

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 2018 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information		
For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2018</u> and ending <u>12/31/2018</u>			
A	This return/report is for:	<input type="checkbox"/> a multiemployer plan <input type="checkbox"/> a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a single-employer plan	<input type="checkbox"/> a DFE (specify) ____	
B	This return/report is:	<input type="checkbox"/> the first return/report <input type="checkbox"/> the final return/report <input type="checkbox"/> an amended return/report <input type="checkbox"/> a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)	
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
D	Check box if filing under:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 5558 <input type="checkbox"/> automatic extension <input type="checkbox"/> special extension (enter description)	<input type="checkbox"/> the DFVC program

Part II	Basic Plan Information —enter all requested information		
1a	Name of plan <u>TRI-STATE 401K PLAN AND TRUST</u>	1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>003</u>
		1c	Effective date of plan <u>03/01/1986</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>TRI-STATE GENERATION & TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION INC</u> <u>PO BOX 33695</u> <u>DENVER, CO 80233-0695</u> <u>1100 W 166TH AVENUE</u> <u>WESTMINSTER, CO 80233</u>	2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>84-0464189</u>
		2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>303-452-6111</u>
		2d	Business code (see instructions) <u>221100</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.	09/19/2019	TONI ZUNIGA
	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

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

Form 5500 (2018)
v. 171027

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number <div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 1641
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 who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 1480 6a(2) 1446 6b 12 6c 178 6d 1636 6e 0 6f 1636 6g 1598 6h 0
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: 2F 2G 2J 2K 2R 2T 3D 2E 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) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor
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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 2018 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2018 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
		2018
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018		
A Name of plan TRI-STATE 401K PLAN AND TRUST	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 TRI-STATE GENERATION & TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION INC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 84-0464189	

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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL
04-2647786

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

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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)

STRATEGIC ADVISORS, INC.

04-2654524

(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	ADVISOR	50841	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

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 60 64 65 71	RECORDKEEPER	-18531	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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)

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(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.	
BAIRD CORE PLUS INST - US BANCORP 39-0281260	0.02%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(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.	
VICTORY S SM CO OP I - FIS INVESTO 4249 EASTON WAY, SUITE 400 COLUMBUS, OH 43219	0.10%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(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.	
T ROWE PRICE RET 2030 FD 4515 PAINTERS MILL RD OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117	0.15%	

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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(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.	
MORGAN STANLEY GROWTH PORTFOLIO A 522 FIFTH AVENUE 4TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10036	0.40%	
(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
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(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:

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

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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 2018 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018		
A Name of plan TRI-STATE 401K PLAN AND TRUST	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ► 003	
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 TRI-STATE GENERATION & TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION INC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 84-0464189	

Part I Asset and Liability Statement			
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) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	60000	2629
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions.....	1b(1)	124542	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	406275	0
(3) Other.....	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	1c(1)	13738188	12597799
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other.....	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common.....	1c(4)(B)	635280	1192698
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property).....	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans.....	1c(8)	4534541	4612596
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	22120445	19631049
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities.....	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	1c(13)	194844882	184695899
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)		
(15) Other.....	1c(15)	-36	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	236464117	222732670

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	236464117	222732670
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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 Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	3328269	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	14142241	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	4534708	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	22005218
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	183916	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	213257	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		397173
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)	16064	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	7079441	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		7095505
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)	9204656	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	9251852	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		-47196
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	-231201	
(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)		136017
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		-18762180
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		10593336

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	24275960	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		24275960
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		22686
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	0	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)	50841	
(4) Other	2i(4)	-24704	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		26137
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		24324783

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		-13731447
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(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: CLIFTONLARSONALLEN LLP

(2) EIN: 41-0746749

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.)		X	
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.).....		X	
4d		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		500000
4e	X		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
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?		X	
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?		X	
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.)	X		
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.)		X	
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?		X	
4k		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	X		6554
4l	X		6554
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
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.		X	
4n		X	

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

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.)

