



Annual Financial Report

Fiscal Years Ended
June 30, 2015 and 2014

The Silver State Energy Association is an association of public agencies with the common goal of jointly planning, developing, owning and operating power resources to meet their own needs and those of their customers. Learn more at www.silverstateenergy.org.



Annual Financial Report

For the Fiscal Years Ended

June 30, 2015 and 2014

Board of Directors

Rory Dwyer, Chairman, City of Boulder City
Douglas N. Beatty, Vice Chairman, Colorado River Commission of Nevada
Mike Fetherston, Overton Power District No. 5
Edward Wright, Lincoln County Power District No. 1
David L. Johnson, Southern Nevada Water Authority

Scott P. Krantz
SSEA Manager

Members

City of Boulder City
Colorado River Commission of Nevada
Lincoln County Power District No. 1
Overton Power District No. 5
Southern Nevada Water Authority

Prepared by

Richard C. Schmalz, SSEA Energy Accounting and Settlements Officer
P.O. Box 99956, MS 115, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-9956
702-259-8168

www.silverstateenergy.org



Annual Financial Report
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

Table of Contents

Introductory Section

Formal Transmittal of the Annual Financial Report.....	1-1
Organizational Chart	1-5

Financial Section

Independent Auditors' Report on Financial Statements and Supplementary Information	2-1
Management's Discussion and Analysis	2-3
Basic Financial Statements	
Statements of Net Position	2-13
Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position	2-14
Statements of Cash Flows	2-15
Notes to Financial Statements	
Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies	2-17
Note 2. Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability	2-19
Note 3. Project Service Agreements	2-19
Note 4. Risk Management.....	2-21
Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies.....	2-22
Schedule of Expenses, Budget and Actual	2-23

Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control and Compliance

Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	3-1
---	-----

INTRODUCTORY SECTION



P.O. Box 99956, MS 115
Las Vegas, NV 89193-9956

October 7, 2015

Board of Directors
Silver State Energy Association
100 City Parkway, Suite 700
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Gentlemen:

We are pleased to present the Annual Financial Report (AFR) of the Silver State Energy Association (SSEA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. The AFR was prepared in conformance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

SSEA management is responsible for the completeness and reliability of the financial information presented in this report. To provide reasonable assurance of the proper recording of transactions, management has established and maintains a system of internal accounting and other controls. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes the cost of internal controls should not exceed the benefits derived. Where necessary, the basic financial statements include amounts based upon management's best estimates and judgments.

The SSEA Cooperative Agreement requires an annual audit of the basic financial statements of the SSEA. Piercy Bowler Taylor & Kern, a firm of licensed certified public accountants, has audited the SSEA's basic financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015. The objective of the independent audit was to provide reasonable assurance the basic financial statements of the SSEA for the fiscal years are free of material misstatement. An independent audit involves examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Based upon the audit, the independent auditor concluded there was a reasonable basis for rendering an unmodified ("clean") opinion that the SSEA's basic financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015 are fairly presented in all material respects in conformity with GAAP. The independent auditor's report is presented as the first component of the financial section of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) provides a narrative introduction, overview and analysis of the basic financial statements. This transmittal letter is designed to complement the MD&A and should be read in conjunction with it.

THE REPORTING ENTITY AND ITS SERVICES

The SSEA is a joint powers agency comprised of public agencies that are authorized by law to engage in certain activities associated with the acquisition and disposition of electric power to

SSEA MEMBERS

City of Boulder City • Colorado River Commission • Lincoln County Power District No. 1
Overton Power District No. 5 • Southern Nevada Water Authority

meet their own needs and those of their customers. The SSEA was created under NRS Chapter 277, Cooperative Agreements between local governments, and is a political subdivision of the State of Nevada and was established on August 1, 2007. The SSEA is governed by a Cooperative Agreement among its five members, each member with an appointed Board representative, which include:

- The Southern Nevada Water Authority, a political subdivision of the state of Nevada charged with managing the region's water resources.
- The City of Boulder City, Nevada has been a municipal corporation of the state since 1960. The Boulder City municipal electric utility serves the portion of the incorporated area of the City that is populated.
- Overton Power District No. 5, a not-for-profit general improvement district created in 1935 by the State of Nevada. The District's service area encompasses the Northeast quadrant of Clark County, Nevada, which includes the City of Mesquite and the unincorporated towns of Bunkerville, Glendale, Logandale, Moapa, and Overton.
- Lincoln County Power District No. 1, a not-for-profit general improvement district created in 1935 by the State of Nevada. The District's service area encompasses most of Lincoln County, Nevada and a portion of Clark County, Nevada known as the Coyote Springs LLC.
- The Colorado River Commission of Nevada, an executive agency of the State of Nevada responsible for acquiring and managing Nevada's share of water and hydropower resources from the Colorado River.

Operations and Budgets - The operations of the SSEA are broken down into projects, each with specific member participants, project scope, objectives, budgets and timelines. Each member has determined if and to what degree they wish to participate in each of the three existing SSEA Project Service Agreements (PSA). As required by the Cooperative Agreement, an Administrative and General Expense budget is approved by the board on or before June 1 of each year. Additionally, the board approves specific budgets for each of the capital projects, periodically reviews expenditures to date and considers whether to make adjustments to authorized PSA capital budgets based upon current circumstances which may have changed since the previous approval.

Management & Staffing – The SSEA has no employees. Necessary staff is provided by two of the member agencies: the Colorado River Commission (CRC) and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). Currently, the Board-appointed SSEA manager is also the Director of Energy Management for the SNWA. Personnel supporting the trading, analysis, accounting, project management and administrative functions are balanced between CRC and SNWA employees.

FACTORS AFFECTING FINANCIAL CONDITION

Local Economy – According to a report from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) issued on June 25, 2015, the Southern Nevada economy is continuing its sustained recovery. The 2015 Midyear Economic Outlook publication states that the growth is widespread across Southern Nevada's industries and returning to long-term trends.

CBER noted that construction, real estate, leisure and hospitality, trade, transportation and utilities, education and health services, professional and business services, financial activities and other services are all doing well. Financial conditions are also improving and visitor volume continues to rise. Because the Southern Nevada economy is heavily dependent on tourism, its outlook is tied to the growth of the U.S. and western states' economies. CBER forecasts visitor volume, gross gaming revenue, housing units permitted, employment, population and personal income to continue modest improvement through 2016. Visitor volume in Southern Nevada in 2015 reached 44 million people and is forecast to increase further in 2016. Gross gaming revenue in Southern Nevada continues to hover around \$9.7 billion.

The Southern Nevada unemployment rate continues to show improvement. The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) reported that the unemployment rate for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) for June 2015 was 7.0%. This compares to an unemployment rate of 7.9% for June 2014. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the State of Nevada was 6.9% for June 2015 compared to 7.7% for June 2014. Although improving, Nevada's unemployment rate is still well above the national average. The average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the United States was 5.3% for June 2015 and 6.1% for June 2014. Nevada has ranked among the top states for joblessness since 2010. In June 2015, Nevada ranked No. 2 and in June 2014 it ranked No. 3. Total employment for the Las Vegas MSA was 976.1 thousand in June 2015 compared to 911.3 thousand in June 2014, an increase of 7.1%.

The improving economic trends are expected to positively impact the growth of the SSEA. Economic growth typically increases water demands, which is a significant driver of SSEA electricity needs. The expected increase in water demand, driven by increased population, employment, and tourism will be mitigated to some degree by the implementation of additional water conservation measures in response to the ongoing severe drought occurring across the southwest United States.

Financial Policy – In accordance with the SSEA Cooperative Agreement, two working capital bank accounts have been established, one of which is interest bearing. The amount of working capital is set by the Agreement at 3 months of budgeted Administrative & General (A&G) expenses. If any member's working capital account is in excess of the minimum required 3 months expenses, the SSEA Manager may suspend billings to the member until the amount of the member's working capital is reduced to an amount equal to the member's required share.

