




# **Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy**

## **Independent Auditor's Reports and Financial Statements**

December 31, 2025 and 2024



**Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy**  
**Contents**  
**December 31, 2025 and 2024**

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## Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors  
Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Madison, South Dakota

### ***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy (Heartland), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Heartland's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Basis for Opinion***

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

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

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Heartland's ability to continue as a going concern for 12 months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

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

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and pension information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

***Forvis Mazars, LLP***

**Lincoln, Nebraska  
April 1, 2026**

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This discussion and analysis of Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy's (Heartland) financial statements provides the reader an overview of the financial activities for 2025, 2024 and 2023. Heartland's financial statements are comprised of three components: (1) Management's Discussion and Analysis, (2) financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. Please read this in conjunction with the audited financial statements and footnotes contained herein.

### Overview of Financial Statements

The balance sheets present information on Heartland's assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of Heartland is improving or deteriorating.

Heartland's overall financial position is summarized below (in thousands). This information is derived from the financial statements and records of Heartland.

	Condensed Balance Sheets			Fiscal Year-to-Year Percentage Change	
	As of December 31,			From 2024	From 2023
	2025	2024	2023	to 2025	to 2024
Current assets	\$ 34,722	\$ 39,391	\$ 42,050	(11.9)%	(6.3)%
Capital assets, net	2,011	2,139	2,167	(6.0)%	(1.3)%
Costs recoverable from future billings	24,000	24,473	26,485	(1.9)%	(7.6)%
Other noncurrent assets	25,118	16,578	9,631	51.5%	72.1%
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>85,851</b>	<b>82,581</b>	<b>80,333</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
Deferred outflows of resources	2,004	2,228	2,648	(10.1)%	(15.9)%
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows of resources</b>	<b>\$ 87,855</b>	<b>\$ 84,809</b>	<b>\$ 82,981</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
Current liabilities	\$ 10,612	\$ 9,764	\$ 9,873	8.7%	(1.1)%
Noncurrent liabilities	21,714	23,660	23,031	(8.2)%	2.7%
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>32,326</b>	<b>33,424</b>	<b>32,904</b>	<b>(3.3)%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Deferred inflows of resources	16,371	16,230	16,233	0.9%	(0.0)%
Net investment in capital assets	2,011	2,139	2,167	(6.0)%	(1.3)%
Restricted	331	321	232	3.1%	38.4%
Unrestricted	36,816	32,695	31,445	12.6%	4.0%
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>39,158</b>	<b>35,155</b>	<b>33,844</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position</b>	<b>\$ 87,855</b>	<b>\$ 84,809</b>	<b>\$ 82,981</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>

Heartland's overall net position increased by \$4,002,368, \$1,311,461, and \$1,974,426 in 2025, 2024, and 2023 respectively.

Costs recoverable from future billings are primarily comprised of charges incurred in relation to Heartland's bond issuances, costs incurred by Heartland for initial payments made on long-term capacity contracts, unrealized net losses on investments, and a prepayment of \$35 million made by Heartland during 2018 to terminate a transmission contract which is no longer necessary. The decreases in this balance in 2025 and 2024 represent the scheduled amortization of these costs. Other noncurrent assets increased from 2024 to 2025 as a result of an increase in long-term investments. Noncurrent assets increased from 2023 to 2024 primarily as a result of an increase in notes receivable related to Heartland's economic development program. Reductions of future billings are included within deferred inflows of resources and are comprised primarily of Board approved transfers for rate stabilization and unrealized net gains on investments.

## Results of Operations

The statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position present information showing how Heartland's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year.

A summary of revenues and expenses is provided in the table that follows (in thousands except power sales).

	Condensed Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position			Fiscal Year-to-Year Percentage Change	
	Years Ended December 31,			From 2024	From 2023
	2025	2024	2023	to 2025	to 2024
Power sales					
Customer energy (MWh)	492,399	449,375	481,625	9.6%	(6.7)%
Customer cumulative demand (kW)	901,235	839,817	891,109	7.3%	(5.8)%
Revenues					
Customer revenue	\$ 41,478	\$ 39,184	\$ 40,872	5.9%	(4.1)%
Contracted requirements revenue	2,543	2,395	2,434	6.2%	(1.6)%
Surplus sales revenue	11,261	8,595	7,568	31.0%	13.6%
Pension revenue	162	-	-	—%	—%
Other operating revenue	1,845	2,097	1,673	(12.0)%	25.3%
Total operating revenue	\$ 57,289	\$ 52,271	\$ 52,547	9.6%	(0.5)%
Expenses					
Cost of power	\$ 41,810	\$ 40,762	\$ 40,222	2.6%	1.3%
Transmission	2,873	2,704	2,669	6.3%	1.3%
Production	17	14	15	21.4%	(6.7)%
Depreciation	128	130	127	(1.5)%	2.4%
Taxes	13	24	21	(45.8)%	14.3%
Administration and general	6,021	5,443	5,086	10.6%	7.0%
Pension	-	105	46	(100.0)%	100.0%
Amortization	3,251	3,145	3,019	3.4%	4.2%
Total operating expenses	54,113	52,327	51,205	3.4%	2.2%
Operating income (loss)	3,176	(56)	1,342	(5,771.4)%	(104.2)%
Total nonoperating revenues, net	827	1,367	632	39.5%	116.3%
Change in net position	4,003	1,311	1,974		
Net position, beginning of year	35,155	33,844	31,870		
Net position, end of year	\$ 39,158	\$ 35,155	\$ 33,844		

Operating revenues include firm power sales to Heartland's wholesale rate customers, other contracted sales, short-term energy sales on the surplus market, and other revenues. Demand and energy sales for 2025 were 901 MW and 492,399 MWh, respectively. Heartland's wholesale customer peak demand was 95 MW in 2025. Demand and energy sales for 2024 were 839 MW and 449,375 MWh, respectively. The 2024 peak demand of Heartland's long-term wholesale customers was 88 MW. Heartland's wholesale customer demand and energy sales for 2023 were 891 MW and 481,625 MWh, respectively. Heartland's wholesale customer peak demand for 2023 was 94 MW. The change in customer revenues is a result of changes in demand and energy sales from one year to the next. The increase in surplus sales revenue in 2025 was a result of a stronger market and more demand compared to 2024.

