

Form 5500-SF

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Short Form Annual Return/Report of Small Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed 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-SF.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/03/2024

- A This return/report is for: [X] a single-employer plan [] a multiple-employer plan (not multiemployer) (Pension Plan filers checking this box must attach Schedule MEP. Other plans must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
B This return/report is [] the first return/report [X] the final return/report [] an amended return/report [X] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C Check box if filing under: [X] Form 5558 [] automatic extension [] DFVC program [] special extension (enter description)
D If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here []
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 CARBON PARTNERS DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN & TRUST
1b Three-digit plan number (PN) 002
1c Effective date of plan 01/01/2017
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) CARBON PARTNERS, LLC
548 MARKET ST. PMB 16116 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104-5401
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 35-2559755
2c Sponsor's telephone number 415-341-5656
2d Business code (see instructions) 541600
3a Plan administrator's name and address [X] Same as Plan Sponsor.
3b Administrator's EIN
3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report.
a Sponsor's name
c Plan Name
4b EIN
4d PN
5a Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year 2
b Total number of participants at the end of the plan year 0
c(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)
c(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)
d(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year 0
d(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year 0
e Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested 0

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, if applicable, a Schedule SB or Schedule MB completed and signed by an enrolled actuary, 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. Row 1: Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature, 10/10/2025, KEVIN BUCKBY. Row 2: Signature of employer/plan sponsor, Date, Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor.

- 6a** Were all of the plan's assets during the plan year invested in eligible assets? (See instructions.) Yes No
- b** Are you claiming a waiver of the annual examination and report of an independent qualified public accountant (IQPA) under 29 CFR 2520.104-46? (See instructions on waiver eligibility and conditions.) Yes No
- If you answered "No" to either line 6a or line 6b, the plan cannot use Form 5500-SF and must instead use Form 5500.**
- c** If the plan is a defined benefit plan, is it covered under the PBGC insurance program (see ERISA section 4021)? Yes No Not determined
- If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year: 548112. (See instructions.)

Part III Financial Information			
7 Plan Assets and Liabilities		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total plan assets	7a	1099274	0
b Total plan liabilities	7b	0	0
c Net plan assets (subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	1099274	0
8 Income, Expenses, and Transfers for this Plan Year		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions received or receivable from:			
(1) Employers	8a(1)	0	
(2) Participants	8a(2)	0	
(3) Others (including rollovers)	8a(3)	0	
b Other income (loss)	8b	167462	
c Total income (add lines 8a(1), 8a(2), 8a(3), and 8b)	8c		167462
d Benefits paid (including direct rollovers and insurance premiums to provide benefits)	8d	1262568	
e Certain deemed and/or corrective distributions (see instructions) .	8e	0	
f Administrative service providers (salaries, fees, commissions)	8f	4168	
g Other expenses	8g	0	
h Total expenses (add lines 8d, 8e, 8f, and 8g)	8h		1266736
i Net income (loss) (subtract line 8h from line 8c)	8i		-1099274
j Transfers to (from) the plan (see instructions)	8j	0	

Part IV Plan Characteristics	
9a	If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions: <u>1C 1I 3B</u>
b	If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

Part V Compliance Questions				
10 During the plan year:		Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program)	10a		X	
b Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 10a.)	10b		X	
c Was the plan covered by a fidelity bond?	10c		X	
d Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	10d		X	
e Were any fees or commissions paid to any brokers, agents, or other persons by an insurance carrier, insurance service, or other organization that provides some or all of the benefits under the plan? (See instructions.)	10e		X	
f Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	10f		X	
g Did the plan have any participant loans? (If "Yes," enter amount as of year-end.)	10g		X	
h If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	10h		X	
i If 10h was answered "Yes," check the box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3	10i			

Part VI Pension Funding Compliance

11 Is this a defined benefit plan subject to minimum funding requirements? (If "Yes," see instructions and complete Schedule SB (Form 5500) and lines 11a and b below.) If this is a defined contribution pension plan, leave line 11 blank and complete line 12 below. Yes No

a Enter the unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 **11a** 49364

b PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If the plan is covered by PBGC and the amount reported on line 11a is greater than \$0, 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 _____

THIS PLAN HAS COMPLETED PBGC STANDARD TERMINATION, ALL BENEFIT LIABILITIES HAVE BEEN MET.

