

Form **990**
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No 1545-0047
2018
Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2019 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2018, and ending 12-31-2018

- B** Check if applicable
- Address change
 - Name change
 - Initial return
 - Final return/terminated
 - Amended return
 - Application pending

C Name of organization
BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAULT COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Doing business as
BENCO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO BOX 8

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
MANKATO, MN 560020008

D Employer identification number
41-0155615

E Telephone number
(507) 387-7963

G Gross receipts \$ 49,270,005

F Name and address of principal officer
DAVID SUNDERMAN
PO BOX 8
MANKATO, MN 560020008

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes No

H(b) Are all subordinates included? Yes No
If "No," attach a list (see instructions)

H(c) Group exemption number ▶

I Tax-exempt status 501(c)(3) 501(c) (12) ◀ (insert no) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ WWW BENCO ORG

K Form of organization Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation 1937

M State of legal domicile
MN

Part I Summary

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities
TO SAFELY PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE, AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST, CONSISTENT WITH SOUND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

2 Check this box if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	9
4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	9
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2018 (Part V, line 2a)	46
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	0
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	19,318
7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	14,238

	Prior Year	Current Year
8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	0	0
9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	45,840,080	47,756,572
10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	109,701	252,444
11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	1,687,367	1,012,106
12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	47,637,148	49,021,122
13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	0	0
14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	747,174	834,001
15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	669,194	766,237
16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶0		
17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	42,943,494	44,560,985
18 Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	44,359,862	46,161,223
19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	3,277,286	2,859,899
	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	103,142,625	110,994,265
21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	65,741,597	70,727,020
22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	37,401,028	40,267,245

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

Sign Here

Signature of officer: *****
Date: 2019-07-26

DAVID SUNDERMAN CEO
Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name: _____ Preparer's signature: _____ Date: _____

Check if self-employed PTIN P01587689

Firm's name ▶ CLIFTONLARSONALLEN LLP Firm's EIN ▶ 41-0746479

Firm's address ▶ 2689 COMMERCE DRIVE NW SUITE 201
ROCHESTER, MN 55901 Phone no (507) 280-2300

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission

TO SAFELY PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE, AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST, CONSISTENT WITH SOUND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

4a (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
See Additional Data

4b (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses ▶

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, Yes, No. Rows include questions 1 through 22 regarding organizational requirements and reporting.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, Yes, No. Rows include questions 23 through 38 regarding compensation, tax-exempt bonds, 501(c)(3) organizations, and other IRS requirements.

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V []

Table with 3 columns: Question ID, Question Text, Yes, No. Rows include questions 1a, 1b, and 1c regarding Form 1096, Forms W-2G, and backup withholding rules.

2a Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return		2a	46		
b If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions)		2b		Yes	
3a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		3a		Yes	
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? <i>If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O</i>		3b		Yes	
4a At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		4a			No
b If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR)					
5a Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		5a			No
b Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		5b			No
c If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?		5c			
6a Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?		6a			No
b If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		6b			
7 Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).					
a Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		7a			
b If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		7b			
c Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		7c			
d If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year		7d			
e Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		7e			No
f Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		7f			No
g If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		7g			
h If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?		7h			
8 Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		8			
9a Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		9a			
b Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		9b			
10 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter					
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12		10a			
b Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities		10b			
11 Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter					
a Gross income from members or shareholders		11a		48,070,323	
b Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them)		11b		1,192,239	
12a Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		12a			
b If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year		12b			
13 Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.					
a Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O		13a			
b Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans		13b			
c Enter the amount of reserves on hand		13c			
14a Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?		14a			No
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? <i>If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O</i>		14b			
15 Is the organization subject to the section 4960 tax on payment(s) of more than \$1,000,000 in remuneration or excess parachute payment(s) during the year? If "Yes," see instructions and file Form 4720, Schedule N		15			No
16 Is the organization an educational institution subject to the section 4968 excise tax on net investment income? If "Yes," complete Form 4720, Schedule O		16			No

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O See instructions Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI



Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year; 1b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent; 2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?; 3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?; 4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?; 5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?; 6 Did the organization have members or stockholders?; 7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?; 7b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?; 8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following; 8a The governing body?; 8b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?; 9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O.

