Form 5500	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A This return/report is for:
- [ ] a multiemployer plan
- [ ] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- [X] 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:
- [X] Form 5558
- [ ] automatic extension
- [ ] the DFVC program
- [ ] special extension (enter description)

E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . . ▶ [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

1c Effective date of plan 09/01/1994

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)
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC

3933 WESTPOINT BOULEVARD
WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27103

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 56-0633616

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 336-714-5125

2d Business code (see instructions) 238210

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.	09/11/2024	MELINDA WOOD
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	09/11/2024	MELINDA WOOD
	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

3a Plan administrator's name and address [X] Same as Plan Sponsor	**3b** Administrator's EIN	
	3c Administrator's telephone number	
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**	173
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)**	147
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	197
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	25
d Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	222
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	0
f Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	222
g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(1)**	162
g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(2)**	175
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	**6h**	8
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:

2S 2E 3D 2G 2J 2K 2F 2T

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)** [X] 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)** [X] 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)** [X] **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
- **(4)** [ ] **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- **(5)** [ ] **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- **(1)** [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- **(3)** [ ] **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____
- **(4)** [X] **C** (Service Provider Information)
- **(5)** [X] **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 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 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)	Service Provider Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).	2023
Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation		

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
56-0633616

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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).. . . . . [X] 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

ONEDIGITAL INVESTMENT ADVISORS
11101 SWITZER RD
SUITE 200
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66211

(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)

ASCENSUS LLC

11-3665754

(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?
99 37 64 15 50 62	NONE	33945	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [X] No [ ]	0	Yes [ ] No [X]

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

ONE DIGITAL INVESTMENT ADVISORS

11101 SWITZER RD
STE. 200
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66210

(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?
99 50 27	NONE	21686	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

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

NEXTCAPITAL GROUP, INC.

104 S. MICHIGAN AVE.
STE 1400
CHICAGO, IL 60603

(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?
99 50 27	NONE	1131	Yes [ ] No [X]	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)	DFE/Participating Plan Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	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.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
56-0633616

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)

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FEDERATED HERMES CAPITAL PRES R6

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

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)
22-2712853-001	C	1133443

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 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 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 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 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, other than DCGs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

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

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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)	Financial Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
56-0633616

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		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(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)	291811	379908
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	1240520	1133443
(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)	11288019	13164377
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(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	12820350	14677728
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 through1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	12820350	14677728

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)	585133	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	761974	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		1347107
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)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	21266	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		21266
(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)	223647	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		223647
(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)		0
(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)		0

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		37030
(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)		1788531
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		3417581
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1502263	
(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)		1502263
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	35124	
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	22816	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(11)**	2i(12)		57940
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1560203
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		1857378
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) [X] Unmodified **(2)** [ ] Qualified **(3)** [ ] Disclaimer **(4)** [ ] Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) [X] DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 **(2)** [ ] DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) **(3)** [ ] neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

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

(1) Name: RSM US LLP **(2)** EIN: 42-0714325

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) [ ] This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG 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. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

		Yes	No	Amount
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.)	**4a**		X	
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.)	**4b**		X	
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		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?	**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**			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? [ ] Yes [X] 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 Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) …….. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500)	Retirement Plan Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
56-0633616

Part I Distributions

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** 0

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): 45-0404698 _____

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

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**

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.

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**

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (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): _____

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 deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	**14a**	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	**14b**	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	**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

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) and (b):

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:

Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%

High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

20 **PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

☐ Yes.

☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation._____

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No

21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

☐ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☒ "Current year" ADP test

☐ N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q703678A .

Salem Electric Company Retirement Savings Plan

Financial Report
December 31, 2023

Contents

Independent auditor's report	1-3
Financial statements	
Statements of net assets available for benefits	4
Statement of changes in net assets available for benefits	5
Notes to financial statements	6-12
Supplemental schedule	
Schedule H, line 4i – schedule of assets (held at end of year)	13

RSM

RSM US LLP

Independent Auditor's Report

Retirement Plan Committee
Salem Electric Company Retirement Savings Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit
We have performed audits of the financial statements of Salem Electric Company Retirement Savings Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from qualified institutions as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.

Opinion
In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by qualified institutions agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by institutions that management determined meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

RSM US LLP is the U.S. member firm of RSM International, a global network of independent assurance, tax, and consulting firms.
Visit rsmus.com/aboutus for more information regarding RSM US LLP and RSM International.

