

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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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.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____ ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ ☒
D	Check box if filing under: ☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)
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 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC. 401(K) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 005
1c	Effective date of plan 04/01/2003
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) ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC. 762 W. LANCASTER AVENUE BRYN MAWR, PA 19010-3489
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 23-1702594
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 610-645-4221
2d	Business code (see instructions) 221300

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.	10/04/2024	STEPHEN A. EAGLAND
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/04/2024	STEPHEN A. EAGLAND
	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 ☒ 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 4377
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 3124 6a(2) 3270 6b 0 6c 837 6d 4107 6e 31 6f 4138 6g(1) 3968 6g(2) 4093 6h 0
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
 2E 2F 2H 2J 2S 2T 3H

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
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10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5) ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

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

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

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

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

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

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 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) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		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 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC. 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	005
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 23-1702594	

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).. ☒ 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	
AMERICAN BEACON	4151 AMON CARTER BLVD FORT WORTH, TX 76155

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
AMERICAN FUNDS	P.O. BOX 6007 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
BLACKROCK FUNDS	55 EAST 52ND STREET NEW YORK, NY 10055

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation	
DODGE AND COX	P.O. BOX 8422 BOSTON, MA 02266

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

FIDELITY INVESTMENT INST

P.O. BOX 770002
CINCINNATI, OH 45277

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

JP MORGAN

270 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10017

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

NEUBURGER AND BERMAN MGMT

605 THIRD AVE, 36TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10158

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

PRUDENTIAL MUTUAL FUND SERV

P.O. BOX 9658
PROVIDENCE, RI 02940

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

VANGUARD MARKETING CORP

100 VANGUARD BLVD
MALVERN, PA 19355

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

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

(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)

FIDELITY INVESTMENT INST

P.O. BOX 770002
CINCINNATI, OH 45277

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 64 65 71 19 64	CUSTODIAN/REC ORDKEEPER	203191	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP

524 GRAND AGENCY BLVD
BRADEN, FL 33510

59-0663819

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
29	ATTORNEY/LEGAL	147672	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

NEWPORT CAPITAL GROUP LLC

12 BROAD STREET, 5TH FLOOR
RED BANK, NJ 07701

37-6572947

(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?
16 50	CONSULTING	67072	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

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

GLOBAL RETIREMENT PARTNERS

REDWOOD HIGHWAY SUITE B-60
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

47-1411118

(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?
16	CONSULTING	63750	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

STRATEGIC ADVISORS, INC.

04-2654524

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	50909	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

FAERGE DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP

ONE LOGAN SQUARE, SUITE 2000
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

41-0244008

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
29 50	LEGAL SERVICES	15142	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC. 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	005
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C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 23-1702594
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Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TRP STABLE VALUE COMMON TRUST FUND

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T. ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 52-1309931-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 25347753
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MORLEY STABLE VALUE FUND

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 93-6274329-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1491591
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**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**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) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 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 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC. 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	005
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 23-1702594	

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	231	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	4186423	4173914
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	258637	88127
(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)	8907328	9556609
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	33128724	26839344
(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)	393868371	472962759
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	63071156	44881156
(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	503420870	558501909
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h	171963	99195
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	171963	99195
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	503248907	558402714

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)	23200087	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	25255448	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	1993903	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B), (C), and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		50449438
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)	514639	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		514639
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	1434880	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	15423849	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B), and (C)	2b(2)(D)		16858729
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	14615472	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	16704272	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		-2088800
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	-10898434	
(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)		702645
(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)		57203258
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		112741475

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	56966293	
(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)		56966293
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		73612
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)	50909	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	203191	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	162814	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	130849	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		547763
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		57587668

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		55153807
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: **SCHNEIDER DOWNS & CO., INC.**

(2) EIN: **25-1408703**

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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		5000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		☒	
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?		☒	
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?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
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.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
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.			

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

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

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

5c 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) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC. 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	005
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 23-1702594	

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.....	
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): 52-1481931	
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	

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): _____

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 ____/____/____ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number _____.

ESSENTIAL UTILITIES, INC.
401(k) PLAN

Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

December 31, 2023

ERISA PLAN # 005

EIN # 23 – 1702594

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

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December 31, 2023 and 2022

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Plan Administrator and Plan Participants of
Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan (Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and 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.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, 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.

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 for one year after the date the financial statements are 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

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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards, 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.

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.

Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. 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 Department of Labor'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 has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits 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 generally accepted auditing standards.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.



Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
June 18, 2024

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Form 5500 - Schedule H - Line 4i

Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

EIN: 23-1702594

PN: 005

December 31, 2023

(a)	Identity of Issue (b)	Description of Investment (c)	Cost (d)	Current Value (e)
	Mutual Fund	American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund	N/A	3,773,788
	Mutual Fund	Blackrock Midcap Growth Equity Instl	N/A	2,492,041
	Mutual Fund	Dodge & Cox International Stock Fund	N/A	4,349,983
	Mutual Fund	JP Morgan US Equity Fund R6	N/A	6,755,202
	Mutual Fund	MFS Massachusetts Inv Gr Stk	N/A	7,631,150
	Mutual Fund	Neuberger Berman Genesis Fund, Instl	N/A	1,977,759
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2005 Fund	N/A	645,565
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2010 Fund	N/A	932,845
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2015 Fund	N/A	5,586,205
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Fund	N/A	24,322,724
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2025 Fund	N/A	48,553,401
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Fund	N/A	81,590,492
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2035 Fund	N/A	58,166,922
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2040 Fund	N/A	40,647,743
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2045 Fund	N/A	38,251,292
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2050 Fund	N/A	39,956,320
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2055 Fund	N/A	27,476,932
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2060 Fund	N/A	13,052,429
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement 2065 Fund	N/A	2,836,359
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price QM US Small-Cap Growth Equity Fund	N/A	3,405,204
	Mutual Fund	T. Rowe Price Retirement Balanced Fund	N/A	341,760

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Form 5500 - Schedule H - Line 4i

Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

EIN: 23-1702594

PN: 005

December 31, 2023

(a)	Identity of Issue (b)	Description of Investment (c)	Cost (d)	Current Value (e)
	Mutual Fund	Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Fund, Admiral	N/A	\$ 4,147,860
	Mutual Fund	Vanguard Small-Cap Index Fund, Admiral	N/A	3,578,972
	Mutual Fund	Vanguard Treasury Money Market	N/A	3,456,821
	Mutual Fund	Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund	N/A	2,600,263
	Mutual Fund	Vanguard Windsor II Fund	N/A	7,867,037
	Mutual Fund	Vanguard 500 Index Fund, Admiral	N/A	21,136,613
	Mutual Fund	Amer Beac Small Cap Val Inst	N/A	843,478
	Mutual Fund	PGIM Total Return Bond Z (Prudential)	N/A	9,032,368
*	Mutual Fund	Fidelity Value Fund K	N/A	2,876,503
*	Mutual Fund	Fidelity Balanced K Fund	N/A	4,676,728
				472,962,759
*	Common Stock	Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock	N/A	44,881,156
	Common Trust Fund	T. Rowe Price Stable Value Common Trust Fund	N/A	25,347,753
	Common Trust Fund	Morley Stable Value	N/A	1,491,591
*	Participant loans**	Interest rates 4.25% to 8.50% (maturity date range from 2023 to 2054)	-	9,556,609
				<u>\$ 554,239,868</u>

* A party-in-interest as defined by ERISA

** The accompanying financial statements classify participant loans as notes receivable from participants

N/A Cost information omitted for participant-directed investments

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 544,683,259	\$ 490,068,251
Receivables:		
Employer contributions receivable	4,173,914	4,186,423
Participant contributions receivable	88,127	258,637
Notes receivable from participants	9,556,609	8,907,328
Total receivables	13,818,650	13,352,388
Cash and cash equivalents	-	231
Total assets	558,501,909	503,420,870
Liabilities		
Accrued expenses	99,195	171,963
Total liabilities	99,195	171,963
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$ 558,402,714	\$ 503,248,907

See notes to financial statements.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2023

Additions

Investment income:		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$	44,258,095
Interest and dividends		17,519,303
Total investment income		61,777,398
Interest income on notes receivable from participants		514,639
Contributions:		
Employer		23,200,087
Participant		25,255,448
Participant rollovers		1,993,903
Total contributions		50,449,438
Total Additions		112,741,475

Deductions

Benefits paid to participants		57,039,905
Administrative expenses		547,763
Total Deductions		57,587,668
Net Increase in Assets Available for Benefits		55,153,807
Net Assets Available for Benefits, Beginning of Year		503,248,907
Net Assets Available for Benefits, End of Year	\$	558,402,714

See notes to financial statements.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

Note 1 - Description of Plan

The following description of the Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the “Plan”) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan sponsored by Essential Utilities, Inc. (the “Plan Sponsor” and the “Plan Administrator”). Direct and indirect subsidiaries of Essential Utilities, Inc. that adopt the Plan are participating employers. All participating employers are referred to herein as the “Company”. The Plan is designed to conform to all of the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”) and with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) and the regulations thereunder.