On a quarterly basis, the SSEA Manager will report to the members-

- the amount of cash on deposit,
- the member's share of actual A&G and project expenses, and
- the payments made by the member to cover such expenses and/or the amount of cash drawn down by the SSEA to cover such expenses.

On an annual basis, any fiscal year end working capital balance will be applied to the following year's capital needs. If excess working capital remains after it has been applied to the following year's working capital needs, it will be refunded to each of the members, including interest, upon request by the member.

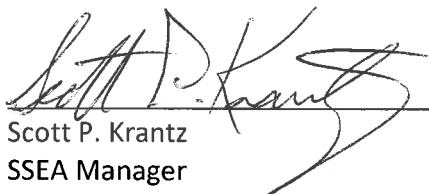
Long-Term Financial Planning – To date the SSEA has not engaged in documented long-term financial planning. Informal assessments of potential future drivers of major funding requirements have been identified and received preliminary evaluation, such as if the organization would be called upon to fund energy facilities on behalf of its members. Informal assessments of potential funding sources, including the possibility of SSEA issuing debt as well as the requisites to successfully issuing the debt, also receive ongoing identification and evaluation.

Major Initiatives – The SSEA is engaged on behalf of its members on several major energy fronts which are best addressed by focusing on each of the specific Project Service Agreements currently in place.

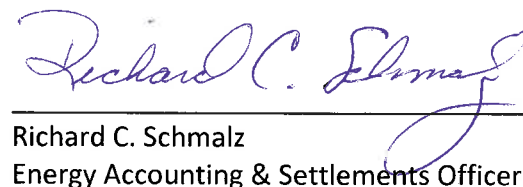
- *Project Service Agreement #1- Joint Generation Resource Planning and Evaluation.* This project involves the joint exploration, research, investigation, review, evaluation and feasibility of implementing, operating and maintaining electric generation projects and such other projects, whether physical or financial, designed to meet the future power needs of member participants. Of the original \$1 million project budget only \$10,000 has been expended and there are currently no active energy targets being sought.
- *Project Service Agreement #2* - This project involves the joint exploration, research, investigation, review, and evaluation of the feasibility of constructing 230-kilovolt high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities to allow the interconnection of the participant member electrical systems with Mead Substation in Nevada. This project was replaced in May of 2014 with PSA #2A, a continuation of PSA #2, on a reduced scope with a five-year term and budget of \$100,000. Significant sighting and permitting activities are ongoing with federal government agencies.
- *Project Service Agreement #3* - This project allows member participants to request SSEA provide various power supply management services in connection with the operation, scheduling, or optimization to meet a project participant's needs. Fiscal 2014 was the first full year during which the SSEA provided full service to two of its members, the City of Boulder City and the SNWA, as well as targeted power purchases and sales for other members which could choose to become full-service members at any time. SSEA successfully built systems, policies and procedures to support an increase from \$25 million to \$88 million of annual net power sales.

