____								
	e	_____								
	f	All other program service revenue								
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f	▶	41,973,845						
	Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)	▶	27,877			27,877		
4		Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds	▶							
5		Royalties	▶							
6a		Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal						
			14,400	3,152						
			b	Less rental expenses					0	0
			c	Rental income or (loss)					14,400	3,152
d		Net rental income or (loss)	▶	17,552	3,152		14,400			
7a		Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other						
				58,863						
			b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses						54,871
			c	Gain or (loss)						3,992
d		Net gain or (loss)	▶	3,992			3,992			
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 _____							
			201,530							
			b					Less cost of goods sold	b	194,873
			c					Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory	▶	6,657
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code								
11a	JOINT POLE RENTAL INCOME	221000	4,021			4,021				
b	_____									
c	_____									
d	All other revenue									
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d	▶	4,021							
12	Total revenue. See Instructions	▶	42,033,944	41,983,654	0	50,290				

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	14,391			
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	1,638,124			
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	506,184			
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	2,528,885			
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	176,110			
9	Other employee benefits	945,695			
10	Payroll taxes	232,671			
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	1,846,901			
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	3,106,355			
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	26,499,460			
b	DISTRIBUTION EXPENSE	1,795,379			
c	ADMIN. & GENERAL EXP.	1,524,987			
d	CUSTOMER SERVICE EXP.	404,816			
e	All other expenses	650,248			
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	41,870,206			
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X

Balance Sheet

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

				(A)		(B)	
				Beginning of year		End of year	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing		11,294,322	1	2,592,853	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			2		
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			3		
	4	Accounts receivable, net		7,496,227	4	6,436,431	
	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		6,614,678	7	5,126,032	
	8	Inventories for sale or use		3,884,952	8	3,889,430	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		163,558	9	455,728	
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	105,454,469			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	32,998,298	73,625,161	10c	72,456,171
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities			11		
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		1,746,439	12	1,582,701	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		19,436,191	13	20,748,189	
	14	Intangible assets			14		
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11			15		
16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)		124,261,528	16	113,287,535		
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		14,027,367	17	4,598,235	
	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		51,992,676	23	62,756,229	
	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		26,862,487	25	13,460,476	
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25		92,882,530	26	80,814,940	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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		31,378,998	32	32,472,595	
	33	Total net assets or fund balances		31,378,998	33	32,472,595	
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		124,261,528	34	113,287,535	

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	42,033,944
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	41,870,206
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	163,738
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A)) . .	4	31,378,998
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	929,859
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	32,472,595

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

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

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O		
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
c	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		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?		No
b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits		

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

► 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.

Name of the organization
HIGH WEST ENERGY INC

Employer identification number
83-0143525

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

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

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

Part II Conservation Easements.

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

1

Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education)

☐ Protection of natural habitat

☐ Preservation of open space

☐ Preservation of an historically important land area

☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure

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
- | | Amount |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|
| 1c Beginning balance | |
| 1d Additions during the year | |
| 1e Distributions during the year | |
| 1f Ending balance | |
- 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		810,434		810,434
b Buildings		3,401,174	915,173	2,486,001
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		87,525,802	32,083,125	55,442,677
e Other		13,717,059		13,717,059
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c)) ▶				72,456,171

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

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

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

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

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

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

Part XIII Supplemental Information

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

Return Reference	Explanation
Part X, Line 2	THE COOPERATIVE 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 POSITIONS WILL BE SUSTAINED UPON EXAMINATION BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS) OR OTHER STATE TAXING AUTHORITY, AND THAT ALL TAX BENEFITS ARE LIKELY TO BE REALIZED UPON SETTLEMENT WITH TAXING AUTHORITIES.