Fidelity Management Trust Company (“Fidelity” or “Trustee”) serves as the trustee and recordkeeper for the Plan.

Eligibility

Covered employees are any employees of the Company other than: (i) bargaining unit employees unless their union contract provides for participation in the Plan, (ii) leased employees, (iii) nonresident aliens, and (iv) persons performing services who are classified by the Company as other than common law employees. Any seasonal employee shall become a participant in the Plan as of the first day of a calendar quarter coincident with or next following the date on which the employee first completes one year of service, provided the employee is a covered employee on such date.

The following are the groups of covered employees in the Plan:

- **Group 1 Covered Employee:** Any covered employee who was a participant in the Aqua America, Inc. Thrift Plan on December 31, 2007. The only employees who can commence participation as Eligible Group 1 Employees after December 31, 2017, are employees who were employed by the Philadelphia Suburban Division of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. on March 31, 2003, and were represented by Local 473 of the International Brotherhood of Fireman and Oilers on such date, who have remained continuously employed by Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. as an employee represented by Local 473 and the successors thereto (currently Local 542 of the Internal Union of Operating Engineers) and who are transferred to a position with Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. or a participating affiliated company in which they cease to be represented by Local 542 or any other union. Participation as an Eligible Group 1 Employee begins on the date of such change in status.
- **Group 4 Covered Employee:** Any covered employee who was a participant in the Personal Savings Plan for Local 473 Employees of the Philadelphia Suburban Division of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. on December 31, 2007.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

- **Group 6 Covered Employee:** Any covered employee (i) whose date of hire or rehire with Aqua Ohio Water Company was on or after January 1, 2001 and (ii) who is represented by one of the following unions: the International Union of Operating Engineers Local Union 18S (Tiffin District) except an employee hired on or after October 31, 2013, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Local Union No. 434 (Marion District), and Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Local No. 397 (Ashtabula District). In addition, any covered employee (i) whose date of hire with Aqua Ohio Water Company was prior to January 1, 2001, (ii) who has remained continuously employed by Ohio-American Water Company and, after April 30, 2012, by Aqua Ohio Water Company, and (iii) who is represented by one of the following unions: the International Union of Operating Engineers Local Union 18S (Tiffin District), Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Local Union No. 434 (Marion District), and Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Local No. 397 (Ashtabula District).
- **Group 8 Covered Employee:** In general, an employee is a Group 8 Covered Employee if they are not a Group 1, 4, 6, PNG Salaried, PNG Union or Delta Covered Employee (as defined by the Plan) and not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.
- **Group 9 Covered Employee:** In general, an employee is a Group 9 Covered Employee if the participant is not a Group 1, 4, 6, 8, PNG Salaried, PNG Union or Delta Covered Employee (as defined by the Plan) and the terms and conditions of the participant's employment are subject to a collective bargaining agreement.
- **PNG Salaried Group Covered Employee:** Any covered employee (i) who was a participant in the PNG Salaried Plan on June 30, 2022, and (ii) any employee who was employed on June 30, 2022, as a covered employee under the terms of the PNG Salaried Plan as then in effect, who satisfies the eligibility requirements after June 30, 2022, provided he or she has remained continuously employed by the Company through entry date.
- **PNG Union Group Covered Employee:** Any Covered Employee (i) who was a participant in the PNG Union Plan on June 30, 2022, and (ii) any Employee who was employed on June 30, 2022, as a covered employee under the terms of the PNG Union Plan as then in effect, who satisfies the eligibility requirements after June 30, 2022, provided he or she has remained continuously employed by an Employer from June 30, 2022, through entry date.
- **Delta Group Covered Employee:** Any covered employee (i) who was a participant in the Delta Plan on June 30, 2022, and (ii) any employee who was employed on June 30, 2022, as a covered employee under the terms of the Delta Plan as then in effect, who satisfies the eligibility requirements after June 30, 2022, provided he or she has remained continuously employed by the Company through entry date.

