

Kentucky 49  
Clark Energy Cooperative  
and Subsidiary  
Winchester, Kentucky

Audited Financial Statements  
April 30, 2015 and 2014

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**Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Board of Directors  
Clark Energy Cooperative

**Report on the Financial Statements**

I have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary, which comprise the balance sheets as of April 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of revenue and comprehensive income, changes in equities, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

**Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audits. I conducted my audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 the entity's internal control. Accordingly, I express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

To the Board of Directors  
Clark Energy Cooperative

## **Opinion**

In my opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary as of April 30, 2015 and 2014, and the results of their operations and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued a report dated June 15, 2015, on my consideration of Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary's internal control over financial reporting and my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

## **Report on Supplemental Information**

My audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information included in the consolidated financial statements is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and related directly to underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

*Alan Zumstein*

Alan M. Zumstein, CPA  
June 15, 2015

Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary  
Consolidated Balance Sheets, April 30, 2015 and 2014

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Utility Plant, net	\$ 89,224,291	\$ 87,933,426
Investments and Other Assets:		
Associated organizations and others	22,120,661	19,468,537
Goodwill	258,898	258,898
	22,379,559	19,727,435
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	901,641	845,877
Accounts receivable, less allowance for uncollectible accounts	1,850,294	2,221,669
Material and supplies	498,707	389,282
Prepayments	678,093	599,821
	3,928,735	4,056,649
Prepaid Pension Costs	2,401,583	2,585,143
Total	\$ 117,934,168	\$ 114,302,653
<u>Members' Equities and Liabilities</u>		
Members' Equities:		
Patronage capital and retained earnings	\$ 49,485,386	\$ 47,130,999
Accumulated other comprehensive income	(398,204)	(432,388)
Other equities and minority interest	2,720,949	2,071,085
	51,808,131	48,769,696
Long Term Debt	55,266,919	55,292,967
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	798,358	873,454
Short term borrowings	2,135,649	1,400,000
Current portion of long term debt	2,909,577	2,950,000
Consumer deposits	992,946	955,758
Other current and accrued liabilities	1,419,208	1,508,882
	8,255,738	7,688,094
Accumulated Postretirement Benefits	2,113,272	2,012,503
Accrued supplemental retirement	233,453	264,505
Consumer advances for construction	256,655	274,888
Total	\$ 117,934,168	\$ 114,302,653

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary  
Consolidated Statements of Revenue and Comprehensive Income  
for the years ended April 30, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Operating Revenues	\$ 53,925,164	\$ 54,006,223
Operating Expenses:		
Cost of purchases	35,856,031	35,930,013
Distribution - operations and maintenance	6,341,523	5,922,581
Consumer accounts	1,790,375	1,765,335
Customer service and information	286,847	336,912
Administrative and general	1,720,528	1,600,279
Depreciation, excluding \$303,556 in 2015 and \$292,239 in 2014 charged to clearing accounts	4,912,812	4,714,103
Taxes	189,352	155,086
	<u>51,097,468</u>	<u>50,424,310</u>
Operating Margins before Interest Charges	2,827,696	3,581,913
Interest Charges:		
Interest on long-term debt	1,434,564	1,577,890
Other interest	54,845	61,163
	<u>1,489,409</u>	<u>1,639,053</u>
Operating Margins after Interest Charges	<u>1,338,287</u>	<u>1,942,860</u>
Nonoperating Margins		
Interest income	38,280	44,981
Subsidiary and others	122,292	(7,397)
	<u>160,572</u>	<u>37,584</u>
Patronage Capital assigned, associated organizations	<u>2,707,416</u>	<u>2,875,999</u>
Net Margins	4,206,275	4,856,443
Other Comprehensive Income:		
Postretirement benefits	34,184	(221,792)
Noncontrolling interests	(103,601)	(41,376)
Total Comprehensive Income	<u>\$ 4,136,858</u>	<u>\$ 4,593,275</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary  
 Statements of Changes in Members' Equity  
 for the years ended April 30, 2014 and 2015