12 Is this a defined contribution plan subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Code or section 302 of ERISA? Yes No
(If "Yes," complete line 12a or lines 12b, 12c, 12d, and 12e below, as applicable.) If this is a defined benefit pension plan, leave line 12 blank and complete line 11 above.

a 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 letter ruling granting the waiver. Month Day Year

If you completed line 12a, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB (Form 5500), and skip to line 13.

b Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year **12b**

c Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year **12c**

d Subtract the amount in line 12c from the amount in line 12b. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) **12d**

e Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 12d be met by the funding deadline?..... Yes No N/A

Part VII Plan Terminations and Transfers of Assets

13a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted in any plan year? Yes No

a If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year..... **13a** 0

b Were all the plan assets distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC? Yes No

c 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.)

13c(1) Name of plan(s):	13c(2) EIN(s)	13c(3) PN(s)

Part VIII IRS Compliance Questions

14a 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

14b 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

15 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 07 / 30 / 2021 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number J504593A.

SCHEDULE SB (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/03/2024

▶ **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.

A Name of plan <u>CARBON PARTNERS DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN & TRUST</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>002</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 or 5500-SF <u>CARBON PARTNERS, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>35-2559755</u>	
E Type of plan: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-A <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-B	F Prior year plan size: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100 or fewer <input type="checkbox"/> 101-500 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 500	

Part I Basic Information			
1 Enter the valuation date:	Month <u>01</u>	Day <u>01</u>	Year <u>2024</u>
2 Assets:			
a Market value	2a	<u>1099274</u>	
b Actuarial value	2b	<u>1099274</u>	
3 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	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
b For terminated vested participants	<u>2</u>	<u>1145247</u>	<u>1145247</u>
c For active participants	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
d Total	<u>2</u>	<u>1145247</u>	<u>1145247</u>
4 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	4a		
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	4b		
5 Effective interest rate	5	<u>4.75 %</u>	
6 Target normal cost			
a Present value of current plan year accruals	6a	<u>0</u>	
b Expected plan-related expenses	6b	<u>0</u>	
c Target normal cost	6c	<u>0</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.

SIGN HERE	
Signature of actuary	<u>09/04/2025</u> Date
<u>WEN J. HONG, EA, MAAA</u> Type or print name of actuary	<u>23-08779</u> Most recent enrollment number
<u>OCTOBER THREE CONSULTING LLC</u> Firm name	<u>312-766-8331</u> Telephone number (including area code)
<u>233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 8350 CHICAGO, IL 60606</u> 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

Part II Beginning of Year Carryover and Prefunding Balances		(a) Carryover balance	(b) Prefunding balance
7	Balance at beginning of prior year after applicable adjustments (line 13 from prior year)	0	0
8	Portion elected for use to offset prior year's funding requirement (line 35 from prior year)	0	0
9	Amount remaining (line 7 minus line 8)	0	0
10	Interest on line 9 using prior year's actual return of <u>16.71</u> %	0	0
11	Prior year's excess contributions to be added to prefunding balance:		
a	Present value of excess contributions (line 38a from prior year)		0
b(1)	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>5.01</u> %		0
b(2)	Interest on line 38b from prior year Schedule SB, using prior year's actual return		0
c	Total available at beginning of current plan year to add to prefunding balance		0
d	Portion of (c) to be added to prefunding balance		0
12	Other reductions in balances due to elections or deemed elections	0	0
13	Balance at beginning of current year (line 9 + line 10 + line 11d – line 12)	0	0