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?; 10b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?; 11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?; 11b Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990; 12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13; 12b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?; 12c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done; 13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?; 14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?; 15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?; 15a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official; 15b Other officers or key employees of the organization; 16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?; 16b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 2 columns: Question, Answer. Rows include: 17 List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed; 18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024-A if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. [] Own website [] Another's website [x] Upon request [] Other (explain in Schedule O); 19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year; 20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records. SANDY SOWIEJA 20946 549TH AVENUE PO BOX 8 MANKATO, MN 56002 (507) 387-7963

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) GARFIELD ECKBERG DIRECTOR - PART YEAR	8 10	X						5,525	0	0
(2) DUANE EHRICH DIRECTOR	7 20	X						11,775	0	0
(3) TERRY GENELIN DIRECTOR	8 40	X						11,625	0	0
(4) MARILYN LYNCH TREASURER	11 80	X		X				16,775	0	0
(5) HARLAN LANZ SECRETARY	13 20	X		X				16,325	0	0
(6) WARREN JOHNSON CHAIRMAN	8 40	X		X				19,840	0	0
(7) BRADLEY LEIDING DIRECTOR	7 70	X						13,725	0	0
(8) BLAKE MESHKE DIRECTOR	7 00	X						11,900	0	0
(9) GARY STENZEL VICE CHAIRMAN	9 20	X		X				13,950	0	0
(10) JOHN WELLS DIRECTOR	12 70	X						17,925	0	0
(11) DAVID SUNDERMAN CEO	40 00			X				217,294	0	62,542
(12) SANDY SOWIEJA MANAGER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	40 00			X				123,508	0	44,639
(13) TIM BRAULICK MANAGER OF OPERATIONS/ENG	40 00					X		128,355	0	44,283
(14) CLAY HILL CREW CHIEF	40 00					X		122,773	0	35,301
(15) DUANE HAGEN CREW CHIEF	40 00					X		120,067	0	35,313
(16) WADE GROSKREUTZ LINE TECH	40 00					X		109,537	0	39,361
(17) LEN DOHM LINE TECH	40 00					X		110,159	0	42,893

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(18) WADE HENSEL FORMER CEO	0 01						X	178,889	0	0

1b Sub-Total	1,249,947	0	304,332
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A			
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	1,249,947	0	304,332

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ▶ **8**

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	3 Yes	
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	4 Yes	
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>	5 Yes	

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
UNITED BUILDERS PO BOX 157 BLUE EARTH, MN 56013	BUILDERS	1,930,089
ZINNIEL BORING 61710 SUNSET LANE NEW ULM, MN 56073	BORING	1,243,393
CARR'S TREE SERVICE PO BOX 250 OTTERTAIL, MN 56571	TREE TRIMMING	550,745
VANGUARD 4311 OAK WOOD LANE WEST DES MOINES, MN 50265	LOCATORS	175,665
EIR PO BOX 86 FARMINGTON, MN 55024	TESTING	100,450

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶ **5**

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns . . .	1a					
	b Membership dues . . .	1b					
	c Fundraising events . . .	1c					
	d Related organizations	1d					
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f					
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a - 1f \$ _____						
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f ▶						
Program Service Revenue	2a SALE OF POWER	Business Code					
		221000	47,756,572	47,756,572			
	b _____						
	c _____						
	d _____						
	e _____						
	f All other program service revenue						
g Total. Add lines 2a-2f ▶		47,756,572					
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) ▶		230,869			230,869	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds ▶						
	5 Royalties ▶						
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
		b Less rental expenses					
		c Rental income or (loss)					
		d Net rental income or (loss) ▶					
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
		b Less cost or other basis and sales expenses		85,240			
		c Gain or (loss)		63,665			
		d Net gain or (loss) ▶		21,575			21,575
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 a						
		b Less direct expenses b					
		c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events ▶					
	9a Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19 a						
b Less direct expenses b							
c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities ▶							
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances a							
	b Less cost of goods sold b		116,833				
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory ▶		-68,385		-68,385		
Miscellaneous Revenue	Business Code						
11a CAPITAL CREDITS	900099	1,001,835	1,001,835				
b NORTH MANKATO JOINT VENTURE	900099	50,290			50,290		
c HEARTLAND SECURITY SERVICES K-1	561700	19,318		19,318			
d All other revenue		9,048	9,048				
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d ▶		1,080,491					
12 Total revenue. See Instructions ▶		49,021,122	48,699,070	19,318	302,734		