	<u>Patronage Capital</u>	<u>Other Equity</u>	<u>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income</u>	<u>Total Members' Equity</u>
Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 43,310,273	\$ 1,543,493	\$ (210,596)	\$ 44,643,170
Comprehensive income:				
Net margins	4,856,443			4,856,443
Postretirement benefit obligation				
Amortization			14,208	
Adjustments			<u>(236,000)</u>	(221,792)
Noncontrolling interests				-
Total comprehensive income				<u>4,634,651</u>
Refunds of capital credits	(1,035,717)			(1,035,717)
Assign margins		-		-
Other equities		<u>527,592</u>		<u>527,592</u>
Balance - April 30, 2014	47,130,999	2,071,085	(432,388)	<u>\$ 48,769,696</u>
Comprehensive income:				
Net margins	4,206,275			4,206,275
Postretirement benefit obligation				
Amortization			34,184	
Adjustments			<u>-</u>	34,184
Noncontrolling interests				-
Total comprehensive income				<u>4,240,459</u>
Refunds of capital credits	(1,851,888)			(1,851,888)
Transfers to other equity		-		-
Other equities		<u>649,864</u>		<u>649,864</u>
Balance - April, 2015	<u>\$ 49,485,386</u>	<u>\$ 2,720,949</u>	<u>\$ (398,204)</u>	<u>\$ 51,808,131</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary  
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

for the years ended April 30, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net margins	\$ 4,206,275	\$ 4,856,443
Adjustments to reconcile to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation:		
Charged to expense	4,912,812	4,714,103
Charged to clearing accounts	303,556	292,239
Patronage capital credits assigned	(2,707,416)	(2,875,999)
Change in assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	371,375	1,155,125
Material and supplies	(109,425)	98,959
Prepayments and deferred debits	105,288	(2,483,538)
Payables	(75,096)	(237,096)
Consumer deposits and advances	18,955	19,564
Accumulated postretirement benefits	134,953	110,236
Accrued supplemental retirement	(31,052)	(29,160)
Accrued expenses	(89,674)	26,467
	<u>7,040,551</u>	<u>5,647,343</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Plant additions	(6,067,481)	(5,466,116)
Plant removal costs	(491,654)	(414,450)
Salvage recovered from plant retirements	51,902	46,025
Other investments, net	55,292	63,208
	<u>(6,451,941)</u>	<u>(5,771,333)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Retire capital credits and dividends	(1,851,888)	(1,035,717)
Capital and other equities	649,864	527,592
Additional long-term borrowings	3,000,000	3,771,123
Payments on long-term debt	(3,066,471)	(2,945,114)
Short term borrowings (repayments)	735,649	(200,000)
	<u>(532,846)</u>	<u>117,884</u>
Net increase in cash	55,764	(6,106)
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of period	<u>845,877</u>	<u>851,983</u>
Cash and cash equivalents - end of period	<u>\$ 901,641</u>	<u>\$ 845,877</u>
Supplemental cash flows information:		
Interest paid on long-term debt	\$ 1,413,872	\$ 1,579,068
Income taxes paid	\$ 112,146	\$ 80,899

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.



## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Clark Energy Cooperative (“Clark Energy”) maintains its records in accordance with the policies prescribed or permitted by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“PSC”) and the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service (“RUS”), which conform in all material respects with generally accepted accounting principles. The more significant of these policies are as follows:

**Principles of Consolidation** The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Clark Energy Cooperative, Clark Energy Service Corporation (“Service Corporation”) and Clark Energy Propane Plus, LLC (“Propane Plus”). Clark Energy owns 75% and East Kentucky Power Cooperative (“East Kentucky”) owns 25% of Service Corporation’s outstanding stock. Service Corporation owns 100% of the outstanding stock of Propane Plus. All significant inter company accounts and transactions have been eliminated. Clark Energy uses an audit date of April 30. The Subsidiary operates on a fiscal year ending December 31. The consolidated financial statements reflect the year end of April 30 for Clark Energy and December 31 for the Subsidiary, respectively.

**Utility Plant** Clark Energy’s electric plant is stated at original cost, which is the cost when first dedicated to public service. Such amount includes applicable supervisory and overhead cost including any construction period interest and taxes. There was no interest required to be capitalized during the year.

Propane Plus’ fixed assets consist primarily of propane tanks located on customers’ premises, bulk tanks, and trucks used in the delivery of propane.

