

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: a multiemployer plan, a multiple-employer plan, a single-employer plan, a DFE (specify) M, B This return/report is: the first return/report, the final return/report, an amended return/report, a short plan year return/report, 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, E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: NORTHWESTERN ENERGY MASTER RETIREMENT TRUST
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 104
1c Effective date of plan
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 46-0172280
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 605-978-2826
2d Business code (see instructions)

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.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes entries for employer/plan sponsor and DFE.

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

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor  EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE CHRISTOPHER FORBECK 3010 WEST 69TH STREET SIOUX FALLS, SD 57108	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN 46-0172280																				
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number 605-978-2826																				
<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>																				
<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.....	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width:100px;"><b>6a(1)</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6a(2)</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6b</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6c</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6d</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6e</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6f</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6g(1)</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6g(2)</b></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td><b>6h</b></td><td></td></tr> </table>	<b>6a(1)</b>		<b>6a(2)</b>		<b>6b</b>		<b>6c</b>		<b>6d</b>		<b>6e</b>		<b>6f</b>		<b>6g(1)</b>		<b>6g(2)</b>		<b>6h</b>	
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<b>6f</b>																					
<b>6g(1)</b>																					
<b>6g(2)</b>																					
<b>6h</b>																					
<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:

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

<b>a Pension Schedules</b> (1) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____ (5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	<b>b General Schedules</b> (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____ (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information) (5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (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 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 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>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY MASTER RETIREMENT TRUST</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>104</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>46-0172280</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

**NORTHERN TRUST CORPORATION** **50 SOUTH LASALLE STREET**  
**CHICAGO, IL 60603**

**36-2723087**

**(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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**(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)

MERCER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

30-0282430

(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?
51 52	FIDUCIARY	673906	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	381611	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

THE NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY

36-1561860

(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	99162	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	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:	<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>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>SCHEDULE D</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service  Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	<b>DFE/Participating Plan 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>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2024</u> and ending <u>12/31/2024</u>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY MASTER RETIREMENT TRUST</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) <u>▶</u> <u>104</u>
<b>C</b> Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>46-0172280</u>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)</b> (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>NT GLOBAL INVESTMENTS COLLECTIVE FU</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>THE NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>45-6138589-084</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>500033</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>SSGA INTERMEDIATE US GOV'T BOND IND</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>90-0337987-209</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>13683712</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER LONG STRIPS FIXED INCOME FUN</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>80-6243236-019</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>38120063</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER NON-US CORE EQUITY FUND</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>03-0566617-009</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>32755050</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER OPPORTUNISTIC FIXED INCOME F</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>36-7630030-020</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>39727340</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER ACTIVE INTERMEDIATE CREDIT</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>85-2621954-048</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>23339813</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER PASSIVE LONG GOVERNMENT FIXE</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>51-0560117-010</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>26596767</u>

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: [MERCER US LG CAP CORE PASSIVE EQTY](#)

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): [MERCER TRUST COMPANY](#)

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <a href="#">03-0566613-005</a>	<b>d</b> Entity code <a href="#">C</a>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <a href="#">72669945</a>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: [MERCER GLOBAL LOW VOLATILITY EQUITY](#)

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): [MERCER TRUST COMPANY](#)

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <a href="#">35-7004395-018</a>	<b>d</b> Entity code <a href="#">C</a>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <a href="#">5621811</a>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: [MERCER US CORE REAL ESTATE FUND](#)

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): [MERCER TRUST COMPANY](#)

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <a href="#">87-1321612-022</a>	<b>d</b> Entity code <a href="#">C</a>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <a href="#">21187788</a>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: [MERCER US SMALL/MID CAP EQUITY FUND](#)

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): [MERCER TRUST COMPANY](#)

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <a href="#">03-0566611-003</a>	<b>d</b> Entity code <a href="#">C</a>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <a href="#">11950584</a>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: [MERCER ACTIVE LONG CORPORATE FIXED](#)

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): [MERCER TRUST COMPANY](#)

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <a href="#">45-6178743-004</a>	<b>d</b> Entity code <a href="#">C</a>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <a href="#">94847851</a>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: [MERCER EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY FUND](#)

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): [MERCER TRUST COMPANY](#)

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <a href="#">32-6219484-017</a>	<b>d</b> Entity code <a href="#">C</a>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <a href="#">14324033</a>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)**  
(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

<b>a</b> Plan name	NORTHWESTERN ENERGY MT PENSION PLAN	
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor	NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION	<b>c</b> EIN-PN 46-0172280-101