Contributions

Automatic Enrollment and Escalation

Any newly hired or rehired eligible employee is automatically enrolled in the Plan into a retirement date fund at a deferral of 6%, as soon as practical following a 30-day period, unless they elect

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

otherwise. On April 1 each year, there is an automatic escalation of 1% to the participants' deferral rate until the deferral rate reaches 10%, unless elected otherwise.

Employee Deferral Contributions

Participants may elect to contribute to the Plan from 1% to 75% of their eligible compensation on a pre-tax basis, an after-tax basis, a Roth after-tax basis, or a combination of these three, as defined by the Plan, up to the annual maximum permitted under applicable laws and regulations governing 401(k) plans. The maximum amount of allowable deferral contributions as set by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") was \$22,500 in 2023.

The Plan also allows participants who are age 50 or who will attain age 50 prior to the end of the Plan year to make additional deferral ("Catch-Up") contributions, provided the participant made the maximum amount of deferral contributions permitted under the Plan. The maximum allowable Catch-Up contribution was \$7,500 in 2023.

Plan participants may make transfers between funds or suspend their contributions at any time. They may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans ("Rollovers"). Participants can direct, at the time they enroll in the Plan, that their salary deferral and voluntary contributions be invested entirely in one of the funds offered by the Plan or divided among the funds. The Plan also permits participants to acquire an interest in Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock. Participants may change their investment allocation instructions and reinvest their contributions into a different fund or funds at any time. Participants may convert all or a portion of the vested portion of their account, excluding outstanding loans, to Roth deferral contributions.

Employer Matching Contributions

- Group 1: The Company will make a matching contribution for each Plan year equal to 50% of the first 6% of a participant's eligible compensation that is contributed to the Plan as a pre-tax deferral contribution or a Roth deferral contribution.
- Group 4: The Company will make a matching contribution for each Plan year equal to 50% of the first 4% of a participant's eligible compensation that is contributed to the Plan as a pre-tax deferral contribution or a Roth deferral contribution.
- Group 6: The Company will make a matching contribution for each Plan year equal to 100% of the first 3% of a participant's eligible compensation that is contributed to the Plan and 50% of the next 2% of a participant's compensation that is contributed to the Plan as a pre-tax deferral contribution or a Roth deferral contribution.

Employer matching contribution, including the match enhancement for participants in Group 6 shall be an amount equal to the sum of:

(a) the least of (i) 6% of the participant's eligible salary, (ii) the amount contributed by the employer as a deferral contribution on behalf of a participant pursuant to a compensation reduction election, and (iii) 6% of the dollar limit in effect; and,

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

(b) an amount equal to 100% of participant's excess deferral contributions which do not exceed 3% of the participant's excess compensation, plus 50% of the participant's excess deferral contributions which exceed 3% but do not exceed 5% of the participant's excess compensation.

- Groups 8 and 9: The Company will make a matching contribution for each Plan year equal to 100% of the first 2% of the participant's eligible compensation that is contributed to the Plan as a pre-tax deferral contribution or a Roth deferral contribution. The Company will also make a matching contribution equal to 50% of the next 4% of eligible compensation that is contributed as a pre-tax deferral contribution or a Roth deferral contribution.

The Company may make an enhanced match: (1) for Group 8 participants, and, (2) for other participants in Group 9, effective at such date as may be specified in advance by the Plan Administrator; which, together with the employer matching contributions, would total to an amount of up to 6% of the annual compensation limit pursuant to IRC Section 401(a)(17) in effect for the Plan year.

- PNG Salaried Group Covered Employees: For eligible compensation paid, the Company will make the following matching contributions:
 - with respect to non-union employees and USW Customer Service Representatives, an amount equal to 125% of the first 5% of the employee's eligible compensation that is contributed to the Plan as a pre-tax deferral contribution, Roth deferral contribution or as a voluntary contribution; and,
 - with respect to salaried employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO-CFL, Local 29 that provides for his or her participation in the Plan, an amount equal to 50% of the first 6% of the employee's eligible compensation that is contributed to the Plan as a pre-tax deferral contribution, Roth deferral contribution or as a voluntary contribution.
- PNG Union Group Covered Employees: For eligible compensation paid, the Company will make a matching contribution equal to 100% of participant salary deferrals, Roth deferrals, and after-tax voluntary contributions up to 6% of eligible compensation of participants.
- Delta Group Covered Employees: For eligible compensation paid, the Company will make a matching contribution equal to 100% of participant's pre-tax deferral contributions or a Roth deferral contributions to the Plan up to a maximum of 6% of the participant's eligible compensation.