Utility plant consists of:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<i>Electric Plant:</i>		
Distribution plant	\$107,761,932	\$104,258,378
General plant	<u>10,994,603</u>	<u>10,456,598</u>
	118,756,535	114,714,976
Plant under construction	<u>1,012,276</u>	<u>865,262</u>
	119,768,811	115,580,238
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>32,042,105</u>	<u>29,199,506</u>
Net electric plant	<u>87,726,706</u>	<u>86,380,732</u>
 <i>Propane Plant:</i>		
Propane tanks on customers' premises	1,020,655	1,042,016
Bulk tanks	596,483	596,483
Delivery and other trucks	821,577	792,935
Buildings and land	233,724	218,073
Office and other equipment	<u>210,982</u>	<u>205,119</u>
	2,883,421	2,854,626
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>1,385,836</u>	<u>1,301,932</u>
Net propane plant	<u>1,497,585</u>	<u>1,552,694</u>
Net utility plant	<u>\$89,224,291</u>	<u>\$87,933,426</u>

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

The cost of maintenance and repairs, including renewals of minor items of property, is charged to operating expense. The cost of replacement of depreciable property units, as distinguished from minor items, is charged to electric plant. The units of property replaced or retired, including cost of removal, net of any salvage value, is charged to accumulated depreciation.

**Depreciation** Provision has been made for depreciation on the basis of the estimated lives of assets, using the straight-line method. Depreciation rates range from 1.44% to 10.0%, with a composite rate of 4.2% for distribution plant. General plant rates range from 2.5% to 20%. Propane Plus's depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the useful lives of its assets.

**Cash Equivalents** Clark Energy considers all short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

**Off Balance Sheet Risk** Clark Energy maintains its cash balances, which may exceed the federally insured limit, with several financial institutions. These financial institutions have strong credit ratings and management believes that the credit risk related to the accounts is minimal.

**Revenue** Clark Energy records revenue as billed to its consumers based on monthly meter-reading cycles. All consumers are required to pay a refundable deposit, however, it may be waived under certain circumstances. Clark Energy's sales are concentrated in an eleven (11) county area of central Kentucky. Consumers must pay their bill within 20 days of billing, at which time a disconnect notice is sent with payment to be within 10 days. If not paid, then consumers are subject to disconnect. Accounts are written off when they are deemed to be uncollectible. The allowance for uncollectible accounts is based on the aging of receivables. The balance in the allowance account was \$133,928 at 2015 and \$103,836 at 2014. There were no individual account balances that exceeded 10% of outstanding accounts receivable at April 30, 2015 or 2014.

Propane Plus recognizes revenue when earned, regardless of the period in which customers are billed. Propane sales are recognized when deliveries are made, tank rental each month, and sales of related accessories at the time of sale. Accounts are written off when they are deemed to be uncollectible. The allowance for uncollectible accounts is based on the aging of receivables. The balance in the allowance account was \$10,000 for 2014 and \$7,000 for 2012. There were no individual account balances that exceeded 10% of outstanding accounts receivable at December 31, 2014 or 2012.

The Companies are required to collect, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, sales taxes based on 6 percent of gross sales from non-residential consumers, a 3 percent school tax from certain counties on most gross sales, and franchise fees in certain cities. The Company's policy is to exclude sales tax from revenue when collected and expenses when paid and instead, record collection and payment of sales taxes through a liability account.

**Cost of Power** Clark Energy is one of sixteen (16) members of East Kentucky. Under a wholesale power agreement, Clark Energy is committed to purchase its electric power and energy requirements from East Kentucky until 2051. The rates charged by East Kentucky are subject to approval of the PSC. The cost of purchased power is recorded monthly during the period in which the energy is consumed, based upon billings from East Kentucky.

**Cost of Propane** Propane Plus purchases all of its propane requirements from an unrelated party through Kentucky Propane Plus, LLC, a related party. Propane is delivered in bulk tanks owned by Propane Plus, then delivered to customers on an as needed basis.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

**Propane Inventory** Propane is measured at the end of each month and valued based on the current purchase price of propane.