Part III Funding Percentages			
14	Funding target attainment percentage	14	95.98 %
15	Adjusted funding target attainment percentage	15	95.98 %
16	Prior year's funding percentage for purposes of determining whether carryover/prefunding balances may be used to reduce current year's funding requirement	16	116.09 %
17	If the current value of the assets of the plan is less than 70 percent of the funding target, enter such percentage	17	%

Part IV Contributions and Liquidity Shortfalls					
18 Contributions made to the plan for the plan year by employer(s) and employees:					
(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
Totals ▶			18(b)	0	18(c)
					0

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

Part V Assumptions Used to Determine Funding Target and Target Normal Cost				
21 Discount rate:				
a Segment rates:	1st segment: 4.75 %	2nd segment: 4.96 %	3rd segment: 5.59 %	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A, full yield curve used
b Applicable month (enter code)				21b 0
22 Weighted average retirement age				22 62
23 Mortality table(s) (see instructions)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prescribed - combined	<input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed - separate	<input type="checkbox"/> 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..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
25 Has a method change been made for the current plan year? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
b Is the plan required to provide a projection of expected benefit payments? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment ... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 45162
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 45162

Part VIII Minimum Required Contribution For Current Year				
31 Target normal cost and excess assets (see instructions):				
a Target normal cost (line 6c)				31a 0
b Excess assets, if applicable, but not greater than line 31a				31b 0
32 Amortization installments:	Outstanding Balance		Installment	
a Net shortfall amortization installment	45973		4202	
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 4202
	Carryover balance	Prefunding balance	Total balance	
35 Balances elected for use to offset funding requirement	0	0	0	
36 Additional cash requirement (line 34 minus line 35)				36 4202
37 Contributions allocated toward minimum required contribution for current year adjusted to valuation date (line 19c)				37 0
38 Present value of excess contributions for current year (see instructions)				
a Total (excess, if any, of line 37 over line 36)				38a 0
b Portion included in line 38a attributable to use of prefunding and funding standard carryover balances				38b 0
39 Unpaid minimum required contribution for current year (excess, if any, of line 36 over line 37)				39 4202
40 Unpaid minimum required contributions for all years				40 49364

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. <input type="checkbox"/> 2019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> 2021				

Carbon Partners Defined Benefit Plan & Trust

Summary of Actuarial Assumptions and Method

Plan Year: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

Valuation Date: 1/1/2024

	For Funding		For 417(e)	For Actuarial Equiv.
	Min	Max		
Interest Rates	Seg 1: 4.75%	4.37%	Seg 1: 5.50%	Pre-Retirement: 5.00%
	Seg 2: 4.96%	4.96%	Seg 2: 5.76%	Post-Retirement: 5.00%
	Seg 3: 5.59%	4.95%	Seg 3: 5.83%	
Applicable Date	01/2024	01/2024	11/2023	
Pre-Retirement				
Turnover	None		None	None
Mortality	None		None	None
Assumed Ret Age	Normal retirement age 62 and 5 years of participation		Normal retirement age 62 and 5 years of participation	Normal retirement age 62 and 5 years of participation
Future Salary Incr	0% Salary Scale		None	None
Post-Retirement				
Mortality	Male-2024 Small Plan Static Table – Combined Male Female-2024 Small Plan Static Table – Combined Female		2024 Applicable Mortality Table from Notice 2023-73	2024 Applicable Mortality Table from Notice 2023-73
Assumed Benefit Form For Funding			100% Lump Sum / 0% Normal Form	
Assumed Spouse's Age	Spouse assumed to be the same age as participant		Spouse assumed to be the same age as participant	
	Participant is assumed to be married to current spouse at retirement if spouse's date of birth is known		Participant is assumed to be married to current spouse at retirement if spouse's date of birth is known	
Calculated Effective Interest Rate			4.75%	
Cash Balance Projected Interest Crediting Rate			5.00% annual rate	
Cash Balance Post-Retirement Conversion Assumptions			5.00% interest 2024 Applicable Mortality Table from Notice 2023-73	
Actuarial Cost Method			The Unit Credit funding method was used as prescribed by the Pension Protection Act. This method sets the funding target equal to the present value of accrued benefits, and sets the normal cost equal to the present value of the benefit accrued in the current year.	

