

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

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).

2024

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

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

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

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 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [ ] a multiemployer plan [ ] a multiple-employer plan... [X] a single-employer plan [ ] a DFE... B This return/report is: [ ] the first return/report [ ] the final return/report... C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here... D Check box if filing under: [X] Form 5558 [ ] automatic 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: ECIGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 004
1c Effective date of plan: 12/31/2015
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): ECIGROUP
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 25-1677700
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 717-638-2000
2d Business code (see instructions): 236200

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 rows for employer/plan sponsor and 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	268
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. .... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	178
	<b>6a(2)</b>	167
	<b>6b</b>	26
	<b>6c</b>	75
	<b>6d</b>	268
	<b>6e</b>	3
	<b>6f</b>	271
	<b>6g(1)</b>	258
	<b>6g(2)</b>	258
<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:  
 2P 2Q

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

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

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

<b>a Pension Schedules</b>	<b>b General Schedules</b>
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input 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>ECIGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>004</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>ECIGROUP</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>25-1677700</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

**VANGUARD GROUP, INC.**

**23-1945930**

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

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

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

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

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

FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP

500 GRANT ST., SUITE 2500  
PITTSBURG, PA 15219

(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?
29	NONE	40000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

CONRAD SIEGEL

PO BOX 5900  
HARRISBURG, PA 17110-0900

23-1669823

(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?
15 16 38 50 64	NONE	21983	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

EDWARD D. JONES & CO., LP

201 PROGRESS PARKWAY  
MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO 63043-3042

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27 28	NONE	12521	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**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)

VALUE MANAGEMENT INC

2370 YORK ROAD  
JAMISON, PA 18929

(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?
34	NONE	7662	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)**  
(complete as many entries as needed)

<b>a</b> Name:	<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 H</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Financial Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <b>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>ECIGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>004</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>ECIGROUP</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>25-1677700</b>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Asset and Liability Statement</b>
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**1** Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>	90408	333888
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	500000	500000
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>	49587	0
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>	430600	927223
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>	0	134771
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	370199	397252
<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>	3245178	3527547
(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>	4685972	5820681
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable.....	<b>1g</b>		
<b>h</b> Operating payables.....	<b>1h</b>	0	285
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness.....	<b>1i</b>	400000	200000
<b>j</b> Other liabilities.....	<b>1j</b>		
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	<b>1k</b>	400000	200285
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	<b>1l</b>	4285972	5620396

**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>	715020	
<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>		715020
<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>	406335	
<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>		
(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>		
<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>	282369	
<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 .....	2b(6)	
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	2b(7)	
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	2b(8)	
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	2b(9)	
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	2b(10)	70968
<b>c</b> Other income .....	2c	
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d	1474692

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:		
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	43082
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	2e(2)	
(3) Other.....	2e(3)	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3) .....	2e(4)	43082
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	2f	
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g	
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	2h	15020
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:		
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	2i(1)	
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	2i(2)	
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	2i(3)	21983
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	2i(4)	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	2i(5)	12521
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	2i(6)	
(7) Actuarial fees .....	2i(7)	
(8) Legal fees .....	2i(8)	40000
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	2i(9)	7662
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	2i(10)	
(11) Other expenses.....	2i(11)	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11) .....	2i(12)	82166
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j	140268

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k	1334424
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:		
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)	
(2) From this plan .....	2l(2)	

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **MARTIN M. SACKS & ASSOCIATES**

(2) EIN: **23-1979781**

**d** The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1)  This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2)  It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

**4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		X	
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		1000000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
<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 \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>SCHEDULE R</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Retirement Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  ▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>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 <u>ECIGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>004</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>ECIGROUP</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>25-1677700</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
---------------	----------------------

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

<b>1</b> Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	<b>1</b>	<u>0</u>
---	----------	----------

**2** Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):  
EIN(s): 81-0891177

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

<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....	<b>3</b>	
--	----------	--

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

**4** Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? .....  Yes  No  N/A  
**If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.**

**5** If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
**If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.**

<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	<b>6a</b>	
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	<b>6c</b>	