Matching contributions are initially invested in accordance with the participant's investment elections, unless the participant made a one-time election to have contributions initially invested in Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock. If the provisions of an applicable collective bargaining agreement conflict with the provisions of the Plan, the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement shall take precedence to the extent such provisions are permitted under applicable law.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

Discretionary Contributions

The Company may make additional discretionary contributions to the Plan for the benefit of active participants. Discretionary contributions are allocated to active Group 1, Group 8, Group 9, PNG Salaried, PNG Union and Delta Group participant accounts on a pro-rated basis based on each participant's compensation compared to the compensation of all active participants in Group 1, Group 8, Group 9, PNG Salaried, PNG Union and Delta Group. The other groups in the Plan are not eligible for discretionary contributions. This discretionary contribution is made to the Plan in the form of cash into participant directed accounts. The Company did not make any discretionary contributions during 2023.

Non-Discretionary Contributions

The Company will make additional non-discretionary contributions of 5.25% of eligible hourly wages to the Plan for the benefit of active Group 6 participants who qualify for a Company matching contribution, defined as 100% of the first 3% and 50% of the next 2% of eligible compensation contributed. The Company made such non-discretionary contributions for 2023 of \$81,959.

Employer Performance Contributions

The Company may, at its discretion, make an employer performance contribution on behalf of eligible participants if certain established performance goals are achieved. Any performance contributions will be initially invested in Company stock. The Company did not make any performance contributions during 2023.

Year-End Corporate Contribution

The Company may make a discretionary year-end corporate contribution, of up to 3% of an employee's eligible compensation, for participants of Groups 8, 9 and Delta Group who were employed on the last day of the Plan year. This contribution is made into participant-directed accounts. The Company made a year-end corporate contribution for 2023 in the amount of \$3,501,398.

Profit Sharing Contribution

The Company shall make a profit-sharing contribution as follows:

- with respect to PNG Salaried Covered Employees that are non-union employees and USW Customer Service Representatives, an amount that is equal to 3% of a participant's eligible compensation for the Plan year;
- with respect to PNG Salaried Covered Employees that are covered by a collective bargaining agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO-CFL, Local 29, an amount that is equal to 6% of the participant's eligible compensation for the Plan year;

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

- with respect to PNG Union Covered Employees, an amount that is equal to 6% of the participant's eligible compensation for the Plan year.

During 2023, the Plan made profit sharing contributions to the PNG Salaried and Union Covered Employees totaling \$5,750,440.

Other Contributions / Accounts

The Plan has an Administrative Budget account which is comprised of funds from the Plan's previous trustee, T. Rowe Price Trust Company, and designated to be used only for payment of permissible Plan expenses or allocation to participants. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Plan used \$176,189 from the Administrative Budget Account to pay certain Plan expenses. The balance in the Administrative Budget account was \$41,662 and \$210,426 as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

The Plan has a "Revenue Credit Program" with Fidelity. When recordkeeping revenue earned in connection with plan services exceeds agreed-upon compensation, the Plan Sponsor can deposit excess revenue, regardless of source, in a revenue credit account. These funds can be used to pay ERISA-qualified expenses or can be allocated to eligible participant accounts. Revenue credits received in 2023 totaled \$76,576. During 2023, the revenue credit account earned dividends of \$2,323. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the balance in the Revenue Credit Program account was \$78,899 and \$0, respectively.

Participants' Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, employer's contributions, and charged with withdrawals, an allocation of Plan earnings and losses and an allocation of administrative expenses, if not paid from the forfeiture account, the Administrative Budget account or the Revenue Credit Program account. Allocations are based on participant contributions or account balances, as defined by the Plan document. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting

Each participant will always be 100% vested in the balances in their deferral contribution, voluntary contribution, discretionary contribution, employer performance contribution, and rollover contribution accounts. Group 8 and Group 9 covered employees become 100% vested in their employer matching and employer profit sharing/corporate contributions after three years of service*. Group 6 covered employees become 100% vested in their employer non-discretionary contribution upon completing a year of service*. PNG Salaried and PNG Union covered employees become 100% vested in their employer matching contribution and profit sharing accounts following the completion of three years of service**.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

Vesting for Group 1 and Group 4 covered employees' employer matching contributions is in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service *</u>	<u>% Vested</u>
Less than 2	0%
2 but less than 3	20%
3 but less than 4	40%
4 but less than 5	60%
5 but less than 6	80%
6 or more	100%