Carbon Partners Defined Benefit Plan & Trust

Summary of Actuarial Assumptions and Method

Plan Year: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

Valuation Date: 1/1/2024

Maximum Deduction Limit

Loading factor for plans eligible to use the special rule under IRC 404(o)(2)(B):

Percent Load: 4.00%

\$ per Partic Load \$700.00

An actuarial value of assets is used for funding purposes. This year the actuarial value of assets is 100.0% of the market value of assets.

Form 5500-SF

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Short Form Annual Return/Report of Small Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed 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-SF.**

OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/03/2024

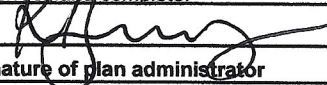
- A** This return/report is for: a single-employer plan a multiple-employer plan (not multiemployer) (Pension Plan filers checking this box must attach Schedule MEP. Other plans must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- B** This return/report is the first return/report the final return/report
 an amended return/report a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
- C** Check box if filing under: Form 5558 automatic extension DFVC program
 special extension (enter description)
- D** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here
- 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 CARBON PARTNERS DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN & TRUST	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>002</u>																				
	1c Effective date of plan 01/01/2017																				
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) CARBON PARTNERS, LLC 548 MARKET ST. PMB 16116 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94104-5401	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 35-2559755																				
	2c Sponsor's telephone number 415-341-5656																				
	2d Business code (see instructions) 541600																				
3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor.	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number																				
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report. a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN																				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>5a</td> <td>Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5b</td> <td>Total number of participants at the end of the plan year</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5c(1)</td> <td>Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5c(2)</td> <td>Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5d(1)</td> <td>Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5d(2)</td> <td>Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5e</td> <td>Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table>	5a	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	2	5b	Total number of participants at the end of the plan year	0	5c(1)	Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		5c(2)	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		5d(1)	Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year	0	5d(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	0	5e	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested
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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, if applicable, a Schedule SB or Schedule MB completed and signed by an enrolled actuary, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE		<u>10.10.2025</u>	Kevin Buckby
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor

- 6a** Were all of the plan's assets during the plan year invested in eligible assets? (See instructions.)..... Yes No
- b** Are you claiming a waiver of the annual examination and report of an independent qualified public accountant (IQPA) under 29 CFR 2520.104-46? (See instructions on waiver eligibility and conditions.)..... Yes No
- If you answered "No" to either line 6a or line 6b, the plan cannot use Form 5500-SF and must instead use Form 5500.**
- c** If the plan is a defined benefit plan, is it covered under the PBGC insurance program (see ERISA section 4021)? Yes No Not determined
- If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year 548112. (See instructions.)

Part III Financial Information

7 Plan Assets and Liabilities		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total plan assets	7a	1,099,274	0
b Total plan liabilities	7b	0	0
c Net plan assets (subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	1,099,274	0
8 Income, Expenses, and Transfers for this Plan Year		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions received or receivable from:			
(1) Employers	8a(1)	0	
(2) Participants	8a(2)	0	
(3) Others (including rollovers)	8a(3)	0	
b Other income (loss)	8b	167,462	
c Total income (add lines 8a(1), 8a(2), 8a(3), and 8b)	8c		167,462
d Benefits paid (including direct rollovers and insurance premiums to provide benefits)	8d	1,262,568	
e Certain deemed and/or corrective distributions (see instructions) .	8e	0	
f Administrative service providers (salaries, fees, commissions)	8f	4,168	
g Other expenses	8g	0	
h Total expenses (add lines 8d, 8e, 8f, and 8g)	8h		1,266,736
i Net income (loss) (subtract line 8h from line 8c)	8i		-1,099,274
j Transfers to (from) the plan (see instructions)	8j	0	