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.				
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21.				
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22.				
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, line 15 and 16.				
4 Benefits paid to or for members	834,001			
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	766,237			
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages				
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401 (k) and 403(b) employer contributions)				
9 Other employee benefits				
10 Payroll taxes				
11 Fees for services (non-employees)				
a Management				
b Legal				
c Accounting				
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17.				
f Investment management fees				
g Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)				
12 Advertising and promotion				
13 Office expenses				
14 Information technology				
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy				
17 Travel				
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings				
20 Interest	1,796,910			
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	3,303,251			
23 Insurance				
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a COST OF POWER	31,817,986			
b DISTRIBUTION EXPENSE -	2,974,623			
c DISTRIBUTION EXPENSE -	2,285,823			
d SALES EXPENSE	949,907			
e All other expenses	1,432,485			
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	46,161,223			
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing		1	
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	7,707,226	2	9,326,952
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net		3	
	4 Accounts receivable, net	4,152,101	4	4,320,395
	5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L		5	
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L		6	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net	38,544	7	261,246
	8 Inventories for sale or use	1,084,411	8	889,281
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	91,482	9	113,245
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 121,019,130		
	b Less accumulated depreciation	10b 46,667,189	69,017,236	10c 74,351,941
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities		11	
	12 Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11	1,648,829	12	1,528,707
	13 Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11	18,604,566	13	19,511,639
	14 Intangible assets	8,827	14	8,827
	15 Other assets See Part IV, line 11	789,403	15	682,032
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	103,142,625	16	110,994,265	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	7,063,118	17	6,166,898
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue	272,131	19	371,144
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	56,656,599	23	62,197,696
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties		24	
	25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17 - 24) Complete Part X of Schedule D	1,749,749	25	1,991,282
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	65,741,597	26	70,727,020
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.			
	27 Unrestricted net assets		27	
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets		28	
	29 Permanently restricted net assets		29	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.			
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds	0	30	0
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund	0	31	0
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds	37,401,028	32	40,267,245
33 Total net assets or fund balances	37,401,028	33	40,267,245	
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	103,142,625	34	110,994,265	

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	49,021,122
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	46,161,223
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	2,859,899
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	37,401,028
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	6,318
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	40,267,245

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

- 1** Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 Cash Accrual Other _____
 If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O
- 2a** Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?
 If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both
 Separate basis Consolidated basis Both consolidated and separate basis
- b** Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?
 If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both
 Separate basis Consolidated basis Both consolidated and separate basis
- c** If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?
 If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O
- 3a** As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?
- b** If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits

	Yes	No
2a		No
2b	Yes	
2c	Yes	
3a		No
3b		

Additional Data

Software ID:

Software Version:

EIN: 41-0155615

Name: BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAULT
COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Form 990 (2018)

Form 990, Part III, Line 4a:

SALE OF 408,276,094 KWH TO 18,702 ELECTRIC SERVICES MAINTAINED 3,605 MILES OF UNDERGROUND AND OVERHEAD DISTRIBUTION LINES

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements
► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.
► Attach to Form 990.
► Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No 1545-0047
2018
Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAUTL
COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Employer identification number
41-0155615

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		

5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? Yes No

6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? Yes No

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education) Preservation of an historically important land area

Protection of natural habitat Preservation of a certified historic structure

Preservation of open space

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

	Held at the End of the Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 7/25/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	2d

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ► _____

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ► _____

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? Yes No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► _____

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► \$ _____

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? Yes No

9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ► \$ _____

(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ► \$ _____

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

a Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ► \$ _____

b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ► \$ _____

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

- 3** Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)
- a** Public exhibition
 - b** Scholarly research
 - c** Preservation for future generations
 - d** Loan or exchange programs
 - e** Other
- 4** Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII
- 5** During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? Yes No