Delta covered employees become 100% vested in their Essential 401(k) Plan matching contribution accounts following the completion of three years of service**. Vesting for Delta covered employees' Delta Plan matching contribution accounts is in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>% Vested</u>
Less than 1	0%
1 but less than 2	20%
2 but less than 3	40%
3 but less than 4	60%
4 but less than 5	80%
5 or more	100%

Vesting for Delta covered employees' Delta Plan profit sharing contribution accounts is in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service**</u>	<u>% Vested</u>
Less than 2	0%
2 but less than 3	20%
3 but less than 4	40%
4 but less than 5	60%
5 but less than 6	80%
6 or more	100%

* Effective July 1, 2022, a "year of service" for vesting purposes is based on anniversary date.

** "Year of service" for vesting purposes shall mean periods on or after July 1, 2022 and period of service for vesting credited under their predecessor plan as of June 30, 2022.

Common Stock

Matching contributions and performance contributions are made in the form of cash. Discretionary contributions may be made in cash into participant directed accounts. Each participant may elect to transfer amounts in their account invested in common stock to another investment option under the Plan, subject to procedures established by the Plan Administrator.

Participants who are 100% vested in employer contributions have an opportunity to elect that any dividends with respect to Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock held be paid in cash to the

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

participant's account or allocated to their investment mix held by the Trustee rather than allocated to their account for investment in additional shares of Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock.

Payment of Benefits

Distributions from the Plan are normally made shortly after the participant's retirement, disability, or death. If the participant's account balance does not exceed \$1,000, the participant will receive a lump-sum distribution as soon as practicable following termination of employment. If the account balance is less than \$5,000 and the participant does not elect to receive the distribution directly, then the Trustee will pay the distribution in a direct rollover to an individual retirement plan designated by the Plan Administrator. Withdrawals will be made in cash or shares of Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock, to the extent permitted by law. Under certain circumstances, a participant may withdraw all or a portion of the employee contributions while still employed.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow funds from their account balance in amounts that do not exceed the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance for a period not to exceed five years, unless the note is used to purchase the participant's principal residence. Participants are only allowed to have one loan, with the exception of loans assumed from acquired plans in which the participant would be required to pay-off prior loans before taking new loan. Repayment for active employees is made through payroll deductions. All new notes receivable are issued at an interest rate of prime plus 1%. The notes are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates that range from 4.25% to 8.50%.

Plan Forfeitures

Participants who take a distribution prior to being fully vested forfeit their portion of non-vested employer contributions unless they resume employment as a Covered Employee and repay the full amount of the distribution to the Plan prior to the earlier of (a) five years after the date on which they were reemployed, or (b) the close of the first period of five consecutive one-year breaks in service, commencing after the distribution, in which case the non-vested amount, unadjusted by any subsequent gains or losses, shall be restored.

Forfeited non-vested accounts are used first to restore any non-vested amounts and shall then be applied as promptly as practicable to reduce employer contributions and/or to pay Plan administrative expenses. During the year ended December 31, 2023, employer matching contributions were reduced by \$777,091 and administrative expenses were reduced by \$446,199 from forfeited non-vested accounts. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the balance in the forfeiture account was \$75,076 and \$653,384, respectively.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires Plan management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure at the date of the financial statements, as well as reported amounts of additions and deductions during the reporting period. Significant estimates include the determination of the fair value of Plan assets. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Administration

The Plan is administered by the Retirement and Employee Benefits Committee (the "Committee") consisting of three or more individuals selected by and who may be removed at any time by the Board of Directors of Essential Utilities, Inc. The Committee members may be employees of Essential Utilities, Inc. and may be participants in the Plan. The Committee members receive no compensation from the Plan for their services in such capacity. The Committee has extensive administrative powers in connection with the Plan, including authority to interpret the provisions of the Plan, to adopt rules for its administration and to make other decisions with respect to the Plan.

The Trustee for the Plan invests the Plan's funds as instructed by participants. The Trustee invests funds received from contributions, investment sales, interest, and dividend income and makes distribution payments to participants.

Certain administrative expenses of the Plan are paid by the Company. The Company may, at its discretion, elect to have certain administrative expenses reimbursed by the forfeiture account, Administrative Budget, or Revenue Credit Program account funded by the Trustee.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments are stated 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 Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisors and Trustee. See Note 3 – "Fair Value Measurements" for a discussion on fair value measurements.

