

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 STRATEGIC MATERIALS EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
		1c Effective date of plan 10/01/1990
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) STRATEGIC MATERIALS 17220 KATY FREEWAY SUITE 150 HOUSTON, TX 77094	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 76-0297116 2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 281-647-2753 2d Business code (see instructions) 423930

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.	10/08/2024	GENESIS PEREZ
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

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	5 830
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) 586 6a(2) 558 6b 0 6c 259 6d 817 6e 4 6f 821 6g(1) 687 6g(2) 698 6h 87
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:

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

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 0
- (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 STRATEGIC MATERIALS EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 STRATEGIC MATERIALS	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 76-0297116

Part I

Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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

1

Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a

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

X

YesNo
- b

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

(b)	Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	
04-2647786	

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

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

WILLIS TOWERS WATSON

79-2794194

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	ADVISOR	35985	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 60 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	27389	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

PANNEL KERR FORSTER OF TEXAS, P.C.

76-0356844

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	ACCOUNTANT	7500	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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PIF EQUITY INC A - PRINCIPAL SHARE 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392	0.40%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
PIMCO TOT RETURN ADM - SS&C GLOBAL 2000 CROWN COLONY DRIVE QUINCY, MA 02169	0.25%	
(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 STRATEGIC MATERIALS EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 STRATEGIC MATERIALS	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 76-0297116	

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: PUTNAM STABLE VALUE		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PUTNAM FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 04-3159710-202	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 259486
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MIP CL 1		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 04-3022712-024	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 729710
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
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**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
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plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
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plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) 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 STRATEGIC MATERIALS EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 STRATEGIC MATERIALS	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 76-0297116	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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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	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	0	0
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	384043	475895
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	1014554	989196
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	13656045	17297952
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	0	0
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	15054642	18763043
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	15054642	18763043

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)	700125	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	1963021	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	847965	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		3511111
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	0	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	31102	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		31102
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	348034	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		348034
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	0	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	0	
(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)		42573
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		2297557
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		6230377

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	2418738	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		2418738
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		24164
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		0
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	0	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	27389	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	7500	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	44185	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	0	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)	0	
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)	0	
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	0	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		79074
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		2521976

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		3708401
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

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: **PANNEL KERR FORSTER OF TEXAS, P.C.**

(2) EIN: **76-0356844**

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?	☒		3000000
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 STRATEGIC MATERIALS EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 STRATEGIC MATERIALS	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 76-0297116

Part I	Distributions
--------	---------------

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

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1
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): 04-6568107 Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.	
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3

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

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

Part III	Amendments
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9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.	☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No
---	--

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

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

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2023
v. 230707

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

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐	
19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) 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 <u>06 / 30 / 2020</u> (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number <u>Q702438A</u> .	

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2023

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

December 31, 2023

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Schedules not included herein are omitted because of the absence of conditions under which they are required.



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Plan Administrator and Participants of
Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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.

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

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section—

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

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

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

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

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets Held at End of Year as of December 31, 2023, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the 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 GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion—

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Pannell Kerr Forster of Texas, P.C.

October 2, 2024

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments at fair value		
Mutual funds	\$ 17,297,952	\$ 13,656,045
Common/collective trusts	<u>1,033,245</u>	<u>1,082,956</u>
Total investments at fair value	<u>18,331,197</u>	<u>14,739,001</u>
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	<u>480,729</u>	<u>388,594</u>
Total receivables	<u>480,729</u>	<u>388,594</u>
Total assets	<u>18,811,926</u>	<u>15,127,595</u>
Liabilities		
Excess contributions payable	<u>-</u>	<u>28,382</u>
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>28,382</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 18,811,926</u>	<u>\$ 15,099,213</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Additions to net assets	
Contributions	
Participants	\$ 1,963,021
Employer	700,125
Rollovers	<u>847,965</u>
Total contributions	<u>3,511,111</u>
Interest and dividends	366,252
Interest on notes receivable from participants	31,385
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	<u>2,297,559</u>
Total additions	<u>6,206,307</u>
Deductions from net assets	
Participant withdrawals	2,414,520
Administrative expenses	<u>79,074</u>
Total deductions	<u>2,493,594</u>
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	3,712,713
Net assets available for benefits - beginning of year	<u>15,099,213</u>
Net assets available for benefits - end of year	<u>\$ 18,811,926</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 1 - Description of Plan

The following description of the Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the basic plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan, established on October 1, 1990, with its latest amendment effective April 4, 2023, is a defined contribution plan covering generally all employees of Strategic Materials, Inc. (the "Company or Plan administrator"), and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as amended. Fidelity Management Trust Company ("Fidelity" or "Trustee") is the trustee and recordkeeper of the Plan.