**Goodwill** The goodwill was recorded in connection with the purchase of one-half (1/2) interest from an unrelated party on June 30, 2000. The excess of the purchase price over the value of assets acquired has been recorded as goodwill. Goodwill was tested for impairment and it was determined that goodwill has not been impaired, therefore, there was no impairment of goodwill for 2015 or 2014.

**Estimates** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements.

**Fair Value Measurements** The Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic of the FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal, or most advantageous, market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Fair Values Measurements Topic establishes a three-level fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. This hierarchy requires entities to maximize the use of observable inputs when possible. The three levels of inputs used to measure fair value are as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities

Level 2: Quoted prices in markets that are not considered to be active or financial instruments for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Prices or valuations that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measure and unobservable.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The carrying amounts of Clark Energy's cash and cash equivalents, other receivables, investments, inventories, other assets, trade accounts payable, accrued expenses and liabilities, and other liabilities approximate fair value due to their short maturity. Investments in associated organizations are not considered a financial instrument because they represent nontransferable interests in associated organizations. Other assets are not considered financial instruments because they represent activities specifically related to Clark Energy. Long term debt cannot be traded in the market, and is specifically for electric cooperatives and, therefore, a value other than its outstanding principal cannot be determined.

Clark Energy may, and also does, invest idle funds in local banks and in National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation ("CFC") commercial paper. The inputs used to measure idle funds are Level 1 measurements, as these funds are exchange traded funds in an active market.

**Risk Management** Clark Energy is exposed to various forms of losses of assets associated with, but not limited to, fire, personal liability, theft, vehicular accidents, errors and omissions, fiduciary responsibility, workers compensation, etc. Each of these areas is covered through the purchase of commercial insurance.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

**Advertising** Clark Energy expenses advertising costs as incurred.

**Income Tax Status** Clark Energy is exempt from federal and state income taxes under provisions of Section 501(c)(12). Accordingly, the financial statements for Clark Energy include no provision for income taxes. Income taxes for Service Corporation are provided on income as reported in the accompanying statements regardless of when such taxes are payable. Propane Plus is a limited liability company treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. All tax related issues would be passed on to Service Corporation. Propane Plus uses the same depreciation for book and taxes, therefore, deferred taxes are considered immaterial and are not recorded.

Effective January 1, 2008, Clark Energy adopted the provisions of the *Income Taxes Topic* of the FASB ASC that pertains to accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. Clark Energy had no prior unrecognized tax benefits as a result of the implementation. Management evaluates its potential exposures from tax positions taken that have or could be challenged by taxing authorities. These potential exposures result because taxing authorities may take positions that differ from those taken by management in the interpretation and application of statutes, regulations, and rules. There are no tax positions for which the ultimate deductibility is highly uncertain included in the accompanying financial statements. Clark Energy recognizes interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. Clark Energy did not recognize any interest or penalties during the years ended December 31, 2014 or 2013. Clark Energy's income tax return is subject to possible examination by taxing authorities until the expiration of related statutes of limitations on the return, which is generally three years.

**Comprehensive Income** Comprehensive income includes both net margin and other comprehensive income. Other comprehensive income represents the change in funded status of the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation.

**Reclassifications** Comparative data for the prior year have presented in certain sections of the accompanying financial statements in order to provide an understanding of changes in the financial position and operations.

**Subsequent Events** Management has evaluated subsequent events through June 15, 2015, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no significant subsequent events to report.

### Note 2. Investments in Associated Organizations and Others

Clark Energy records patronage capital assigned by associated organizations in the year in which such assignments are received. The Capital Term Certificates ("CTCs") of CFC are recorded at cost. The CTCs were purchased from CFC as a condition of obtaining long-term financing. The CTCs bear interest at 0%, 3% and 5% and are scheduled to mature at varying times from 2020 to 2080.