Sincerely,

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION



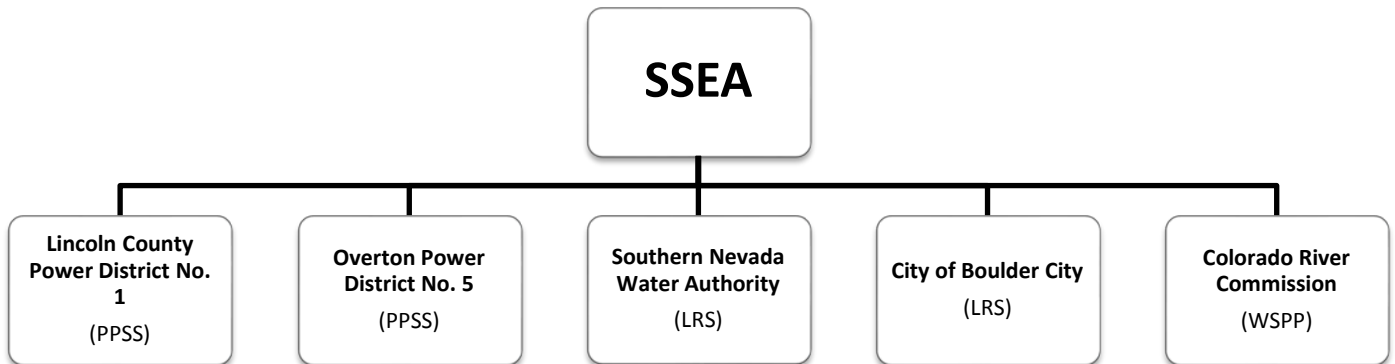
Scott P. Krantz
SSEA Manager



Richard C. Schmalz
Energy Accounting & Settlements Officer

Organizational Chart

As of June 30, 2015



Legend

PPSS Power Purchase and Sale Service
LRS Load Requirements Service
WSPP Western Systems Power Pool

This page intentionally left blank

FINANCIAL SECTION

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Board of Directors
Silver State Energy Association
Las Vegas, Nevada

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Silver State Energy Association (the SSEA) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the SSEA's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

An audit performed in accordance with applicable professional standards is a process designed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the SSEA's basic financial statements are free from material misstatement. This process involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the basic financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the SSEA's preparation and fair presentation of the basic financial statements to enable the design of audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the SSEA's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as the overall presentation of the basic financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements. Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the basic 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 basic financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the basic financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit 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 we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free from material misstatement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion. In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the SSEA as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in financial position and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 7-12 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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.

Other Information. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming our opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the SSEA's basic financial statements. The introductory section and other supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The other supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such 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 our opinion, the other supplementary information as listed in the table of contents is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The introductory section has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 7, 2015, on our consideration of the SSEA's internal control over financial reporting and on our 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 our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on 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 the SSEA's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Las Vegas, Nevada
October 7, 2015

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

We offer readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Silver State Energy Association (SSEA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with our audited basic financial statements and additional information furnished in our letter of transmittal accompanying this report.

Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Highlights

- In 2015, SSEA completed its second full year of providing Load Requirements Service, delivering a full spectrum of energy services for two of its members.
- Power sales and other assessments to members dipped to \$70 million as current energy prices softened considerably during the year.
- Cash decreased to \$7 million as management became more adept at anticipating the cash flows associated with the increased level of services to the members.
- Prepaid items increased to almost \$20 million, reflecting the SSEA's investment in future energy contracts and advances for future services.
- Energy delivered to the SSEA members remained strong at 1.8 million megawatt hours (MWh).

Overview of financial statements. This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the SSEA's basic financial statements. The SSEA's basic financial statements are comprised of two components: 1) a proprietary (enterprise) fund and 2) notes to the basic financial statements. This report also contains supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts, recording cash and other financial resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances and changes therein, which are segregated for specific activities or objectives. The SSEA maintains one type of fund: a proprietary fund.

Proprietary fund. The proprietary fund reports all of the SSEA's operations. The operations are reported similar to a private-sector business enterprise. There are three components presented in the basic financial statements: 1) comparative statements of net position; 2) comparative statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position; and 3) comparative statements of cash flows. These can be found in the financial section of this report.

The comparative statements of net position present the SSEA's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as "net position." Over time, increases or decreases in net position may

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the SSEA is growing or contracting.

The comparative statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position outline how the SSEA's net position has changed over time. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal years.

The statements of cash flows are the third basic financial statement for the proprietary fund. The primary purpose of the statements of cash flows is to provide relevant information about the SSEA's cash receipts and cash payments, which are segregated among operating, capital and related financing, and investing activities.

Notes to the basic financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the SSEA's basic financial statements. The notes to the basic financial statements can be found in the financial section of this report.

Supplementary information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report includes supplementary information describing the SSEA's member participation in various projects. Supplementary information can be found in the supplementary section of this report.