Eligibility and contributions

The Plan allows participation upon becoming eligible to all employees except employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement, nonresident aliens, and leased employees. The minimum age for participation is 21. Eligible employees may enroll in the Plan on the first day of the month coinciding with or following the date requirements are met.

Upon meeting the eligibility requirements, employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan at 3% of the employee's eligible compensation, as defined. Employees may elect a different percentage or elect not to participate in the Plan by notifying the Company or Trustee. The participant's automatic enrollment deferral rate will increase by 1% annually on January 1 until a deferral rate of 6% is reached.

The Plan provides for voluntary, pre-tax employee contributions expressed as a percentage of the employee's eligible compensation, as defined, up to 90% of an employee's compensation. The contributions are not to exceed the limits set by the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), which limits the annual amount of salary deferrals that may be made by an employee. Eligible employees may also make catch-up contributions upon attaining 50 years of age, as defined by the IRC. Participants may also make rollover contributions from other qualified plans.

During 2023, the Company made discretionary matching contributions in an amount equal to 100% of the first 1% of the participant's eligible compensation, as defined, and 50% on the next 2%, and 25% on the next 2% for a maximum match of 2.50%. The Company may also make an additional discretionary non-elective profit-sharing contribution in an amount to be determined annually. The Company did not make a discretionary non-elective profit-sharing contribution for 2023 Plan year. The participants may elect to invest all contributions in any combination of investment choices offered by the Plan.

Participant accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, rollover contribution, the Company's discretionary matching and non-elective profit-sharing contributions, if any, and an allocation of Plan earnings or losses, and administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 1 - Description of Plan (Continued)Notes receivable from participants

Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the participant's vested account balance. Note terms range from 1 to 5 years, unless the note is used to acquire a principal residence, in which case, the loan repayment term may be longer. The notes are collateralized by the vested balance in the participant's account and bear interest at a rate determined by the basic plan document. Principal and interest are paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions.

Payment of benefits

Participants are eligible for distributions of their vested account balances upon the event of death, disability, retirement, termination of employment or the attainment of age 59 1/2. Distributions may be made in lump-sum payments or installments. If the vested balance of the participant's account is less than \$1,000, the payment will be made in cash in a single lump-sum. If the participant's account balance is between \$1,000 and \$5,000 and the participant does not affirmatively consent to receive a distribution, the balance will be rolled into an individual retirement account established on behalf of the participant. Hardship withdrawals are limited to the participant's account balance. Any taxable distribution paid directly to the participant will be subject to mandatory federal income tax withholding of 20% of the requested distribution.

Vesting

Participants are immediately 100% vested in their voluntary contributions and rollover contributions plus actual Plan earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's matching and discretionary contributions plus actual Plan earnings thereon are as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Percent Vested</u>
1	50%
2 or more	100%

Forfeitures

Employer contributions credited to a participant's account, but not vested, are forfeited by the participant upon termination. Such forfeited balances are used to pay Plan expenses or to reduce employer contributions. Forfeitures of \$28,517 were used for the year ended December 31, 2023, of which \$19,050 were used to pay Plan expenses and \$9,467 were used to reduce employer contributions. Forfeitures of \$23,280 and \$21,355 remained as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Plan termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. Upon such termination, all participants would be 100% vested in their accounts.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting PoliciesBasis of accounting

The accompanying financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Plan administrator to make use of estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

Investment valuation and income recognition

The Plan's investments in mutual funds 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. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of investments held at year-end is determined using the fair value at the beginning of the year or the purchase price if the investment is acquired during the year. The realized gain or loss on the sale of investments is determined using historical cost. Unrealized appreciation or depreciation and realized gains and losses are reported as net appreciation or depreciation in fair value of investments in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Excess contributions payable

Accounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions.

Payment of benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Notes receivable from participants

Participant notes receivable are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon terms of the basic plan document upon liquidation of their account balance.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

Subsequent events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 2, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board ASC 820 are described as follows:

- Level 1 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.
- Level 2 – Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liability; and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
- Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

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

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

- Mutual funds – Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. 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.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

- Common/collective trusts - Valued at NAV of units held. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the trust less its liability. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the trust will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV.