Part IV Plan Characteristics

- 9a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:
1C 1I 3B
- b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

Part V Compliance Questions

10 During the plan year:		Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program)	10a		X	
b Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 10a.)	10b		X	
c Was the plan covered by a fidelity bond?	10c		X	
d Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	10d		X	
e Were any fees or commissions paid to any brokers, agents, or other persons by an insurance carrier, insurance service, or other organization that provides some or all of the benefits under the plan? (See instructions.)	10e		X	
f Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	10f		X	
g Did the plan have any participant loans? (If "Yes," enter amount as of year-end.)	10g		X	
h If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	10h		X	
i If 10h was answered "Yes," check the box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3	10i			

Part VI Pension Funding Compliance

11 Is this a defined benefit plan subject to minimum funding requirements? (If "Yes," see instructions and complete Schedule SB (Form 5500) and lines 11a and b below.) If this is a defined contribution pension plan, leave line 11 blank and complete line 12 below. Yes No

a Enter the unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 **11a** 49,364

b PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If the plan is covered by PBGC and the amount reported on line 11a is greater than \$0, 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 This plan has completed PBGC Standard Termination, all benefit liabilities have been met.

12 Is this a defined contribution plan subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Code or section 302 of ERISA? Yes No
(If "Yes," complete line 12a or lines 12b, 12c, 12d, and 12e below, as applicable.) If this is a defined benefit pension plan, leave line 12 blank and complete line 11 above.

a 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 letter ruling granting the waiver. Month Day Year

If you completed line 12a, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB (Form 5500), and skip to line 13.

b Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year **12b**

c Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year **12c**

d Subtract the amount in line 12c from the amount in line 12b. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) **12d**

e Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 12d be met by the funding deadline? Yes No N/A

Part VII Plan Terminations and Transfers of Assets

13a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted in any plan year? Yes No

a If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year **13a** 0

b Were all the plan assets distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC? Yes No

c 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.)

13c(1) Name of plan(s):	13c(2) EIN(s)	13c(3) PN(s)

Part VIII IRS Compliance Questions

14a 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

14b 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

15 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 07/30/2021 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number J504593a.

**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

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/03/2024

▶ **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.


A Name of plan CARBON PARTNERS DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN & TRUST		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 or 5500-SF CARBON PARTNERS, LLC		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 35-2559755	
E Type of plan: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-A <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple-B		F Prior year plan size: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100 or fewer <input type="checkbox"/> 101-500 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 500	

Part I Basic Information

1 Enter the valuation date: Month <u>01</u> Day <u>01</u> Year <u>2024</u>			
2 Assets:			
a Market value	2a	1,099,274	
b Actuarial value	2b	1,099,274	
3 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	0	0	0
b For terminated vested participants	2	1,145,247	1,145,247
c For active participants	0	0	0
d Total	2	1,145,247	1,145,247
4 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	4a		
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	4b		
5 Effective interest rate	5	4.75%	
6 Target normal cost			
a Present value of current plan year accruals	6a	0	
b Expected plan-related expenses	6b	0	
c Target normal cost	6c	0	

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.

SIGN HERE		<u>09-04-2025</u>
	Signature of actuary	Date
<u>Wen J. Hong, EA, MAAA</u>		<u>2308779</u>
Type or print name of actuary		Most recent enrollment number
<u>October Three Consulting LLC</u>		<u>312-766-8331</u>
Firm name		Telephone number (including area code)
<u>233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 8350</u>		
<u>Chicago IL 60606</u>		
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