Basis for Opinion
We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and for 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. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are issued or available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements
Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of U.S. GAAP.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matter—Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA
The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by qualified institutions agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by institutions that management determined meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

RSM US LLP

Greensboro, North Carolina
September 9, 2024

Salem Electric Company Retirement Savings Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments at fair value	**$ 14,297,820**	$ 12,528,539
Receivables:		
Notes from participants	**379,908**	291,811
Participant contributions	**12,965**	12,025
Employer contributions	**5,178**	4,938
	398,051	308,774
Net assets available for benefits	**$ 14,695,871**	$ 12,837,313

See notes to financial statements.

Salem Electric Company Retirement Savings Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Additions to net assets attributed to:	
Investment Income	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	$ 1,825,561
Interest and dividends	223,647
	2,049,208
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	21,266
Contributions:	
Participants	762,914
Employer	585,373
Total additions	3,418,761
Deductions from net assets attributed to:	
Benefits paid to participants	1,502,263
Administrative expenses	57,940
Total deductions	1,560,203
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	1,858,558
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	12,837,313
End of year	$ 14,695,871

See notes to financial statements.

Note 1. Plan Description

The following description of Salem Electric Company Retirement 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 is a defined contribution plan covering all full-time employees of Salem Electric Company (the Sponsor). Each employee 18 and over is eligible to participate upon completion of one year of employment in which at least 1,000 hours are worked. The Sponsor's Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of the Plan and determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Contributions: Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Sponsor are recorded in the year which participant compensation is earned. Employees are allowed to contribute to the Plan by deferring their compensation on a pretax basis in accordance with Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) with the maximum amount a participant can contribute and defer being limited to certain limits as established by tax laws. Any additional amounts contributed are in after-tax dollars. The Plan also allows individuals who will be at least age 50 by the end of the plan year to make an additional catch-up contribution, which is limited to $7,500 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The Sponsor matches 50% of the first 6% of compensation contributed to the Plan. The Sponsor may also make an additional discretionary match and/or profit-sharing contribution to the Plan.

The Sponsor made additional discretionary contributions totaling $282,200 for the year ended December 31, 2023. There were no profit-sharing contributions made to the Plan for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Investment options: Participants may direct contributions to selected investments as made available and determined by the Plan Administrator. Participants may change their investment options any time throughout the year via direct phone or Internet access.

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

Vesting: Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions and all actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Sponsor matching amounts, profit sharing and any actual earnings thereon is determined using a progressive schedule based on years of service. Vesting begins with two years of service and a participant is 100% vested after six years of credited service.

Payment of benefits: Upon termination of service, a participant may elect to receive either a lump-sum payment equal to the value of his or her account, or may choose among several options providing for monthly or other retirement benefits. The Plan permits certain in-service withdrawals upon a participant reaching age 59½.

Note 1. Plan Description (Continued)

Forfeitures: Forfeitures are used to reduce future employer contributions or pay Plan expenses. Forfeited nonvested accounts totaled $1,849 and $2,218 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. During 2023, $6,370 of forfeitures were used to pay administrative expenses.

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. Payment terms range from one to five years. Longer payment terms may be permitted if the loan is for the purchase of a participant's principal residence. The loans are secured by the vested balance of the participant's account and bear interest at prime plus 1% at time of loan. Interest rates are 4.25% to 9.50% for loans outstanding as of December 31, 2023, maturing through 2028. Principal and interest are paid through payroll deductions.

Note 2. 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 conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) requires the Plan's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits and changes therein. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment valuation and income recognition: 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 Plan's Fiduciary Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the trustees. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation in fair value of investments includes capital gain distributions and the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risk. 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 such changes could materially affect participant account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

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. If a participant ceases to make the scheduled repayments and the Plan Administrator deems the participant to be in default, the participant's note receivable is reduced, and a benefit payment is recorded based on the terms of the Plan. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2023 or 2022.

Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Payment of benefits: Benefits are recorded when paid.

Expenses: Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Sponsor and are excluded from these financial statements. Administrative expenses include fees related to the administration of notes receivable that are charged directly to the participant's account and certain recordkeeping fees paid by the Plan. Investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation of fair value of investments.

Subsequent events: The Plan has evaluated subsequent events (events occurring after December 31, 2023) through September 9, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Effective January 1, 2024 the Plan was restated to allow Roth deferrals, change the automatic enrollment default rate from 4% to 6%, change the auto escalation within the plan from 6% to 10%, and change the mandatory cash out limit from $5,000 to $7,000.

