

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Form 5500</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">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).</p> <p>▶ <b>Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large; font-weight: bold;">2023</p> <hr/> <p style="font-weight: bold;">This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**  
 For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 12/01/2023 and ending 11/30/2024

**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) \_\_\_\_\_

**B** This return/report is:  the first return/report  the final return/report

an amended return/report  a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

**C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . . ▶

**D** Check box if filing under:  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**

<p><b>1a</b> Name of plan <u>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC SALARIED EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN</u></p>	<p><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>003</u></p>
<p><b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC</u></p> <p><u>30 GEORGIA AVENUE</u> <u>HAMPTON, GA 30228</u></p>	<p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>12/01/1954</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>03-0493527</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>770-946-4562</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>334410</u></p>

**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.

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	09/15/2025	TIM DUNCAN
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> 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: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	105
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits ..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> . ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits ..... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> . ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	24
	<b>6a(2)</b>	23
	<b>6b</b>	50
	<b>6c</b>	20
	<b>6d</b>	93
	<b>6e</b>	11
	<b>6f</b>	104
	<b>6g(1)</b>	
<b>6g(2)</b>		
<b>6h</b>		0
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	<b>7</b>	

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
1A

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

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

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

- b General Schedules**
- (1)  **H** (Financial Information)
  - (2)  **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
  - (3)  **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
  - (4)  **C** (Service Provider Information)
  - (5)  **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
  - (6)  **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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**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.

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>SCHEDULE SB</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan</b> <b>Actuarial Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6059 of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500 or 5500-SF.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2023</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 12/01/2023 and ending 11/30/2024

▶ **Round off amounts to nearest dollar.**  
 ▶ **Caution:** A penalty of \$1,000 will be assessed for late filing of this report unless reasonable cause is established.

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC SALARIED EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>003</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 or 5500-SF <u>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>03-0493527</u>	
<b>E</b> Type of plan: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-A <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-B	<b>F</b> Prior year plan size: <input type="checkbox"/> 100 or fewer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 101-500 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 500	

**Part I Basic Information**

<b>1</b>	Enter the valuation date: Month <u>12</u> Day <u>01</u> Year <u>2023</u>		
<b>2</b>	Assets:		
	<b>a</b> Market value .....	<b>2a</b>	<u>12063475</u>
	<b>b</b> Actuarial value .....	<b>2b</b>	<u>12063475</u>
<b>3</b>	Funding target/participant count breakdown	(1) Number of participants	(2) Vested Funding Target
	<b>a</b> For retired participants and beneficiaries receiving payment .....	<u>59</u>	<u>7253820</u>
	<b>b</b> For terminated vested participants .....	<u>22</u>	<u>1225510</u>
	<b>c</b> For active participants .....	<u>24</u>	<u>3832950</u>
	<b>d</b> Total .....	<u>105</u>	<u>12312280</u>
<b>4</b>	If the plan is in at-risk status, check the box and complete lines (a) and (b) .....		
	<b>a</b> Funding target disregarding prescribed at-risk assumptions .....	<b>4a</b>	
	<b>b</b> Funding target reflecting at-risk assumptions, but disregarding transition rule for plans that have been in at-risk status for fewer than five consecutive years and disregarding loading factor .....	<b>4b</b>	
<b>5</b>	Effective interest rate .....	<b>5</b>	<u>5.25 %</u>
<b>6</b>	Target normal cost		
	<b>a</b> Present value of current plan year accruals .....	<b>6a</b>	<u>179274</u>
	<b>b</b> Expected plan-related expenses .....	<b>6b</b>	<u>10000</u>
	<b>c</b> Target normal cost .....	<b>6c</b>	<u>189274</u>

**Statement by Enrolled Actuary**  
 To the best of my knowledge, the information supplied in this schedule and accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, if any, is complete and accurate. Each prescribed assumption was applied in accordance with applicable law and regulations. In my opinion, each other assumption is reasonable (taking into account the experience of the plan and reasonable expectations) and such other assumptions, in combination, offer my best estimate of anticipated experience under the plan.

<b>SIGN HERE</b>		
	Signature of actuary	<u>09/08/2025</u>
	<u>J. STERLING PRICE</u>	Date
	Type or print name of actuary	<u>23-06670</u>
	<u>USI CONSULTING GROUP</u>	Most recent enrollment number
	Firm name	<u>629-895-7842</u>
	<u>5301 VIRGINIA WAY</u> <u>SUITE 400</u> <u>BRENTWOOD, TN 37027</u>	Telephone number (including area code)
	Address of the firm	

If the actuary has not fully reflected any regulation or ruling promulgated under the statute in completing this schedule, check the box and see instructions

<b>Part II Beginning of Year Carryover and Prefunding Balances</b>		(a) Carryover balance	(b) Prefunding balance
<b>7</b>	Balance at beginning of prior year after applicable adjustments (line 13 from prior year) .....	0	1436292
<b>8</b>	Portion elected for use to offset prior year's funding requirement (line 35 from prior year) .....	0	0
<b>9</b>	Amount remaining (line 7 minus line 8) .....	0	1436292
<b>10</b>	Interest on line 9 using prior year's actual return of <u>3.76</u> % .....	0	54005
<b>11</b>	Prior year's excess contributions to be added to prefunding balance:		
	<b>a</b> Present value of excess contributions (line 38a from prior year) .....		646
	<b>b(1)</b> Interest on the excess, if any, of line 38a over line 38b from prior year Schedule SB, using prior year's effective interest rate of <u>5.38</u> % .....		35
	<b>b(2)</b> Interest on line 38b from prior year Schedule SB, using prior year's actual return .....		0
	<b>c</b> Total available at beginning of current plan year to add to prefunding balance .....		681
	<b>d</b> Portion of (c) to be added to prefunding balance .....		0
<b>12</b>	Other reductions in balances due to elections or deemed elections .....	0	0
<b>13</b>	Balance at beginning of current year (line 9 + line 10 + line 11d - line 12) .....	0	1490297