Financial position. All of the SSEA's net position is invested in capital assets. Existing capital assets are the result of joint exploration, research, investigation, review and evaluation of the feasibility of constructing a 230-kilovolt high voltage transmission line to serve the needs of our members. The SSEA's investment in capital assets increased only slightly in recent years as total net position in the current fiscal year reached \$418,864. The increase is due to routine monitoring costs as the project moves through the lengthy approval process. The members' project investment at June 30, 2015 was as follows:

MEMBER	INVESTMENT
City of Boulder City (COBC)	\$ 4,188
Lincoln County Power District No. 1 (LCPD)	62,830
Overton Power District No. 5 (OPD)	175,923
Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA)	175,923
Total	\$ 418,864

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

The following schedule provides an overview of the SSEA's financial position for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015, 2014 and 2013:

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2015, 2014 AND 2013

ASSETS	2015	2014	2013
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 7,037,838	\$ 10,988,622	\$ 2,589,182
Accounts receivable	1,267,898	1,748,764	279,323
Accounts receivable, members	3,006,028	3,658,599	1,568,009
Prepaid items	19,675,454	5,707,146	1,528,433
Total current assets	<u>30,987,218</u>	<u>22,103,131</u>	<u>5,964,947</u>
Capital assets:			
Capitalized project costs	<u>418,864</u>	<u>402,342</u>	<u>402,342</u>
Total assets	<u><u>31,406,082</u></u>	<u><u>22,505,473</u></u>	<u><u>6,367,289</u></u>
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	5,006,763	12,020,195	6,757,211
Accounts payable, members	1,808,551	1,295,373	183,906
Advances from members	24,171,904	8,787,563	(976,170)
Total current liabilities	<u>30,987,218</u>	<u>22,103,131</u>	<u>5,964,947</u>
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	<u>418,864</u>	<u>402,342</u>	<u>402,342</u>
Total liabilities and net position	<u><u>\$ 31,406,082</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 22,505,473</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,367,289</u></u>

The significant increase in cash from \$2.5 million at fiscal year-end 2013 to \$11 million at fiscal year-end 2014 was driven by the need for additional cash advances to support the increased energy procurement activities of the SSEA. These increased activities were driven by two members' participation in the expanded business model of Load Service Requirements, where all of the member's energy needs are procured by the SSEA. Cash at fiscal year-end 2015 was down to \$7 million as SSEA was able to better anticipate and manage ongoing operations, including being called upon to post additional collateral support for future energy contracts as a result of falling energy commodity prices.

Accounts receivable increased significantly from \$279,323 in 2013 to \$1,748,764 at fiscal year-end 2014 and accounts receivable members increased from \$1,568,009 to \$3,658,599. Once again, these large increases in fiscal year-end 2014 balances reflect increased activities driven by two members' participation in the expanded business model of Load Service Requirements,

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

where all of the member's energy needs are procured by the SSEA. Fiscal year-end 2015 accounts receivable and accounts receivable members are relatively unchanged from their respective 2014 levels.

Prepaid items increased steadily and significantly from \$1,528,433 in 2013 to \$5,707,146 in 2014 to \$19,675,454 in 2015 driven by significantly increased natural gas contract volumes and steadily falling natural gas prices, which required partial contract prepayments to cover the difference between the forward contract price and the forward market price. Natural gas contracts are executed in compliance with the SSEA Risk Management Procedures as a means of mitigating power price volatility over the upcoming 5-year horizon.

Accounts payable has decreased significantly from \$12 million in 2014 to only \$5 million in 2015, representing amounts due for energy purchases, broker fees, transmission and ancillary services and Silverhawk Power Plant expense. The abnormally high 2014 year-end balance of \$12 million included \$7.5 million of delayed billings from a power exchange vendor. The current balance is in line with normal operations and the \$6.7 million balance at fiscal year-end 2013.

Accounts payable members was \$1,808,551 for 2015, rising steadily with the increase in business volume from \$183,906 in 2013, and is primarily made up of amounts due for Hydro purchases, Administrative and General and other expenses, and advances for future outside services related to providing transmission and distribution services.

Advances from members has increased significantly and steadily from 2013 to \$24,171,904 in 2015, reflecting the need for cash advances to support the increased energy procurement activities driven by the expanded business model of Project Services Agreement (PSA) No. 3: Power Supply Management Services Agreement. By far the most significant driver of the increase has been the need to acquire advance funds from members to post the required collateral discussed in prepaid items above. These advances from members are effectively prepayments of future energy costs, deposits for future services from certain energy providers or cash held in the bank.