The method described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the valuation method is considered appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	<u>\$ 17,297,952</u>	<u>\$ 17,297,952</u>
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	17,297,952	17,297,952
Investments measured at NAV	<u>-</u>	<u>1,033,245</u>
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 17,297,952</u>	<u>\$ 18,331,197</u>

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2022:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	<u>\$ 13,656,045</u>	<u>\$ 13,656,045</u>
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	13,656,045	13,656,045
Investments measured at NAV	<u>-</u>	<u>1,082,956</u>
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 13,656,045</u>	<u>\$ 14,739,001</u>

Fair value of investments that calculate NAV

The following table summarizes investments measured at fair value based on NAVs per share as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Common/Collective trusts		
Fair value	\$ 1,033,245	\$ 1,082,956
Unfunded commitment	None	None
Redemption frequency	Immediate	Immediate
Other redemption restrictions	None	None
Redemption notice period	None	None

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 4 - Tax Status

The Company adopted a non-standardized pre-approved profit sharing plan with CODA which received an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020, in which the IRS states the non-standardized plan, as then designed, was in compliance with applicable requirements of the IRC. The Plan has since been amended; however the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and therefore, believe that the Plan is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

GAAP requires the Company to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Company has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Note 5 - Certified Investments

Certain information related to investments and notes receivable from participants disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule, including investments and notes receivable from participants held as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and net appreciation in fair value of investments, interest and dividends and interest on notes receivable from participants for the year ended December 31, 2023, was obtained by the Company and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Fidelity.

Note 6 - Related-Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are managed by Fidelity. Fidelity is the trustee and recordkeeper for the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. In addition, the Plan provides for notes receivable from participants, which are party-in-interest transactions that are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules.

Note 7 - Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market volatility, 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 those changes could materially affect participants' account balances and amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 8 - Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to Form 5500 as of December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 18,811,926	\$ 15,099,213
Excess contributions payable	-	28,382
Deemed distributions on notes receivable	(4,834)	(4,551)
Adjustment from contract value to fair value	<u>(44,049)</u>	<u>(68,402)</u>
Net assets per Form 5500	<u>\$ 18,763,043</u>	<u>\$ 15,054,642</u>

The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in assets available for benefits per the financial statements to net increase in assets available for benefits per Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Net increase in assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 3,712,713
Change in excess contributions payable	(28,382)
Change in deemed distributions	(283)
Appreciation in common/collective trust	<u>24,353</u>
Net increase in assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 3,708,401</u>

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan
E.I.N. 76-0297116/001

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets Held at End of Year
December 31, 2023

a	b	c	d	e
	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	Cost	Current value
		Mutual Funds		
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity 500 Index Fund	**	\$ 991,542
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2005 Fund	**	1,622
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2010 Fund	**	136,136
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2015 Fund	**	130,034
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2020 Fund	**	1,116,372
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2025 Fund	**	1,423,408
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2030 Fund	**	2,235,156
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2035 Fund	**	1,751,613
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2040 Fund	**	1,536,604
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2045 Fund	**	1,463,070
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2050 Fund	**	1,761,030
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2055 Fund	**	1,187,041
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2060 Fund	**	248,154
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2065 Fund	**	109,350
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom Income Fund	**	58,708
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity International Index Fund	**	502,060
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund	**	289,673
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund	**	574,507
	PIMCO Funds	PIMCO Total Return Fund Admin	**	396,716
	Polaris Renewable Energy	PIF Blue Chip R6	**	1,338,602
	Principal Life Insurance Company	Principal Equity Income Fund Institutional Class	**	46,554
		Common/Collective Trusts		
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Managed Income Portfolio Class 1	**	773,759
	Putnam	Putnam Stable Value	**	259,486
*	Loans to participants	Principal balances ranging up to \$45,000 accruing interest at rates of 5.25% to 10.50% per annum, secured by participants' individual vested accrued benefits, maturing through August 2033.	-	480,729

* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2023

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

December 31, 2023

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Schedules not included herein are omitted because of the absence of conditions under which they are required.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Plan Administrator and Participants of
Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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.

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

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section—

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

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

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

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

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets Held at End of Year as of December 31, 2023, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the 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 GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion—

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Pannell Kerr Forster of Texas, P.C.