On occasion, trades or fund exchanges initiated by a Plan participant may not settle by the last day of a calendar year but will settle in the subsequent Plan year. In that event, the participant's account is credited with the cash value of such trades and fund exchanges and the cash is reported as cash and cash equivalents on the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Realized gains and losses on the sale of Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock are based on average cost of the securities sold. Net appreciation includes the gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year. Purchases and sales are recorded on a trade-date basis.

Investment Fees

Net investment returns reflect certain fees paid to the investment advisors, transfer agents, and others as further described in each fund prospectus or other published documents. These fees are

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

deducted prior to allocation of the Plan's investment activity and thus are not separately identifiable as an expense.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent notes receivable are recorded as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan document. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Income Taxes

The Plan is exempt from federal income taxes under the IRC.

Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements

The framework that the authoritative guidance establishes for measuring fair value includes a hierarchy used to classify the valuation inputs used in measuring fair value. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs used in determining valuations into three levels. The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement falls is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 - Fair value is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible to the Plan for identical assets. These generally provide the most reliable evidence and are used to measure fair value whenever available.
- Level 2 - Fair value is based on significant inputs, other than Level 1 inputs, that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset through corroboration with observable market data. Level 2 inputs include quoted market prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, quoted market prices in inactive markets for identical or similar assets, and other observable inputs.
- Level 3 - Fair value is based on significant unobservable inputs. Examples of valuation methodologies that would result in Level 3 classification include option pricing models, discounted cash flows, and similar techniques.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the valuation techniques used to measure fair value for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

- Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock is valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the stock is traded.

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

- Mutual funds are 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 U.S. 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.
- The Stable Value Common Trust Fund (the “Trust”) is comprised primarily of investment contracts that are valued at the NAV of units of the Trust. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. This practical expedient would not be used if it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different from the reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan’s assets at fair value:

	Level 1	
	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Mutual funds	\$ 472,962,759	\$ 393,868,371
Essential Utilities, Inc. common stock	44,881,156	63,071,156

Investments Measured Using NAV per Share Practical Expedient

The following table summarizes investments for which fair value is measured using the NAV per share practical expedient as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. There are no participant redemption restrictions for these investments; the redemption notice period is applicable only to the Plan.

	2023 Fair Value	2022 Fair Value	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency (if currently eligible)	Redemption Notice Period
Common Trust Fund	\$ 26,839,344	\$ 33,128,724	\$ -	Daily	12 or 30 months

Note 4 - Related Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain of the Plan’s investments are shares of mutual funds managed by the Trustee, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Investment management fees paid to the Trustee during 2023 were netted against investment returns. Participants may also elect to invest in the common stock of the Plan Sponsor. These transactions qualify as related party and party-in-interest transactions. Total purchases at market value related to the common stock of the Plan Sponsor in 2023 were \$7,322,802 (186,393 shares). Total sales at market value related to the common stock of the Plan Sponsor in 2023 were \$12,526,672 (306,211 shares). As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the market value of the Plan’s investment in the common stock of the Plan Sponsor amounted to \$44,881,156 (1,201,558 shares) and \$63,071,156 (1,321,376 shares), respectively. Additionally, the Plan issues loans to participants, which are secured by the participants’ account balances. These transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Certain members of Essential Utilities, Inc. management perform administrative and fiduciary duties for the Plan that qualify them as parties-in-interest and/or related parties of the Plan. Transactions between such

Essential Utilities, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

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members of management were routine in nature and conducted pursuant to the Plan's provisions as of and during the year ended December 31, 2023.

Note 5 - Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right 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 Company contributions.

Note 6 - Tax Status

The IRS issued a determination letter dated September 8, 2015, which stated that the Plan and related trust qualified under applicable provisions of the IRC and, therefore, are exempt from federal income taxes. The Plan has been amended since receiving the latest determination letter. The Plan Administrator and the Plan's counsel believe that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with applicable requirements of the IRC.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, there are no uncertain positions taken, or expected to be taken, that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan Administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2020.

Note 7 - Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Note 8 - Subsequent Events

The Plan Sponsor evaluated subsequent events for recognition or disclosure in these financial statements through June 18, 2024, the day these financial statements were available to be issued. There were no subsequent events that would require recognition in these financial statements or disclosure in the notes thereto.