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGE IN NET POSITION
YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015, 2014 and 2013

OPERATING REVENUE	2015	2014	2013
Power sales and other assessments to members	<u>\$ 70,431,625</u>	<u>\$ 88,076,789</u>	<u>\$ 25,139,346</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Office supplies and expenses	472,086	541,337	769,150
Outside services	1,855,170	1,815,162	517,360
Power purchases and related expenses	<u>68,108,614</u>	<u>85,736,284</u>	<u>23,853,001</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>70,435,870</u>	<u>88,092,783</u>	<u>25,139,511</u>
OPERATING LOSS	(4,245)	(15,994)	(165)
Member assessments for deferred project costs	16,522	-	225
Investment income	<u>4,245</u>	<u>15,994</u>	<u>165</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	16,522	-	225
NET POSITION, BEGINNING	<u>402,342</u>	<u>402,342</u>	<u>402,117</u>
NET POSITION, ENDING	<u><u>\$ 418,864</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 402,342</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 402,342</u></u>

Results of Operations

Fiscal Year 2015 Summary

Power sales and other assessments to members decreased in fiscal year 2015, from \$88 million to \$70 million, primarily as a result of much lower current market energy prices. Megawatt-hour sales remained unchanged at 1.8 million. See the following chart for the annual power sales to each of the member agencies:

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

SSEA SALES TO MEMBERS

In MWh

	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2013	Fiscal Year 2012
SNWA	1,082,859	1,105,060	297,691	-
CRC	582,053	585,276	102,376	-
COBC	162,296	160,473	144,680	95,476
LCPD	11,737	13,068	11,664	3,280
OPD	(21,891)	(29,159)	(4,604)	-
Total	1,817,054	1,834,718	551,807	98,756

Total operating expenses decreased from \$88 million in 2014 to \$70 million in 2015, reflecting the lower current energy market prices.

Member assessments for deferred projects had little financial activity as the Eastern Nevada Transmission Project (ENTP) continues to await the regulatory action necessary to move forward.

Investment income decreased from \$15,994 to \$4,245 as a result of significantly less interest received from the local utility in accordance with a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) order.

Net position slightly increased to \$418,864, reflecting minimal ongoing project costs. The entire net position consists of investment in the ENTP, which is awaiting the regulatory action necessary to move forward.

Fiscal Year 2014 Summary

Power sales and other assessments to members increased tremendously in fiscal year 2014, from \$25 million to \$88 million, primarily as a result of the SNWA having its first full year of energy needs met by the SSEA. In addition, power sales to the Colorado River Commission (CRC) increased significantly to 585,276 MWh while 13,068 MWh of energy was purchased and delivered to LCPD and OPD sold a net of 29,159 MWh of energy to the SSEA under power purchase and sales service schedules. Energy purchased and delivered to all members increased from 551,806 MWh in 2013 to 1,834,718 MWh in 2014.

Total operating expenses also grew from \$25 million in 2013 to \$88 million in 2014, reflecting the enormous increase in power purchases and related expenses required to meet the expanded energy needs of the SSEA's members. Outside services expense increased from

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

\$517,360 to \$1,815,162 as a result of a full year of contracted labor costs necessary to support the activities of PSA No. 3. For 2013, SSEA only incurred three months of labor costs as the organization began PSA No. 3 activities while 2014 includes a full year of labor support.

Member assessments for deferred projects had no financial activity as the ENTP continued to await the regulatory action necessary to move forward.

Investment income increased from \$165 to \$15,994 as a result of interest received from the local utility in accordance with a FERC order. The increase in investment returns is primarily a result of one-time interest received from the local utility in accordance with a FERC order and also a result of the SSEA changing financial institutions whereby higher rates of return were readily available.

Net position remained the same for 2014 as for 2013 at \$402,342. The entire net position consists of investments in the ENTP, which is awaiting the regulatory action necessary to move forward.