**If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.**

**7** Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? .....  Yes  No  N/A

**8** If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? .....  Yes  No  N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

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

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

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</b> If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers.....	<b>16b</b>	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

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

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

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

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

DECEMBER 31, 2024

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

DECEMBER 31, 2024

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## Martin M. Sacks & Associates

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

4775 LINGLESTOWN ROAD, SUITE 100

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17112

PHONE: (717) 657-1300 FAX: (717) 657-0987  
www.mmsacpa.com

MARTIN M. SACKS, CPA  
1926-1983  
ROBERT J. BLAZINA, CPA  
1945-2020

LISA M. CASSEL, CPA  
BENJAMIN D. ROTHSCHILD, CPA  
FREDERICK C. PHILLIPY, CPA  
STUART M. KILLIAN, CPA  
CHERYL V. RAMOS, CPA

RICHARD A. BLUIS, CPA  
ANDREA D. JOHNSON, CPA  
VIVIAN A. YOUNG, CPA  
CHRISTOPHER M. SHIVE, CPA

MARTIN J. FLANNERY

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Plan Committee of  
eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan  
Dillsburg, Pennsylvania

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

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

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

### Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes at End of Year as of December 31, 2024 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.



September 15, 2025

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ASSETS:			
Investment in eciGroup Common Stock, at Fair Value - NOTES 3 and 5 .....	\$3,174,792	\$ 352,755	\$3,527,547
Accrued Contribution Receivable .....	500,000		500,000
Cash .....	333,888		333,888
Other Investments, at Fair Value - NOTES 4 and 5 .....	<u>1,459,246</u>		<u>1,459,246</u>
Total Assets .....	<u>\$5,467,926</u>	<u>\$ 352,755</u>	<u>\$5,820,681</u>
LIABILITIES:			
Federal Withholding Tax Payable .....	\$ 285		\$ 285
Loan Payable - NOTE 6 .....		<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
Total Liabilities .....	<u>\$ 285</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>\$ 200,285</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS .....	<u>\$5,467,641</u>	<u>\$ 152,755</u>	<u>\$5,620,396</u>

See independent auditor's report and accompanying notes.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ASSETS:			
Investment in eciGroup Common Stock, at Fair Value - NOTES 3 and 5 .....	\$2,596,142	\$ 649,036	\$3,245,178
Accrued Contribution Receivable .....	500,000		500,000
Accrued Dividend Receivable .....	49,587		49,587
Cash .....	90,408		90,408
Other Investments, at Fair Value - NOTES 4 and 5 .....	800,799		800,799
Total Assets .....	<u>\$4,036,936</u>	<u>\$ 649,036</u>	<u>\$4,685,972</u>
LIABILITIES:			
Loan Payable - NOTE 6 .....		\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
Total Liabilities .....		<u>\$ 400,000</u>	<u>\$ 400,000</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS .....	<u>\$4,036,936</u>	<u>\$ 249,036</u>	<u>\$4,285,972</u>

See independent auditor's report and accompanying notes.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ADDITIONS:			
Investment Income:			
Dividend Income - eciGroup .....	\$ 406,335		\$ 406,335
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of			
Investments .....	<u>296,863</u>	<u>\$ 56,474</u>	<u>353,337</u>
	<u>\$ 703,198</u>	<u>\$ 56,474</u>	<u>\$ 759,672</u>
Employer Contributions .....	<u>\$ 500,000</u>	<u>\$ 215,020</u>	<u>\$ 715,020</u>
Allocation of 13,774.10 Shares of eciGroup Common Stock at Fair Value .....	<u>\$ 352,755</u>		<u>\$ 352,755</u>
Total Additions .....	<u>\$1,555,953</u>	<u>\$ 271,494</u>	<u>\$1,827,447</u>
DEDUCTIONS:			
Benefits Paid to Participants .....	\$ 43,082		\$ 43,082
Interest Expense .....		\$ 15,020	15,020
Administrative Expenses .....	82,166		82,166
Allocation of 13,774.10 Shares of eciGroup Common Stock at Fair Value .....	<u>                    </u>	<u>352,755</u>	<u>352,755</u>
Total Deductions .....	<u>\$ 125,248</u>	<u>\$ 367,775</u>	<u>\$ 493,023</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS .....	\$1,430,705	\$ (96,281)	\$1,334,424
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - BEGINNING OF YEAR .....	<u>4,036,936</u>	<u>249,036</u>	<u>4,285,972</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - END OF YEAR .....	<u>\$5,467,641</u>	<u>\$ 152,755</u>	<u>\$5,620,396</u>