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

**Schedule SB (Form 5500) 2024
v. 240311**

Part II	Beginning of Year Carryover and Prefunding Balances	
	(a) Carryover balance	(b) Prefunding balance
7 Balance at beginning of prior year after applicable adjustments (line 13 from prior year)	0	0
8 Portion elected for use to offset prior year's funding requirement (line 35 from prior year)	0	0
9 Amount remaining (line 7 minus line 8)	0	0
10 Interest on line 9 using prior year's actual return of <u>16.71%</u>	0	0
11 Prior year's excess contributions to be added to prefunding balance:		
a Present value of excess contributions (line 38a from prior year)		0
b(1) 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>5.01%</u>		0
b(2) Interest on line 38b from prior year Schedule SB, using prior year's actual return		0
c Total available at beginning of current plan year to add to prefunding balance		0
d Portion of (c) to be added to prefunding balance		0
12 Other reductions in balances due to elections or deemed elections	0	0
13 Balance at beginning of current year (line 9 + line 10 + line 11d – line 12)	0	0

Part III	Funding Percentages	
14 Funding target attainment percentage	14	95.98%
15 Adjusted funding target attainment percentage	15	95.98%
16 Prior year's funding percentage for purposes of determining whether carryover/prefunding balances may be used to reduce current year's funding requirement	16	116.09%
17 If the current value of the assets of the plan is less than 70 percent of the funding target, enter such percentage	17	%

Part IV Contributions and Liquidity Shortfalls

18 Contributions made to the plan for the plan year by employer(s) and employees:

(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	
Totals ▶			18(b)	0	18(c)	0

19 Discounted employer contributions – see instructions for small plan with a valuation date after the beginning of the year:

a Contributions allocated toward unpaid minimum required contributions from prior years.	19a	0
b Contributions made to avoid restrictions adjusted to valuation date	19b	0
c Contributions allocated toward minimum required contribution for current year adjusted to valuation date	19c	0

20 Quarterly contributions and liquidity shortfalls:

a Did the plan have a "funding shortfall" for the prior year? Yes No

b If line 20a is "Yes," were required quarterly installments for the current year made in a timely manner? Yes No

c 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

Part V Assumptions Used to Determine Funding Target and Target Normal Cost				
21 Discount rate:				
a Segment rates:	1st segment: 4.75 %	2nd segment: 4.96 %	3rd segment: 5.59%	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A, full yield curve used
b Applicable month (enter code).....				21b 0
22 Weighted average retirement age				22 62
23 Mortality table(s) (see instructions)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prescribed - combined <input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed - separate <input type="checkbox"/> 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..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
25 Has a method change been made for the current plan year? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
b Is the plan required to provide a projection of expected benefit payments? If "Yes," see instructions regarding required attachment ... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 45,162
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 45,162

Part VIII Minimum Required Contribution For Current Year				
31 Target normal cost and excess assets (see instructions):				
a Target normal cost (line 6c).....				31a 0
b Excess assets, if applicable, but not greater than line 31a				31b 0
32 Amortization installments:	Outstanding Balance		Installment	
a Net shortfall amortization installment	45,973		4,202	
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 4,202
	Carryover balance	Prefunding balance	Total balance	
35 Balances elected for use to offset funding requirement	0	0	0	
36 Additional cash requirement (line 34 minus line 35).....				36 4,202
37 Contributions allocated toward minimum required contribution for current year adjusted to valuation date (line 19c).....				37 0
38 Present value of excess contributions for current year (see instructions)				
a Total (excess, if any, of line 37 over line 36)				38a 0
b Portion included in line 38a attributable to use of prefunding and funding standard carryover balances				38b 0
39 Unpaid minimum required contribution for current year (excess, if any, of line 36 over line 37)				39 4,202
40 Unpaid minimum required contributions for all years				40 49,364

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. <input type="checkbox"/> 2019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> 2021				

Carbon Partners Defined Benefit Plan & Trust

Summary of Plan Provisions
Plan Year: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024
Valuation Date: 1/1/2024