Requests for Information. This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the SSEA's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed as follows:

Office of the
Energy Accounting & Settlements Officer
Silver State Energy Association
100 City Parkway, Suite 700
Las Vegas, NV 89106
(702) 259-8168

This report is also available on the SSEA website: <http://silverstateenergy.org>

This page intentionally left blank

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

ASSETS	2015	2014
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 7,037,838	\$ 10,988,622
Accounts receivable	1,267,898	1,748,764
Accounts receivable, members	3,006,028	3,658,599
Prepaid items	19,675,454	5,707,146
Total current assets	<u>30,987,218</u>	<u>22,103,131</u>
Capital assets:		
Capitalized project costs	418,864	402,342
Total assets	<u>31,406,082</u>	<u>22,505,473</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	5,006,763	12,020,195
Accounts payable, members	1,808,551	1,295,373
Advances from members	24,171,904	8,787,563
Total current liabilities	<u>30,987,218</u>	<u>22,103,131</u>
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	418,864	402,342
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 31,406,082</u>	<u>\$ 22,505,473</u>

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION

**STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGE IN NET POSITION
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014**

	2015	2014
OPERATING REVENUE		
Power sales and other assessments to members	\$ 70,431,625	\$ 88,076,789
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Office supplies and expenses	472,086	541,337
Outside services	1,855,170	1,815,162
Power purchases and related expenses	68,108,614	85,736,284
Total operating expenses	<u>70,435,870</u>	<u>88,092,783</u>
OPERATING LOSS	(4,245)	(15,994)
Member assessments for deferred project costs	16,522	
Investment income	<u>4,245</u>	<u>15,994</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	16,522	
NET POSITION, BEGINNING	<u>402,342</u>	<u>402,342</u>
NET POSITION, ENDING	<u>\$ 418,864</u>	<u>\$ 402,342</u>

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014**

	2015	2014
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash received from power sales and other assessments to members	\$ 86,468,537	\$ 96,144,886
Cash paid for goods and services	(90,423,566)	(87,761,440)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>(3,955,029)</u>	<u>8,383,446</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash received from members for project costs	16,522	
Acquisition of capital assets	(16,522)	
Net cash used in capital financing activities	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Interest received	4,245	15,994
NET CHANGE IN CASH	(3,950,784)	8,399,440
CASH, BEGINNING	<u>10,988,622</u>	<u>2,589,182</u>
CASH, ENDING	<u>\$ 7,037,838</u>	<u>\$ 10,988,622</u>
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Operating loss	\$ (4,245)	\$ (15,994)
(Increase) decrease in operating assets:		
Accounts receivable	480,866	(1,469,441)
Accounts receivable, members	652,571	(2,090,589)
Prepaid items	(13,968,308)	(4,178,713)
Increase (decrease) in operating liabilities:		
Accounts payable	(7,013,432)	5,262,984
Accounts payable, members	513,178	1,111,466
Advances from members	15,384,341	9,763,733
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ (3,955,029)</u>	<u>\$ 8,383,446</u>

This page intentionally left blank

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

Under the provisions of Chapter 277 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), any one or more public agencies may enter into an agreement for the joint exercise of any power, privilege, or authority and may create a separate legal or administrative entity to conduct the joint or cooperative undertaking.

The Silver State Energy Association (SSEA) is an association of public agencies with the common goal of jointly planning, developing, owning and operating power resources to meet their own needs and those of their customers. The economies of scale produced by SSEA offer improved project development opportunities and power purchasing capabilities, the sharing of resources and expertise, and the opportunity for jointly managed energy needs. SSEA is a political subdivision of the State of Nevada (Nevada) and was established August 1, 2007, through a cooperative agreement pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act.

SSEA was established as a joint venture through an interlocal agreement among the member agencies (Members) consisting of the City of Boulder City, the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (CRC), Lincoln County Power District No. 1, Overton Power District No. 5 and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA).

As appropriate, projects are selected for development; the Members involved in each project enter into a project service agreement (PSA) indicating each participating Member's allocation of project costs.