See independent auditor's report and accompanying notes.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ADDITIONS:			
Investment Income:			
Dividend Income - eciGroup .....	\$ 220,387		\$ 220,387
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments .....	<u>1,036,377</u>	<u>\$ 420,661</u>	<u>1,457,038</u>
	<u>\$1,256,764</u>	<u>\$ 420,661</u>	<u>\$1,677,425</u>
Employer Contributions .....	<u>\$ 500,000</u>	<u>\$ 222,280</u>	<u>\$ 722,280</u>
Allocation of 13,774.10 Shares of eciGroup Common Stock at Fair Value .....	<u>\$ 324,518</u>		<u>\$ 324,518</u>
Total Additions .....	<u>\$2,081,282</u>	<u>\$ 642,941</u>	<u>\$2,724,223</u>
DEDUCTIONS:			
Benefits Paid to Participants .....	\$ 29,986		\$ 29,986
Interest Expense .....		\$ 22,280	22,280
Administrative Expenses .....	41,768		41,768
Allocation of 13,774.10 Shares of eciGroup Common Stock at Fair Value .....	<u>                    </u>	<u>324,518</u>	<u>324,518</u>
Total Deductions .....	<u>\$ 71,754</u>	<u>\$ 346,798</u>	<u>\$ 418,552</u>
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS .....	\$2,009,528	\$ 296,143	\$2,305,671
NET ASSETS (DEFICIT) AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - BEGINNING OF YEAR .....	<u>2,027,408</u>	<u>(47,107)</u>	<u>1,980,301</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - END OF YEAR .....	<u>\$4,036,936</u>	<u>\$ 249,036</u>	<u>\$4,285,972</u>

See independent auditor's report and accompanying notes.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following brief description of the eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

A. GENERAL

eciGroup (the Company) established the Plan effective as of December 31, 2015. The Plan operates as a leveraged employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) and is designed to comply with Section 4975(e)(7) and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC), and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The Plan is administered by a Plan Committee appointed by the Company's Board of Directors. The Plan's Trustee is a member of Company management.

On February 24, 2016, the Plan purchased 137,741 shares of the Company's common stock using the proceeds of a bank borrowing and holds the common stock in a trust established under the Plan. The stock was purchased at a price of \$14.52 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$2,000,000. The borrowing is collateralized by the unallocated shares of common stock and is guaranteed by the Company. The lender has no rights against shares of common stock once they are allocated to participants in accordance with the terms of the ESOP. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the years then ended, present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to the accounts of employees with rights in allocated common stock (allocated) and common stock not yet allocated to employees (unallocated).

B. ELIGIBILITY

Employees of the Company are generally eligible to participate in the Plan after one year of service, provided they worked at least 1,000 hours during such Plan year and are age 21 or older.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

C. PARTICIPANT ACCOUNTS

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant's account is credited as of the last day of each Plan year with an allocation of shares of the Company's common stock released by the Trustee from the unallocated account. Additionally, each participant's account is credited with any cash dividends on the Company stock attributable to the participant's stock account, any net income (or loss) of the trust, and forfeitures of terminated participants' non-vested accounts. Each participant's account will be reduced for the participant's share of any cash payments made by the Trustee for the acquisition of Company stock, for the payment of any principal and/or interest on an acquisition loan, or payment of Plan expenses. Only those participants who are eligible employees of the Company as of the last day of the Plan year will receive an allocation.

Allocations of contributions are based on a participant's eligible compensation, relative to total eligible compensation, as limited by the IRC per participant. All participants are entitled to receive a primary allocation equal to 1% of eligible compensation. Participants who receive prevailing wage retirement benefits in an amount less than 3% of eligible compensation and participants who do not receive prevailing wage retirement benefits are then entitled to receive a secondary contribution allocation in the ratio that the eligible compensation of each such participant bears to the total eligible compensation of such participants.