Heartland has other energy sales contracts, in addition to its wholesale customers. The contracted requirements revenue mitigates exposure to the surplus market for excess power and the contracts typically contain fixed pricing and quantities. Many of these contracts are unit contingent and Heartland is not required to provide replacement power.

Surplus energy sales are the sales of energy produced by Heartland's resources in excess of the energy required by Heartland's customers and other contracts. These sales are considered short term and non-firm. The quantity of surplus energy and revenue is dependent upon multiple factors including availability of resources, customer and other contract requirements, and market and contractual pricing.

Heartland purchases power to meet the total contract resource obligations to its customers. The purchased power contracts include base-load resources, renewable generation facilities, market purchases, and additional capacity purchases required to comply with the resource reserve requirements for maintaining regional reliability.

Heartland is a member of Public Power Generation Agency (PPGA), an interlocal agency created under Nebraska statute to build WEC2, a 220 megawatt coal-fired project near Hastings, Nebraska. PPGA financed construction of WEC2 directly, rather than obtaining funding from its members. Heartland's participation in PPGA is for 80 megawatts. Heartland also has a contract with North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (NIMECA) in which NIMECA purchases output of WEC2 for the life of the unit. NIMECA's contract is for 20 megawatts and includes all owners' costs.

The nonoperating revenues/expenses include interest on bonds, investment income, amortization of debt issuance costs and the deferred loss on refunding, and other expense items. Heartland recognized increased investment income in 2024 as a result of the interest rate market and increased investment balances. Interest expense decreased during 2024 and 2025 as a result of decreased total notes payable and long-term debt balances for a majority of the 2024 fiscal year.

### ***Contact Information***

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Heartland's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Mike Malone, P.O. Box 248, Madison, SD 57042.

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Balance Sheets  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,800,538	\$ 9,402,251
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	342,328	341,053
Short-term investments	15,074,901	22,974,225
Accounts receivable	5,914,713	5,474,203
Notes receivable, current portion	1,524,586	1,091,316
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	64,739	108,253
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>34,721,805</u>	<u>39,391,301</u>
<b>Noncurrent Assets</b>		
Notes receivable, net of allowance of \$1,918,493 in 2025 and \$961,759 in 2024	13,286,872	13,520,726
Long-term investments	11,254,183	2,490,168
Capital assets, net	2,010,795	2,138,934
Costs recoverable from future billings	23,999,767	24,472,782
Net pension asset	7,886	3,823
Other noncurrent assets	568,400	563,430
<b>Total Noncurrent Assets</b>	<u>51,127,903</u>	<u>43,189,863</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>		
Deferred outflows for pensions	755,763	660,109
Deferred loss on debt refunding	1,248,703	1,567,521
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>2,004,466</u>	<u>2,227,630</u>
<b>Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>\$ 87,854,174</u>	<u>\$ 84,808,794</u>

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Balance Sheets  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

**(Continued)**

<b>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 3,997,549	\$ 3,550,474
Accounts payable	5,821,620	5,526,439
Accrued expenses	754,138	646,367
Accrued interest payable	38,992	39,770
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>10,612,299</b>	<b>9,763,050</b>
<b>Noncurrent Liabilities</b>		
Long-term debt, net	21,022,652	23,020,300
Other noncurrent liabilities	691,017	639,757
<b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b>	<b>21,713,669</b>	<b>23,660,057</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>32,325,968</b>	<b>33,423,107</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>		
Deferred inflows for pensions	418,569	480,388
Reductions of future billings	15,951,970	15,750,000
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>16,370,539</b>	<b>16,230,388</b>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	2,010,795	2,138,934
Restricted for debt service	323,361	317,547
Restricted for pensions	7,886	3,823
Unrestricted	36,815,625	32,694,995
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>39,157,667</b>	<b>35,155,299</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 87,854,174</b>	<b>\$ 84,808,794</b>

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position  
Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>		
Customer requirements	\$ 41,477,586	\$ 39,184,375
Other contracted requirements	2,543,438	2,394,940
Surplus sales revenue	11,261,264	8,595,202
Pension revenue	161,536	-
Other operating revenue	<u>1,845,333</u>	<u>2,096,762</u>
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u>57,289,157</u>	<u>52,271,279</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Cost of power	41,809,622	40,761,999
Transmission	2,872,832	2,704,231
Production	17,252	14,012
Depreciation	128,139	130,138
Taxes	13,471	23,866
Administration and general	6,020,727	5,443,471
Pension	-	105,124
Amortization	<u>3,250,928</u>	<u>3,144,668</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>54,112,971</u>	<u>52,327,509</u>
<b>Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<u>3,176,186</u>	<u>(56,230)</u>
<b>Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)</b>		
Investment income	1,342,999	1,967,899
Interest expense	(650,287)	(780,488)
Amortization expense	(13,065)	(13,065)
Other	<u>146,535</u>	<u>193,345</u>
<b>Net Nonoperating Revenues</b>	<u>826,182</u>	<u>1,367,691</u>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	4,002,368	1,311,461
<b>Net Position, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>35,155,299</u>	<u>33,843,838</u>
<b>Net Position, End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 39,157,667</u>	<u>\$ 35,155,299</u>

