

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 GOLDEN QUEEN 401(K) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 10/01/2016
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) GOLDEN QUEEN MINING COMPANY, LLC 2818 SILVER QUEEN RD PO BOX 1030 MOJAVE, CA 93502-1030
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-1904841
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 661-824-4300
2d	Business code (see instructions) 212310

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.	10/18/2024	CYNTHIA CAIN
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/18/2024	CYNTHIA CAIN
	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	5 311
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) 227 6a(2) 246 6b 0 6c 53 6d 299 6e 1 6f 300 6g(1) 274 6g(2) 256 6h 0
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	7

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2E 2F 2G 2J 2T 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 0
- (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 1
- (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 A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance 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. ▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	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 GOLDEN QUEEN 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 GOLDEN QUEEN MINING COMPANY, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-1904841	

Part I	Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions	Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.
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1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
42-0127290	61271	463956	300	01/01/2023	12/31/2023

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid 935	(b) Total amount of fees paid 0
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3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid
PRINCIPAL SECURITIES INC 711 HIGH ST
DES MOINES, IA 50392-0001

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
935	0		3

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	0
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	355449

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶**b** Premiums paid to carrier**6b****c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year.....**6c****d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.**6d**

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ☐**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)**a** Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee(3) ☐ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶**b** Balance at the end of the previous year**7b****c** Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year**7c(1)**

(2) Dividends and credits

7c(2)

(3) Interest credited during the year

7c(3)

(4) Transferred from separate account.....

7c(4)

(5) Other (specify below)

7c(5)

▶

(6) Total additions.....

7c(6)**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)**7d****e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year

7e(1)

(2) Administration charge made by carrier

7e(2)

(3) Transferred to separate account.....

7e(3)

(4) Other (specify below)

7e(4)

▶

(5) Total deductions.....

7e(5)**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)**7f**

0

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** ☐ Health (other than dental or vision)
 b ☐ Dental
 c ☐ Vision
 d ☐ Life insurance
e ☐ Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
 f ☐ Long-term disability
 g ☐ Supplemental unemployment
 h ☐ Prescription drug
i ☐ Stop loss (large deductible)
 j ☐ HMO contract
 k ☐ PPO contract
 l ☐ Indemnity contract
m ☐ Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid.....	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		9a(4)	
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		9b(3)	
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies.....	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were ☐ paid in cash, or ☐ credited.).....		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves.....		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount	10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A?..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

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 GOLDEN QUEEN 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 GOLDEN QUEEN MINING COMPANY, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-1904841

Part I

Service Provider Information (see instructions)

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

1

Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a

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

X

Yes

No
- b

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

(b)	Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	
42-0127290	

(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)

PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

42-0127290

(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?
13 50 64	CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR	65567	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

PRINCIPAL SECURITIES INC

42-0941553

(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?
49 55 99	OTHER SERVICES	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	19804	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT L

36-4317381

(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?
26 70	INV ADV, PARTICIPANTS	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

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

WILSHIRE ADVISORS LLC

95-2755361

(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 72	INVESTMENT ADVISORY	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

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

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

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

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
PRINCIPAL SECURITIES INC	49 55 99	19804
(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.	
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 42-0127290	COMMISSIONS AND REFERRAL/SERVICE FEE	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT L	26 70	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.	
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 42-0127290	14 BASIS POINTS ON ASSETS MANAGED BY MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
WILSHIRE ADVISORS LLC	27 72	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.	
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 42-0127290	5 BASIS POINTS ANNUALLY ON ELIGIBLE PLAN ASSETS IN WILSHIRE 3(38) FIDUCIARY SERVICE.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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 <u>GOLDEN QUEEN 401(K) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>GOLDEN QUEEN MINING COMPANY, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>47-1904841</u>	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN SMCAP S&P 600 INDEX SA-Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>42-0127290-028</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>169272</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN MIDCAP S&P 400 IDX SA-Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>42-0127290-023</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>138913</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN LARGE CAP GROWTH I SA-Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>42-0127290-066</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>25908</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2010 CIT Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>26-6447574-001</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>0</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2015 CIT Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>26-6447574-002</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>932</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2020 CIT Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>26-6447574-003</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>255038</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2025 CIT Z</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>26-6447574-004</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>286956</u>		