October 2, 2024

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments at fair value		
Mutual funds	\$ 17,297,952	\$ 13,656,045
Common/collective trusts	<u>1,033,245</u>	<u>1,082,956</u>
Total investments at fair value	<u>18,331,197</u>	<u>14,739,001</u>
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	<u>480,729</u>	<u>388,594</u>
Total receivables	<u>480,729</u>	<u>388,594</u>
Total assets	<u>18,811,926</u>	<u>15,127,595</u>
Liabilities		
Excess contributions payable	<u>-</u>	<u>28,382</u>
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>28,382</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 18,811,926</u>	<u>\$ 15,099,213</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Additions to net assets	
Contributions	
Participants	\$ 1,963,021
Employer	700,125
Rollovers	<u>847,965</u>
Total contributions	<u>3,511,111</u>
Interest and dividends	366,252
Interest on notes receivable from participants	31,385
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	<u>2,297,559</u>
Total additions	<u>6,206,307</u>
Deductions from net assets	
Participant withdrawals	2,414,520
Administrative expenses	<u>79,074</u>
Total deductions	<u>2,493,594</u>
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	3,712,713
Net assets available for benefits - beginning of year	<u>15,099,213</u>
Net assets available for benefits - end of year	<u>\$ 18,811,926</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 1 - Description of Plan

The following description of the Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the basic plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan, established on October 1, 1990, with its latest amendment effective April 4, 2023, is a defined contribution plan covering generally all employees of Strategic Materials, Inc. (the "Company or Plan administrator"), and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as amended. Fidelity Management Trust Company ("Fidelity" or "Trustee") is the trustee and recordkeeper of the Plan.

Eligibility and contributions

The Plan allows participation upon becoming eligible to all employees except employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement, nonresident aliens, and leased employees. The minimum age for participation is 21. Eligible employees may enroll in the Plan on the first day of the month coinciding with or following the date requirements are met.

Upon meeting the eligibility requirements, employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan at 3% of the employee's eligible compensation, as defined. Employees may elect a different percentage or elect not to participate in the Plan by notifying the Company or Trustee. The participant's automatic enrollment deferral rate will increase by 1% annually on January 1 until a deferral rate of 6% is reached.

The Plan provides for voluntary, pre-tax employee contributions expressed as a percentage of the employee's eligible compensation, as defined, up to 90% of an employee's compensation. The contributions are not to exceed the limits set by the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), which limits the annual amount of salary deferrals that may be made by an employee. Eligible employees may also make catch-up contributions upon attaining 50 years of age, as defined by the IRC. Participants may also make rollover contributions from other qualified plans.

During 2023, the Company made discretionary matching contributions in an amount equal to 100% of the first 1% of the participant's eligible compensation, as defined, and 50% on the next 2%, and 25% on the next 2% for a maximum match of 2.50%. The Company may also make an additional discretionary non-elective profit-sharing contribution in an amount to be determined annually. The Company did not make a discretionary non-elective profit-sharing contribution for 2023 Plan year. The participants may elect to invest all contributions in any combination of investment choices offered by the Plan.

Participant accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, rollover contribution, the Company's discretionary matching and non-elective profit-sharing contributions, if any, and an allocation of Plan earnings or losses, and administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 1 - Description of Plan (Continued)Notes receivable from participants

Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the participant's vested account balance. Note terms range from 1 to 5 years, unless the note is used to acquire a principal residence, in which case, the loan repayment term may be longer. The notes are collateralized by the vested balance in the participant's account and bear interest at a rate determined by the basic plan document. Principal and interest are paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions.

Payment of benefits

Participants are eligible for distributions of their vested account balances upon the event of death, disability, retirement, termination of employment or the attainment of age 59 1/2. Distributions may be made in lump-sum payments or installments. If the vested balance of the participant's account is less than \$1,000, the payment will be made in cash in a single lump-sum. If the participant's account balance is between \$1,000 and \$5,000 and the participant does not affirmatively consent to receive a distribution, the balance will be rolled into an individual retirement account established on behalf of the participant. Hardship withdrawals are limited to the participant's account balance. Any taxable distribution paid directly to the participant will be subject to mandatory federal income tax withholding of 20% of the requested distribution.

Vesting

Participants are immediately 100% vested in their voluntary contributions and rollover contributions plus actual Plan earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's matching and discretionary contributions plus actual Plan earnings thereon are as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Percent Vested</u>
1	50%
2 or more	100%

Forfeitures

Employer contributions credited to a participant's account, but not vested, are forfeited by the participant upon termination. Such forfeited balances are used to pay Plan expenses or to reduce employer contributions. Forfeitures of \$28,517 were used for the year ended December 31, 2023, of which \$19,050 were used to pay Plan expenses and \$9,467 were used to reduce employer contributions. Forfeitures of \$23,280 and \$21,355 remained as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Plan termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. Upon such termination, all participants would be 100% vested in their accounts.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting PoliciesBasis of accounting

The accompanying financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Plan administrator to make use of estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

Investment valuation and income recognition

The Plan's investments in mutual funds 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. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of investments held at year-end is determined using the fair value at the beginning of the year or the purchase price if the investment is acquired during the year. The realized gain or loss on the sale of investments is determined using historical cost. Unrealized appreciation or depreciation and realized gains and losses are reported as net appreciation or depreciation in fair value of investments in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Excess contributions payable

Accounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions.