<b>Part III Funding Percentages</b>			
<b>14</b>	Funding target attainment percentage .....	<b>14</b>	85.87 %
<b>15</b>	Adjusted funding target attainment percentage .....	<b>15</b>	85.87 %
<b>16</b>	Prior year's funding percentage for purposes of determining whether carryover/prefunding balances may be used to reduce current year's funding requirement .....	<b>16</b>	87.39 %
<b>17</b>	If the current value of the assets of the plan is less than 70 percent of the funding target, enter such percentage .....	<b>17</b>	%

<b>Part IV Contributions and Liquidity Shortfalls</b>		<b>18 Contributions made to the plan for the plan year by employer(s) and employees:</b>					
(a) Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	(b) Amount paid by employer(s)	(c) Amount paid by employees	(a) Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	(b) Amount paid by employer(s)	(c) Amount paid by employees		
05/24/2024	59499	0	08/15/2024	57907	0		
06/05/2024	58290	0	09/09/2024	154274	0		
06/06/2024	92106	0	10/17/2024	116132	0		
06/10/2024	58290	0					
06/20/2024	92106	0					
07/03/2024	55107	0					
			<b>Totals ▶</b>	<b>18(b)</b>	743711	<b>18(c)</b>	0

<b>19</b>	Discounted employer contributions – see instructions for small plan with a valuation date after the beginning of the year:	
	<b>a</b> Contributions allocated toward unpaid minimum required contributions from prior years. ....	<b>19a</b> 0
	<b>b</b> Contributions made to avoid restrictions adjusted to valuation date .....	<b>19b</b> 0
	<b>c</b> Contributions allocated toward minimum required contribution for current year adjusted to valuation date .....	<b>19c</b> 718789
<b>20</b>	Quarterly contributions and liquidity shortfalls:	
	<b>a</b> Did the plan have a "funding shortfall" for the prior year? .....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>b</b> If line 20a is "Yes," were required quarterly installments for the current year made in a timely manner? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>c</b> If line 20a is "Yes," see instructions and complete the following table as applicable:	

Liquidity shortfall as of end of quarter of this plan year				
(1) 1st	(2) 2nd	(3) 3rd	(4) 4th	
0	0	0	0	

**Part V Assumptions Used to Determine Funding Target and Target Normal Cost**

**21** Discount rate:

<b>a</b> Segment rates:	1st segment: 4.75 %	2nd segment: 5.00 %	3rd segment: 5.74 %	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A, full yield curve used
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**b** Applicable month (enter code)..... **21b** 0

**22** Weighted average retirement age ..... **22** 65

**23** Mortality table(s) (see instructions)  Prescribed - combined  Prescribed - separate  Substitute

**Part VI Miscellaneous Items**

**24** Has a change been made in the non-prescribed actuarial assumptions for the current plan year? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment.....  Yes  No

**25** Has a method change been made for the current plan year? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment. ....  Yes  No

**26** Demographic and benefit information

**a** Is the plan required to provide a Schedule of Active Participants? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment. ....  Yes  No

**b** Is the plan required to provide a projection of expected benefit payments? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment ...  Yes  No

**27** If the plan is subject to alternative funding rules, enter applicable code and see instructions regarding attachment..... **27**

**Part VII Reconciliation of Unpaid Minimum Required Contributions For Prior Years**

<b>28</b> Unpaid minimum required contributions for all prior years .....	<b>28</b>	0
<b>29</b> Discounted employer contributions allocated toward unpaid minimum required contributions from prior years (line 19a).....	<b>29</b>	0
<b>30</b> Remaining amount of unpaid minimum required contributions (line 28 minus line 29) .....	<b>30</b>	0

**Part VIII Minimum Required Contribution For Current Year**

**31** Target normal cost and excess assets (see instructions):

<b>a</b> Target normal cost (line 6c).....	<b>31a</b>	189274
<b>b</b> Excess assets, if applicable, but not greater than line 31a .....	<b>31b</b>	0

**32** Amortization installments:

	Outstanding Balance	Installment
<b>a</b> Net shortfall amortization installment .....	1739102	165729
<b>b</b> Waiver amortization installment .....	0	0

**33** If a waiver has been approved for this plan year, enter the date of the ruling letter granting the approval (Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_) and the waived amount .....

	<b>33</b>	
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**34** Total funding requirement before reflecting carryover/prefunding balances (lines 31a - 31b + 32a + 32b - 33)..... **34** 355003

	Carryover balance	Prefunding balance	Total balance
<b>35</b> Balances elected for use to offset funding requirement .....	0	0	0
<b>36</b> Additional cash requirement (line 34 minus line 35).....			<b>36</b> 355003
<b>37</b> Contributions allocated toward minimum required contribution for current year adjusted to valuation date (line 19c).....			<b>37</b> 718789

**38** Present value of excess contributions for current year (see instructions)

<b>a</b> Total (excess, if any, of line 37 over line 36)	<b>38a</b>	363786
<b>b</b> Portion included in line 38a attributable to use of prefunding and funding standard carryover balances .....	<b>38b</b>	0

**39** Unpaid minimum required contribution for current year (excess, if any, of line 36 over line 37) .....

	<b>39</b>	0
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**40** Unpaid minimum required contributions for all years .....