<b>a</b> Plan name	NORTHWESTERN ENERGY FLEXIBLE COMP P	
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor	NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION	<b>c</b> EIN-PN 46-0172280-530

<b>a</b> Plan name	NORTHWESTERN ENERGY SD/NE PENSION PLAN	
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor	NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION	<b>c</b> EIN-PN 46-0172280-001

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<b>a</b> Plan name		
<b>b</b> Name of plan sponsor		<b>c</b> EIN-PN

<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>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>01/01/2024</b> and ending <b>12/31/2024</b>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>NORTHWESTERN ENERGY MASTER RETIREMENT TRUST</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>104</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>46-0172280</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>Assets</b>			
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>	5158	1568
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<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>	402665808	395324790
<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>		
<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>		

<b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	<b>1d(1)</b>		
(2) Employer real property.....	<b>1d(2)</b>		
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	<b>1e</b>		
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	<b>1f</b>	402670966	395326358
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable.....	<b>1g</b>		
<b>h</b> Operating payables.....	<b>1h</b>		
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness.....	<b>1i</b>		
<b>j</b> Other liabilities.....	<b>1j</b>	170576	169948
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	<b>1k</b>	170576	169948
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	<b>1l</b>	402500390	395156410

**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: <b>(A)</b> Employers.....	<b>2a(1)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Participants.....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers).....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	<b>2a(2)</b>		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> .....	<b>2a(3)</b>		0
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
<b>(1) Interest:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	<b>2b(1)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments.....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants).....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>		
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans.....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>		
<b>(F)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>		
<b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		0
<b>(2) Dividends:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred stock.....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common stock.....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		0
(3) Rents.....	<b>2b(3)</b>		
<b>(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds.....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>	131	
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result.....	<b>2b(4)(C)</b>		
<b>(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Real estate.....	<b>2b(5)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....	<b>2b(5)(C)</b>		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		11039399
(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>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2d</b>		11039530

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	<b>2e(1)</b>		
(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>		0
<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>	673906	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>	99162	
(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>		773068
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		773068

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		10266462
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	<b>2l(1)</b>		9322500
(2) From this plan .....	<b>2l(2)</b>		26932942

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name:

(2) EIN:

**d** The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** 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.)			
<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?			
<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?			
<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?			
<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?			
<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?			
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?			
<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 \_\_\_\_\_.

# NorthWestern Energy Master Retirement Trust

Employer ID: 20-8276648 Plan No. 104

## Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets Held at 12/31/24

Identity of Party Involved	Description of Asset	Cost	Current Value
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
Other Receivables		\$ 1,568	\$ 1,568
Investment Settlement Receivable		-	-
Investment Settlement Payable		-	-
		<b>\$ 1,568</b>	<b>\$ 1,568</b>
 <b>Total Cash Held for Investment Purposes</b>			
		<b>\$ 1,568</b>	<b>\$ 1,568</b>
 <b>Common/Collective Trust Funds:</b>			
* Collective Short-Term Investment Fund of The Northern Trust Company	500,032.820 shrs. at \$1.00/share	500,033	500,033
* Mercer Active Intermediate Credit Fixed Income Portfolio CT	2,261,609.820 shrs. at \$10.32/share	22,343,440	23,339,813
* Mercer Active Long Corporate Fixed Income Portfolio CT	5,410,601.90 shrs. at \$17.53/share	85,194,663	94,847,851
* Mercer Emerging Markets Equity Portfolio CT	1,185,764.340 shrs. at \$12.08/share	14,709,839	14,324,033
* Mercer Global Low Volatility Equity Portfolio CT	183,659.290 shrs. at \$30.61/share	3,340,381	5,621,811
* Mercer Long STRIPS Fixed Income Portfolio CT	3,905,744.190 shrs. at \$9.76/share	50,391,689	38,120,063
* Mercer Opportunistic Fixed Income Portfolio CT	3,251,009.830 shrs. at \$12.22/share	37,374,707	39,727,340
* Mercer Passive Long Government Fixed Income Portfolio CT	1,437,663.070 shrs. at \$18.50/share	30,973,185	26,596,767
* Mercer Non-U.S. Core Equity Portfolio CT	1,206,447.510 shrs. at \$27.15/share	21,603,755	32,755,050
* Mercer U.S. Core Real Estate Fixed Income Portfolio CT	22,377.820 shrs. at \$946.8209/share	25,000,000	21,187,788
* Mercer U.S. Large Cap Core Passive Equity Portfolio CT	1,039,776.000 shrs. at \$69.89/share	45,643,289	72,669,945
* Mercer U.S. Small/Mid Cap Equity Portfolio CT	244,188.470 shrs. at \$48.94/share	6,252,772	11,950,584
* SSGA Intermediate US Gov't Bond Index NL SF Class A CMEW1 Fund CT	1,051,137.790 shrs. at \$13.018/share	13,570,400	13,683,712
		<b>\$ 356,898,153</b>	<b>395,324,790</b>
 <b>Total Common/Collective Trust Funds</b>			
		<b>\$ 356,898,153</b>	<b>395,324,790</b>
 <b>Total Schedule of Assets Held for Investment (at End of Year)</b>			
		<b>356,899,721</b>	<b>395,326,358</b>