D. CONTRIBUTIONS

It is the Company's intention to make annual contributions to the ESOP to fund the ESOP's debt service. Company dividends may be used to cover any shortage between contributions and debt service. The Company has elected to allocate all dividends to participants and not to reduce Plan debt. At its discretion, the Company may make additional contributions to the Plan, up to IRS limitations. Employee contributions are not permitted.

E. PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

Distributions from the Plan shall be made in cash. Distributions of vested amounts due to death, disability, or retirement of a participant shall be made in equal annual installments over a five-year period in the Plan year following the event unless the value of the account is under \$1,000, in which case the distribution can be made in a lump sum as soon as practicable.

Distributions for other separations from service commence in the fifth Plan year following the separation from service and are made in five annual installments. The amount to be distributed is based upon the immediately preceding valuation date. If the value of the account is under \$1,000, the distribution can be made in a lump sum as soon as practicable after separation.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

F. VESTING

Participants vest 20 percent after two years of service and vest 20 percent per year thereafter. Participants are 100-percent vested after six years of service. Years of service prior to the establishment of the Plan have been credited to participants. A participant will become 100-percent vested in his or her account without regard to years of service after reaching the age of normal retirement, or terminating employment due to permanent disability or death. If a participant's employment with the Company ends for any reason other than by retirement, permanent disability, or death, he or she will vest in the balances of his or her accounts based on total years of service with the Company.

G. FORFEITURES

Plan forfeitures are allocated to each participant's account based upon the relation of the participant's eligible compensation to total eligible compensation for the Plan year. Forfeited accounts of \$1,569 and \$3,522 were reallocated to active participants during the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively.

H. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

As provided in the Plan agreement, administrative expenses may be paid either by the Plan or by the Company.

I. VOTING RIGHTS

All Company stock in the Trust shall be voted by the Trustee as directed by the Plan Committee. In the event of any corporate transaction, each participant or beneficiary will be entitled to provide confidential voting instructions to the Trustee with respect to shares of stock then allocated to the Company stock account of such participant or beneficiary. Participant voting instructions shall be provided to the Trustee in accordance with procedures established by the Plan Committee.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

J. DIVERSIFICATION

Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in Company common stock into investments that are more diversified. Participants who are at least age 55 with at least ten years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a six-year period. For the first five years, a participant may diversify up to 25 percent of the number of shares allocated to his or her account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50 percent. Participants who elect to diversify may receive a cash distribution, or transfer the amount to another qualified retirement plan offered by the Company. The election to diversify is made subsequent to year-end based upon the shares of employer stock in the participant's account at year-end.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

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

B. ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

C. ALLOCATIONS

The financial statements of the Plan present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to the accounts of employees with rights in allocated stock (allocated) and stock not yet allocated to employees (unallocated), including shares that are committed to be released. Shares are released from collateral and become allocated generally in the period in which debt service is actually paid.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

D. INVESTMENT INCOME RECOGNITION

The shares of eciGroup common stock are reported at fair value (NOTE 5). Dividend income is accrued on the date declared by the Company. Interest and dividend income on other investments is accrued as it is earned. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

E. DATE OF MANAGEMENT'S REVIEW

Management has evaluated subsequent events through September 15, 2025, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

3. INVESTMENT – eciGROUP COMMON STOCK

The Plan held an investment in eciGroup common stock. The following presents a summary of the eciGroup common stock as of December 31:

	. . .2024. . .		. . .2023. . .	
	<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED</u>	<u>ALLOCATED</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED</u>
Number of Shares . . . .	<u>123,967</u>	<u>13,774</u>	<u>110,193</u>	<u>27,548</u>
Cost . . . . .	<u>\$1,800,000</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>\$1,600,000</u>	<u>\$ 400,000</u>
Fair Value . . . . .	<u>\$3,174,792</u>	<u>\$ 352,755</u>	<u>\$2,596,142</u>	<u>\$ 649,036</u>