**Heartland Consumers Power District**  
**d/b/a Heartland Energy**  
**Statements of Cash Flows**  
**Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts from customers	\$ 41,263,688	\$ 39,860,850
Receipts from others	15,584,959	13,773,819
Payments to suppliers	(48,639,759)	(46,754,302)
Payments to employees	(2,776,440)	(2,415,837)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<u>5,432,448</u>	<u>4,464,530</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of promissory notes	2,000,000	4,100,000
Payments on promissory notes	(590,573)	(625,274)
Payments on revenue bonds	(2,960,000)	(2,815,000)
Interest paid	(332,247)	(469,575)
Other nonoperating receipts	1,103,269	302,206
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Noncapital Financing Activities</b>	<u>(779,551)</u>	<u>492,357</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities</b>		
Purchase of capital assets	-	(102,904)
Payments for power projects	(1,904,189)	(1,061,300)
<b>Net Cash Used in Capital and Related Financing Activities</b>	<u>(1,904,189)</u>	<u>(1,164,204)</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Purchases of investment securities	(27,825,038)	(21,046,351)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investment securities	25,466,608	12,730,790
Issuance of notes receivable	(2,824,500)	(5,838,965)
Repayments of notes receivable	1,668,350	1,162,365
Investment income received	3,165,434	1,456,545
<b>Net Cash Used in Investing Activities</b>	<u>(349,146)</u>	<u>(11,535,616)</u>
<b>Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	2,399,562	(7,742,933)
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>9,743,304</u>	<u>17,486,237</u>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 12,142,866</u>	<u>\$ 9,743,304</u>
<b>Composition of Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,800,538	\$ 9,402,251
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	342,328	341,053
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 12,142,866</u>	<u>\$ 9,743,304</u>

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Statements of Cash Flows  
Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024**

**(Continued)**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>		
Operating income (loss)	\$ 3,176,186	\$ (56,230)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization	3,379,067	3,274,806
Changes in balance sheet operating items		
Accounts receivable	(440,510)	1,363,390
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(974,971)	(90,498)
Net pension asset	(4,063)	5,836
Deferred outflows for pensions	(95,654)	101,582
Accounts payable	295,181	(377,345)
Accrued expenses	159,031	245,283
Deferred inflows for pensions	(61,819)	(2,294)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<u>\$ 5,432,448</u>	<u>\$ 4,464,530</u>
<b>Supplemental Cash Flows Information</b>		
Increase in allowance for notes receivable	\$ 956,734	\$ 108,861
Amortization of deferred loss on debt refunding	318,818	318,818

## **Note 1. Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### ***Nature of Operations***

Heartland Consumers Power District d/b/a Heartland Energy (Heartland) is a public corporation and a political subdivision of the State of South Dakota created under the Consumers Power District Law for the purpose of supplying electric energy. Heartland is empowered by the Consumers Power District Law to finance, own, and operate, either singly or jointly with others and anywhere within or without the boundaries of Heartland or the State of South Dakota, any electric light and power plants, lines, and systems or interest therein for the generation and transmission of electric power and energy. Heartland has firm power customers in the four-state region of Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.

Rates for wholesale electric service are set by the Heartland Board of Directors. Neither the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission nor any other commission has jurisdiction over Heartland with respect to Heartland's rates and charges for power sales to its customers.

### ***Reporting Entity***

In evaluating how to define the entity for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units for which financial accountability may exist. The determination of financial accountability includes consideration of a number of criteria, including: (1) Heartland's ability to appoint a voting majority of another entity's governing body and to impose its will on that entity, (2) the potential for that entity to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on Heartland and (3) the entity's fiscal dependency on Heartland. Based upon the above criteria, Heartland has determined that it has no reportable component units.

### ***Basis of Accounting***

Heartland's activities are accounted for using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Heartland's accounting records are maintained in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for regulated utilities and generally follow the Uniform System of Accounts for Public Utilities and Licensees prescribed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Heartland prepares its financial statements as a business-type activity in conformity with applicable pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Heartland's accounting policies also follow the provisions of GASB Codification Section Re10, *Regulated Operations*, which permits an entity with cost-based rates to defer certain costs or income that would otherwise be recognized when incurred to the extent that the rate-regulated entity is recovering or expects to recover such amounts in rates charged to its customers. This method includes the philosophy that debt service requirements, as opposed to depreciation or amortization, are a cost for rate making purposes.

### ***Use of Estimates***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and deferred inflows and outflows of resources and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenses and other changes in net position during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

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***Cash Equivalents***

Heartland considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase to be cash equivalents. At December 31, 2025 and 2024, cash equivalents consisted of money market funds.

***Investments and Investment Income***

Investments in money market mutual funds are carried at cost, which approximates fair value. Investments in U.S. agency obligations and U.S. Treasuries are carried at fair value. Fair value is determined based on quoted market prices or yields currently available on comparable securities of issuers with similar credit ratings.

Investment income consists of interest income and realized and unrealized gains and losses.

***Accounts and Notes Receivable***

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount billed to customers. Accounts receivable are ordinarily due 20 days after the issuance of the invoice. Delinquent receivables are charged off as they are deemed uncollectible. Management does not believe an allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary for accounts receivable at December 31, 2025 and 2024, as there were no delinquent accounts. Notes receivable relate to Heartland's economic development program (see Note 3) and amounts due generally follow amortization schedules contained within the related note agreements. Management has established an allowance for doubtful accounts for notes receivable of \$1,918,493 and \$961,759 at December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

***Capital Assets***

Capital assets are recorded at cost at the date of acquisition. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of each asset, which is normally 20 - 30 years for utility plant, 5 - 10 years for vehicles, furniture, and various office equipment and 40 years for buildings.

***Compensated Absences***

Employees earn vacation days at varying rates depending on years of service. In the event of termination, an employee is reimbursed for accumulated vacation time. Expense and the related liability are recognized when earned and vacation benefits are redeemable as time off or in cash. Employees earn sick leave at the rate of approximately one day per month. Upon normal retirement, an employee can use any accumulated sick time to pay for certain qualified medical expenses. Expense and the related liability for sick leave benefits are recognized when earned and sick leave benefits are redeemable as time off or in cash to pay for qualified medical expenses. Compensated absences expected to be used during the next fiscal year are classified as a current liability in accrued expenses. The remaining balance is reflected as a noncurrent liability.