Investments in associated organizations and others consist of:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
East Kentucky, patronage capital	\$20,134,438	\$17,514,544
CFC - CTC's	842,228	845,849
Other associated organizations	904,795	853,971
Cash value of life insurance	239,200	254,173
	<u>\$22,120,661</u>	<u>\$19,468,537</u>

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 3. Patronage Capital

Under provisions of the long-term debt agreement, return to patrons of capital contributed by them is limited to amounts which would not allow the total equities and margins to be less than 30% of total assets, except that distributions may be made to estates of deceased patrons. The debt agreement provides, however, that should such distributions to estates not exceed 25% of the net margins for the next preceding year, Clark Energy may distribute the difference between 25% and the payments made to such estates. The equity at April 30, 2015 was 44% of total assets. Patronage capital consists of:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assigned to date	\$52,753,401	\$48,174,579
Assignable	803,119	1,396,726
Retirements of capital credits	<u>(4,071,134)</u>	<u>(2,440,306)</u>
	<u>\$49,485,386</u>	<u>\$47,130,999</u>

### Note 4. Short Term Borrowings

At April 30, 2015, Clark Energy had a short term line of credit of \$8,500,000 available from CFC. At April 30 2015, Clark Energy had advances of \$2,135,649 at an interest rate of 2.90%.

### Note 5. Long Term Debt

All assets, except vehicles, are pledged as collateral on the long term debt to RUS, Federal Financing Bank ("FFB"), and CFC under a joint mortgage agreement. Long term debt consists of:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Notes due RUS, 3.875% to 6%	<u>\$8,266,673</u>	<u>\$8,568,390</u>
Notes due FFB, 0.039% to 4.913%	<u>42,993,360</u>	<u>41,489,221</u>
Notes due CFC 3.65% - 5.75%	2,441,110	2,719,111
Fund prepaid pension costs 2.35%	1,244,546	1,537,876
Refinance RUS loans, 3.65% - 4.65%	<u>3,171,230</u>	<u>3,768,856</u>
	<u>6,856,886</u>	<u>8,025,843</u>
	58,116,919	58,083,454
Current portion	<u>2,850,000</u>	<u>2,850,000</u>
Long term portion for Clark Energy	<u>55,266,919</u>	<u>55,233,454</u>
East Kentucky 2.75%	59,577	159,513
Current portion	<u>59,577</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Long term portion for Propane Plus	<u>-</u>	<u>59,513</u>
Total long term portion	<u>\$55,266,919</u>	<u>\$55,292,967</u>

The interest rates on the notes to CFC are subject to change every seven years from the repricing date for each individual note. The long term debt is due in quarterly and monthly installments of varying amounts through 2047. Clark Energy has \$5,000,000 of loan funds available from FFB. RUS assess 12.5 basis points to administer the FFB loans.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### **Note 4. Long Term Debt**, continued

On September 12, 2000, East Kentucky issued a “Commercial Note With Guaranty” in the amount of \$839,299 to allow Service Corporation to purchase its one-half interest. The interest rate is variable, with the rate being the “*Index Rate*”, as published in the Wall Street Journal, minus one-half percent. The rate at 2014 and 2013 was 2.75%.

As of April 30, 2015, the annual principal payments of Clark Energy for the next five years are as follows: 2016 - \$2,850,000; 2017 - \$3,000,000; 2018 - \$3,100,000; 2019 - \$3,200,000; 2020 - \$3,300,000.

As of April 30, 2015, the annual principal payments of Propane Plus for the next five years are as follows: 2016 - \$59,513; 2017 - none.

### **Note 6. Pension Plan**

All eligible employees of Clark participate in the NRECA Retirement and Security Plan (“R&S Plan”), a defined benefit pension plan qualified under section 401 and tax exempt under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is a multiemployer plan under the accounting standards. The Plan sponsor’s identification number is 53-0116145 and the Plan Number is 333. A unique characteristic of a multiemployer plan compared to a single employer plan is that all plan assets are available to pay benefits of any plan participant. Separate asset accounts are not maintained for participating employers. This means that assets contributed by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers.

Clark’s contributions to the R&S Plan in 2015 and 2014 represent less than 5 percent of the total contributions made to the plan by all participating employers. Clark made contributions to the plan of \$774,982 in 2015 and \$722,086 in 2014. There have been no significant changes that affect the comparability of 2015 and 2014.

In the R&S Plan, a “zone status” determination is not required, and therefore not determined, under the Pension Protection Act (“PPA”) of 2006. In addition, the accumulated benefit obligations and plan assets are not determined or allocated separately by individual employer. In total, the R&S Plan was between 65 percent and 80 percent funded at January 1, 2014 and 2013 based on the PPA funding target and PPA actuarial value of assets on those dates. Because the provisions of the PPA do not apply to the R&S Plan, funding improvement plans and surcharges are not applicable. Future contribution requirements are determined each year as part of the actuarial valuation of the plan and may change as a result of plan experience.