4. OTHER INVESTMENTS

The Plan held investments in money market funds, certificates of deposit, and exchange-traded funds. The following presents a summary of other investments at fair value as of December 31:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Money Market Fund . . . . .	\$ 17,821	\$ 52,437
Certificates of Deposit . . . . .	909,402	378,163
Exchange-Traded Funds . . . . .	397,252	370,199
U.S. Government Securities . . . . .	<u>134,771</u>	<u>370,199</u>
	<u>\$1,459,246</u>	<u>\$ 800,799</u>

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

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

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

Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, or inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

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

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

The following are descriptions of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value:

eciGroup Common Stock:

The fair value of the eciGroup common stock was determined by appraisal. This appraiser utilized an estimate of the Marketable Operating Equity Value combined with the Contributory Value of Non-operating Assets. These methods rely on the Discounted Cash Flow Method which utilizes estimation of the Company's worth based on the present value of its expected future benefits to determine the fair value. The unobservable inputs of this method are earnings before interest and taxes, taxes at an effective rate, non-cash charges, capital expenditures, and changes in working capital. Additionally, a value for non-operating assets is factored.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

eciGROUP Common Stock (Continued):

The valuation process involves the selection of an appraiser under contract with the right to cancel such contract at any time. Plan management accumulates the data for the appraiser from historical and projected financial information of the Company. The appraiser prepares a report of estimated per share value that a participant will receive upon distribution. Plan management reviews and approves the report.

The preceding method described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation methodology is appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement as of December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Money Market Funds:

The money market funds have been valued at the net asset value of the shares held by the Plan at year-end, quoted in an active market.

Certificates of Deposit:

The fair value of certificates of deposit are estimated using third-party quotations for similar assets.

Exchange-Traded Funds:

The exchange-traded funds have been valued at the net asset value of the shares held by the Plan at year-end, quoted in an active market.

U.S. Government Securities:

The U.S. government securities have been valued as quoted in an active market.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following table sets forth, by level within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's investments at fair value as of December 31, 2024:

<u>FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS USING:</u>				
<u>INVESTMENT CATEGORY</u>	<u>FAIR VALUE</u>	<u>LEVEL 1</u>	<u>LEVEL 2</u>	<u>LEVEL 3</u>
eciGroup Common Stock.....	\$3,527,547			\$3,527,547
Money Market Funds.....	17,821	\$ 17,821		
Certificates of Deposit...	909,402		\$ 909,402	
Exchange-Traded Funds.....	397,252	397,252		
U.S. Government Securities.....	<u>134,771</u>	<u>134,771</u>		
Total.....	<u>\$4,986,793</u>	<u>\$ 549,844</u>	<u>\$ 909,402</u>	<u>\$3,527,547</u>

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

<u>FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS USING:</u>				
<u>INVESTMENT CATEGORY</u>	<u>FAIR VALUE</u>	<u>LEVEL 1</u>	<u>LEVEL 2</u>	<u>LEVEL 3</u>
eciGroup Common Stock.....	\$3,245,178			\$3,245,178
Money Market Funds.....	52,437	\$ 52,437		
Certificates of Deposit...	378,163		\$ 378,163	
Exchange-Traded Funds.....	<u>370,199</u>	<u>370,199</u>		
Total.....	<u>\$4,045,977</u>	<u>\$ 422,636</u>	<u>\$ 378,163</u>	<u>\$3,245,178</u>

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets, eciGroup common stock, for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Balance - Beginning of Year.....	\$3,245,178	\$1,842,975
Stock Purchase.....	0	0
Realized Gains/Losses.....	0	0
Unrealized Appreciation in Estimated Fair Value.....	<u>282,369</u>	<u>1,402,203</u>
Balance - End of Year.....	<u>\$3,527,547</u>	<u>\$3,245,178</u>

6. LOAN PAYABLE

In 2016, the Company entered into a \$2,000,000 term loan agreement with a bank. The Plan then entered into a mirror loan with the Company. The proceeds of the loan were used to purchase eciGroup common stock by the Plan. Unallocated shares are collateral for the loan. Shares are released from collateral and allocated to participants as payments of principal and interest are made. The Plan adopted a provision to release an equal number of shares each year, over the 10-year term of the loan. This will result in 13,774 shares being released and allocated for each Plan year.