***Regulated Operations***

Rates for Heartland's regulated operations are established and approved by the Board of Directors. Heartland applies the provisions of GASB Codification Section Re10, *Regulated Operations*, which provide for the deferral of expenses which are expected to be recovered through customer rates over some future period (costs recoverable from future billings) and reductions in earnings to cover future expenditures (reductions of future billings). Costs recoverable from future billings are primarily comprised of charges incurred in relation to Heartland's bond issuances, costs incurred by Heartland for initial payments made on long-term capacity contracts, unrealized net losses on investments, and a prepayment of \$35 million made by Heartland during 2018 to terminate a transmission contract which is no longer necessary. These costs are being amortized in future rate periods when such costs are included in the revenue requirements to establish electric rates. Reductions of future billings are comprised of the unrealized net gains on investments and Board approved transfers for rate stabilization.

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***Pensions***

For purposes of measuring the net pension asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension revenue and expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS) and additions to/deductions from SDRS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by SDRS. Heartland's contributions and net pension asset are recognized on the accrual basis of accounting.

***Net Position Classification***

Net position is required to be classified into three components – net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

***Net investment in capital assets*** - This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets or related debt are included in this component of net position. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds is not included in the calculation of net investment in capital assets.

***Restricted*** - This component of net position consists of constraints placed on net position use through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), contributors, or law or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

***Unrestricted*** - This component of net position consists of the net amount of the assets, liabilities and deferred inflows and outflows of resources that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is Heartland's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted as they are needed.

***Classification of Revenues and Expenses***

Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with Heartland's ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues are charges to customers for services. Operating expenses include the cost of power, transmission expenses, administrative expenses, depreciation of capital assets, and amortization of Heartland's regulatory asset. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

***Taxes***

Heartland is exempt from federal income taxes as it is a political subdivision of the state of South Dakota. Heartland may be subject to franchise taxes in states in which it operates. Franchise tax expense was \$2,570 and \$2,460 in 2025 and 2024, respectively.

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**Note 2. Deposits, Investments and Investment Return**

Heartland's investing is performed in accordance with the investment policy adopted by its Board of Directors and applicable state statutes. Heartland may invest in certificates of deposit, time deposits, repurchase agreements, and various U.S. Treasury securities and U.S. agency obligations.

***Deposits***

State statutes require banks either to give bond or to pledge government securities to Heartland in the amount of Heartland's deposits. Heartland's cash deposits are insured up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Any cash deposits in excess of the \$250,000 FDIC limits are covered by collateral held in a Federal Reserve Bank pledge account or by an agent for Heartland and thus, no custodial risk exists. No legal opinion has been obtained regarding the enforceability of any collateral arrangements.

***Investments***

At December 31, 2025 and 2024, Heartland had the following investments and maturities:

	Carrying Value	Maturities in Years			Credit Ratings (Moody's)
		Less Than 1	1-5	6-10	
<b>December 31, 2025</b>					
Money market mutual funds	\$ 9,664,155	\$ 9,664,155	\$ -	\$ -	Aaa-mf
U.S. treasury securities	26,328,829	15,074,646	11,254,183	-	Aaa
U.S. agency obligations	255	255	-	-	Aaa
	<u>\$ 35,993,239</u>	<u>\$ 24,739,056</u>	<u>\$ 11,254,183</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
<b>December 31, 2024</b>					
Money market mutual funds	\$ 8,054,214	\$ 8,054,214	\$ -	\$ -	Aaa-mf
U.S. treasury securities	25,459,183	22,974,225	2,484,958	-	Aaa
U.S. agency obligations	5,210	-	5,210	-	Aaa
	<u>\$ 33,518,607</u>	<u>\$ 31,028,439</u>	<u>\$ 2,490,168</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	

### ***Disclosures About Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities***

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. There is a hierarchy of three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1** Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2** Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities
- Level 3** Unobservable inputs supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities

Heartland's investments in money market mutual funds are carried at cost and thus are not included within the fair value hierarchy. Heartland's investments in U.S. treasury securities and U.S. agency obligations are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

### ***Interest Rate Risk***

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Heartland's investment policy provides limitations on the maturities of the various types of investments as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from interest rate fluctuations.

### ***Credit Risk***

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. Heartland's investment policy establishes requirements for all investment securities to be in compliance with ratings established in bond indentures, for which substantially all investments are held.

### ***Custodial Credit Risk***

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a failure of the counterparty, Heartland would not be able to recover the value of its investment securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Heartland's investments in U.S. agency obligations are held in a book entry system in an account designated as a customer account at the Federal Reserve and the custodian's internal records identify Heartland as owner.

### ***Concentration of Credit Risk***

Concentration of credit risk is the risk associated with the amount of investments Heartland has with any one issuer that exceeds 5% or more of its total investments. Investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government are excluded from this requirement. Heartland's investment policy limits the amount of its investment portfolio that may be invested in any one issuer, other than U.S. government securities, to 10%. No investments at December 31, 2025 and 2024 exceeded 5%.

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***Summary of Carrying Values***

The carrying values of deposits and investments shown above are included in the balance sheets at December 31, 2025 and 2024 as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Carrying value		
Bank deposit accounts	\$ 2,478,711	\$ 1,689,090
Investments	<u>35,993,239</u>	<u>33,518,607</u>
	<u>\$ 38,471,950</u>	<u>\$ 35,207,697</u>

Included in the following balance sheet captions:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents		
Operating funds	\$ 219,815	\$ 241,064
General reserve funds	9,292,181	7,580,379
Revolving loan fund program accounts	2,258,896	1,448,026
Rate stabilization fund	<u>29,646</u>	<u>132,782</u>
Total	<u>11,800,538</u>	<u>9,402,251</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		
Debt service funds	<u>342,328</u>	<u>341,053</u>
Short-term investments		
General reserve funds	7,196,931	7,115,591
Rate stabilization fund	<u>7,877,970</u>	<u>15,858,634</u>
Total	<u>15,074,901</u>	<u>22,974,225</u>
Noncurrent Assets		
Long-term investments		
Rate stabilization fund	8,686,619	5,210
General reserve funds	<u>2,567,564</u>	<u>2,484,958</u>
Total	<u>11,254,183</u>	<u>2,490,168</u>
	<u>\$ 38,471,950</u>	<u>\$ 35,207,697</u>

***Investment Return***

Investment return for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024 consisted of interest income, realized gains, and unrealized gains and losses on unrestricted investments of \$1,092,325 and \$1,757,665, respectively. Unrealized net losses on investments are deferred and reported as costs recoverable from future billings and unrealized net gains on investments are deferred and reported as reductions of future billings on the balance sheets.