	<b>40</b>	0
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**Part IX Pension Funding Relief Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (See Instructions)**

**41** If an election was made to use the extended amortization rule for a plan year beginning on or before December 31, 2021, check the box to indicate the first plan year for which the rule applies.  2019  2020  2021

<b>SCHEDULE C</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Service Provider Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2023</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning **12/01/2023** and ending **11/30/2024**

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC SALARIED EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>003</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>03-0493527</b>	

**Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)**

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

**1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation**

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

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

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

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

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

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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)

VANGUARD GROUP INC

P.O. BOX 1851  
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482-1851

23-1945930

(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?
21	TRUSTEE	16259	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

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

**Part I Service Provider Information (continued)**

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

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

**Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information**

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> 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)

<b>a</b> Name: JEFFREY GROVES	<b>b</b> EIN: 11-3665754
<b>c</b> Position: ENROLLED ACTUARY	
<b>d</b> Address: P.O. BOX 55788 BOSTON, MA 02205	<b>e</b> Telephone: 678-775-5578

Explanation: THE PLAN SWITCHED ACTUARIAL CONSULTING FIRMS.

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>SCHEDULE H</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Financial Information</b>  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).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <b>2023</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>12/01/2023</b> and ending <b>11/30/2024</b>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC SALARIED EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>003</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>03-0493527</b>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Asset and Liability Statement</b>
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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.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>	61435	0
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	899424	0
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>	0	208291
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	11113113	13860091
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>	0	0

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	12073972	14068382
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable .....	1g		
h Operating payables .....	1h	0	3126
i Acquisition indebtedness .....	1i		
j Other liabilities .....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j) .....	1k	0	3126
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f) .....	1l	12073972	14065256

**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.

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers .....	2a(1)(A)	743713	
(B) Participants .....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers) .....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions .....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2) .....	2a(3)		743713
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit) .....	2b(1)(A)	208210	
(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)	397612	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F) .....	2b(1)(G)		605822
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock .....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock .....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds) .....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C) .....	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents .....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds .....	2b(4)(A)	366590	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions) .....	2b(4)(B)	310884	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result .....	2b(4)(C)		55706
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate .....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other .....	2b(5)(B)	187767	
(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.....	<b>2b(6)</b>		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	<b>2b(10)</b>		
<b>c</b> Other income.....	<b>2c</b>		1120146
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2d</b>		2713154

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	<b>2e(1)</b>	700017	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other.....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		700017
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances.....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	<b>2i(3)</b>		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	<b>2i(4)</b>		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees.....	<b>2i(5)</b>	11320	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees.....	<b>2i(6)</b>	10533	
(7) Actuarial fees.....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
(8) Legal fees.....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees.....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses.....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
(11) Other expenses.....	<b>2i(11)</b>		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		21853
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		721870

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		1991284
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
(2) From this plan.....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**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: SMITH & HOWARD, PC

(2) EIN: 58-1250486

**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
<b>a</b> 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.)		X	
<b>b</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.)		X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		1000000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)			
<b>n</b> 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.)

<b>5b(1)</b> Name of plan(s)	<b>5b(2)</b> EIN(s)	<b>5b(3)</b> 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 545920.

<b>SCHEDULE R</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Retirement Plan Information</b>  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).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2023</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 12/01/2023 and ending 11/30/2024

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC SALARIED EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>003</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>SOUTHERN STATES, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>03-0493527</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
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**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

<b>1</b> 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): \_\_\_\_\_

**Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.**

<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....	3	0
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<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (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.**

<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	6a	
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year.....	6b	
<b>c</b> 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

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

<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

**10** Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?.....  Yes  No

**11 a** Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? .....  Yes  No

**b** If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) .....  Yes  No

**12** Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? .....  Yes  No

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**13** Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**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:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

**16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</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 .....	<b>16b</b>	

**17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment.....

**Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment.....

**19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

**a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:  
 Public Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Private Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: \_\_\_\_\_%  
 High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Assets: \_\_\_\_\_% Cash or Cash Equivalents: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%

**b** Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:  
 0-5 years  5-10 years  10-15 years  15 years or more

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

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

**b** If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:  
 Yes.  
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. Other. Provide explanation.....

**Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

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

**21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).  
 Design-based safe harbor method  
 "Prior year" ADP test  
 "Current year" ADP test  
 N/A

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

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedules

Including Independent Auditor's Report

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

and for the Year Ended November 30, 2024

## Table of Contents

Independent Auditor's Report . . . . .	1
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits . . . . .	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits . . . . .	6
Statements of Accumulated Plan Benefits . . . . .	7
Statement of Changes in Accumulated Plan Benefits . . . . .	8
Notes to the Financial Statements . . . . .	9
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) . . . . .	17
Schedule H, Line 4j - Schedule of Reportable Transactions . . . . .	18



## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator of Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits and of accumulated plan benefits as of November 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits and of changes in accumulated plan benefits for the year ended November 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

Management has obtained certifications from qualified institutions as of November 30, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended November 30, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

## ***Opinion***

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

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- 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 audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

## ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with 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 Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for at least one year following the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

## ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement 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 Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of 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 Matter - Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedules of Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) and Schedule H, Line 4j - Schedule of Reportable Transactions as of or for the year ended November 30, 2024 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules 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 schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

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

*Smith and Howard*

Atlanta, GA

September 12, 2025

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
 Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits  
 As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Investments</b>		
Investments at fair value	\$14,068,382	\$ 11,174,548
<b>Receivables</b>		
Employer contributions	-	899,424
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>14,068,382</b>	<b>12,073,972</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Payables</b>		
Other payables	3,126	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,126</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net assets available for benefits</b>	<b>\$14,065,256</b>	<b>\$12,073,972</b>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits  
For the Year Ended November 30, 2024

	<b>2024</b>
<b>Additions</b>	
<b>Investment income</b>	
Interest and dividends	\$ 409,526
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	1,559,915
<b>Total investment income</b>	1,969,441
<b>Contributions</b>	
Employer contributions	743,713
<b>Total additions</b>	2,713,154
<b>Deductions</b>	
Benefits paid to participants	700,017
Administrative expenses	21,853
<b>Total deductions</b>	721,870
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	1,991,284
Net assets available for benefits	
Beginning of year	12,073,972
<b>End of year</b>	\$14,065,256