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a** Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? Yes No
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table
- | | Amount |
|--|--------|
| c Beginning balance | |
| d Additions during the year | |
| e Distributions during the year | |
| f Ending balance | |
- 2a** Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability? . . . Yes No
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

- 2** Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as
- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶
 - b** Permanent endowment ▶
 - c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶
- The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%
- 3a** Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by
- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| (i) unrelated organizations | Yes | No |
| (ii) related organizations | | |
| b If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? | | |
- 4** Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land		284,867		284,867
b Buildings		4,302,356	1,136,499	3,165,857
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		7,083,198	4,397,233	2,685,965
e Other		109,348,709	41,133,457	68,215,252
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c)) . . . ▶				74,351,941

Part VII Investments—Other Securities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other _____		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12.) ▶		

Part VIII Investments—Program Related. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) PATRONAGE CAPITAL IN ASSOC ORGANIZATIONS	18,089,562	C
(2) NRUCFC	1,337,061	C
(3) OTHER INVESTMENTS IN ASSOC ORGANIZATIONS	85,016	C
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13.) ▶	19,511,639	

Part IX Other Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 15.) ▶	

Part X Other Liabilities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

(a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
CONSUMER DEPOSITS	2,620
ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATION	41,150
DEFERRED COMPENSATION	454,686
ACCUM PROVISION FOR PENSION AND BEN	1,492,826
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25.) ▶	1,991,282

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740) Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	49,001,803
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a		
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	49,001,803
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b	19,318	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	19,318
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)		5	49,021,121

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	45,327,222
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25			
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a		
b	Prior year adjustments	2b		
c	Other losses	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	45,327,222
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b	834,001	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	834,001
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)		5	46,161,223

Part XIII Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b Also complete this part to provide any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation
See Additional Data Table	

Part XIII Supplemental Information *(continued)*

Return Reference	Explanation

Additional Data

Software ID:

Software Version:

EIN: 41-0155615

Name: BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAULT
COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
PART X, LINE 2	THE COOPERATIVE IS EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAXES UNDER SECTION 501(C)(12) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE ACCORDINGLY, NO PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES HAS BEEN RECORDED AT DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017 THE COOPERATIVE EVALUATED ITS TAX POSITIONS AND DETERMINED THAT IT HAS NO UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
PART XI, LINE 4B - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	HEARTLAND SECURITY SERVICES K-1 19,318

Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
PART XII, LINE 4B - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ALLOCATED 834,001

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.**
▶ **Attach to Form 990.**
▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2018

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAULT COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	Employer identification number 41-0155615
---	--

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

		Yes	No								
1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions	<input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)			
<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use										
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions	<input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence										
<input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees										
<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)										
b If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain 2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?	1b		No								
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director Check all that apply Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee	2	Yes			
<input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract										
<input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study										
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee										
4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment? b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan? c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III	4a		No								
	4b		No								
	4c		No								
<p>Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.</p> 5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of a The organization? b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III	5a										
	5b										
6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of a The organization? b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III	6a										
	6b										
7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III	7										
8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III	8										
9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	9										

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 DAVID SUNDERMAN CEO	(i)	217,294	0	0	37,904	24,638	279,836	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 SANDY SOWIEJA MANAGER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIO	(i)	123,508	0	0	21,202	23,437	168,147	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 TIM BRAULICK MANAGER OF OPERATIONS/ENG	(i)	128,355	0	0	22,038	22,245	172,638	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 CLAY HILL CREW CHIEF	(i)	122,773	0	0	22,634	12,667	158,074	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 DUANE HAGEN CREW CHIEF	(i)	120,067	0	0	22,634	12,679	155,380	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 LEN DOHM LINE TECH	(i)	110,159	0	0	20,577	22,316	153,052	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 WADE HENSEL FORMER CEO	(i)	178,889	0	0	0	0	178,889	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part III Supplemental Information