The loan will be repaid in ten annual installments of \$200,000 plus interest. The rate of interest was at a fixed rate of 4.00% per annum for the first five years. During 2022, the rate was reset to 3.60% for the duration of the loan.

7. eciGROUP DIVIDENDS

The Plan received \$406,335 and \$220,387 in dividends from the Company for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively. These dividends were allocated to participant accounts.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

8. RELATED PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

The Plan has a number of service providers. Such providers are parties-in-interest under ERISA. The Plan was involved in several permitted related party and party-in-interest transactions during the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023. The Plan invests in Company common stock and has indebtedness guaranteed by the Company. The Plan was invested in the Edward Jones Money Market Fund. John Hancock Trust Company, LLC and Edward Jones were the custodians of Plan investments and therefore are considered a party-in-interest. The Company paid \$11,092 and \$10,854 of administrative expenses for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively.

9. RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan investments consist primarily of the Company's common stock, which is exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks, as well as valuation assumptions based on earnings, cash flows and other such techniques. Due to the level of risk associated with the investment in common stock and to uncertainties inherent in estimates and assumptions, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the value of the common stock will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

10. CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK

The Plan maintains cash balances in financial institutions located in Pennsylvania. These accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000 per institution. There was no uninsured cash balance as of December 31, 2024 or 2023.

The Plan maintains money market funds and investments at brokerage firms. These investments are insured by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) up to a maximum of \$500,000. The brokerage firm has also obtained private insurance to supplement the SIPC coverage. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, all of the Plan's investments were covered by this protection. This protection does not cover any decline in the market value of investments.

11. PLAN TERMINATION

The Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon termination of the Plan, the Plan Committee directs the Trustee to pay all liabilities and expenses of the ESOP. Subsequently, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the IRC.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

12. TAX STATUS

The Plan has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated December 13, 2016 stating that the Plan is qualified under the IRC and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter. However, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed, and being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, they believe that the Plan was qualified, and the related trust was tax-exempt as of the date of the financial statements.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken a significant uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

DECEMBER 31, 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

eciGROUP EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

PLAN 004

EIN: 25-1677700

SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD  
FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES AT END OF YEAR  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	IDENTITY OF ISSUE, BORROWER, LESSOR, OR SIMILAR PARTY	DESCRIPTION OF INVESTMENT INCLUDING MATURITY DATE, RATE OF INTEREST, COLLATERAL, PAR, OR MATURITY VALUE	COST	CURRENT VALUE
*	eciGroup	Common Stock	\$2,000,000	\$3,527,547
*	Edward Jones Retirement Money Market Fund	Money Market Fund	17,821	17,821
	First Farmers Bank and Trust	Certificate of Deposit 4.7%, Maturity 10/19/26	248,440	251,849
	J P Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.	Certificate of Deposit 5.35%, Maturity 8/15/25	235,882	236,113
	Morgan Stanley Bank, N.A.	Certificate of Deposit 5.05%, Maturity 12/14/26	174,562	178,384
	PNC Bank, N.A.	Certificate of Deposit 5.25%, Maturity 1/10/25	242,939	243,056
	Vanguard Growth Index Fund ETF	Exchange-Traded Fund	200,234	206,451
	Vanguard Value Index Fund ETF	Exchange-Traded Fund	200,155	190,801
	U.S. Treasury Note	U.S. Government Security 4.0%, Maturity 12/15/25	<u>134,678</u>	<u>134,771</u>
			<u>\$3,454,711</u>	<u>\$4,986,793</u>

\*Party-in-interest

See independent auditor's report.

**Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)**

Plan Name: eciGroup Employee Stock Ownership Plan  
Employer I.D. #: 25-1677700  
Plan Number: 004

<u>(a)</u>	<u>(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party</u>	<u>(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value</u>	<u>(d) Cost</u>	<u>(e) Current Value</u>
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Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year) is contained in the attached audit report.