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
 Statements of Accumulated Plan Benefits  
 As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
<b>Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits</b>		
<b>Vested benefits</b>		
Participants currently receiving payments	\$ 7,484,557	\$ 7,787,545
Other participants	4,637,583	4,503,944
<b>Total vested benefits</b>	12,122,140	12,291,489
<b>Total actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits</b>	\$12,122,140	\$12,291,489

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Statement of Changes in Accumulated Plan Benefits  
For the Year Ended November 30, 2024

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Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits at beginning of year	\$12,291,489
<b>Increase (decrease) during the year attributable to:</b>	
Change in actuarial assumptions	(136,672)
Benefits accumulated	45,916
Increase for interest	627,018
Benefits paid	(705,611)
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	<b>(169,349)</b>
<b>Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits at end of year</b>	<b>\$12,122,140</b>

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See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### 1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement 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 is a noncontributory defined benefit plan established effective December 1, 1954, as restated December 1, 2007. Prior to the plan freeze, the Plan covered all employees, excluding common law employees not treated as such by the Company on its payroll records, leased employees, or payroll service or agency employees, of Southern States, LLC (the Company) who have completed one year of service. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA). The Executive Committee is responsible for oversight of the Plan. The Plan's Retirement Plan Committee determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings, monitors investment performance, and reports to the Plan's Executive Committee.

During 2006, the Plan was amended to freeze participation in the Plan effective December 31, 2005. Only those individuals employed by the Organization on December 31, 2005 are considered for participation in the Plan.

#### *Funding policy*

The Plan's funding policy is for the Company to contribute an amount which will meet or exceed the annual ERISA minimum funding requirement. The minimum funding requirements of ERISA were exceeded in 2024.

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

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### 1. Description of Plan (Continued)

#### *Pension benefits*

Plan participants are entitled to their plan benefits after terminating employment with vested rights. Participants become vested in the Plan upon completion of at least three years of service or attainment of the normal retirement age (65), although the Plan does allow for early retirement at the age of 55. If employees terminate before rendering the required years of service, they forfeit the right to receive the portion of their accumulated plan benefits attributable to the Company's contributions. Upon becoming vested, participants are entitled to receive the greater of the following as long as they were participants as of March 1, 1983 1.5% of their adjusted career average pay multiplied by the number of years of credited service less 50% of the participant's social security primary insurance amount prorate for years of service less than 30; or \$204 times the number of years of credited service up to 30 years. Participants hired after March 1, 1983, will receive the greater of 45% of their adjusted career average pay less 50% of their social security primary insurance amount multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the participant's years of service, and the denominator is 30; or \$204 times the number of years of credited service up to 30 years. Upon termination of employment, pension payments are normally paid in the form of a monthly annuity payable for their lifetime or, if married, in the form of a qualified joint or survivor annuity.

If an active employee dies at age 55 or older, a death benefit equal to the value of the employee's accumulated pension benefit is paid to the employee's beneficiary. Active employees who become totally disabled receive annual disability benefits that are equal to the equivalent normal retirement benefit they have accumulated as of the time they become disabled. Disability benefits are paid until normal retirement age, at which time disabled participants will receive the normal retirement benefit computed as though they had been employed to normal retirement age, with their annual compensation remaining the same as at the time they became disabled.

### 2. Summary of Accounting Policies

#### *Basis of Accounting*

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

#### *Use of Estimates*

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

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### **2. Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)**

#### *Investment Valuation and Income Recognition*

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan's Retirement Plan Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisers, custodians and insurance company, as applicable. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

#### *Contributions*

Employer contributions are recorded when such contributions are authorized by the Company's Executive Committee and are recorded in the Plan year based on the annual minimum funding requirements.

#### *Payment of Benefits*

Benefits payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

#### *Administrative Expenses*

The Plan's expenses are paid either by the Plan or the Company, as provided by the plan document. Expenses that are paid directly by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Certain expenses incurred in connection with the general administration of the Plan that are paid by the Plan are recorded as deductions in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. In addition, certain investment related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

#### *Subsequent Events*

Subsequent events were evaluated through September 12, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### 3. Actuarial Present Value of Accumulated Plan Benefits

Accumulated plan benefits are those future periodic payments, including lump-sum distributions, that are attributable under the Plan's provisions to the service employees have rendered. Accumulated plan benefits include benefits expected to be paid to (a) retired or terminated employees or their beneficiaries, (b) beneficiaries of employees who have died, and (c) present employees or their beneficiaries. Benefits under the Plan are based on employees' compensation during each year of credited service. The accumulated plan benefits for active employees will equal the accumulation, with interest, of the annual benefit accruals as of the benefit information date. Benefits payable under all circumstances, such as retirement, death, disability, and termination of employment, are included, to the extent they are attributable to employee service rendered to the valuation date. Benefits to be provided via annuity contracts excluded from plan assets are excluded from accumulated plan benefits.

The actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits is determined by the Plan's independent actuary and is that amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to adjust the accumulated plan benefits to reflect the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as for death, disability, withdrawal or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment.

The computations of the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits were made as of December 1, 2024 and 2023. Had the valuations been performed as of November 30, there would be no material differences. The significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuations were:

<b>Assumption</b>	<b>November 30, 2024</b>	<b>November 30, 2023</b>
Discount rate	5.36%	5.26%
Mortality	Pri-2012 with mortality improvements under SOA Scale MP-2021 (fully generational)	Pri-2012 with mortality improvements under SOA Scale MP-2021 (fully generational)
Retirement age	65	65

The foregoing actuarial assumptions are based on the presumption that the Plan will continue. Were the Plan to terminate, different actuarial assumptions and other factors might be applicable in determining the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits.

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### 4. Fair Value Measurements

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

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

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

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

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

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

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

Following is a description of the valuation techniques used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the techniques used at November 30, 2024 and 2023.

*Money market funds:* Valued at the quoted net asset value (NAV) of shares held by the Plan at year end.