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2030 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-005	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 491671
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2035 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-006	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 692179
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2040 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-007	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 387436
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2045 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-008	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1273353
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2050 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-009	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 633716
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2055 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-010	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 640339
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR INC CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-011	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 170491
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRINCIPAL OVERSEAS SEP ACCT-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-116	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 127
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN GL REAL EST SEC SA-Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 42-0127290-136	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 21228
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2060 CIT Z		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO		
c EIN-PN 26-6447574-012	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 478967

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **PRINCIPAL STABLE VALUE Z FUND**

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

c EIN-PN 93-6274328-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 375354
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **PRIN LIFETIME HYBR 2065 CIT Z**

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

c EIN-PN 26-6447574-013	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 281355
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **PRIN LIFETIME HYB 2070 CIT Z**

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

c EIN-PN 26-6447574-014	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 14993
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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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
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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**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 GOLDEN QUEEN 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 GOLDEN QUEEN MINING COMPANY, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-1904841	

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		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	103	
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	118	
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	4904872	5982780
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	304860	355449
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	381936	591796
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	5591889	6930025
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	5591889	6930025

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)	612659	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	1050797	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	1152	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		1664608
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		0
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	9627	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		9627
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		833275
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		51429
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		93847
c Other income	2c		26
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		2652812

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1249108	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		1249108
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	65568	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		65568
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1314676

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		1338136
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **RJI INTERNATIONAL CPA**

(2) EIN: **33-0953262**

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?	☒		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		☒	
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.
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan GOLDEN QUEEN 401(K) PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 GOLDEN QUEEN MINING COMPANY, LLC		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-1904841
Part I	Distributions	
All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.		
1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....		1 0
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 42-0127290		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year		3
Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)	
4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.		
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____		
If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.		
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)		6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year		6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)		6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.		
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
Part III	Amendments	
9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No		
Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.	
10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ☐ Yes ☐ No		
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
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	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	
16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:		
a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	
17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐		

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐	
19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) 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
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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>Q702476A</u> .	



Golden Queen 401(k) Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

**As of December 31, 2023 and 2022
and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

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Independent Auditors' Report

To: The Plan Administrator of
Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Mojave, California

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

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of the Golden Queen 401(k) 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 statement 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 audit 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 Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit 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 Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certification 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 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audit 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 accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the accompanying financial statements 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 audit 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 audit. 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. 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 that the financial statements are 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 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 audit 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 Matters

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

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor'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, is presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor'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 meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Ramsey Jimmy International CPAs

Irvine, California
October 16, 2024

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value		
Common/collective trust fund	\$ 5,607,426	\$ 4,352,835
Pooled separate accounts	730,802	856,897
Mutual funds	<u>591,796</u>	<u>381,936</u>
Total investments, at fair value	6,930,024	5,591,668
 Total assets	 <u>6,930,024</u>	 <u>5,591,668</u>
 NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	 <u><u>\$ 6,930,024</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ 5,591,668</u></u>

See independent auditors' report and accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

ADDITIONS

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 978,576
Interest and dividends	9,627
Total investment income	<u>988,203</u>

Contributions:

Participants	1,050,915
Employer	612,763
Rollover	1,152
Total contributions	<u>1,664,830</u>

Total additions	<u>2,653,033</u>
-----------------	------------------

DEDUCTIONS

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefits paid to participants	1,249,108
Administrative expenses	<u>65,569</u>

Total deductions	<u>1,314,677</u>
------------------	------------------

Net increase in net assets	<u>1,338,356</u>
----------------------------	------------------

Net assets available for benefits:

Beginning of period	<u>5,591,668</u>
End of period	<u>\$ 6,930,024</u>

See independent auditors' report and accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of the Golden Queen 401(k) Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General. The Plan was formed in October 2016 as a defined contribution plan covering substantially all employees of Golden Queen Mining Company, LLC and any participating affiliates (the Plan Sponsor, or the Company). It is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Participant Eligibility. Employees are eligible to participate in the Plan as of the first day of the month, after they have reached age 18. There is no service requirement to enter the Plan.