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**Note 3. Notes Receivable**

Type of Notes	2025				
	January 1,	Additions	Reductions	December 31,	Due Within One Year
4.0% note in connection with Heartland's economic development program, payable in monthly installments, original maturity of December 2016.	\$ 120,719	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,719	\$ -
0.0% to 5.0% notes in connection with the Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note (see Note 13), due in monthly installments through June 2040	7,317,113	524,500	1,121,112	6,720,501	542,259
0.0% to 4.0% notes in connection with the Rural Economic Development Loan Agreement and Rural Economic Development Grant Agreement (see Note 13), due in monthly installments through December 2043	8,135,969	2,300,000	547,238	9,888,731	982,327
Allowance for notes receivable	(961,759)	(1,000,000)	(43,266)	(1,918,493)	-
Total notes receivable, net	<u>\$ 14,612,042</u>	<u>\$ 1,824,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,625,084</u>	<u>\$ 14,811,458</u>	<u>\$ 1,524,586</u>
Type of Notes	2024				
	January 1,	Additions	Reductions	December 31,	Due Within One Year
4.0% note in connection with Heartland's economic development program, payable in monthly installments, original maturity of December 2016	\$ 120,719	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,719	\$ -
0.0% to 5.0% notes in connection with the Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note (see Note 13), due in monthly installments through January 2040	5,528,561	2,438,965	650,413	7,317,113	549,983
0.0% to 4.0% notes in connection with the Rural Economic Development Loan Agreement and Rural Economic Development Grant Agreement (see Note 13), due in monthly installments through November 2043	5,247,916	3,400,000	511,952	8,135,969	541,333
Allowance for notes receivable	(852,898)	(108,861)	-	(961,759)	-
Total notes receivable, net	<u>\$ 10,044,298</u>	<u>\$ 5,730,104</u>	<u>\$ 1,162,365</u>	<u>\$ 14,612,042</u>	<u>\$ 1,091,316</u>

Interest income on these notes totaled \$250,674 and \$210,234 for 2025 and 2024, respectively, and is included within investment income on the statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position.

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**Note 4. Capital Assets**

Capital assets activity for 2025 and 2024 was:

<b>2025</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Retirements</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
Heartland headquarters building	\$ 3,024,121	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,024,121
General plant	1,016,199	-	-	1,016,199
Land	80,402	-	-	80,402
Total capital assets	4,120,722	-	-	4,120,722
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,981,788)	(128,139)	-	(2,109,927)
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 2,138,934</u>	<u>\$ (128,139)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,010,795</u>
<b>2024</b>				
Heartland headquarters building	\$ 2,959,217	\$ 64,904	\$ -	\$ 3,024,121
General plant	1,008,219	38,000	(30,020)	1,016,199
Land	80,402	-	-	80,402
Total capital assets	4,047,838	102,904	(30,020)	4,120,722
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,881,171)	(130,137)	29,520	(1,981,788)
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 2,166,667</u>	<u>\$ (27,233)</u>	<u>\$ (500)</u>	<u>\$ 2,138,934</u>

**Note 5. Credit Facilities**

***Line of Credit***

Heartland entered into a revolving credit agreement with a financial institution that provides for borrowings up to \$10,000,000. The agreement was amended and renewed on July 1, 2024, with an expiration date of July 1, 2027. Borrowings under the credit agreement bear interest at varying rates, and cannot exceed a maximum rate, which is based on the applicable index at the time of funding and is defined in the agreement. The agreement also provides for standby letters of credit, not to exceed \$5,000,000 in the aggregate. The amount available under Heartland's revolving credit agreement is reduced by the amount of any issued standby letters of credit. Heartland had no outstanding borrowings on this line at December 31, 2025 and 2024. The revolving credit agreement is secured by a subordinate pledge of and lien on net revenues of Heartland's electric system.

***Letter of Credit***

As financial security for Heartland's performance under certain financial transmission rights and transmission congestion rights in regional transmission organizations in which Heartland participates, Heartland has obtained a standby letter of credit for \$1.5 million at December 31, 2025 and 2024. The letter of credit expires July 1, 2027.

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**Note 6. Long-term Liabilities**

Long-term liabilities at December 31, 2025 consisted of the following:

Type of Debt	2025				Due Within One Year
	January 1,	Additions	Reductions	December 31,	
1.84% Revenue Bonds, Series 2021, with interest and principal payments due annually beginning December 2021 through December 2029	\$ 15,330,000	\$ -	\$ 2,960,000	\$ 12,370,000	\$ 3,005,000
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on October 16 with a final payment due October 16, 2036	356,985	-	28,270	328,715	28,551
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on June 25 with a final payment due June 25, 2040	458,780	-	27,257	431,523	27,523
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on November 10, with a final payment due November 10, 2046	834,472	-	34,108	800,364	34,446
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on October 11, beginning in October 2021, with a final payment due October 11, 2047	868,240	-	33,773	834,467	34,105
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, total amount to be drawn \$1,000,000, principal payments due annually, beginning in June 2023, final payment due in June 2049	932,394	-	33,137	899,257	33,433
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on September 20, with a final payment due September 20, 2053	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000	-
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on May 1, with a final payment due May 1, 2054	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000	-
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$3,299 through April 2031	250,603	-	39,588	211,015	39,588
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$10,417, through March 2028	406,231	-	125,004	281,227	125,004
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$3,202, through March 2028	124,875	-	38,424	86,451	38,424
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$5,500, through July 2028	269,500	-	66,000	203,500	66,000
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$10,417, through June 2029	552,069	-	125,004	427,065	125,004
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$3,334, through August 2029	186,625	-	40,008	146,617	40,008
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$12,500, beginning December 2025 through November 2033	1,200,000	-	-	1,200,000	150,000
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$11,500, beginning August 2026 through August 2034	1,100,000	-	-	1,100,000	45,833
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$17,700, beginning November 2026 through November 2034	1,700,000	-	-	1,700,000	204,630
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$20,833, beginning July 2027 through June 2035	-	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	-
Total bonds and notes payable	26,570,774	2,000,000	3,550,573	25,020,201	3,997,549
Compensated absences*	794,530	98,727	-	893,257	202,240
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 27,365,304	\$ 2,098,727	\$ 3,550,573	\$ 25,913,458	\$ 4,199,789

\*The change in compensated absences is reported as a net change.