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 2018 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2018 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2018 and ending 12/31/2018

A Name of plan <u>TRI-STATE 401K PLAN AND TRUST</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>003</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>TRI-STATE GENERATION & TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION INC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>84-0464189</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.)
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4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> 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.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 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.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

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

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2018
v. 171027

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

b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year

c The second preceding plan year

14a**14b****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

b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year

15a**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

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

16a**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

- 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):

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

**TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
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YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

401(k) Plan Advisory Committee
Tri-State 401(k) Plan and Trust
Denver, Colorado

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of Tri-State 401(k) Plan and Trust (the Plan), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, 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.

Auditors' 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 (DOL) 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 3, 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 and for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 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 at end of year) as of December 31, 2018, is required by the DOL's 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 this 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 the 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 DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "CliftonLarsonAllen LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Denver, Colorado
July 31, 2019

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ASSETS		
INVESTMENTS (at Fair Value)		
Mutual Funds	\$ 192,980,860	\$ 206,395,819
Collective Fund	19,631,049	22,120,445
Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts	<u>5,505,536</u>	<u>2,822,495</u>
Total Investments at Fair Value	218,117,445	231,338,759
CASH	2,629	60,000
RECEIVABLES		
Notes Receivable from Participants	4,612,596	4,534,541
Employee Contributions Receivable	-	406,275
Employer Contributions Receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>124,542</u>
Total Receivables	<u>4,612,596</u>	<u>5,065,358</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u><u>\$ 222,732,670</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 236,464,117</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ADDITIONS:		
INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)		
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments	\$ (18,904,489)	\$ 25,149,725
Interest and Dividends	<u>7,279,350</u>	<u>5,339,283</u>
Total Investment Income (Loss)	(11,625,139)	30,489,008
INTEREST INCOME ON NOTES RECEIVABLE FROM PARTICIPANTS	213,257	193,028
CONTRIBUTIONS		
Employee 401(k) Deferral	14,142,242	13,714,453
Employer Contributions	3,328,268	3,310,587
Employee Rollover	<u>4,534,708</u>	<u>3,261,277</u>
Total Contributions	<u>22,005,218</u>	<u>20,286,317</u>
Total Additions	10,593,336	50,968,353
DEDUCTIONS:		
BENEFITS PAID TO PARTICIPANTS	24,298,646	19,729,840
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	<u>26,137</u>	<u>21,194</u>
Total Deductions	<u>24,324,783</u>	<u>19,751,034</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) PRIOR TO TRANSFER OF PLAN ASSETS	(13,731,447)	31,217,319
TRANSFERS-IN FROM OTHER PLANS	<u>-</u>	<u>129,423,718</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)	(13,731,447)	160,641,037
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS:		
Beginning of Year	<u>236,464,117</u>	<u>75,823,080</u>
End of Year	<u><u>\$ 222,732,670</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 236,464,117</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

NOTE 1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of Tri-State 401(k) Plan and Trust (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan originally effective March 1, 1986. The Plan has been amended throughout the years to comply with tax legislation and most recently amended effective October 1, 2018. The Plan excludes leased employees, temporary and seasonal employees, any affiliate of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (the Employer) not listed as participating in the Participating Employers Addendum and employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement, unless the agreement requires the employees to be included under the Plan. The Plan is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. The 401(k) Plan Advisory Committee (the Committee) is responsible for the oversight of the Plan, determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings, and monitors investment performance.

In June 2016, the Committee approved the merger of the NRECA Tri-State Non-Bargaining Plan, NRECA Tri-State Bargaining Plan, NRECA Colowyo Plan, NRECA Elk Ridge Mining Reclamation Non-Bargaining, and the NRECA Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation Bargaining Plan into this Plan, effective January 3, 2017. On January 3, 2017, assets in the amount of \$129,423,718 were transferred into the Plan. Effective January 1, 2017, participants in the aforementioned plans were eligible to participate in the Plan.

Effective January 1, 2017, participants in the Tri-State Bargaining 401(k) Plan and Trust were eligible to participate in the Plan.

With the mergers, the Plan was amended and restated as the Tri-State 401(k) Plan and Trust, effective January 1, 2017.

Eligibility

Employees of the Employer are eligible to participate in the deferral, matching and nonelective contribution components of the Plan upon completing one month of service. Union employees of the Employer, employees of Colowyo Coal Company L.P., and nonunion employees of Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, L.L.C. are eligible to participate in the deferral, matching and nonelective contribution components of the Plan upon completing 12 months of service.

Effective January 1, 2017, all eligible employees who were employees of the employer who maintained the merged-in plan immediately prior to the merger who have met the age and service requirements of the merged-in plan were eligible to enter the Plan. The merged-in plans include: Tri-State Bargaining 401(k) Plan and Trust, the portion of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and its member Systems 401(k) Pension Plan belonging to the participants who are employed by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc., Colowyo Coal Company L.P., and Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, L.L.C.

**TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

NOTE 1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

Contributions

The Plan includes a salary deferral arrangement allowed under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Eligible participants are permitted to elect to have a percentage, limited by Plan provisions, of their compensation contributed as pre-tax 401(k) or Roth contributions to the Plan. Effective October 1, 2018, the Plan includes an auto-enrollment provision whereby all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless they affirmatively elect not to participate in the Plan. Automatically enrolled participants have their deferral rate set at 6% of eligible compensation, subject to 1% annual increases, and their contributions invested in the designated default fund until changed by the participant. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions.

The Employer makes a nondiscretionary matching Employer contribution to certain groups of eligible participants in the Plan. For the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the matching Employer contribution for eligible employees of Colowyo Coal Company L.P. was 100% of the first 5% of eligible compensation deferred that the participant contributes to the Plan. For the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the matching Employer contribution for eligible union employees of Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, L.L.C. was 100% of the first 1% of eligible compensation deferred that the participant contributes to the Plan.

The Employer also makes a nonelective Employer contribution to certain groups of eligible participants in the Plan. For the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the nonelective Employer contribution for eligible nonunion employees of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. and Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, L.L.C. was 1% of eligible compensation. For the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the nonelective Employer contribution for eligible employees of Colowyo Coal Company L.P. was 7% of eligible compensation.

Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans (rollover). Participants direct the investment of contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions, the matching Employer contribution, an allocation of the nonelective Employer contribution, and an allocation of Plan earnings or losses. Participant accounts are charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, or participant transactions, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided by the participant's vested account.

Vesting

Participants are immediately 100% vested in all contributions plus actual earnings thereon.

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The notes are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at a rate commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined quarterly by the Plan administrator. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Employee and Employer Contributions Receivable

Employee and Employer contributions receivable represent the participant deferrals and Employer matching and nonelective contributions, which were not remitted to the Plan prior to year-end. These receivables do not bear interest and were fully collected subsequent to December 31, 2017. Accordingly, no allowance for doubtful accounts has been established at December 31, 2017.

Benefit Payments

Upon termination of service due to death, disability, or retirement, a participant may elect to receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account in the form of a lump sum distribution, partial withdrawal, installment, or annuity. The Plan allows for in-service distributions if a participant reaches age 59½ and hardship distributions subject to Plan provisions. If a participant terminates employment and the participant's account balance does not exceed \$5,000, the Plan administrator will authorize the benefit payment without the participant's consent. If the balance of the terminated participant's account is between \$1,000 and \$5,000, the Plan Sponsor may authorize that the benefit payment be rolled into an individual retirement account in the participant's name.

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The 401(k) Plan Advisory Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisers and trustee. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

**TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition (Continued)

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2018 or 2017. Delinquent notes receivable are recorded as distributions on the basis of the terms of the Plan document.

Benefit Payments

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Employer and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants and benefit payments are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments.

Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through July 31, 2019, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 3 CERTIFICATION OF INVESTMENT INFORMATION

Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, has supplied the Plan administrator with a certification as to the completeness and accuracy of all investment information and notes receivable from participants reflected on the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, and the supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2018.

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described as follows:

Level 1 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, such as:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair market value measurement.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodology used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2018 and 2017.

Mutual Funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Collective Fund: Valued at NAV per unit (or its equivalent) based upon the fair value of the underlying investments. NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value.

Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts: Self-directed brokerage accounts consist of mutual funds, cash, certificate of deposit and common stock that are valued on the basis of readily determinable market prices.

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investments at fair value as of December 31:

		2018		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Mutual Funds		\$ 192,980,860	\$ -	\$ -
Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts		5,505,536	-	-
Total Investments in the Fair Value Hierarchy		<u>\$ 198,486,396</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Investments Measured at Net Asset Value				
Total Investments at Fair Value				<u>19,631,049</u>
				<u>\$ 218,117,445</u>

		2017		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Mutual Funds		\$ 206,395,819	\$ -	\$ -
Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts		2,822,495	-	-
Total Investments in the Fair Value Hierarchy		<u>\$ 209,218,314</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Investments Measured at Net Asset Value				
Total Investments at Fair Value				<u>22,120,445</u>
				<u>\$ 231,338,759</u>

The following table summarizes investments for which fair value is measured using the net asset per share practical expedient as of December 31:

Investment Type	Fair Value		Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period
	2018	2017			
Collective Fund	\$ 19,631,049	\$ 22,120,445	\$ -	Daily	Daily

NOTE 5 PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain investments are managed by Fidelity Management Trust Company (Fidelity). Fidelity is the trustee as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as parties-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment. These party-in-interest transactions are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA.

**TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

NOTE 6 RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities. 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, 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.

NOTE 7 PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Employer has the right under the Plan to discontinue contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA.

NOTE 8 PLAN TAX STATUS

The Plan is placing reliance on an opinion letter dated March 31, 2014 received from the IRS on the volume submitter plan indicating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401 of the IRC and is, therefore, not subject to tax under current income tax law. The volume submitter plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter. However, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

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 (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

NOTE 9 RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net increase (decrease) prior to transfer of plan assets per the financial statements to Form 5500 as of December 31:

	2018	2017
Net Increase (Decrease) per Financial Statements	\$ (13,731,447)	\$ 31,217,319
Excess Contributions Payable	-	(9,428)
Net Increase (Decrease) per Form 5500	<u>\$ (13,731,447)</u>	<u>\$ 31,207,891</u>

TRI-STATE 401(K) PLAN AND TRUST
E.I.N.: 84-0464189 PLAN NO. 003
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i—SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 31, 2018

(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
		<u>Mutual Funds</u>		
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Overseas Fund - Class K		\$ 7,139,082
	Vanguard	Vanguard Selected Value Fund Investor Shares		3,336,287
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2060 Fund Class K Shares		770,932
	Baird	Baird Core Plus Bond Fund Class Institutional		8,978,596
	Vanguard	Vanguard Equity-Income Fund Admiral Shares		15,637,718
	Vanguard	Vanguard Developed Markets Index Fund Admiral Shares		746,044
	Victory	Victory Sycamore Small Company Opportunity Fund Class I		2,850,112
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index Retirement Fund Class K Shares		5,661,437
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2020 Fund Class K Shares		19,930,383
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2030 Fund Class K Shares		14,820,492
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2040 Fund Class K Shares		7,896,705
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2050 Fund Class K Shares		6,716,419
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2025 Fund Class K Shares		23,539,137
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2035 Fund Class K Shares		9,935,496
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2045 Fund Class K Shares		8,101,392
	BlackRock	BlackRock LifePath Index 2055 Fund Class K Shares		2,449,039
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity 500 Index Fund - Institutional Class		19,741,667
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund - Institutional Class		2,623,076
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund - Institutional Class		4,651,405
	DFA	DFA U.S. Small Cap Growth Portfolio Institutional Class		487,909
	Janus Henderson	Janus Henderson VIT Enterprise Portfolio Institutional Class		4,840,617
	Vanguard	Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index Fund Admiral Shares		8,363,080
	American Funds	American Funds New World Fund Class R-6		1,754,501
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Government Money Market Fund		12,009,334
		Total Registered Investment Company Shares		192,980,860
		<u>Collective Fund</u>		
	Wilmington Trust, N.A.	Pioneer Large Cap Growth Fund		19,631,049
		<u>Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts:</u>		
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Self Directed Brokerage Link		5,505,536
*	Participants	Participant Loans Interest Rates Ranging from 4.25% to 6.50% with Various Maturities	-	4,612,596
		Total		<u>\$ 222,730,041</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest

** Cost omitted for participant-directed accounts