Contributions. Participants may elect to contribute up to a specific percentage or dollar amount, subject to certain statutory limits which change periodically. In addition, they may elect to make rollover contributions of balances held with other qualified plans. Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Plan includes an auto-enrollment provision whereby all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless they affirmatively elect not to participate in the Plan. Matching contributions are made for all persons who were active participants at any time during that payroll period and are calculated based on compensation and 401(k) elective deferrals for the payroll period. The Company makes an employer match contribution equal to 100% of 401(k) elective deferral contributions up to 3% of compensation, plus 50% of 401(k) elective deferral contributions over 3% of compensation, up to 5% of compensation. The matching Company contribution is invested as directed by the participant.

Participant Accounts. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and the Company's matching contributions, as well as allocations of Plan earnings. Participant accounts are charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions, as defined. Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant may direct his or her respective share of contributions into various investment options. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the vested portion of the participant's account.

Vesting. Participants are immediately vested in their elective contributions plus net earnings (losses) thereon. They become vested in discretionary matching employer contributions plus earnings (losses) thereon at a rate of 20% per year of vesting service, beginning with the first year of service.

Payment of Benefits. In the event of death, disability, retirement, or termination of employment, the vested portion of a participant's account may be paid to the participant or his or her beneficiary as a lump-sum payment or rolled over to an individual retirement account or another tax-qualified plan. A participant with a vested account balance of more than \$5,000 may instead choose to have the vested balance paid in installments or to defer receiving payments until age 70½.

Active employees that have reached the age of 70 ½ will begin to receive a distribution from their account on April 1st following the calendar year in which they reach the age 70 ½ or the calendar year in which he/she retires unless participant is a 5% owner.

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (continued)

Administrative Expenses. Certain expenses for maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Plan Sponsor. Expenses that are paid by the Plan Sponsor are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of distributions to 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 on the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

2. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following are the significant accounting policies followed by the Plan:

Basis of Accounting. The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition. The Plan provides participants the choice of investment options in a variety of mutual funds, common collective investment trusts, and pooled separate accounts that invest in stocks, bonds, fixed-income securities, and other investment securities. The Plan's investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan administrator determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisors and Custodian.

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

Subsequent Events. The Company has evaluated all events subsequent to December 31, 2023, the date of the statement of net assets available for benefits, through the date of the Independent Auditors' Report, the date which the financial statements were available and noted no subsequent events.

Payment of Benefits. Benefits are generally recorded when paid.

Use of Estimates. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires the Plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Concentrations, Risks, and Uncertainties. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risks in the near term could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

The Plan invests substantially all of its assets with a single institution. In the event of the institution's failure, the Plan could be subject to substantial losses.

The Plan had one investment that accounted for approximately 18% of total investments as of December 31, 2023. The Plan had one investment that accounted for approximately 16% of total investments as of December 31, 2022.

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

3. INVESTMENT INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY CUSTODIAN (UNAUDITED)

The plan administrator has elected the method of compliance as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the plan administrator instructed the Plan's independent auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to the following information certified by Principal Trust Company, the custodian, as complete and accurate, except for comparing such information certified by the custodian to information included in the Plan's financial statements and supplemental schedule:

a) Investments, at fair value

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
Common/collective trust fund	\$ 5,607,426	\$ 4,352,835
Pooled separate accounts	\$ 730,802	\$ 856,897
Mutual funds	\$ 591,796	\$ 381,936

b) Investment income and other additions

	Year Ended December 31, 2023
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 978,576
Interest and dividends	\$ 9,627

c) Supplemental Schedule:

From 5500 Schedule H, Line 4i -- Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. Valuation techniques used to measure fair value are defined as follows:

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)

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: (a) quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; (b) quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets; (c) inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and (d) 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

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies during 2023.