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Long-term liabilities at December 31, 2024 consisted of the following:

Type of Debt	2024				Due Within One Year
	January 1,	Additions	Reductions	December 31,	
3.1-6.137% Revenue Bonds, Series 2018, with interest and principal payments due annually beginning December 2019 through December 2031	\$ 2,305,000	\$ -	\$ 2,305,000	\$ -	\$ -
1.84% Revenue Bonds, Series 2021, with interest and principal payments due annually beginning December 2021 through December 2029	15,840,000	-	510,000	15,330,000	2,960,000
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on October 16 with a final payment due October 16, 2036	384,973	-	27,988	356,985	28,268
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on June 25 with a final payment due June 25, 2040	485,760	-	26,980	458,780	27,250
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on November 10, with a final payment due November 10, 2046	868,240	-	33,768	834,472	34,082
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on October 11, beginning in October 2021, with a final payment due October 11, 2047	901,673	-	33,433	868,240	33,744
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, total amount to be drawn \$1,000,000, principal payments due annually, beginning in June 2023, final payment due in June 2049	965,302	-	32,908	932,394	33,102
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on September 20, with a final payment due September 20, 2053	700,000	300,000	-	1,000,000	-
1.0% Intermediary Relending Program Promissory Note, due annually on May 1, with a final payment due May 1, 2054	-	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	-
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$3,299 through April 2031	293,490	-	42,887	250,603	39,588
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$10,417, through March 2028	541,652	-	135,421	406,231	125,004
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$3,202, through March 2028	166,501	-	41,626	124,875	38,424
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$5,500, through July 2028	341,000	-	71,500	269,500	66,000
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$10,417, through June 2029	687,490	-	135,421	552,069	125,004
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$3,334, through August 2029	229,967	-	43,342	186,625	40,008
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$12,500, beginning December 2025 through November 2033	1,200,000	-	-	1,200,000	-
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$11,500, beginning August 2026 through August 2034	-	1,100,000	-	1,100,000	-
0% Rural Economic Development Promissory Note, with principal payments due in monthly installments of \$17,700, beginning November 2026 through November 2034	-	1,700,000	-	1,700,000	-
Total bonds and notes payable	<u>25,911,048</u>	<u>4,100,000</u>	<u>3,440,274</u>	<u>26,570,774</u>	<u>3,550,474</u>
Compensated absences*	<u>701,353</u>	<u>93,177</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>794,530</u>	<u>154,773</u>
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 26,612,401</u>	<u>\$ 4,193,177</u>	<u>\$ 3,440,274</u>	<u>\$ 27,365,304</u>	<u>\$ 3,705,247</u>

\*The change in compensated absences is reported as a net change.

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Debt service requirements at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2026	\$ 3,997,549	\$ 280,575	\$ 4,278,124
2027	4,305,030	223,678	4,528,708
2028	4,384,177	165,478	4,549,655
2029	4,258,869	105,690	4,364,559
2030	997,011	44,891	1,041,902
2031-2035	4,009,749	189,436	4,199,185
2036-2040	1,108,492	130,745	1,239,237
2041-2045	982,700	78,546	1,061,246
2046-2050	686,166	32,271	718,437
2051-2054	290,458	6,671	297,129
	<u>\$ 25,020,201</u>	<u>\$ 1,257,981</u>	<u>\$ 26,278,182</u>

The Series 2021 bonds are secured by (a) a pledge of revenues of Heartland's electric system, after application to operating expenses in accordance with the bond resolution, and (b) all funds and accounts established under the bond resolution, including income, if any, from investments

Heartland has executed credit agreements with four financial institutions, totaling \$7,473,732, in relation to the ten Rural Economic Development Promissory Notes disclosed above. The credit agreements allow Heartland to retain drawing capacity at least equal to the issued and outstanding amount of the Rural Economic Development Promissory Notes. There were no amounts outstanding under these credit agreements at December 31, 2025 and 2024.

## **Note 7. Power Sales Agreements**

Heartland is a party to electric power sales agreements with municipalities in South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska and Iowa, whereby Heartland has undertaken to provide primary power to and to supplement existing power sources of the parties. Rates are established annually by the Board of Directors. The majority of these agreements expire in 2040. Heartland also has power sales agreements with the State of South Dakota to provide service to various state institutions.

## **Note 8. Commitments**

### ***Public Power Generation Agency (PPGA)***

Heartland has entered into an agreement with other utilities, creating an interlocal, PPGA. In connection with PPGA, Heartland has also entered into a long-term participation power agreement whereby Heartland has agreed to share in the energy output of the Whelan Energy Center Unit 2, a 220 MW coal-fired power plant, which became commercially operational in May 2011. Heartland's commitment is for 36.36%, or 80 MW, of the output of the project, which extends to the later of the life of the project or January 2041, which represents the date of final maturity on the bonds issued by PPGA for the project.

## **Note 9. Retirement Plans**

### ***Defined Benefit Plan***

#### *Plan Description*

Heartland participates in the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS or the Plan). SDRS is a hybrid defined benefit plan designed with several defined contribution plan type provisions and is administered by SDRS to provide retirement benefits for employees of the State of South Dakota and its political subdivisions. The SDRS provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits. Authority for establishing, administering, and amending plan provisions are found in South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 3-12. The SDRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained at <http://sdrs.sd.gov/pulications.aspx> or by writing to the SDRS, P.O. Box 1098, Pierre, SD 57501-1098 or by calling (605) 773-3731.