Cooperatives participating in the NRECA R&S plan were allowed to make an Accelerated Funding Payment (“prepayment”) and receive an immediate reduction in their current contribution requirement equal to approximately 25% of their 2015 billing rate. Although the new (reduced) billing rate can change over time, the relative value of the reduction will continue to benefit prepaying cooperatives in future years, potentially for as many as 10-15 years or longer. During May, 2013, Clark Energy made an accelerated payment to NRECA in the amount of \$2,753,407. One-million dollars was funded with general funds and the remaining from a 6 year loan with CFC. The amount was recorded as a deferred debit and is being amortized over 15 years through the benefits matrix in the amount of \$168,264.

Propane Plus has a profit sharing plan of 10% of net profits, before the pension amount, where managers receive 5% of the plan amount and the remaining employees share the remaining 5%. The pension amount for 2015 was \$59,672 and 2014 was \$44,657.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 7. Postretirement Benefits

Clark Energy sponsors a defined benefit plan that provides medical insurance coverage to retirees and their dependents. Participating retirees contribute a portion of the cost of coverage. The following is a reconciliation of the postretirement obligation.

The funded status of the plan is as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Projected benefit obligation	(\$2,113,272)	(\$2,012,503)
Fair value of plan assets	-	-
Funded status	<u>(\$2,113,272)</u>	<u>(\$2,012,503)</u>

The components of net periodic postretirement benefit costs are as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	<u>\$2,012,503</u>	<u>\$1,680,475</u>
Net periodic benefit cost:		
Service cost	56,633	45,735
Interest cost	83,092	89,865
	<u>139,725</u>	<u>135,600</u>
Benefits paid	(38,956)	(39,572)
Actuarial gain/loss	-	236,000
Benefit obligation at end of year	<u>\$2,113,272</u>	<u>\$2,012,503</u>

Projected retiree benefit payments for the next five years are expected to be as follows: 2016 - \$45,800; 2017 - \$48,900; 2018 - \$54,400; 2019 - \$60,900; 2020 - \$63,900.

The discount rate used in determining the APBO was 5.0% for 2015 and 2014. The health care cost trend rate used to compute the APBO is a 8% annual rate of increase for 2007, and decreasing gradually to 5.5%, then remain at that level thereafter.

### Note 8. Related Party Transactions

Several of the Directors of Clark Energy, its President & CEO, and another employee are on the boards of directors of various associated organizations.

### Note 9. Environmental Contingency

Clark Energy, from time to time, is required to work with and handle PCB's, herbicides, automotive fluids, lubricants, and other hazardous materials in the normal course of business. As a result, there is a possibility that environmental conditions may arise which would require Clark Energy to incur cleanup costs. The likelihood of such an event, or the amount of such costs, if any, cannot be determined at this time. However, management does not believe such costs, if any, would materially affect Clark Energy's financial position or its future cash flows.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### **Note 10. Commitments**

Clark Energy has various other agreements outstanding with local contractors. Under these agreements, the contractors will perform construction and maintenance work at specified hourly rates or unit cost, or on an as needed basis. The duration of these contracts are one to three years.

### **Note 11. Contingencies**

Clark Energy is involved in litigation arising in the normal course of business. While the results of such litigation cannot be predicted with certainty, management, based upon advice of counsel, believes that the final outcome will not have a material adverse effect on the financial statements.