Common/collective trust fund: The investment is valued using Net Asset Value (NAV) as a practical expedient based on contract value, which represents invested principal plus accrued interest, less expenses thereon. In determining contract value, the fund manager considers such factors as the benefit responsiveness of the contracts, the ability of the parties to the contracts to perform in accordance with the terms of the contracts and the likelihood of default by the issuer of an investment security. While the fair value of the investments in the common/collective trust fund are determined by the investee's trustee based on the fair value of the underlying securities within the investment at the fund level, the fair value of the investment as reported by the investment custodian at the plan level is based on NAV as the practical expedient which is contract value. Contract value is the relevant fair value for such an investment as it is the value that participant's transactions are reported.

Pooled separate accounts: The Plan participates in a contract with Principal whereby the assets of the Plan are pooled with those of other unrelated plans. The Plan owns units of participation in the fair value of the account's underlying assets. Principal holds these assets in trust for the participating plans. These investments are public investment securities valued using the NAV as the practical expedient provided by the investment custodian. The NAV is quoted on a private market that is not active; however, the unit price is based on the underlying investments held by each fund. A majority of the investments held by each fund are traded on an active market. There are currently no redemption restrictions or unfunded commitments on these investments.

Mutual funds: The fair value of these mutual funds are based on quoted prices in an active market for each share held by the Plan.

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 Plan believe its valuation methods are 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.

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)

The following are the Plan's financial instruments carried at fair value categorized by the fair value hierarchy as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	Fair Value Measurements Using Input Type			
<u>December 31, 2023</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 591,796	---	---	\$ 591,796
Total investments categorized in the fair value hierarchy	<u>\$ 591,796</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>---</u>	591,796
Investment measured at net asset value*				
Common/collective trust fund				5,607,426
Pooled separate accounts				<u>730,802</u>
Total investments, at fair value				<u>\$ 6,930,024</u>

	Fair Value Measurements Using Input Type			
<u>December 31, 2022</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 381,936	---	---	\$ 381,936
Total investments categorized in the fair value hierarchy	<u>\$ 381,936</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>---</u>	381,936
Investment measured at net asset value*				
Common/collective trust fund				4,352,835
Pooled separate accounts				<u>856,897</u>
Total investments, at fair value				<u>\$ 5,591,668</u>

5. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to terminate or amend the Plan at any time, subject to the provisions of ERISA.

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

6. TAX STATUS

The Plan follows the provisions of the Principal Financial Group Prototype Standardized Profit Sharing Plan. The IRS has determined and informed the Company by a letter dated June 30, 2020 that the Plan is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The Plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believe that the Plan is qualified and tax-exempt.

Generally accepted accounting principles requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions (generally three years for federal purposes and four years for state purpose); however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

7. RELATED PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Parties-in-interest are defined under the Department of Labor's (DOL) regulations as any fiduciary of the Plan, any party rendering service to the Plan, the employer, and certain others.

Certain administrative expenses of the Plan are paid directly by the Plan Sponsor. Any direct or indirect expenses paid for by the Plan are considered party-in-interest transactions.

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds, insurance company pooled separate accounts and common collective trusts managed by the Custodian. Therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in the administrative expenses in the accompanying statement of changes of net assets available for benefits. The Plan Sponsor pays directly any other fees related to the Plan's operations.

The transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions for which there are statutory exceptions.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Golden Queen 401(k) Plan
Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
Employer Identification Number: 47-1904841 Plan Number: 001
December 31, 2023