#### *Contributions*

Covered employees are required by state statute to contribute a percentage of their salary (6%) to the Plan, and Heartland is required to match the employee contribution. The contribution requirements of plan members and Heartland are established and may be amended by the Plan's board of trustees. Contributions made to the Plan by Heartland were \$167,985 and \$164,672 during 2025 and 2024, respectively, and were in accordance with statutory rates. The employees' contributions during 2025 and 2024 were \$143,583 and \$139,198, respectively, and were in accordance with statutory rates.

#### *Benefits*

The Plan provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits based on an employer's membership class within the Plan. Heartland is a Class A member in the Plan.

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Members that were hired before July 1, 2017, are Foundation members. Class A Foundation members who retire after age 65 with three years of contributory service are entitled to an unreduced annual retirement benefit. An unreduced annual retirement benefit is also available after age 55 for Class A Foundation members where the sum of age and credited service is equal to or greater than 85. All Foundation retirement benefits that do not meet the above criteria may be payable at a reduced level. Class A eligible spouses of Foundation members will receive a 60 percent joint survivor benefit when the member dies.

Members that were hired on or after July 1, 2017 are Generational members. Class A Generational members who retire after age 67 with three years of contributory service are entitled to an unreduced annual retirement benefit. At retirement, married Generational members may elect a single-life benefit, a 60 percent joint and survivor benefit, or a 100 percent joint and survivor benefit. All Generational retirement benefits that do not meet the above criteria may be payable at a reduced level. Generational members will also have a variable retirement account (VRA) established, in which they will receive up to 1.5 percent of compensation funded by part of the employer contribution. CRAs will receive investment earnings based on investment returns.

Legislation enacted in 2017 established the current cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) process. At each valuation date:

- Baseline actuarial accrued liabilities will be calculated assuming the COLA is equal to the long-term inflation assumption of 2.25%.
- If the fair value of assets is greater or equal to the baseline actuarial accrued liabilities, the COLA will be:
  - The increase in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter CPI-W, no less than 0.5% and no greater than 3.5%.
- If the fair value of assets is less than to the baseline actuarial accrued liabilities, the COLA will be:
  - The increase in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter CPI-W, no less than 0.5% and no greater than a restricted maximum such that, that if the restricted maximum is assumed for future COLAs, the fair value of assets will be greater or equal to the accrued liabilities.

Legislation enacted in 2021 reduced the minimum COLA from 0.5% to 0.0%.

All benefits except those depending on the Member's Accumulated Contributions are annually increased by the Cost-of-Living Adjustment.

*Pension Assets and Liabilities, Pension Revenue and Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions*

At December 31, 2025 and 2024, Heartland reported an asset of \$7,886 and \$3,823, respectively, for its proportionate share of the collective net pension asset for the Plan. The net pension asset was measured as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate these amounts was determined by an actuarial valuation as of those dates. Heartland's proportionate share of the net pension asset was based on Heartland's share of contributions to the Plan relative to all employer contributions to the Plan for the measurement period. At December 31, 2025 and 2024, Heartland's proportion was 0.0927% and 0.0944%, respectively.

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
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Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

For the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, Heartland recognized pension revenue of \$161,536 and pension expense of \$105,124, respectively. At December 31, 2025 and 2024, Heartland reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	December 31, 2025		December 31, 2024	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 269,976	\$ -	\$ 353,966	\$ -
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	384,176	-	143,984	-
Changes of assumptions	-	418,569	63,022	480,388
Heartland contributions subsequent to the measurement date	101,611	-	99,137	-
Total	\$ 755,763	\$ 418,569	\$ 660,109	\$ 480,388

The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Heartland contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of pension expense in the fiscal year ending December 31, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	
2026	\$ 182,156
2027	19,765
2028	12,604
2029	21,058
	\$ 235,583

**Actuarial assumptions** – The total pension liability in the June 30, 2025 and 2024 actuarial valuations was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

<b>Inflation</b>	2.50%
<b>Salary increases</b>	7.66% at entry to 3.15% after 25 years of service
<b>Discount rate</b>	6.50%, net of pension plan investment expense
<b>Future COLAs</b>	
2025	1.56%
2024	1.71%

Mortality rates for active and retired participants and beneficiaries for the June 30, 2025 and 2024 actuarial valuation were based on Pub-2010 amount-weighted Mortality Tables, projected generationally with improvement scale MP-2020. Mortality rates for disabled members were based on the PubG-2010 Disabled Member Mortality Table.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2025 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study, for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2021.

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
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Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

Investment portfolio management is the statutory responsibility of the South Dakota Investment Council (SDIC), which may utilize the services of external money managers for management of portions of the portfolio. SDIC is governed by the Prudent Man Rule. Current SDIC investment policies dictate limits on the percentage of assets invested in various types of vehicles (equities, fixed income securities, real estate, cash, private equity, etc.).

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, are summarized in the following table:

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Target Allocation</b>	<b>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</b>
<b>June 30, 2025</b>		
Public Equity	56.3%	3.8%
Investment Grade Debt	22.8%	2.3%
High Yield Debt	7.0%	2.9%
Real Estate	12.0%	4.0%
Cash	1.9%	0.8%
Total	100.0%	
<b>June 30, 2024</b>		
Public Equity	56.3%	3.6%
Investment Grade Debt	22.8%	2.3%
High Yield Debt	7.0%	2.8%
Real Estate	12.0%	4.0%
Cash	1.9%	0.8%
Total	100.0%	

**Discount rate** – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability in 2025 and 2024 was 6.50%, for both years. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate, and that contributions from employers will be made at contractually required rates. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan’s fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of Heartland’s proportionate share of the net pension (asset) liability to changes in the discount rate** – The following presents Heartland’s proportionate share of the net pension (asset) liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50%, as well as what Heartland’s proportionate share of the net pension (asset) liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (5.50%) or one percentage point higher (7.50%) than the current rate.

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

	<u>1% Decrease (5.50%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (6.50%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (7.50%)</u>
Heartland's proportionate share of the net pension (asset) liability			
December 31, 2025	\$ 1,932,560	\$ (7,886)	\$ (1,597,574)
December 31, 2024	1,942,389	(3,823)	(1,596,430)

*Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position*

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued South Dakota Retirement System financial report.