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

Return Reference	Explanation

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 83-0143525
Name: HIGH WEST ENERGY INC

Form 990, Schedule D, Part VIII - Investments Program Related

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - COBANK	266,518	C
(2)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - TRI-STATE G & T	19,152,210	C
(3)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - NISC	78,288	C
(4)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - FEDERATED	165,124	C
(5)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - WUES	1,058,086	C
(6)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - FVFC	13,243	C
(7)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - NREA	8,101	C
(8)PATRONAGE CAPITAL - OTHER	5,423	C
MEMBERSHIP FEES IN COOPERATIVE (9)ORGANIZATIONS	1,196	C

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
HIGH WEST ENERGY INC

Employer identification number
83-0143525

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. <div><div><input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)</div></div>		
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. <div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee</div></div>		
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: <div><div>a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?</div><div>b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?</div><div>c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?</div></div> If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.	4a	No
		4b	No
		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: <div><div>a The organization?</div><div>b Any related organization?</div></div> If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.	5a	
		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: <div><div>a The organization?</div><div>b Any related organization?</div></div> If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.	6a	
		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
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 BRIAN HEITHOFF CEO/GENERAL MANAGER	(i)	168,323 -----	150 -----	6,255 -----	15,503 -----	25,526 -----	215,757 -----	0 -----
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 MARVIN D POWELL LEAD LINEMAN	(i)	122,401 -----	150 -----	298 -----	7,440 -----	26,570 -----	156,859 -----	0 -----
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part III **Supplemental 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
Part I, Line 1a	TRANSPORTATION, LODGING AND MEALS WILL BE PROVIDED TO EACH DIRECTOR'S SPOUSE AND THE GENERAL MANAGER'S SPOUSE FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION'S (NRECA) ANNUAL MEETING. DIRECTORS WILL ALSO BE REIMBURSED FOR MEALS AND INCIDENTALS IF THEIR SPOUSE ACCOMPANIES THEM TO THE WREA, NREA, TRI-STATE, MIDWEST ANNUAL MEETINGS, REGIONAL 7 MEETINGS AND THE NRECA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE. THE COOPERATIVE WILL REIMBURSE ANY EMPLOYEE UP TO \$20.00/MONTH IF THEY JOIN A FITNESS OR WEIGHT LOSS CLUB. THIS IS PART OF THE COOPERATIVE'S WELLNESS PROGRAM.

2015

Open to Public Inspection

**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.

Name of the organization
HIGH WEST ENERGY INC

Employer identification number

83-0143525

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part I, Line 19	THE INCOME REPORTED ON PAGE 1, PART I, LINE 19 DIFFERS FROM THE TOTAL NET MARGINS REPORTED ON THE COOPERATIVE'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DUE TO BOOK TO TAX ADJUSTMENTS REQUIRED TO CONFORM TO THE FORM 990 INSTRUCTIONS THE FIRST ADJUSTMENT IS FOR THE EQUITY METHOD INCOME/LOSS RECORDED ON THE COOPERATIVE'S BOOKS AND INCLUDED IN TOTAL NET MARGINS U S GAAP REQUIRES THE COOPERATIVE TO RECORD ON ITS BOOKS THE EQUITY METHOD INCOME/LOSS FROM ITS WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY EQUITY METHOD INCOME/LOSS IS NOT INCOME FOR IRS FORM 990 PURPOSES AND AS SUCH HAS BEEN REPORTED AS AN OTHER CHANGE IN NET ASSETS THE SECOND ADJUSTMENT IS FOR THE PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ALLOCATED OR TO BE ALLOCATED BY THE COOPERATIVE TO MEMBERS WHEREAS THE FORM 990 REQUIRES SUCH AMOUNTS TO BE REPORTED AS AN EXPENSE, PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ALLOCATED OR TO BE ALLOCATED ARE AN INCREASE IN CAPITAL AND EQUITY, SPECIFICALLY PATRONAGE CAPITAL, ON U S GAAP BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BECAUSE THE COOPERATIVE ALLOCATES ITS TOTAL NET MARGINS TO ITS MEMBERS THROUGH PATRONAGE CAPITAL, THE NET EFFECT OF THESE BOOK TO TAX ADJUSTMENTS IS TO SHOW NET INCOME/LOSS ON THE FORM 990 EQUAL TO THE EQUITY METHOD INCOME/LOSS FROM ITS WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 4	<p>ARTICLE I, SECTION 1 (B) OF THE COOPERATIVE'S BYLAWS WERE AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE STATEMENT OR OTHERWISE AGREEING TO USE THE SERVICES FURNISHED BY THE COOPERATIVE ON A CONTINUING BASIS WHEN SUCH SERVICES SHALL BE AVAILABLE" ARTICLE III, SECTION 2 OF THE COOPERATIVE'S BYLAWS WERE AMENDED TO CHANGE THE STATEMENT "NO MEMBER SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO BECOME OR REMAIN A DIRECTOR OR TO HOLD ANY POSITION OF TRUST IN THE COOPERATIVE WHO IS NOT A BONA FIDE RESIDENT IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE COOPERATIVE AND THE DISTRICT FROM WHICH HE WAS ELECTED, OR WHO IS IN ANY WAY EMPLOYED BY OR FINANCIALLY INTERESTED IN A COMPETING ENTERPRISE OR A BUSINESS SELLING ELECTRIC ENERGY OR SUPPLIES TO THE COOPERATIVE, OR A BUSINESS PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN SELLING ELECTRICAL OR PLUMBING APPLIANCES, FIXTURES OR SUPPLIES THAT ARE FINANCED THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE " TO "NO MEMBER SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO BECOME OR REMAIN A DIRECTOR OR TO HOLD ANY POSITION OF TRUST IN THE COOPERATIVE WHOSE BONA FIDE AND PRIMARY RESIDENCE HAS NOT BEEN IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE COOPERTIVE AND THE DISTRICT FROM WHICH THEY ARE ELECTED FOR AT LEAST THE PREVIOUS 180 DAYS, OR WHO IS IN ANY WAY EMPLOYED BY OR FINANCIALLY INTERESTED IN A COMPETING ENTERPRISE TO ANY OF THE COOPERATIVE'S MAJORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES OR A BUSINESS SELLING ELECTRIC ENERGY OR SUPPLIES TO THE COOPERTIVE, OR A BUSINESS PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN SELLING ELECTRICAL OR PLUMBING APPLIANCES, FIXTURES OR SUPPLIES THAT ARE FINANCED THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE " SECTION 3 OF THE SAME ARTICLE WAS AMENDED TO EXCLUDE THE STATEMENT "ON MEMBER HANDBOOK NOMINATIONS AND THE NOMINATIONS MADE BY PETITION, IF ANY NOTHING CONTAINED HEREIN SHALL HOWEVER, PREVENT ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS FROM ANY DISTRICT TO BE MADE FROM THE FLOOR AT THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS "</p>

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 DIRECTORS ELECTIONS ARE DONE ON A ONE MEMBER ONE VOTE BASIS PER 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 A MENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, 5 A MENDMENT TO THE BY LAWS

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, REVIEW AND APPROVAL PRIOR TO FILING

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 12c	THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS ARE REQUIRED TO REVIEW AND BE FAMILIAR WITH THE POLICIES OUTLINED IN THE COOPERATIVE'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS ARE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY ACTION OR SITUATION THAT MIGHT VIOLATE THE POLICY TO THE FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY IS REVIEWED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 15	THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS USE COMPARATIVE INDUSTRY DATA FROM EACH STATE IN THE COOPERATIVE'S NRECA REGION AND SUPPLEMENTAL NATIONAL DATA PROVIDED BY NRECA WHEN DETERMINING THE COMPENSATION OF THE GENERAL MANAGER. THIS DATA SHOWS COMPARATIVE SALARIES FOR GENERAL MANAGERS FROM SIMILARLY SITUATED COOPERATIVES LOCATED IN WYOMING, NEBRASKA, COLORADO, AND THE NATION THE BOARD AND THE GENERAL MANAGER USE COMPARATIVE INDUSTRY DATA FROM EACH STATE IN THE COOPERATIVE'S NRECA REGION AND SUPPLEMENTAL NATIONAL DATA PROVIDED BY NRECA WHEN DETERMINING THE COMPENSATION OF THE COOPERATIVE'S OTHER EMPLOYEES MEETING THE DEFINITION OF OFFICER AND KEY EMPLOYEES, IF ANY THIS DATA SHOWS COMPARATIVE SALARIES FROM SIMILARLY SITUATED COOPERATIVES LOCATED IN WYOMING, NEBRASKA, COLORADO, AND THE NATION