Plan Effective Date	January 1, 2017
Plan Year	From January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
Eligibility	<p>All employees are eligible to enter on the January 1 or July 1 coincident with or following the completion of the following requirements:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1 year of service Minimum age 21</p> <p>Employees covered by a collective bargaining unit under which pension benefits were a subject of good faith bargaining are excluded by class.</p> <p>Non-resident aliens and Leased Employees are excluded by class. All Employees except Owners are excluded.</p>
Normal Retirement Age	<p>All participants are eligible to retire with their full retirement benefit on the later of the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Attainment of age 62 Completion of 5 years of participation from beginning of entry year</p>
Cash Balance Contribution Credit	<p>The plan provides the following cash balance contribution credits to participants based on their group classification:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Group 1: Kevin Buckby \$200,000</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Group 2: Halli Dobson \$870.37</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Group 3: All Other Eligible Employees No contribution</p> <p>The maximum monthly benefit is the lesser of \$22,916.66 and 100% of the highest 3-year average salary, subject to service requirements.</p> <p>Salary based contribution credits are applied to current compensation.</p>
Normal Form of Benefit	A benefit payable for the life of the participant
Optional Forms of Benefit	<p>The following forms of benefit payment are also available:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Life Only - Payable for the life of the participant.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Life With 10 Years Certain - Payable for the life of the participant. If the participant dies before receiving payments for 10 full years, payments will continue to his/her surviving beneficiary for the remainder of the 10-year period and then</p>

Carbon Partners Defined Benefit Plan & Trust

Summary of Plan Provisions
Plan Year: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024
Valuation Date: 1/1/2024

stop.

Joint and 100% Survivor - Payable for the life of the participant and his/her beneficiary. Payments cease on the death of both.

Joint and 75% Survivor - Payable for the life of the participant. If the participant dies before his/her beneficiary, 75% of the benefit will continue for the life of the beneficiary.

Joint and 50% Survivor - Payable for the life of the participant. If the participant dies before his/her beneficiary, 50% of the benefit will continue for the life of the beneficiary.

Single Lump Sum - This is a one-time payment of the lump sum equivalent of the plan's normal form of benefit.

Accrued Benefit

The normal retirement benefit described above calculated based on salary and/or service on the calculation date, and payable on the normal retirement date.

Credited years are plan years from the first day of the plan year containing date of entry excluding the following:

Years with less than 1,000 hours

Termination Benefit

Upon termination for any reason other than death, disability or retirement a participant shall be entitled to a portion of the actuarial equivalent of his accrued benefit in accordance with the following vesting schedule:

<u>Credited Years</u>	<u>Vested Percent</u>
1	0
2	0
3	100

Credited years are plan years from date of hire excluding the following:

Years with less than 1,000 hours

Top-Heavy Minimum Benefit

Top-heavy minimum benefits are provided under another plan of the employer

Top-Heavy Status

A plan is top-heavy if over 60% of the value of all accrued benefits in all of the employer's plans are for the benefit of key employees. A key employee is generally an officer or owner of the company. This plan is currently top-heavy.

Death Benefit

Actuarial Equivalent of the accrued benefit earned to date of death

Disability

Equal to present value of the accrued benefit

Cash Balance

The annual Interest Crediting Rate for this plan year is 5.00%

Carbon Partners Defined Benefit Plan & Trust

Shortfall Amortization
 Plan Year: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024
 Valuation Date: 1/1/2024

If the plan has a funded status below 100%, the plan may require additional payments in the form of shortfall amortization payments. A plan's amortization payments are calculated to pay down the plan's underfunding over a fifteen year period.

<u>Valuation Date</u>	<u>Amortization Method</u>	<u>Number of Future Installments</u>	<u>Installment</u>	<u>Value of Future Installments</u>
01/01/2024	15-year	15	<u>\$4,202</u>	<u>\$45,973</u>
Total			\$4,202	\$45,973
Shortfall Amortization Charge (sum of installments, no less than zero):			\$4,202	

Carbon Partners Defined Benefit Plan & Trust

Plan Year: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

Valuation Date: 1/1/2024

Change in Actuarial Methods

The valuation date has been changed from the last day of the plan year to the first day of the plan year. These changes meet the requirements for automatic approval in accordance with IRS Revenue Procedure 2017-56.