**Defined Contribution Plan**

In addition to the above retirement plan, Heartland has a savings plan with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, which is a defined contribution plan. Employees are eligible to participate in this plan after one month of service. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association board of directors has the authority to establish and amend provisions to the plan. Heartland matches up to 4% of participating employees' salaries; employees must contribute a minimum of 1% of their salaries. The contributions made by, and related expense of, Heartland for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024 were \$94,309 and \$92,950, respectively. No forfeitures were used to reduce Heartland's contributions during 2025 and 2024. The contributions made by Heartland employees for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024 were \$148,403 and \$145,323, respectively.

**Note 10. Significant Estimates and Concentrations**

**Major Customers**

Sales to one and two customers were approximately 23% and 34%, respectively, of total operating revenues for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Approximately 40% and 32%, respectively, of total accounts receivable were owed from three and two customers at December 31, 2025 and 2024.

**Note 11. Risk Management**

Heartland is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions, injuries to employees and others; and natural disasters. Heartland carries commercially available insurance, subject to certain limits and deductibles, to reduce the financial impact for claims arising from such matters. Claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the three preceding years.

**Heartland Consumers Power District**  
**d/b/a Heartland Energy**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2025 and 2024**

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**Note 12. Statutory Reporting Requirement**

Section 3 of Chapter 49-38 of the South Dakota Codified Laws requires that certain information be set forth in the annual reports of consumer power districts. Additional information, as required, is as shown below:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Employees (unaudited)	12	12
Total kilowatt hours sold (unaudited)	1,023,442,132	948,512,299
Total salaries	\$ 2,516,176	\$ 2,427,785
Maintenance expense	218,335	227,450

**Note 13. Segment Information**

In accordance with the provisions of the Intermediary Relending Program Loan Agreements, Rural Economic Development Loan Agreement and Rural Economic Development Grant Agreement, Heartland is required to create and maintain a revolving loan fund. Heartland administers this revolving loan fund as a division within its Heartland operations. Condensed 2025 and 2024 financial information for the revolving loan fund is presented below:

**Condensed Balance Sheets**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Assets		
Current assets	\$ 3,791,915	\$ 2,548,289
Other assets	14,286,872	13,520,726
Total assets	<u>\$ 18,078,787</u>	<u>\$ 16,069,015</u>
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	\$ 1,012,574	\$ 606,738
Noncurrent liabilities	11,657,652	10,650,301
Total liabilities	12,670,226	11,257,039
Net Position	<u>5,408,561</u>	<u>4,811,976</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Position	<u>\$ 18,078,787</u>	<u>\$ 16,069,015</u>

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024**

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**Condensed Statements of Revenues,  
Expenses and Changes in Net Position**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses)		
Investment income	\$ 250,676	\$ 210,234
Interest expense	(53,936)	(47,137)
Bad debt expense	43,265	(108,861)
Other	356,580	1,042,492
	<u>596,585</u>	<u>1,096,728</u>
Change in net position	596,585	1,096,728
Net position, beginning of year	4,811,976	3,715,248
Net position, end of year	<u>\$ 5,408,561</u>	<u>\$ 4,811,976</u>

**Condensed Statements of Cash Flows**

Net cash provided by (used in)		
Noncapital financing activities	\$ 1,715,830	\$ 4,476,508
Investing activities	(904,961)	(4,452,605)
	<u>810,869</u>	<u>23,903</u>
Change in cash	810,869	23,903
Cash, beginning of year	1,448,026	1,424,123
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 2,258,895</u>	<u>\$ 1,448,026</u>

## **Required Supplementary Information**

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Schedule of Heartland's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)  
South Dakota Retirement System  
December 31, 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Heartland's proportion of the net pension asset (liability)	0.093%	0.094%	0.099%	0.099%	0.097%	0.096%	0.10%	0.088%	0.086%	0.088%
Heartland's proportionate share of the net pension asset (liability)	\$ 7,886	\$ 3,823	\$ 9,659	\$ 9,430	\$ 743,804	\$ 4,169	\$ 10,862	\$ 2,049	\$ 7,850	\$ (296,707)
Heartland's covered payroll	\$ 2,269,757	\$ 2,226,892	\$ 2,063,002	\$ 1,984,305	\$ 1,994,372	\$ 1,830,061	\$ 1,851,811	\$ 1,552,936	\$ 1,458,085	\$ 1,394,520
Heartland's proportionate share of the net pension asset (liability) as a percentage of its covered payroll	0.35%	0.17%	0.47%	0.48%	37.30%	0.23%	0.59%	0.13%	0.54%	-21.28%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	100.10%	100.00%	100.10%	100.10%	105.52%	100.04%	100.09%	100.02%	100.08%	96.89%

Note: Information presented in this schedule has been determined as of Heartland's measurement date (June 30) of the collective net pension asset (liability) in accordance with GASB 68.

**Heartland Consumers Power District  
d/b/a Heartland Energy  
Schedule of Heartland's Contributions  
South Dakota Retirement System  
December 31, 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 167,985	\$ 164,672	\$ 151,995	\$ 149,321	\$ 140,160	\$ 130,219	\$ 126,003	\$ 124,500	\$ 107,920	\$ 103,771
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	<u>(167,985)</u>	<u>(164,672)</u>	<u>(151,995)</u>	<u>(149,321)</u>	<u>(140,160)</u>	<u>(130,219)</u>	<u>(126,003)</u>	<u>(124,500)</u>	<u>(107,920)</u>	<u>(103,771)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Heartland's covered payroll	\$ 2,516,176	\$ 2,427,785	\$ 2,294,007	\$ 2,164,488	\$ 1,990,372	\$ 1,826,903	\$ 1,779,121	\$ 1,729,063	\$ 1,506,831	\$ 1,422,500
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	6.68%	6.78%	6.63%	6.90%	7.04%	7.13%	7.08%	7.20%	7.16%	7.29%

Note: Information presented in this schedule has been determined as of Heartland's most recent fiscal year-end (December 31) in accordance with GASB 68.