(a)	(b) Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment (Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value)	(d) Cost	(e) Current
	Common collective trust:			
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2015 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	\$ 932
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2020 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	255,038
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2025 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	286,956
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2030 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	491,671
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2035 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	692,179
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2040 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	387,436
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2045 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	1,273,353
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2050 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	633,716
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2055 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	640,339
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2060 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	478,967
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2065 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	281,355
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid 2070 CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	14,993
*	Principal LifeTime Hybrid Income CIT	Common Collective Trust	#	170,491
				5,607,426
	Pooled separate accounts:			
*	Principal LargeCap Growth I Sept Acct	Pooled Separate Accounts	#	25,908
*	Principal MidCap S&P 400 Idx Separate Acct	Pooled Separate Accounts	#	138,913
*	Principal Overseas Separate Acct	Pooled Separate Accounts	#	127
*	Principal Real Estate Secs Separate Acct-R3	Pooled Separate Accounts	#	21,228
*	Principal SmallCap S&P 600 Index Separate Acct+	Pooled Separate Accounts	#	169,272
*	Principal Stable Value Z Fund +	Pooled Separate Accounts	#	375,354
				730,802
	Mutual funds:			
*	Principal Amer Fund Cap Wld Bnd R6 Fund	Mutual Funds	#	1,377
*	Principal Fidelity Inf-Pr Bond Index Fd	Mutual Funds	#	3,823
*	Principal Fidelity US Bond Index Fund	Mutual Funds	#	26,199
*	Principal PGIM High Yield R6 Fund	Mutual Funds	#	16,231
*	Principal PGIM Total Ret Bond R6 Fund	Mutual Funds	#	2,734
*	Principal DFA US Large ap Value I Fund	Mutual Funds	#	5,314
*	Principal Fidelity 500 Index Fund	Mutual Funds	#	457,075
*	Principal DFA US Targeted Value I Fund	Mutual Funds	#	133
*	Principal T Rowe Price QM US SC Gr Eq 1	Mutual Funds	#	1,676
*	Principal Am Fds EuroPacific Grth R6 Fd	Mutual Funds	#	60,035
*	Principal Am Fds New World R6	Mutual Funds	#	691
*	Principal Fidelity Total Int Idx Fund	Mutual Funds	#	16,508
				591,796
				\$ 6,930,024

* Represents a party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.

Not required for participant-directed investments.

See independent auditors' report and accompanying notes to the financial statements.

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

G Q 401() P

EIN 47 1904841
 PLAN NUMBER 001
 PLAN YEAR 01/01/2023 TO 12/31/2023

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party.	(C) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value.	(D) Cost	(E) Current Value
	The American Funds	Registered Investment Company Am Fds EuroPacific Grth R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 60,034.74
	The American Funds	Registered Investment Company Amer Fund Cap Wld Bnd R6 Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,376.56
	The American Funds	Registered Investment Company AMERICAN FUNDS NEWORLD R6	\$ 0.00	\$ 691.83
	Dimensional Fund Advisors	Registered Investment Company DFA US Large Cap Value I Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,314.02
	Dimensional Fund Advisors	Registered Investment Company DFA US Targeted Value I Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 133.11
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity Inf-Pr Bond Index Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,823.17
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity Total Int Idx Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 16,508.26
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity US Bond Index Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 26,199.46
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity 500 Index Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 457,074.80
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin GL Real Est Sec SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 21,227.87
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin LargeCap Growth I SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 25,908.48
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr Inc CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 170,491.31
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2015 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 932.22
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2020 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 255,037.63
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2025 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 286,956.15

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

G Q 401() P

EIN 47 1904841
PLAN NUMBER 001
PLAN YEAR 01/01/2023 TO 12/31/2023

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party.	(C) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value.	(D) Cost	(E) Current Value
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2030 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 491,671.16
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2035 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 692,178.56
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2040 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 387,436.33
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2045 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,273,353.10
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2050 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 633,716.12
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2055 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 640,338.96
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2060 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 478,966.66
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Prin LifeTime Hybr 2065 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 281,354.68
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin MidCap S&P 400 Idx SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 138,912.74
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin SmCap S&P 600 Index SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 169,272.11
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Principal Stable Value Z Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 375,354.00
	PGIM Investments	Registered Investment Company PGIM High Yield R6 Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 16,230.63
	PGIM Investments	Registered Investment Company PGIM Total Ret Bond R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,733.77
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust PRIN LIFETIME HYB 2070 CIT Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 14,993.37
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts PRINCIPAL OVERSEAS SEP ACCT-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 127.45

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

SCHEDULE H, line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

G Q 401() P
EIN 47 1904841
PLAN NUMBER 001
PLAN YEAR 01/01/2023 TO 12/31/2023

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party.	(C) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value.	(D) Cost	(E) Current Value
	T. Rowe Price Funds	Registered Investment Company T Rowe Price Int US SC Gr Eq I	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,675.71