\* \* \* \* \*



Clark Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary  
Consolidating Balance Sheet, April 30, 2015

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Energy</u>	<u>Services</u>	<u>Propane</u>	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Consolidated</u>
Net Utility Plant	\$ 87,726,706		\$ 1,497,585		\$ 89,224,291
Investments and Other Assets:					
Associated organizations	22,120,661				22,120,661
Goodwill, net of amortization			258,898		258,898
Subsidiary	1,801,053	2,399,428		(4,200,481)	-
	<u>23,921,714</u>	<u>2,399,428</u>	<u>258,898</u>	<u>(4,200,481)</u>	<u>22,379,559</u>
Current Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	303,650	1,976	596,015		901,641
Accounts receivable, less allowance for uncollectible accounts	1,760,329		89,965		1,850,294
Material and supplies, at average cost	391,850		106,857		498,707
Prepayments	624,587		53,506		678,093
	<u>3,080,416</u>	<u>1,976</u>	<u>846,343</u>		<u>3,928,735</u>
Prepaid Pension Costs	<u>2,401,583</u>				<u>2,401,583</u>
Total	<u>\$ 117,130,419</u>	<u>\$ 2,401,404</u>	<u>\$ 2,602,826</u>	<u>\$ (4,200,481)</u>	<u>\$ 117,934,168</u>
<u>Members' Equities and Liabilities</u>					
Members' and Stockholder's Equities:					
Capital	\$ -	\$ 1,194,000	\$ 1,025,121	\$ (2,219,121)	\$ -
Patronage capital and retained earnings	49,485,386	607,053	1,402,293	(2,009,346)	49,485,386
Accum other comprehensive income	(398,204)				(398,204)
Minority interests and other equities	2,092,612	600,351		27,986	2,720,949
	<u>51,179,794</u>	<u>2,401,404</u>	<u>2,427,414</u>	<u>(4,200,481)</u>	<u>51,808,131</u>
Long Term Debt	<u>55,266,919</u>				<u>55,266,919</u>
Current Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	682,523		115,835	-	798,358
Short term borrowings	2,135,649				2,135,649
Current portion of long term debt	2,850,000		59,577		2,909,577
Consumer deposits	992,946				992,946
Accrued expenses	1,419,208				1,419,208
	<u>8,080,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>175,412</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,255,738</u>
Accumulated Postretirement Benefits	2,113,272				2,113,272
Accrued Supplemental Retirement	233,453				233,453
Consumer Advances for Construction	256,655				256,655
Total	<u>\$ 117,130,419</u>	<u>\$ 2,401,404</u>	<u>\$ 2,602,826</u>	<u>\$ (4,200,481)</u>	<u>\$ 117,934,168</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Consolidating Statement of Revenue and Comprehensive Income  
for the year ended April 30, 2015

	<u>Energy</u>	<u>Services</u>	<u>Propane</u>	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Consolidated</u>
Operating Revenues	<u>\$50,724,434</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,200,730</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 53,925,164</u>
Operating Expenses:					
Cost of purchases	34,276,680		1,579,351		35,856,031
Distribution - operations and maintenance	5,659,891		681,632		6,341,523
Consumer accounts	1,482,657		307,718		1,790,375
Customer service and information	286,847				286,847
Administrative and general	1,500,950	925	218,653	-	1,720,528
Depreciation, excluding \$303,556 charged to clearing accounts	4,712,545		200,267		4,912,812
Taxes	63,222	112,146	13,984		189,352
	<u>47,982,792</u>	<u>113,071</u>	<u>3,001,605</u>		<u>51,097,468</u>
Operating Margins before Interest Charges	<u>2,741,642</u>	<u>(113,071)</u>	<u>199,125</u>		<u>2,827,696</u>
Interest Charges:					
Interest on long term debt	1,431,855		2,709		1,434,564
Other interest	54,845				54,845
	<u>1,486,700</u>		<u>2,709</u>		<u>1,489,409</u>
Operating Margins after Interest Charges	<u>1,254,942</u>	<u>(113,071)</u>	<u>196,416</u>		<u>1,338,287</u>
Nonoperating Margins:					
Interest income	38,042	1	237		38,280
Subsidiary and others	205,875	426,655	230,002	(740,240)	122,292
	<u>243,917</u>	<u>426,656</u>	<u>230,239</u>	<u>(740,240)</u>	<u>160,572</u>
Patronage Capital, associated organizations	<u>2,707,416</u>				<u>2,707,416</u>
Net Margins	4,206,275	313,585	426,655	(740,240)	4,206,275
Other Comprehensive Income:					
Postretirement benefits	34,184				34,184
Noncontrolling interests		(103,601)			(103,601)
Total Comprehensive Income	<u>\$ 4,240,459</u>	<u>\$ 209,984</u>	<u>\$ 426,655</u>	<u>\$ (740,240)</u>	<u>\$ 4,136,858</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