Payment of benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Notes receivable from participants

Participant notes receivable are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon terms of the basic plan document upon liquidation of their account balance.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

Subsequent events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 2, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board ASC 820 are described as follows:

- Level 1 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.
- Level 2 – Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liability; and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
- Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

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

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

- Mutual funds – Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. 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.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

- Common/collective trusts - Valued at NAV of units held. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the trust less its liability. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the trust will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV.

The method described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the valuation method is considered appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	<u>\$ 17,297,952</u>	<u>\$ 17,297,952</u>
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	17,297,952	17,297,952
Investments measured at NAV	<u>-</u>	<u>1,033,245</u>
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 17,297,952</u>	<u>\$ 18,331,197</u>

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2022:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	<u>\$ 13,656,045</u>	<u>\$ 13,656,045</u>
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	13,656,045	13,656,045
Investments measured at NAV	<u>-</u>	<u>1,082,956</u>
Investments at fair value	<u>\$ 13,656,045</u>	<u>\$ 14,739,001</u>

Fair value of investments that calculate NAV

The following table summarizes investments measured at fair value based on NAVs per share as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Common/Collective trusts		
Fair value	\$ 1,033,245	\$ 1,082,956
Unfunded commitment	None	None
Redemption frequency	Immediate	Immediate
Other redemption restrictions	None	None
Redemption notice period	None	None

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 4 - Tax Status

The Company adopted a non-standardized pre-approved profit sharing plan with CODA which received an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020, in which the IRS states the non-standardized plan, as then designed, was in compliance with applicable requirements of the IRC. The Plan has since been amended; however the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and therefore, believe that the Plan is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

GAAP requires the Company to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Company has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Note 5 - Certified Investments

Certain information related to investments and notes receivable from participants disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule, including investments and notes receivable from participants held as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and net appreciation in fair value of investments, interest and dividends and interest on notes receivable from participants for the year ended December 31, 2023, was obtained by the Company and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Fidelity.

Note 6 - Related-Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are managed by Fidelity. Fidelity is the trustee and recordkeeper for the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. In addition, the Plan provides for notes receivable from participants, which are party-in-interest transactions that are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules.

Note 7 - Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market volatility, 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 those changes could materially affect participants' account balances and amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Note 8 - Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to Form 5500 as of December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 18,811,926	\$ 15,099,213
Excess contributions payable	-	28,382
Deemed distributions on notes receivable	(4,834)	(4,551)
Adjustment from contract value to fair value	<u>(44,049)</u>	<u>(68,402)</u>
Net assets per Form 5500	<u>\$ 18,763,043</u>	<u>\$ 15,054,642</u>

The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in assets available for benefits per the financial statements to net increase in assets available for benefits per Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Net increase in assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 3,712,713
Change in excess contributions payable	(28,382)
Change in deemed distributions	(283)
Appreciation in common/collective trust	<u>24,353</u>
Net increase in assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 3,708,401</u>

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Strategic Materials Employee Retirement Plan
E.I.N. 76-0297116/001

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets Held at End of Year
December 31, 2023

a	b	c	d	e
	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	Cost	Current value
		Mutual Funds		
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity 500 Index Fund	**	\$ 991,542
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2005 Fund	**	1,622
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2010 Fund	**	136,136
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2015 Fund	**	130,034
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2020 Fund	**	1,116,372
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2025 Fund	**	1,423,408
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2030 Fund	**	2,235,156
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2035 Fund	**	1,751,613
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2040 Fund	**	1,536,604
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2045 Fund	**	1,463,070
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2050 Fund	**	1,761,030
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2055 Fund	**	1,187,041
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2060 Fund	**	248,154
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom 2065 Fund	**	109,350
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Freedom Income Fund	**	58,708
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity International Index Fund	**	502,060
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund	**	289,673
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund	**	574,507
	PIMCO Funds	PIMCO Total Return Fund Admin	**	396,716
	Polaris Renewable Energy	PIF Blue Chip R6	**	1,338,602
	Principal Life Insurance Company	Principal Equity Income Fund Institutional Class	**	46,554
		Common/Collective Trusts		
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Managed Income Portfolio Class 1	**	773,759
	Putnam	Putnam Stable Value	**	259,486
*	Loans to participants	Principal balances ranging up to \$45,000 accruing interest at rates of 5.25% to 10.50% per annum, secured by participants' individual vested accrued benefits, maturing through August 2033.	-	480,729

* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments.