

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2016 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information		
For calendar plan year 2016 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2016</u> and ending <u>12/31/2016</u>			
A	This return/report is for:	☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____	
B	This return/report is:	☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)	
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ☐		
D	Check box if filing under:	☐ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)	

Part II	Basic Plan Information —enter all requested information		
1a	Name of plan <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. & ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN</u>	1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ► <u>010</u>
		1c	Effective date of plan <u>06/01/1968</u>
2a	Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. ATTN KURT J. HOLLAND</u> <u>200 PUBLIC SQUARE</u> <u>SUITE 3300</u> <u>CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315</u>	2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1464672</u>
		2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>216-694-5505</u>
		2d	Business code (see instructions) <u>212200</u>

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	<u>07/26/2017</u>	<u>KURT J. HOLLAND</u>
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE
Preparer's name (including firm name, if applicable) and address (include room or suite number)			Preparer's telephone number

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☐ Same as Plan Sponsor EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ADMIN DEPT. ATTN KURT J. HOLLAND 200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2315	3b Administrator's EIN 34-1215677 3c Administrator's telephone number 216-694-5505
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the name, EIN and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name	4b EIN 4c PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 1345
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year..... a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 576 6a(2) 644 6b 6c 511 6d 1155 6e 12 6f 1167 6g 1135 6h
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	7
8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions: 2E 2G 2J 2K 3F 3H b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:	
9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)	
a Pension Schedules (1) ☒ R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) ☐ MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) ☐ SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	b General Schedules (1) ☒ H (Financial Information) (2) ☐ I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) ☐ A (Insurance Information) (4) ☒ C (Service Provider Information) (5) ☒ D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) ☐ G (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2016 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2016 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2016
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2016 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2016** and ending **12/31/2016**

A Name of plan CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. & ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ► 010
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. ATTN KURT J. HOLLAND	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 34-1464672

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

HARTLAND & CO

34-1597728

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	20412	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MEADEN & MOORE, LTD.

34-1818258

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	ACCOUNTANT/AUDITOR	11800	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

FIDELITY INV INST OPERATIONS CO

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 64 65 71	RECORDKEEPER	7947	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

JONES DAY

34-0319085

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
29	ATTORNEY/LEGAL	6139	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2016 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2016 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2016 and ending 12/31/2016

A Name of plan <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. & ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN</u>	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:80%; padding: 5px;"> B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ </td> <td style="width:20%; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <u>010</u> </td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <td colspan="2" style="height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>010</u>		
B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>010</u>				
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. ATTN KURT J. HOLLAND</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1464672</u>				

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: CLIFFS & ASSOC EMP DEF CONTR COL TR

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): CLIFFS & ASSOC EMP DEF CONTRIB COLLECTIVE TRUST

c EIN-PN <u>34-1935031-001</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>164855882</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
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code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans)

a Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
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plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2016 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2016 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2016</u> and ending <u>12/31/2016</u>		
A Name of plan <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. & ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>010</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. ATTN KURT J. HOLLAND</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1464672</u>	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.				
	Assets			
a	Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b	Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
	(1) Employer contributions.....	1b(1)	74498	0
	(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	196794	0
	(3) Other.....	1b(3)		
c	General investments:			
	(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	1c(1)		
	(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
	(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
	(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
	(B) All other.....	1c(3)(B)		
	(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
	(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
	(B) Common.....	1c(4)(B)		
	(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
	(6) Real estate (other than employer real property).....	1c(6)		
	(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
	(8) Participant loans.....	1c(8)	3917941	2685000
	(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	175498655	164855882
	(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
	(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
	(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities.....	1c(12)		
	(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	1c(13)		
	(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)		
	(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	179687888	167540882

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k		

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	179687888	167540882
---	-----------	-----------	-----------

Part II Income and Expense Statement

- 2** Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	1798428	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	5370433	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	253126	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		7421987
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		10789894
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	2b(10)		
c Other income.....	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		18211881

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	30257954	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3).....	2e(4)		30257954
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		54635
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees.....	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)		
(3) Investment advisory and management fees.....	2i(3)		
(4) Other	2i(4)	46298	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		46298
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		30358887

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		-12147006
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☐ Unqualified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☒ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Did the accountant perform a limited scope audit pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and/or 103-12(d)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: MEADEN & MOORE, LTD.

(2) EIN: 34-1818258

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l.

During the plan year:

a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.).....

b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	
4b		X	

		Yes	No	Amount
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	4c		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	4d		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	4e	X		10000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	4f		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	4g		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	4h		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	4i	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	4j		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	4k		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	4l		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	4m		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	4n			
o Defined Benefit Plan or Money Purchase Pension Plan Only: Were any distributions made during the plan year to an employee who attained age 62 and had not separated from service?	4o			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year?
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year. ☐ Yes ☒ No **Amount:**

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c If the plan is a defined benefit plan, is it covered under the PBGC insurance program (See ERISA section 4021.)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined
If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year (See instructions.)

Part V Trust Information

6a Name of trust	6b Trust's EIN
6c Name of trustee or custodian	6d Trustee's or custodian's telephone number

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2016 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2016 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2016 and ending 12/31/2016

A Name of plan <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. & ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>010</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. ATTN KURT J. HOLLAND</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1464672</u>

Part I	Distributions
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All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions	1	
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): <u>04-6568107</u>		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3	

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	---

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.			
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a		
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b		
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)	6c		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.			
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
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9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
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Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under Section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
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10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2016
v. 160205

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14	Enter the number of participants on whose behalf no contributions were made by an employer as an employer of the participant for:		
	a The current year	14a	
	b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	14b	
	c The second preceding plan year	14c	
15	Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:		
	a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
	b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	
16	Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:		
	a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
	b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	
17	If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment. ☐		

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18	If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment	☐
19	If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) through (c)	
	a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as: Stock: _____% Investment-Grade Debt: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Estate: _____% Other: _____%	
	b Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt: ☐ 0-3 years ☐ 3-6 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 9-12 years ☐ 12-15 years ☐ 15-18 years ☐ 18-21 years ☐ 21 years or more	
	c What duration measure was used to calculate line 19(b)? ☐ Effective duration ☐ Macaulay duration ☐ Modified duration ☐ Other (specify): _____	

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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20a Is the plan a 401(k) plan? If "No," skip b	☐ Yes ☐ No
20b How did the plan satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals under section 401(k)(3) for the plan year? Check all that apply:	☐ Design-based safe harbor ☐ "Prior year" ADP test ☐ "Current year" ADP test ☐ N/A
21a What testing method was used to satisfy the coverage requirements under section 410(b) for the plan year? Check all that apply:	☐ Ratio percentage test ☐ Average benefit test ☐ N/A
21b Did the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination requirements of sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) for the plan year by combining this plan with any other plan under the permissive aggregation rules?	☐ Yes ☐ No
22a If the plan is a master and prototype plan (M&P) or volume submitter plan that received a favorable IRS opinion letter or advisory letter, enter the date of the letter / / and the serial number .	
22b If the plan is an individually-designed plan that received a favorable determination letter from the IRS, enter the date of the most recent determination letter / / .	

CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.
AND ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS
SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
WITH
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

December 31, 2016

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Participants and the Investment Committee for the
Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc. and Its Associated Employers
Salaried Employees Savings Plan
Cleveland, Ohio

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc. and Its Associated Employers Salaried Employees Savings Plan, which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on conducting the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, however, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the plan administrator instructed us not to perform, and we did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the information summarized in Note 6, which was certified by Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, except for comparing such information with the related information included in the financial statements. We have been informed by the plan administrator that the trustee holds the Plan's investment assets and executes investment transactions. The plan administrator has obtained a certification from the trustee as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, that the information provided to the plan administrator by the trustee is complete and accurate.

Disclaimer of Opinion

Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on these financial statements.

Other Matter

The supplemental Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes End of Year as of December 31, 2016 is required by the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Because of the significance of the matter described in the *Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion* paragraph, we do not express an opinion on the supplemental schedule.

Report on Form and Content in Compliance with DOL Rules and Regulations

The form and content of the information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule, other than that derived from the information certified by the trustee, have been audited by us in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and, in our opinion, are presented in compliance with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Meaden & Moore, Ltd.

Meaden & Moore, Ltd.
Cleveland, Ohio
July 20, 2017

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., and Its Associated Employers
Salaried Employees Savings Plan

	(In Thousands)	
	Year Ended December 31,	
	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Receivable - Employer Contributions	\$ —	\$ 74
Receivable - Participant Contributions	—	196
Notes Receivable from Participants	2,685	3,918
Total Receivables	2,685	4,188
Investments:		
Investments in Collective Trust	164,856	175,499
Total Assets	167,541	179,687
LIABILITIES	—	—
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$ 167,541	\$ 179,687

See accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc, and Its Associated Employers
Salaried Employees Savings Plan

	(In Thousands)	
	Year Ended December 31,	
	2016	2015
Contributions:		
Employer	\$ 1,799	\$ 2,858
Employee	5,371	7,645
Rollover	253	528
Total Contributions	7,423	11,031
Interest and Dividend Income	5,889	8,559
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	4,833	(5,980)
Benefits Paid to Participants	(30,291)	(55,200)
Net Decrease	(12,146)	(41,590)
Net Assets Available for Benefits:		
Beginning of Year	179,687	221,277
End of Year	\$ 167,541	\$ 179,687

See accompanying notes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. and Its Associated Employers Salaried Employees Savings Plan

1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. and Its Associated Employers Salaried Employees Savings Plan ("the Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan, which was amended and restated effective January 1, 2012, is a defined contribution plan covering eligible salaried and certain hourly employees of Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., Cliffs Mining Services Company, Cliffs Mining Company, The Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company, Tilden Mining Company L.C., Empire Iron Mining Partnership, Hibbing Joint Venture, United Taconite, LLC (effective December 1, 2003), Cliffs Reduced Iron Management Company, Cliffs International Management Company, LLC, and Lake Superior & Ishpeming Railroad Company (collectively, "the Company"). Employees have an opportunity to save a portion of their earnings on a systematic and regular basis. Participation in the Plan is voluntary. It is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

Eligibility

All full-time permanent salaried employees of the Company and hourly employees of Lake Superior & Ishpeming Railroad and historical hourly employees of Cliffs Logan County Coal, LLC. During 2015, employees were required to be age eighteen and older and have reached 1,000 hours of service within the first twelve months of employment in order to be eligible to participate in the Plan.

Contributions

Cash or Deferred Option ("401(k)") - Participants may contribute from 1 percent to 35 percent of their before-tax eligible compensation through authorized payroll deductions to be contributed to the Plan by the Company. In addition, the participant may contribute 1 percent to 35 percent after tax.

Employer Contributions - The matching employer contribution formula provides that participant contributions up to 3 percent of eligible earnings in each pay period will be matched at the rate of \$1.00 for each \$1.00 of participant's contributions (100 percent) and participant contributions in excess of 3 percent up to 5 percent will be matched at the rate of \$.50 for each \$1.00 of participant's contributions (50 percent). To receive the full match in each calendar year, a participant must contribute at least 5 percent of eligible earnings for each pay period during the year. Hourly employees of the Lake Superior & Ishpeming Railroad do not receive an Employer Contribution.

The Company may also make additional contributions. Such additional contributions, if any, shall be allocated to each participant in proportion to his or her compensation for the calendar year. There were no additional contributions for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Contributions are subject to limitations on annual additional contributions and other limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code as defined in the Plan agreement.

Auto-Enrollment

The Company authorized through Amendment No. 3 effective January 1, 2014, absent an employee affirmatively electing not to participate in the Plan, all employees are automatically enrolled (currently at 5 percent of eligible earnings) in the Plan if they do not elect to participate in the Plan within the first 30 days after becoming eligible to participate.

Participants' Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's elective contributions, employer contributions and earnings and losses thereon.

Participants, upon termination, can elect to transfer their contributions and related earnings to another qualified plan. The Plan also provides that new participants may transfer their contributions and related earnings to the Plan from their previous employers' qualified plans.

Vesting

Participants are fully vested at all times in their respective contribution and match accounts.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Loans are permitted under certain circumstances and are subject to limitations. Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1 thousand, up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50 thousand or 50 percent of their account balance. Loans are repaid over a period not to exceed 5 years with exceptions for the purchase of a primary residence, which are repaid over a period not to exceed 10 years.

The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates commercially reasonable that are published on the first day of the month preceding the month the loan was granted. Principal and interest are paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions. Loans are valued at unpaid principal plus accrued but unpaid interest. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2016 and 2015. Delinquent participant loans are recorded as distributions on the basis of the terms of the Plan agreement.

Loans become due and payable in the event of layoff in excess of twelve months, retirement or death. In the event of termination, the participant may continue to make payments on the loan in accordance with procedures established by the Plan Administrator. If the loan is not repaid when due, the loan balance will be treated as a taxable distribution from the Plan.

Other Plan Provisions

Normal retirement age is 65.

Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of service by reason of retirement, death or total and permanent disability, participants may elect to receive annual distributions for up to 10 years, a lump sum amount equal to the value of his or her account or defer the distribution. Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

Hardship Withdrawals

Hardship withdrawals are permitted in accordance with Internal Revenue Service guidelines.

Investment Options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant may direct any contributions to any of the investment options offered by the Plan in the Collective Trust (see Note 4). Investment decisions for Fidelity funds are at the discretion of Fidelity Management & Research Company, manager of the Fidelity funds.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The Plan's transactions are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. All investment securities are stated at fair value as measured by quoted prices in active markets. Shares of mutual funds are valued at the net asset value of shares held by the Plan at year end. The stable value investment contract financial instruments are valued, and its net asset value ("NAV") per unit is computed at the close of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), normally 4 p.m. ET, each day the NYSE is open for business (valuation date). There are no unfunded commitments and the redemption frequency is daily.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Valuation of Investments

Investments held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value.

Fidelity Management Trust Company ("the Trustee") determines the fair value of the assets of each plan in the Collective Trust (see Note 4) and the fair value of the individual participants' accounts every business day. The calculation of fair value is based upon each fund and respective plan in the Collective Trust as determined by the Trustee. Investments in wrapper contracts are fair valued using a discounted cash flow model which considers recent fee bids as determined by recognized dealers, discount rate and the duration of the underlying portfolio securities. There are no unfunded commitments and the redemption frequency is daily.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2017, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2017-06, Plan Accounting (Topics 960, 962, and 965): *Employee Benefit Plan Master Trust Reporting* ("ASU 2017-06"). ASU 2017-06 requires the Plan's interest in the master trust and any change in that interest to be presented as separate line items in the statement of net assets available for benefits and in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits, respectively. The amendment also requires all plans to disclose their master trust's other asset and liability balances and the dollar amount of the plan's interest in each of those balances. In addition, the amendment eliminates the requirement to disclose the percentage interest in the master trust for plans with divided interest and requires that all plans disclose the dollar amount of their interest in each general type of investment. ASU 2017-06 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 with early adoption permitted. Management is currently evaluating the effect that the updated standard will have on the Plan's consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Risk and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for various investment options through the use of mutual funds and common collective trusts. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, as well as the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of the investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Administrative Fees

Trustee and certain administrative fees are paid from Plan assets. Costs of administering the Plan are paid by the Company.

Plan Termination

The Company has the right to amend or terminate the Plan in the future subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will be entitled to the benefit that can be provided by the participant's account.

Subsequent Events

Management evaluates events occurring subsequent to the date of the financial statements in determining the accounting for and disclosure of transactions and events that affect the financial statements.

Subsequent events have been evaluated through July 20, 2017, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

3. Tax Status

On March 14, 2014, the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. The Plan has been amended; however, the Plan Administrator (defined in Footnote 4 below) and the Plan's tax counsel believe that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken any uncertain tax positions that more-likely-than-not would not be sustained upon examination by applicable taxing authorities. The Plan Administrator has analyzed tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that, as of December 31, 2016, there are no uncertain tax positions taken, or expected to be taken, that would require recognition of a liability or that would require disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by tax jurisdictions. However, currently no audits for any tax periods are in progress.

4. Collective Trust

On July 14, 1992, Fidelity Management Trust Company, was appointed as record keeper, Trustee and investment advisor for the Plan. The Cliffs Natural Resources Employee Benefits Administration Department is the Plan Administrator.

The assets of the Plan are maintained by the Trustee in the Cliffs and Associated Employers Defined Contribution Plan Collective Trust ("Collective Trust") pursuant to the Trust Agreement Between Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. and Associated Employers and Fidelity Management Trust Company, dated as of September 1, 1992 and amended thereafter.

The Collective Trust was amended effective January 1, 2016 to include the Northshore Mining Company and Silver Bay Power Company Retirement Savings Plan as part of the Collective Trust. The Collective Trust includes the assets of the Plan, the Northshore Mining Company and Silver Bay Power Company Retirement Savings Plan, the Savings Plan for Minnesota Represented Hourly Employees, the Ore Mining Companies Salaried Employees' Retirement Income Plan, and the Savings Plan for Hourly Employees of Empire Iron Mining Partnership, Tilden Mining Company L.C. and The Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company.

Financial information relating to the net assets of the Collective Trust as of December 31, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	(In Thousands)	
	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Contribution Receivable	\$ —	\$ 270
Notes Receivable from Participants	9,241	8,726
Investments	418,117	328,753
Total Assets	<u>\$ 427,358</u>	<u>\$ 337,749</u>

Financial information relating to the net assets of the Collective Trust at December 31, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	(In Thousands)	
	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. and Its Associated Employers Salaried Employees Savings Plan	\$ 167,541	\$ 179,687
Northshore Mining Company and Silver Bay Power Company Retirement Savings Plan	100,845	—
Savings Plan for Hourly Employees of Empire Iron Mining Partnership, Tilden Mining Company L.C. and The Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company	87,617	86,106
Savings Plan for Minnesota Represented Hourly Employees	69,674	70,288
Ore Mining Companies Salaried Employees' Retirement Income Plan	1,681	1,668
	<u>\$ 427,358</u>	<u>\$ 337,749</u>

Interest and dividend income, net realized and unrealized gain or loss and net activity of the Collective Trust is as follows:

	(In Thousands)	
	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Interest and Dividend Income	\$ 14,584	\$ 15,724
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) on Investments	25,527	(10,107)
Total Investment Income - Collective Trust	40,111	5,617
Transfer of Assets To (From) the Collective Trust	49,253	(56,809)
Net Activity	\$ 89,364	\$ (51,192)

5. Fair Value of Financial Assets

ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, establishes a three-level valuation hierarchy for classification of fair value measurements. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability as of the measurement date. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from independent sources. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect our own views about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized below:

- Level 1 — Valuation is based upon quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.
- Level 2 — Valuation is based upon quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, or other inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.
- Level 3 — Valuation is based upon other unobservable inputs that are significant to the fair value measurement.

The classification of assets and liabilities within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value, including the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy.

Common Stock, Mutual Funds and Self-Directed Accounts

The fair value of the common stocks, mutual funds and self-directed accounts are based on quoted market prices. The self-directed accounts allow participants to invest in options not offered directly through the Plan. These instruments are classified in the Level 1 category of the hierarchy.

The following table presents the investments of the Collective Trust measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2016:

	(In Thousands)			
	December 31, 2016			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds	\$ 377,137	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 377,137
Common Stock	15,719	—	—	15,719
Self-Directed Accounts	2,304	—	—	2,304
Investments measured at NAV ⁽¹⁾	—	—	—	22,957
	\$ 395,160	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 418,117

The following table presents the financial assets of the Collective Trust measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2015:

	(In Thousands)			
	December 31, 2015			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds	\$ 307,658	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 307,658
Self-Directed Accounts	1,778	—	—	1,778
Investments measured at NAV ⁽¹⁾	—	—	—	19,317
	<u>\$ 309,436</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 328,753</u>

⁽¹⁾ Certain investments that are measured at fair value using the net asset value ("NAV") per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been categorized in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the investment amounts presented in the Net Assets of the Collective Trust in Note 4.

Transfers between Levels

For years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, there were no transfers between Level 1 and 2 and no transfers in or out of Level 3.

6. Information Prepared and Certified by Trustee

The investment information included in these financial statements has been certified complete and accurate or derived from information certified complete and accurate by the Trustee in accordance with Section 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

	(In Thousands)	
	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Investments in Collective Trust	\$ 164,856	\$ 175,499
Notes Receivable from Participants	\$ 2,685	\$ 3,918
Interest and Dividend Income	\$ 5,889	\$ 8,559
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	\$ 4,833	\$ (5,980)

7. Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Fidelity Management and Research Company, which is affiliated with Fidelity Management Trust Company, the Trustee as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest.

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES AT END OF YEAR
Form 5500, Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., and Its Associated Employers
Salaried Employees Savings Plan

EIN 34-1464672
Plan Number 010

December 31, 2016

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Investments in Collective Trust	N/A	\$ 164,855,882
*	Participant Loans	Participant loans (at interest rates ranging from 3.25% to 9.5%)	N/A	2,685,000
				\$ 167,540,882

* Identifies party-in-interest to the Plan.

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES AT END OF YEAR
Form 5500, Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., and Its Associated Employers
Salaried Employees Savings Plan

EIN 34-1464672
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December 31, 2016

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*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Investments in Collective Trust	N/A	\$ 164,855,882
*	Participant Loans	Participant loans (at interest rates ranging from 3.25% to 9.5%)	N/A	2,685,000
				<u>\$ 167,540,882</u>

* Identifies party-in-interest to the Plan.

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1510-0046 1510-0089 2016 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I Annual Report Identification Information			
For calendar plan year 2016 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2016 and ending 12/31/2016			
A	This return/report is for:	☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instr.)	
		☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____	
B	This return/report is:	☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report	
		☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)	
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here ☐		
D	Check box if filing under:	☐ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program	
		☐ special extension (enter description) _____	

Part II Basic Plan Information - enter all requested information			
1a	Name of plan CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. & ITS ASSOCIATED EMPLOYERS SALARIED EMPLOYEES SAVINGS PLAN	1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ► 010
		1c	Effective date of plan 06/01/1968
2a	Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES, INC. ATTN: KURT J. HOLLAN 200 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 3300 CLEVELAND OH 44114-2315	2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 34-1464672
		2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 216-694-5505
		2d	Business code (see instructions) 212200

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE		7/20/17 Date	KURT J. HOLLAND Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE
Preparer's name (including firm name, if applicable) and address (include room or suite number)			Preparer's telephone number

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2016)
v. 160205

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☐ Same as Plan Sponsor**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ADMIN DEPT.****ATTN: KURT J. HOLLAND****200 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 3300****CLEVELAND****OH 44114-2315****3b** Administrator's EIN
34-1215677**3c** Administrator's telephone number
216-694-5505**4** If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the name, EIN and the plan number from the last return/report:**a** Sponsor's name**4b** EIN**4c** PN**5** Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year**5****1,345****6** Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines **6a(1)**, **6a(2)**, **6b**, **6c**, and **6d**).**a(1)** Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year**6a(1)****576****a(2)** Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year**6a(2)****644****b** Retired or separated participants receiving benefits**6b****c** Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits**6c****511****d** Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c****6d****1,155****e** Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits**6e****12****f** Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e****6f****1,167****g** Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)**6g****1,135****h** Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested**6h****7** Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)**7****8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:**2E 2G 2J 2K 3F 3H****b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:**9a** Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)

- (1) ☐ Insurance
- (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- (3) ☒ Trust
- (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor

9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)

- (1) ☐ Insurance
- (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- (3) ☒ Trust
- (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)**a Pension Schedules**

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary

b General Schedules

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information - Small Plan)
- (3) ☐ **A** (Insurance Information)
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☒ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2016 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2016 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____