\* - Party-in-interest

# NorthWestern Energy Master Retirement Trust

Employer ID: 20-8276648 Plan No. 104

## Schedule H, Line 4j - Schedule of Reportable Transactions - 2024

Identity of Party Involved	Description of Asset	Purchase Price	Selling Price	Lease Rental	Expense Incurred With Transaction	Cost of Asset	Current Value of Asset on Transaction Date	Net Gain or (Loss)
<b><u>SERIES OF TRANSACTIONS BY ISSUE IN EXCESS OF 5%:</u></b>								
* Mercer US Large Cap Core Passive Equity CTF CUSIP 635999030	7 acquisition transactions	\$22,536,685				\$22,536,685	\$22,536,685	\$0
* Mercer US Large Cap Core Passive Equity CTF CUSIP 635999030	15 disposition transactions		\$10,638,478			\$6,769,162	\$10,638,478	\$3,869,316
* NT Short Term Investment Fund CTF Cusip 66586U452	54 acquisition transactions	\$29,110,936				\$29,110,936	\$29,110,936	\$0
* NT Short Term Investment Fund CTF Cusip 66586U452	61 disposition transactions		\$29,429,423			\$29,429,423	\$29,429,423	\$0

\* - Party-in-interest

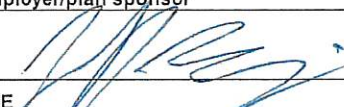
<b>Form 5500</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b>  This form is required to be filed 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).  <b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b>	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089  <div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">2024</div>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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<b>Part I Annual Report Identification Information</b>				
For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning		01/01/2024	and ending	12/31/2024
<b>A</b> This return/report is for:	<input type="checkbox"/> a multiemployer plan	<input type="checkbox"/> a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> a single-employer plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a DFE (specify) <u>M</u>		
<b>B</b> This return/report is:	<input type="checkbox"/> the first return/report	<input type="checkbox"/> the final return/report		
	<input type="checkbox"/> an amended return/report	<input type="checkbox"/> a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)		
<b>C</b> If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>D</b> Check box if filing under:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 5558	<input type="checkbox"/> automatic extension	<input type="checkbox"/> the DFVC program	
	<input type="checkbox"/> special extension (enter description)			
<b>E</b> If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ....	<input type="checkbox"/>			

<b>Part II Basic Plan Information</b> —enter all requested information			
<b>1a</b> Name of plan NorthWestern Energy Master Retirement Trust	<b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	104	
	<b>1c</b> Effective date of plan		
<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) NorthWestern Corporation  NorthWestern Energy  11 East Park Street  Butte MT 59701-1711	<b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 46-0172280	<b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number (605) 978-2826	<b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions)

**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>			
	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>		9/30/25	Jeff Berzina
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

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

Form 5500 (2024)  
v. 240311

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor Employee Benefits Administration Committee Christopher Forbeck 3010 West 69th Street  Sioux Falls SD 57108	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN 46-0172280 <b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number (605) 978-2826
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<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
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<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1), 6a(2), 6b, 6c, and 6d).		
<b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year .....	<b>6a(1)</b>	
<b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year .....	<b>6a(2)</b>	
<b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits .....	<b>6c</b>	
<b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2), 6b, and 6c. ....	<b>6d</b>	
<b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. ....	<b>6e</b>	
<b>f</b> Total. Add lines 6d and 6e. ....	<b>6f</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>6g(1)</b>	
<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>6g(2)</b>	
<b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested .....	<b>6h</b>	

<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	<b>7</b>	
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**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

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

<b>a Pension Schedules</b> (1) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) - Number Attached _____ (5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	<b>b General Schedules</b> (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information - Small Plan) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) - Number Attached _____ (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information) (5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)
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**Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)**

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

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

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

**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 \_\_\_\_\_