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

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### 4. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of November 30, 2024 and 2023:

<b>Assets at Fair Value as of November 30, 2024</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Money market funds	\$ 208,291	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 208,291
Mutual funds	13,860,091	-	-	13,860,091
<b>Total assets in the fair value hierarchy</b>	<b>14,068,382</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,068,382</b>
<b>Total investments at fair value</b>	<b>\$14,068,382</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$14,068,382</b>

<b>Assets at Fair Value as of November 30, 2023</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Money market funds	\$ 61,435	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,435
Mutual funds	11,113,113	-	-	11,113,113
<b>Total assets in the fair value hierarchy</b>	<b>11,174,548</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,174,548</b>
<b>Total investments at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 11,174,548</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,174,548</b>

### 5. Information Certified by Trustee

The plan administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA for 2024 and 2023. Accordingly, Charles Schwab Trust Bank, the current Trustee of the Plan, has certified to the completeness and accuracy of all investments reported in the accompanying Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits and the supplemental Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of November 30, 2024, and the related investment activity reported in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits and the information reported in the supplemental Schedule H, Line 4(j) - Schedule of Reportable Transactions for the period from October 17, 2024 through November 30, 2024. Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company, the previous Trustee of the Plan, has certified to the completeness and accuracy of all investments reported in the accompanying Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of November 30, 2023, and the related investment activity reported in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits and the information reported in the supplemental Schedule H, Line 4(j) - Schedule of Reportable Transactions for the period from December 1, 2023 through October 17, 2024.

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### **6. Related-Party and Party In Interest Transactions**

The Plan's investments are administered under contracts with Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company and Charles Schwab Trust Bank, the Trustees of the Plan. Contributions are held and managed by Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company and Charles Schwab Trust Bank, who invest cash received, interest and dividend income and make distributions to participants. These transactions are party in interest transactions under ERISA.

As described in Note 2, the Plan paid certain expenses related to plan operations and investment activity to various service providers. Additionally, certain administrative functions of the Plan are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. These transactions are party in interest transactions under ERISA.

### **7. Plan Termination**

In the event the Plan terminates, the net assets of the Plan will be allocated, as prescribed by ERISA and its related regulations, generally to provide the following benefits in the order indicated:

1. Annuity benefits that former employees or their beneficiaries have been receiving for at least three years, or that employees eligible to retire for that three-year period would have been receiving if they had retired with benefits in the normal form of annuity under the Plan. The priority amount is limited to the lowest benefit that was payable (or would have been payable) during those three years. The amount is further limited to the lowest benefit that would be payable under Plan provisions in effect at any time during the five years preceding Plan termination.
2. Other vested benefits insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) (a U.S. government agency) up to the applicable limitations.
3. All other vested benefits (that is, vested benefits not insured by the PBGC).
4. All nonvested benefits.

Certain benefits under the Plan are insured by the PBGC if the Plan terminates. Generally, the PBGC guarantees most vested normal age retirement benefits, early retirement benefits, and certain disability and survivor's pensions. However, the PBGC does not guarantee all benefits under the Plan, and the amount of benefit protection is subject to certain limitations. Vested benefits under the Plan are guaranteed at the level in effect on the date of the Plan's termination.

Whether all participants receive their benefits should the Plan terminate at some future time will depend on the sufficiency, at that time, of the Plan's net assets to provide for accumulated benefit obligations and may also depend on the financial condition of the plan sponsor and the level of benefits guaranteed by the PBGC.

# Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

## Notes to Financial Statements

As of November 30, 2024 and 2023

### **8. Tax Status**

The IRS has determined and informed the Company by a letter dated January 9, 2014, that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, the plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

### **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Plan contributions are made, and the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits are reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, inflation rates, and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

EIN: 03-0493527 Plan Number: 003

As of November 30, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
Money market fund:				
*	Schwab Bank	Sweep for EE Benefit Plans	\$ 208,291	\$ 208,291
			208,291	208,291
Mutual funds:				
*	Vanguard	Long Term Inv Grade Adm	4,993,841	3,744,047
*	Vanguard	Long Term Trsy Adm	3,932,580	2,430,836
*	Vanguard	Short Term Bd Index Fd Adm	476,641	482,446
*	Vanguard	Total Intl Stock Index Adm	2,019,918	2,636,179
*	Vanguard	Total Stk Mkt Index Fd Inst	2,249,344	4,566,583
			13,672,324	13,860,091
Total			\$13,880,615	\$14,068,382

\*Denotes a party-in-interest.

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Schedule H, Line 4j - Schedule of Reportable Transactions  
EIN: 03-0493527 Plan Number: 003  
For the Year Ended November 30, 2024

(a)	(b) Description of asset	Number of Transactions	(c) Purchase price	(d) Selling price	(g) Cost	(h) Current value	(i) Net gain/(loss)
<b>Series Transactions</b>							
*	Vanguard Short Term Bd Index Fd Adm	3	\$ 583,636	\$ -	\$ 583,636	\$ 583,636	\$ -
*	Vanguard Short Term Bd Index Fd Adm	3	-	117,341	115,290	117,341	2,051
<b>Total Series Transactions</b>		6	\$ 583,636	\$ 117,341	\$ 698,926	\$ 700,977	\$ 2,051

\*Denotes a party-in-interest

**Schedule SB, Line 26 – Schedule of  
Active Participant Data**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Plan Year: 2023  
EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

Age and Service Distribution

Age Near Year	Years of Credited Service										Total
	0	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40+	
<25											
25-29											
30-34											
35-39											
40-44							1				1
45-49							2				2
50-54					2	2					4
55-59					2	6					8
60-64					1	1				1	3
65-69					1	2					3
70+								1		2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>24</b>

## Statement of Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

**Minimum Funding Annual Interest Rates** 24-month segment rates averaged through the end of November 2023 and published in December 2023 (as prescribed by IRC 430) and adjusted to reflect ARPA:

- Segment 1 (0 to 5 years) 4.75%
- Segment 2 (5 to 20 years) 5.00%
- Segment 3 (more than 20 years) 5.74%
- Effective Interest Rate 5.25%

**Maximum Deductible Annual Interest Rates** 24-month segment rates averaged through the end of November 2023 and published in December 2023 (as prescribed by IRC 430) as follows:

- Segment 1 (0 to 5 years) 4.21%
- Segment 2 (5 to 20 years) 4.86%
- Segment 3 (more than 20 years) 4.87%
- Effective Interest Rate 4.82%

**Annual Expected Return on Assets** Interest Rate for developing Actuarial Value of Assets:  
limited to third segment rate 5.92%

**PBGC and LDRM Annual Interest Rates** 24-month segment rates averaged through the end of November 2023 and published in December 2023 using the Standard Method (as prescribed by IRC 430) as follows:

- Segment 1 (0 to 5 years) 5.50%
- Segment 2 (5 to 20 years) 5.76%
- Segment 3 (more than 20 years) 5.83%
- Effective Interest Rate 5.76%

**ASC 960 Discount Rate** 24-month segment rates averaged through the end of November 2023 and published in December 2023 as follows:

- Segment 1 (0 to 5 years) 4.75%
- Segment 2 (5 to 20 years) 5.00%
- Segment 3 (more than 20 years) 5.74%
- Effective Interest Rate 5.26%

Rationale: as selected by the Plan Sponsor to align with ASC 715 results

**Salary Scale** 5.5% per year

Rationale: as selected by the Plan Sponsor based on future salary expectations

**Schedule SB, Part V – Description of Actuarial Assumptions/Methods**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Plan Year: 2023  
EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

**Mortality** Funding: IRS 2023 Static Mortality Table with separate rates for males and females with mortality projection under SOA Scale MP-2021 (as prescribed by IRC 430)  
ASC 960-20: Pri-2012 with mortality improvements under SOA Scale MP-2021 (fully generational)

**Rates of Retirement** 100% at Normal Retirement Age  
Rationale: as selected by the Plan Sponsor  
Weighted Average Retirement Age is 65. This is the average retirement age for someone eligible to retire at all ages using the assumed retirement rates and no other decrements.

**Rates of Turnover** Sample rates and ages as follows:

Age	Rate
25	8.88%
30	6.89%
35	4.00%
40	1.65%
45	0.73%
50	0.29%
55	0.00%

Rationale: as selected by Plan Sponsor

**Rates of Disability** Sample rates and ages as follows:

Age	Rate
25	0.08%
30	0.08%
35	0.10%
40	0.12%
45	0.16%
50	0.24%
55	0.40%
60	0.84%

Rationale: as selected by Plan Sponsor

**Assumptions Made In Valuing Spouse's Benefit** 85% of male participants and 65% of female participants are assumed to be married with husbands three years older than wives

**Optional Form Selection** All employees are assumed to elect the normal form of benefit (Life Annuity if single, 50% Joint and Survivor if married)

**Schedule SB, Part V – Description of Actuarial Assumptions/Methods**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Plan Year: 2023  
EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

Provision for Expenses	\$10,000  The non-investment related expenses for the prior year rounded to the nearest \$1,000 were included in the Target Normal Cost for Minimum Required Contribution purposes.
Standing Elections	The client has not signed an election that provides for the automatic use of the Carryover Balance and/or Prefunding Balance if necessary to meet the minimum funding requirement.
Asset Method	Funding: Market Value of Assets plus interest adjusted accrued but unpaid contributions as of the valuation date  ASC 960-20: Market Value of Assets plus any contributions for prior plan years that will be made in this plan year
Funding Method	Pure Unit Credit  The actuarial liabilities shown in this report are determined using software purchased from an outside vendor which was developed for this purpose. Certain information is entered into this model in order to generate the liabilities. These inputs include economic and non-economic assumptions, plan provisions, and census information. We rely on the coding within the software to value the liabilities using the actuarial methods and assumptions selected. Both the input to and the output from the model is checked for accuracy and reviewed for reasonableness.
Employees Valued	Only participants as of the valuation date were valued.
Changes in Assumptions and Methods since the Last Actuarial Valuation	The interest rates used for determining the funding target were 4.75%, 5.00% and 5.74%. These rates were updated to the rates required for the current plan year.  The mortality table for the funding target was changed as required under PPA '06.
Justification for Changes in Actuarial Assumptions	The only assumption changes were to prescribed actuarial assumptions or as a result of At-Risk status. Therefore, the plan did not need IRS approval to change assumptions and there is no need to disclose any "Change in Actuarial Assumptions."

'Sch H line 4j - Schedule of Reportable Transactions - FivePrcntTrans' is included in the attachment 'Sch H line 3c or Sch I line 4k - Accountant Opinion / IQPA report'

**SCHEDULE SB  
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan  
Actuarial Information**

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6059 of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500 or 5500-SF.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

**2023**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 12/01/2023 and ending 11/30/2024

▶ **Round off amounts to nearest dollar.**

▶ **Caution:** A penalty of \$1,000 will be assessed for late filing of this report unless reasonable cause is established.