**ALAN M. ZUMSTEIN**  
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• AICPA DIVISION FOR FIRMS

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance  
and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements  
Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

To the Board of Directors  
Clark Energy Cooperative

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Clark Energy Cooperative, which comprise the balance sheets as of April 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of revenue and comprehensive income, member' equities, and cash flows for the years then ended, and related notes to the financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated June 15, 2015.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered Clark Energy's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Clark Energy's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Clark Energy's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Clark Energy's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed test of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations,

To the Board of Directors  
Clark Energy Cooperative

contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit, and accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of this Report**

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Rural Utilities Service, and supplemental lenders, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Alan Zumstein*

Alan M. Zumstein, CPA  
June 15, 2015

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Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Aspects of Contractual  
Agreements and Regulatory Requirements for Electric Borrowers

Board of Directors  
Clark Energy Cooperative

**Independent Auditor's Report**

I have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Clark Energy Cooperative ("the Cooperative"), which comprise the balance sheet as of April 30, 2015, and the related statements of revenue and comprehensive income, patronage capital, and changes in cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated June 15, 2015. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued my report dated June 15, 2015, on my consideration of the Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. No reports other than the reports referred to above related to my audit have been furnished to management.

In connection with my audit, nothing came to my attention that caused me to believe that the Cooperative failed to comply with the terms, covenants, provisions, or conditions of their loan, grant, and security instruments as set forth in 7 CFR Part 1773, *Policy on Audits of Rural Utilities Service Borrowers*, §1773.33 and clarified in the RUS policy memorandum dated February 7, 2015, insofar as they relate to accounting matters as enumerated below. However, my audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of noncompliance. Accordingly, had I performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to my attention regarding the Cooperative's noncompliance with the above-referenced terms, covenants, provisions, or conditions of the contractual agreements and regulatory requirements, insofar as they relate to accounting matters. In connection with my audit, I noted no matters regarding the Cooperative's accounting and records to indicate that the Cooperative did not:

- Maintain adequate and effective accounting procedures;
- Utilize adequate and fair methods for accumulating and recording labor, material, and overhead costs, and the distribution of these costs to construction, retirement, and maintenance or other expense accounts;
- Reconcile continuing property records to the controlling general ledger plant accounts;
- Clear construction accounts and accrue depreciation on completed construction;
- Record and properly price the retirement of plant;

Board of Directors  
Clark Energy Cooperative

- Seek approval of the sale, lease, or transfer of capital assets and disposition of proceeds for the sale or lease of plant, material, or scrap;
- Maintain adequate control over material and supplies;
- Prepare accurate and timely Financial and Operating Reports;
- Obtain written RUS approval to enter into any contract for the management, operation, or maintenance of the borrower's system if the contract covers all or substantially all of the electric system;
- Disclose material related party transactions in the financial statements, in accordance with requirements for related parties in generally accepted accounting principles;
- Record depreciation in accordance with RUS requirements ("See RUS Bulletin 183-1, Depreciation Rates and Procedures");
- Comply with the requirements for the detailed schedule of deferred debits and deferred credits, which are listed below; and
- Comply with the requirements for the detailed schedule of investments, which are listed below.

The deferred debits are as follows:

Prepaid pension costs	<u><u>\$2,401,583</u></u>
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The deferred credits are as follows:

Consumer advances for construction	<u><u>\$256,655</u></u>
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Clark Energy is a 75% owner of a subsidiary, Clark Energy Services Corporation, which is engaged in the distribution sales of propane gas through a limited liability company (LLC) in and around the areas in which Clark Energy provides electric service. The investment is accounted for using the equity method of accounting. The original investment was \$9,000. The investment is as follows:

	<u>Investment</u>	<u>Profits</u>
Beginning balance	\$1,194,000	\$397,069
Activity for 2015	<u>-</u>	<u>209,984</u>
Ending balance	<u><u>\$1,194,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$607,053</u></u>

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the board of directors, management, RUS, and supplemental lenders and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distributions is not limited.

*Alan Zumstein*

Alan M. Zumstein, CPA  
June 15, 2015