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART I, LINE 1A	THE ASSOCIATION PROVIDES TRAVEL FOR THE CEO'S SPOUSE TO THE NRECA ANNUAL MEETING. THE ASSOCIATION REIMBURSES EMPLOYEES \$120 FOR THEIR ANNUAL HEALTH CLUB FEES. LISTED EMPLOYEES THAT TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS REIMBURSEMENT IN 2018 WERE SANDY SOWIEJA, TIM BRAULICK, & STEVE BARRER.
PART I, LINE 1B	THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS TO APPROVE TRAVEL FOR THE CEO'S SPOUSE.
PART I, LINE 3	SURVEYS OF COMPARABLE MN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES ARE CONDUCTED AND USED TO DETERMINE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

Schedule L
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Transactions with Interested Persons

OMB No 1545-0047

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.**
 ▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
 ▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.**

2018

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAUT COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	Employer identification number 41-0155615
--	--

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations only)
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958 ▶ \$ _____

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization ▶ \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a, or Form 990, Part IV, line 26, or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Total						▶ \$						

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
(1) BRAD LEIDINGGARY STENZEL	BOARD MEMBER	23,685,480	BRAD LEIDING WAS A BOARD MEMBER OF GREAT RIVER ENERGY WHICH IS THE COOPERATIVES POWER SUPPLIER THROUGH APRIL 2018 GARY STENZEL REPLACED BRAD LEIDING AS A BOARD MEMBER OF GRE		No

Part V Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions)

Return Reference	Explanation
------------------	-------------

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury

Name of the organization

BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAULT
COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Employer identification number

41-0155615

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 6	THE COOPERATIVE IS COMPRISED OF A SINGLE CLASS OF APPROXIMATELY 18,702 MEMBER-OWNERS, EACH OF WHICH HAS EQUAL RIGHTS IN OWNERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND VOTING RIGHTS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MEMBER-OWNERS WHO ARE ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 7A	THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF THE COOPERATIVE HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ELECT THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 7B	CHANGES TO THE GOVERNING DOCUMENTS (BYLAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION) MUST BE APPROVED BY THE MEMBER-OWNERS AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVAL OCCURS WHEN AT LEAST 50% OF THE MEMBER-OWNERS VOTING TO APPROVE

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 8B	THERE ARE NO COMMITTEES WITH BOARD AUTHORITY TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING BODY ALL C OMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE TAKEN TO THE FULL BOARD FOR ACTION

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11B	THE LEADERS OF EVERY DEPARTMENT, CEO, AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL REVIEW THE 990 PRIOR TO SUBMITTING IT TO THE IRS

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	THE COOPERATIVE MAINTAINS A WRITTEN POLICY AS TO WHAT INCLUDES A CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND HOW ANY POTENTIAL ISSUES WILL BE HANDLED BOARD POLICY STATES THAT DIRECTORS MUST DISCLOSE ANY POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THE POLICY COVERS ALL DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES DETERMINATIONS OF WHETHER A CONFLICT EXISTS AND REVIEW OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS ARE MADE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND THE CEO, DEPARTMENT HEADS FOR EMPLOYEES, AND CEO FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15	SURVEYS OF COMPARABLE MINNESOTA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES ARE CONDUCTED AND USED TO DETERMINE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION THERE ARE NO WRITTEN CONTRACTS FOR EXECUTIVES THERE IS ALSO A PER FORMANCE REVIEW IN THE COMPENSATION PROCESS THE BOARD MEETS TO DISCUSS THE SALARY OF THE CEO, USING NRECA'S COMPENSATION DATA ANNUALLY

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AND PUBLISHED WITH THE ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART XI, LINE 9	CAPITAL CREDITS RETIRED -808,500 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES 136 PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ALLOCATED 83 4,001 HEARTLAND SECURITY SERVICES K-1 -19,318 ROUNDING -1

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART XII, LINE 2C	THE PROCESS FOR OVERSIGHT OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT AND SELECTION OF AN INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT HAS NOT CHANGED FROM THE PRIOR YEAR

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 4	THE IRS INSTRUCTIONS STATE THAT PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS PAID BY SECTION 501(C)(12) ORGANIZATIONS TO THEIR MEMBERS SHOULD BE REPORTED ON LINE 4 THE ORGANIZATION HAS INTERPRETED PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS PAID TO MEAN PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS ALLOCATED OR TO BE ALLOCATED FOR THE CURRENT YEAR SINCE THIS ALLOCATION IS NOT AN EXPENSE UNDER GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES (GAAP), THIS HAS RESULTED IN A RECONCILING ITEM TO NET ASSETS IN PART XI ON PAGE 12 OF THE FORM 990 AND IN PART XII ON SCHEDULE D