<b>A</b> Name of plan SOUTHERN STATES, LLC SALARIED EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 or 5500-SF  SOUTHERN STATES, LLC	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN)  03-0493527	
<b>E</b> Type of plan: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-A <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-B		
<b>F</b> Prior year plan size: <input type="checkbox"/> 100 or fewer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 101-500 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 500		

**Part I Basic Information**

<b>1</b> Enter the valuation date: Month <u>12</u> Day <u>01</u> Year <u>2023</u>			
<b>2</b> Assets:			
a Market value.....	<b>2a</b>		12,063,475
b Actuarial value.....	<b>2b</b>		12,063,475
<b>3</b> Funding target/participant count breakdown	(1) Number of participants	(2) Vested Funding Target	(3) Total Funding Target
a For retired participants and beneficiaries receiving payment.....	59	7,253,820	7,253,820
b For terminated vested participants.....	22	1,225,510	1,225,510
c For active participants.....	24	3,832,950	3,832,950
d Total.....	105	12,312,280	12,312,280
<b>4</b> If the plan is in at-risk status, check the box and complete lines (a) and (b)..... <input type="checkbox"/>			
a Funding target disregarding prescribed at-risk assumptions.....	<b>4a</b>		
b Funding target reflecting at-risk assumptions, but disregarding transition rule for plans that have been in at-risk status for fewer than five consecutive years and disregarding loading factor.....	<b>4b</b>		
<b>5</b> Effective interest rate.....	<b>5</b>	5.25%	
<b>6</b> Target normal cost			
a Present value of current plan year accruals.....	<b>6a</b>	179,274	
b Expected plan-related expenses.....	<b>6b</b>	10,000	
c Target normal cost.....	<b>6c</b>	189,274	

**Statement by Enrolled Actuary**

To the best of my knowledge, the information supplied in this schedule and accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, if any, is complete and accurate. Each prescribed assumption was applied in accordance with applicable law and regulations. In my opinion, each other assumption is reasonable (taking into account the experience of the plan and reasonable expectations) and such other assumptions, in combination, offer my best estimate of anticipated experience under the plan.

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">J. Sterling Price <i>JSP</i></p> <p>Signature of actuary</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">09-08-2025</p> <p>Date</p>
	<p>J. STERLING PRICE</p> <p>Type or print name of actuary</p>	<p>2306670</p> <p>Most recent enrollment number</p>
	<p>USI Consulting Group</p> <p>Firm name</p>	<p>629-895-7842</p> <p>Telephone number (including area code)</p>
	<p>5301 VIRGINIA WAY SUITE 400 BRENTWOOD TN 37027</p> <p>Address of the firm</p>	

If the actuary has not fully reflected any regulation or ruling promulgated under the statute in completing this schedule, check the box and see instructions



**Part V Assumptions Used to Determine Funding Target and Target Normal Cost**

**21** Discount rate:

**a** Segment rates:

1st segment: 4.75 %	2nd segment: 5.00 %	3rd segment: 5.74 %	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A, full yield curve used
------------------------	------------------------	------------------------	---

**b** Applicable month (enter code)..... **21b** 0

**22** Weighted average retirement age ..... **22** 65

**23** Mortality table(s) (see instructions)  Prescribed - combined  Prescribed - separate  Substitute

**Part VI Miscellaneous Items**

**24** Has a change been made in the non-prescribed actuarial assumptions for the current plan year? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment .....  Yes  No

**25** Has a method change been made for the current plan year? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment .....  Yes  No

**26** Demographic and benefit information

**a** Is the plan required to provide a Schedule of Active Participants? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment. ....  Yes  No

**b** Is the plan required to provide a projection of expected benefit payments? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment ...  Yes  No

**27** If the plan is subject to alternative funding rules, enter applicable code and see instructions regarding attachment ..... **27**

**Part VII Reconciliation of Unpaid Minimum Required Contributions For Prior Years**

**28** Unpaid minimum required contributions for all prior years..... **28** 0

**29** Discounted employer contributions allocated toward unpaid minimum required contributions from prior years (line 19a) ..... **29** 0

**30** Remaining amount of unpaid minimum required contributions (line 28 minus line 29) ..... **30** 0

**Part VIII Minimum Required Contribution For Current Year**

**31** Target normal cost and excess assets (see instructions):

**a** Target normal cost (line 6c)..... **31a** 189,274

**b** Excess assets, if applicable, but not greater than line 31a ..... **31b** 0

**32** Amortization installments:

	Outstanding Balance	Installment
<b>a</b> Net shortfall amortization installment .....	1,739,102	165,729
<b>b</b> Waiver amortization installment.....	0	0

**33** If a waiver has been approved for this plan year, enter the date of the ruling letter granting the approval (Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_) and the waived amount ..... **33**

**34** Total funding requirement before reflecting carryover/prefunding balances (lines 31a - 31b + 32a + 32b - 33).... **34** 355,003

	Carryover balance	Prefunding balance	Total balance
<b>35</b> Balances elected for use to offset funding requirement.....	0	0	0
<b>36</b> Additional cash requirement (line 34 minus line 35).....			<b>36</b> 355,003
<b>37</b> Contributions allocated toward minimum required contribution for current year adjusted to valuation date (line 19c).....			<b>37</b> 718,789
<b>38</b> Present value of excess contributions for current year (see instructions)			
<b>a</b> Total (excess, if any, of line 37 over line 36)			<b>38a</b> 363,786
<b>b</b> Portion included in line 38a attributable to use of prefunding and funding standard carryover balances .....			<b>38b</b> 0
<b>39</b> Unpaid minimum required contribution for current year (excess, if any, of line 36 over line 37).....			<b>39</b> 0
<b>40</b> Unpaid minimum required contributions for all years.....			<b>40</b> 0

**Part IX Pension Funding Relief Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (See Instructions)**

**41** If an election was made to use the extended amortization rule for a plan year beginning on or before December 31, 2021, check the box to indicate the first plan year for which the rule applies.  2019  2020  2021

**Schedule SB, Line 22 – Description of  
Weighted Average Retirement Age**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Plan Year: 2023  
EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

100 % of participants are assumed to retire at age 65.

**Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan**  
**EIN: 03-0493527 Plan: 003**  
**2023 Form 5500 Schedule SB, Line 19 - Discounted Employer Contributions**

<u>Contribution Date</u>	<u>(if late) Due Date</u>	<u>For Plan Year</u>	<u>Total Contribution</u>	<u>Effective Interest Rate</u>	<u>Late Interest Rate</u>	<u>Discounted Contribution</u>
5/24/2024	3/15/2024	2023	59,499	5.25%	10.25%	57,548
6/5/2024	3/15/2024	2023	20,377	5.25%	10.25%	19,646
6/5/2024		2023	37,913	5.25%	N/A	36,935
6/6/2024		2023	92,106	5.25%	N/A	89,717
6/10/2024		2023	58,290	5.25%	N/A	56,746
6/20/2024		2023	92,106	5.25%	N/A	89,541
7/3/2024		2023	55,107	5.25%	N/A	53,475
8/15/2024		2023	57,907	5.25%	N/A	55,856
9/9/2024		2023	154,274	5.25%	N/A	148,289
10/17/2024		2023	116,132	5.25%	N/A	111,036
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 743,711</b>			<b>\$ 718,789</b>

## Summary of Principal Plan Provisions

<b>Plan Sponsor</b>	Southern States, LLC
<b>EIN/PN</b>	03-0493527/003
<b>Effective Date</b>	December 1, 1954; restated effective December 1, 2007 and amended effective April 1, 2010
<b>Plan Year</b>	The 12-month period beginning each December 1
<b>Participation</b>	No new participants may enter the plan effective December 31, 2005
<b>Normal Retirement Age / Date</b>	Age 65 The first day of the calendar month coincident with or next following Normal Retirement Age
<b>Compensation</b>	Wages as reported on Form W-2; compensation actually paid to or for the benefit of an employee during the plan year, inclusive of overtime pay and bonuses as well as compensation not included in income such as for a 125 or 401(k) plan
<b>Vesting Service</b>	Years and completed months of employment, including the eligibility period
<b>Credited Service (CS)</b>	Years and completed months of participation, including the eligibility period
<b>Adjusted Career Average Pay (ACAP)</b>	ACAP = [(1) + (2)] / (3): (1) Credited Service as of January 1, 1988 multiplied by the highest average annualized compensation for any five consecutive calendar years prior to January 1, 1988 (2) For each year 1988 and beyond, the maximum of the compensation for the year or (1) (3) Credited Service
<b>Social Security Primary Insurance Amount (PIA)</b>	The estimated annual amount at Normal Retirement Age under Title II of the Social Security Act

**Schedule SB, Part V – Summary of  
Plan Provisions**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Plan Year: 2023  
EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

**Accrued Benefit** Max of (1) or (2):  
(1) If entry before 3/2/1983:  $(1.5\% * ACAP * CS) - (50\% * PIA * \min(30, CS) / 30)$   
If entry after 3/1/1983:  $[(45\% * ACAP) - (50\% * PIA)] * \min(30, CS) / 30$   
(2)  $\$204 * \min(30, CS)$

**Normal Retirement Benefit** Eligibility:  
Normal Retirement Age

Monthly Benefit:

The Accrued Benefit

**Early Retirement Benefit** Eligibility:  
Age 55 and 10 years of Vesting Service or age 62

Monthly Benefit:

The Accrued Benefit at early retirement reduced by 4.8% for each year by which the commencement precedes his Normal Retirement Date

**Termination Benefit** Eligibility:  
Upon termination of employment prior to retirement after completion of at least five years of Vesting Service

Monthly Benefit:

The vested benefit commences in full at Normal Retirement Date, or in a reduced amount under the early retirement provisions

**Disability Benefit** Eligibility:  
Termination due to permanent and total disability with at least five years of Vesting Service

Monthly Benefit:

The Accrued Benefit with additional Credited Service during the period of disability if the participant received disability benefits from the Social Security Administration

**Schedule SB, Part V – Summary of Plan Provisions**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan  
Plan Year: 2023  
EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

<b>Delayed Benefit</b>	<p><u>Eligibility:</u></p> <p>Termination of employment past Normal Retirement Date</p> <p><u>Monthly Benefit:</u></p> <p>The greater of (1) or (2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) The Accrued Benefit at Normal Retirement Age increased by 7.5% per year until the Delayed Retirement Date</li><li>(2) The Accrued Benefit at the Delayed Retirement Date</li></ul>
<b>Death Benefit</b>	<p><u>Eligibility:</u></p> <p>100% vested and married for at least one year</p> <p><u>Monthly Benefit:</u></p> <p>A monthly benefit for life commencing at the time the participant would have been eligible for retirement. The benefit is equal to 50% of the benefit vested on the date of death, adjusted as appropriate for early commencement and the 50% Joint and Survivor Annuity form of payment</p>
<b>Forms of Payment</b>	<p>Life Annuity</p> <p>Life Annuity with 60 or 120 guaranteed payments</p> <p>Joint and Survivor Annuity with survivor percentage of 50%, 75%, or 100%</p> <p>Lump Sum (if the monthly benefit is \$100 or less and limited to \$10,000)</p>
<b>Maximum Benefit Limit</b>	<p>The Internal Revenue Code Section 415 Maximum Benefit payable as a life annuity at Social Security Normal Retirement Age</p>
<b>Plan Compensation Limit</b>	<p>The Section 401(a)(17) Maximum Compensation that can be recognized for benefit calculation purposes</p>
<b>Changes in Plan Provisions</b>	<p>The automatic changes, if any, in the plan compensation limit and maximum benefit limit were recognized as amendments for funding purposes</p>

'Sch H line 4i - Schedule of Assets Held at End of Year' is included in the attachment 'Sch H line 3c or Sch I line 4k - Accountant Opinion / IQPA report'

**Schedule SB, Line 32(a) – Schedule of Amortization Bases**

Southern States, LLC Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan

Plan Year: 2023

EIN/PN: 03-0493527/003

Type of Base	Present Value of Installments	Date Established	Years Remaining	Amortization Installment
Shortfall	\$ 284,365	12/1/2023	15	\$ 26,042
Shortfall	\$ 1,454,737	12/1/2022	14	\$ 139,687
Total	\$ 1,739,102			\$ 165,729