Note 3. Information Certified or Provided by Ascensus, as Agent for Ascensus Trust Company and Newport Trust Company, LLC (Trustees)

The following is a summary of the Plan's asset information as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, included throughout the Plan's financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule, obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified or provided by Ascensus, as agent for Ascensus Trust Company and Newport Trust Company, LLC, the trustees of the Plan. The Plan Administrator has obtained certifications from the trustees that information provided to the Plan Administrator by the trustees related to the following assets is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge. Accordingly, as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the Plan Administrator instructed the Plan's independent auditor not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to information that appears throughout the financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule related to the following assets:

	December 31	
	2023	2022
Investments at fair value:		
Registered investment companies	$ 13,164,377	$ 11,288,019
Common collective trust fund	1,133,443	1,240,520
	$ 14,297,820	$ 12,528,539
Notes receivable from participants	$ 379,908	$ 291,811

The trustees also certified to the completeness and accuracy of the following information for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	$ 1,825,561
Interest and dividends on investments	223,647
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	21,266

Note 4. Fair Value Measurements

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 below:

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 to the valuation methodology include:

- 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 value measurement.

The asset's 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 used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is the description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

Registered investment companies (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.

Common collective trust fund: Valued at the NAV of shares in each account held by the Plan at year end. The net asset value is not a public-quoted price in an active market. The NAV, as provided by the trustees, is used as a practical expedient to estimating fair value.

Note 4. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

The following tables set forth, by level within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2023			
Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered investment companies	$ 13,164,377	$ -	$ -	$ 13,164,377
Common collective trust (a)				1,133,443
Investments at fair value				$ 14,297,820

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2022			
Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered investment companies	$ 11,288,019	$ -	$ -	$ 11,288,019
Common collective trust (a)				1,240,520
Investments at fair value				$ 12,528,539

(a) In accordance with the Fair Value Measurement topic, certain investments that are measured at fair value using the NAV per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been classified 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 amounts presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

To assess the appropriate classification of investments within the fair value hierarchy, the availability of market data is monitored. Changes in economic conditions or valuation techniques may require the transfer of investments from one fair value level to another.

The Plan evaluates the significance of transfers between levels based upon the nature of the investment and size of the transfer relative to total net assets available for benefits.

The following tables set forth investments for which fair value is estimated using the NAV per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	December 31, 2023				
Investment	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Restrictions	Notice Period
Common collective trust					
Stable value	$ 1,133,443	$ -	Daily	None	Yes

	December 31, 2022				
Investment	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Restrictions	Notice Period
Common collective trust					
Stable value	$ 1,240,520	$ -	Daily	None	Yes

Note 5. Related Party and Parties-in-Interest Transactions

Ascensus Trust Company and Newport Trust Company are the trustees of the Plan; therefore, transactions with the trustees qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan to the trustees and other service providers to the Plan totaled $56,834 for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Sponsor also paid certain administrative expenses of the Plan.

Note 6. Plan Termination

Although is has not expressed any intent to do so, the Sponsor has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their employer contributions.

Note 7. Income Tax Status

Effective March 1, 2021, the Plan adopted a non-standardized form of a prototype plan sponsored by Ascensus Trust Company. The prototype plan has received an opinion letter from the Internal Revenue Service as to the prototype plan's qualified status. The prototype plan opinion letter has been relied upon by this Plan. The Plan has been amended since adopting the plan document, however, the Plan Administrator believes the Plan is designed and is being operated in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

U.S. GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken any significant uncertain tax positions that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by a tax authority. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Note 8. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to net assets per the Form 5500:

	December 31	
	2023	2022
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	$ 14,695,871	$ 12,837,313
Differences in:		
Investments – participant loans	379,908	291,811
Receivables:		
Notes from participants	(379,908)	(291,811)
Participant contributions	(12,965)	(12,025)
Employer contributions	(5,178)	(4,938)
Net assets per the Form 5500	$ 14,677,728	$ 12,820,350

Note 8. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500 (Continued)

The following is a reconciliation of net increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to net income per the Form 5500:

	Year Ended December 31, 2023
Net incease in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	$ 1,858,558
Differences in participant and employer contributions	(1,180)
Net income per the Form 5500	$ 1,857,378