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, line 19	THE COOPERATIVE PROVIDES A SUMMARIZED COPY OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING. THE COOPERATIVE WILL PROVIDE A COMPLETE COPY OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OR GOVERNING DOCUMENTS TO ANY MEMBER WHO REQUESTS A COPY. ADDITIONALLY, A COPY OF THE COOPERATIVE BYLAWS CAN BE FOUND ON THE COOPERATIVE'S WEBSITE.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VII, Column F	<p>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. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS PLAN ARE BASED ON THE FULL FUNDING LIMITATION OF SUCH PLAN. EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THIS PLAN ARE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING OFFICERS, KEY EMPLOYEES AND HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES, MEETING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF SUCH PLANS. THE COOPERATIVE ALSO PROVIDES HEALTH, DENTAL, VISION AND LIFE INSURANCE TO ALL ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES THROUGH A QUALIFIED PLAN. THE AMOUNTS REPORTED ON PART VII, COLUMN (F) FOR THE OFFICERS, KEY EMPLOYEES AND HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES IS COMPRISED OF 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 RETIREMENT PLAN, THE COOPERATIVE ALSO PROVIDES POST-RETIREMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS THROUGH AN UNFUNDED WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN. THE VALUE OF THESE BENEFITS HAS NOT BEEN ESTIMATED.</p>

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 COOPERATIVE TO ITS MEMBERS

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX	THE ACCOUNTING RECORDS OF THE COOPERATIVE ARE MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RUS UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS AS PRESCRIBED FOR ELECTRIC BORROWERS OF THE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICES (RUS) 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, Line 24	ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSE IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING OUTSIDE SERVICES EMPLOYED \$ 789,011 OFFICE SUPPLIES EXPENSE 320,727 GENERAL ADVERTISING EXPENSE 48,882 OTHER INSURANCE 76,555 REGULATORY COMMISSION EXPENSE 37,182 DUES TO ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS 92,822 DIRECTORS EXPENSES 42,575 MAINTENANCE OF GENERAL PLANT 76,170 MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL EXPENSE 41,063 TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSE PER 990 \$ 1,524,987

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 AMOUNTS REPORTED ON LINES 5-7 TO TOTAL WAGES ACCRUED AND/OR PAID TOTAL PER LINES 5-7 \$ 3,035,069 LESS DIRECTORS FEES REPORTED ON 1099-MISC (175,355) LESS EMPLOYEE OFFICER BENEFITS INCLUDED IN LINE 5 (66,454) PLUS SALARIES AND WAGES ALLOCATED TO NONOPERATING MARGINS 567,611 PLUS SALARIES AND WAGES CAPITALIZED DIRECTLY TO PLANT 1,368,348 PLUS SALARIES AND WAGES CAPITALIZED/EXPENSED INDIRECTLY THROUGH CLEARING AND OTHER ACCOUNTS 476,231 TOTAL WAGES ACCRUED AND/OR PAID \$ 5,205,450

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Line 24E	OTHER EXPENSES IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING TRANSMISSION EXPENSE \$ 63,323 SALES EXPENSE 421 TAXES 546,184 OTHER ELECTRIC EXPENSE - LINE DAMAGE REPAIR 40,320 TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES PER FORM 990, LINE 24E \$ 650,248

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Line 4	<p>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 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</p>

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 EXPENSES (COMPRISED OF (1) ACCRUED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATED ABSENCES, AND (2) ACCRUED INTEREST) 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 TO INCREASE CONSISTENCY , ACCRUED EXPENSES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$294,475 FOR THE 2014 CALENDAR YEAR HAVE BEEN RECLASSSED FROM LINE 25 TO LINE 17

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part XI, line 9	EQUITY METHOD INCOME OF SUBSIDIARY -163,738 PATRONAGE CAPITAL RETIRED -1,443,078 GAIN ON RETIRED CAPITAL CREDITS 239,651 PATRONAGE CAPITAL ASSIGNABLE 1,638,124 POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT ADJUSTMENT 658,900

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part XII, Line 2c	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

SCHEDULE R

(Form 990)

Related Organizations and Unrelated Partnerships

OMB No. 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33, 34, 35b, 36, or 37.