**SCHEDULE R
(Form 990)**

Related Organizations and Unrelated Partnerships

OMB No 1545-0047

2018

**Open to Public
Inspection**

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33, 34, 35b, 36, or 37.**
▶ **Attach to Form 990.**
▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
BLUE EARTH-NICOLLET-FARIBAUT
COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Employer identification number

41-0155615

Part I Identification of Disregarded Entities Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33.

(a) Name, address, and EIN (if applicable) of disregarded entity	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Total income	(e) End-of-year assets	(f) Direct controlling entity

Part II Identification of Related Tax-Exempt Organizations Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related tax-exempt organizations during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Exempt Code section	(e) Public charity status (if section 501(c)(3))	(f) Direct controlling entity	(g) Section 512(b)(13) controlled entity?	
						Yes	No
(1) BENCO ELECTRIC TRUST PO BOX 8 MANKATO, MN 56002 41-1985835	CHARITABLE	MN	501(C)(3)	LINE 7	BENCO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE		No

Part III Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Partnership Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a partnership during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Predominant income(related, unrelated, excluded from tax under sections 512- 514)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of-year assets	(h) Disproportionate allocations?		(i) Code V-UBI amount in box 20 of Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	(j) General or managing partner?		(k) Percentage ownership
							Yes	No		Yes	No	

Part IV Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Corporation or Trust Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a corporation or trust during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Type of entity (C corp, S corp, or trust)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of- year assets	(h) Percentage ownership	(i) Section 512(b) (13) controlled entity?	
								Yes	No

Part V Transactions With Related Organizations Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34, 35b, or 36.

Note. Complete line 1 if any entity is listed in Parts II, III, or IV of this schedule

	Yes	No
1 During the tax year, did the organization engage in any of the following transactions with one or more related organizations listed in Parts II-IV?		
a Receipt of (i) interest, (ii) annuities, (iii) royalties, or (iv) rent from a controlled entity	1a	No
b Gift, grant, or capital contribution to related organization(s)	1b	No
c Gift, grant, or capital contribution from related organization(s)	1c	No
d Loans or loan guarantees to or for related organization(s)	1d	No
e Loans or loan guarantees by related organization(s)	1e	No
f Dividends from related organization(s)	1f	No
g Sale of assets to related organization(s)	1g	No
h Purchase of assets from related organization(s)	1h	No
i Exchange of assets with related organization(s)	1i	No
j Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets to related organization(s)	1j	No
k Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets from related organization(s)	1k	No
l Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for related organization(s)	1l	No
m Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by related organization(s)	1m	No
n Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets with related organization(s)	1n	No
o Sharing of paid employees with related organization(s)	1o	No
p Reimbursement paid to related organization(s) for expenses	1p	No
q Reimbursement paid by related organization(s) for expenses	1q	No
r Other transfer of cash or property to related organization(s)	1r	Yes
s Other transfer of cash or property from related organization(s)	1s	No

2 If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," see the instructions for information on who must complete this line, including covered relationships and transaction thresholds

(a) Name of related organization	(b) Transaction type (a-s)	(c) Amount involved	(d) Method of determining amount involved
(1) NO TRANSACTIONS OVER 50000		0	

Part VI Unrelated Organizations Taxable as a Partnership Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 37.

Provide the following information for each entity taxed as a partnership through which the organization conducted more than five percent of its activities (measured by total assets or gross revenue) that was not a related organization See instructions regarding exclusion for certain investment partnerships

(a) Name, address, and EIN of entity	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Predominant income (related, unrelated, excluded from tax under sections 512-514)	(e) Are all partners section 501(c)(3) organizations?		(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of-year assets	(h) Disproportionate allocations?		(i) Code V-UBI amount in box 20 of Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	(j) General or managing partner?		(k) Percentage ownership
				Yes	No			Yes	No		Yes	No	

Part VII **Supplemental Information**

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule R (see instructions)

Return Reference	Explanation