Salem Electric Company Retirement Savings Plan

Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
December 31, 2023

Employer Identification Number: 56-0633616
Plan Number: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, Maturity Value	(d) #	(e) Current Value
		Registered investment companies:		
	Ivy Funds	Delaware Ivy Mid Cap Growth R6		$ 1,027,162
	Dodge & Cox	Income Fund		289,765
	Fidelity	Mid Cap Index Fund		592,087
	Fidelity	International Index Fund		330,806
	Fidelity	Small Cap Index Fund		426,463
	John Hancock Funds	International Growth		750,693
	MFS	Mid Cap Value Fund R6		98,767
	American Funds	U.S. Government Securities		643,847
	American Century	Russell 1000 Growth Index		1,194,606
	PIMCO	Global Bond – USD Hedged		68,517
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2020		806,002
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2030		1,995,086
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2035		6,790
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2040		1,329,134
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2045		3,918
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2050		734,013
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2055		8,931
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2060		221,382
	Vanguard	Wellington Admiral		444,562
	Vanguard	Equity-Income Fund Adm		863,895
	Vanguard	500 Index Fund Adm		1,327,951
				13,164,377
	Federated Investors, Inc.	Capital Preservation Fund		1,133,443
		Participant loans		
*	Participants	4.25% – 9.50%; maturing through 2028		379,908
				$ 14,677,728

* Represents a party-in-interest.
\# All investments are participant-directed; therefore, cost information has not been presented.

The above information has been certified by Ascensus, as agent for Ascensus Trust Company and Newport Trust Company, LLC, the trustees, to be complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500)	Financial Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning and ending

A Name of plan	**B** Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500	**D** Employer Identification Number (EIN)

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		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(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)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(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)		

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(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**		
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 through1j)	**1k**		
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	**1l**		

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)**		
(B) Participants	**2a(1)(B)**		
(C) Others (including rollovers)	**2a(1)(C)**		
(2) Noncash contributions	**2a(2)**		
(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)**		
(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)**		
(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**		

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	**2e(1)**		
(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)**		
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	**2f**		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	**2g**		
h Interest expense	**2h**		
i Administrative expenses: **(1)** Salaries and allowances	**2i(1)**		
(2) Contract administrator fees	**2i(2)**		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	**2i(3)**		
(4) IQPA audit fees	**2i(4)**		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	**2i(5)**		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	**2i(6)**		
(7) Actuarial fees	**2i(7)**		
(8) Legal fees	**2i(8)**		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	**2i(9)**		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	**2i(10)**		
(11) Other expenses	**2i(11)**		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) athrough (11)	**2i(12)**		
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	**2j**		

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	**2k**		
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) ☐ Unmodified **(2)** ☐ Qualified **(3)** ☐ Disclaimer **(4)** ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 **(2)** ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) **(3)** ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

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

(1) Name: **(2)** EIN:

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. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions.)

During the plan year:

		Yes	No	Amount
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.)	4a			
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.)	4b			
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			
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			
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	4e			
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			
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			
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			
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			
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			
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			
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	4l			
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	4m			
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			

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 _____.

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN **EIN:** 56-0633616

Plan Sponsor's Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC **PN:** 001

(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
	American Funds	American Funds US Government Sec R6	0	643,847
	Dodge & Cox	Dodge & Cox Income Fund I	0	289,765
	Federated	Federated Hermes Capital Pres R6	0	1,133,443
	Fidelity	Fidelity International Index	0	330,806
	Fidelity	Fidelity Mid Cap Index	0	592,087
	Fidelity	Fidelity Small Cap Index	0	426,463
	John Hancock	JHancock International Growth R6	0	750,693

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN **EIN:** 56-0633616

Plan Sponsor's Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC **PN:** 001

(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
	MFS	MFS Mid Cap Value R6	0	98,767
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2020 I	0	806,002
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2030 I	0	1,995,086
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2040 I	0	1,329,134
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2050 I	0	734,013
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2060 I	0	221,382
	Vanguard	Vanguard 500 Index Adm	0	1,327,951

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN **EIN:** 56-0633616

Plan Sponsor's Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC **PN:** 001

(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
	Vanguard	Vanguard Equity Income Adm	0	863,895
	Vanguard	Vanguard Wellington Admiral	0	444,562
	Delaware	Delaware Ivy Mid Cap Growth R6	0	1,027,162
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2035 I	0	6,790
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2045 I	0	3,918
	T. Rowe Price	T. Rowe Price Retirement I 2055 I	0	8,931
	American Century	American Century Growth R6	0	1,194,606

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN **EIN:** 56-0633616

Plan Sponsor's Name SALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC **PN:** 001

(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
	PIMCO	PIMCO Intl Bond (USDHedged) I	0	68,517
	Participant's Loan Account	Various Rates and Maturities	0	379,908