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

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
HIGH WEST ENERGY INC

Employer identification number

83-0143525

Part I

Identification of Disregarded Entities

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33.

(a) Name, address, and EIN (if applicable) of disregarded entity	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Total income	(e) End-of-year assets	(f) Direct controlling entity

Part II

Identification of Related Tax-Exempt Organizations

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related tax-exempt organizations during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Exempt Code section	(e) Public charity status (if section 501(c)(3))	(f) Direct controlling entity	(g) Section 512(b)(13) controlled entity?	
						Yes	No

Part III

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Partnership

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a partnership during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Predominant income(related, unrelated, excluded from tax under sections 512- 514)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of-year assets	(h) Disproportionate allocations?		(i) Code V-UBI amount in box 20 of Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	(j) General or managing partner?		(k) Percentage ownership
							Yes	No		Yes	No	

Part IV

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Corporation or Trust

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a corporation or trust during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Type of entity (C corp, S corp, or trust)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of- year assets	(h) Percentage ownership	(i) Section 512 (b)(13) controlled entity?	
								Yes	No
HIGH WEST (1)COMMUNICATION INC PO BOX 519 PINE BLUFFS, WY 820820518 83-0316111	INVESTMENTS	WY	HIGH WEST ENERGY INC	C	351,947	2,317,881	100 000 %	Yes	

Part V Transactions With Related Organizations Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34, 35b, or 36.

Note. Complete line 1 if any entity is listed in Parts II, III, or IV of this schedule

1 During the tax year, did the organization engage in any of the following transactions with one or more related organizations listed in Parts II-IV?

a Receipt of **(i)** interest, **(ii)** annuities, **(iii)** royalties, or **(iv)** rent from a controlled entity

b Gift, grant, or capital contribution to related organization(s)

c Gift, grant, or capital contribution from related organization(s)

d Loans or loan guarantees to or for related organization(s)

e Loans or loan guarantees by related organization(s)

f Dividends from related organization(s)

g Sale of assets to related organization(s)

h Purchase of assets from related organization(s)

i Exchange of assets with related organization(s)

j Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets to related organization(s)

k Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets from related organization(s)

l Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for related organization(s)
.

m Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by related organization(s)

n Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets with related organization(s)

o Sharing of paid employees with related organization(s)

p Reimbursement paid to related organization(s) for expenses

q Reimbursement paid by related organization(s) for expenses

r Other transfer of cash or property to related organization(s)

s Other transfer of cash or property from related organization(s)

	Yes	No
1a	Yes	
1b		No
1c		No
1d		No
1e		No
1f		No
1g		No
1h		No
1i		No
1j		No
1k		No
1l		No
1m	Yes	
1n		No
1o	Yes	
1p	Yes	
1q	Yes	
1r		No
1s		No

2 If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," see the instructions for information on who must complete this line, including covered relationships and transaction thresholds

(a) Name of related organization	(b) Transaction type (a-s)	(c) Amount involved	(d) Method of determining amount involved
(1)HIGH WEST COMMUNICATION INC	A	14,400	INVOICES & OTHER RECORDS
(2)HIGH WEST COMMUNICATION INC	M	781,796	INVOICES & HOURS
(3)HIGH WEST COMMUNICATION INC	O	1,110,975	HOURS & EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION
(4)HIGH WEST COMMUNICATION INC	P	351,530	INVOICES & OTHER RECORDS
(5)HIGH WEST COMMUNICATION INC	Q	478,540	INVOICES & OTHER RECORDS

Provide the following information for each entity taxed as a partnership through which the organization conducted more than five percent of its activities (measured by total assets or gross revenue) that was not a related organization. See instructions regarding exclusion for certain investment partnerships.

[illegible]

Part VII **Supplemental Information**

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule R (see instructions)

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