The business and other affairs of the SSEA are conducted by a Board of Directors (the Board) consisting of one director appointed by each Member. The appointed director may, but need not be, a member of the governing body of the Member.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units*, and GASB Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus*, defines the reporting entity as the primary government and those component units for which the primary government is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government is such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Financial accountability is defined as the appointment of a voting majority of the entity's governing body, and either the ability of the primary government to impose its will on the entity or the possibility that the entity will provide a financial benefit to or impose a financial burden on the

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

primary government. In addition to financial accountability, component units can be other entities in which the economic resources received or held by that entity are entirely or almost entirely for the direct benefit of the primary government, the primary government is entitled to or has the ability to otherwise access a majority of the economic resources received or held by the entity and the resources to which the primary government is entitled or has the ability to otherwise access are significant to the primary government.

SSEA has examined its position relative to its Members and determined that there are no requirements that would cause the basic financial statements of SSEA to be included in the Members' or any other entities' financial reports. In addition, no entities were determined to be component units of SSEA.

Basis of Presentation, Measurement Focus, and Basis of Accounting

The basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) applicable to government units as prescribed by GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, as amended. GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. SSEA is not subject to rate regulation by federal or state utility regulatory bodies such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) or the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada.

SSEA is accounted for as an enterprise fund. Enterprise funds account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that costs of providing goods and services to customers on a continual basis be financed primarily through user charges.

The financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of SSEA. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. For the periods reported, there were no non-exchange transactions. Non-operating revenues of enterprise funds include investment earnings, revenues resulting from ancillary activities, and capital contributions.

Assets, Liabilities, and Equity

Accounts Receivable: Amounts due from Members and others are recorded at net realizable value and consist of amounts due for general and project expenses. It is SSEA's policy to write

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

off uncollectible receivables based on a case-by-case evaluation of facts and circumstances. At June 30, 2015 and, 2014, all amounts due from members were considered to be collectible.

Capital Assets (capitalized project costs): Consistent with industry standards and GAAP, the expenditures for preliminary surveys, plans, investigations, etc. made for the purpose of determining the feasibility of utility projects under contemplation are held in a capitalized account in accordance with the provisions of FERC. If the project continues to completion, these amounts would be capitalized to property and equipment. If the project is abandoned, they would be charged to expense at that time. As of June 30, 2015 and 2014, capitalized project costs were \$418,864 and \$402,342, respectively, for which an equal amount is reported as net investment in capital assets.

Advances from Members: In accordance with the cooperative agreement, revenues from Member assessments are recorded when general and administrative expenses and project costs are incurred, with any amounts received from Members in excess of those incurred expenses and costs reflected as advances from Members in the accompanying statements of position. Certain immaterial reclassifications were made to prior year amounts to conform to the current year presentation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates and assumptions.

NOTE 2. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budgetary information: The SSEA manager prepares a tentative budget for administrative and general expenses for each fiscal year on or before April 15th with the final budget being adopted by the Board on or before June 1 of each year. SSEA administrative and general expenses incurred during any fiscal year may not exceed the budgeted level authorized by the Board. This budget may be amended by the Board as necessary.

Budgets for each project are established consistent with the requirements of each PSA.

NOTE 3. PROJECT SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Except for CRC, each Member is required to execute one or more PSAs with SSEA within two years from the date the Member becomes a signatory to the cooperative agreement, and within two years from the date when all PSAs to which the Member is a signatory are no longer effective.

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

On November 7, 2007, the Board approved PSA No. 1: *Joint Generation Resource Planning and Evaluation* (PSA #1). The project participants include the City of Boulder City, Overton Power District No. 5, Lincoln County Power District No. 1 and SNWA. PSA #1 involves the joint exploration, research, investigation, review, evaluation, and feasibility of implementing, operating, and maintaining electric generation projects and such other projects, whether physical or financial, that may be designed to meet the future power needs of the project participants.

The project consists of three phases. The first two phases have been completed. The third phase, which had been put on hold by the members, was reinitiated in 2012 for the purpose of determining the feasibility of SSEA obtaining an allocation of federal hydropower through Western Area Power Administration or CRC.

The project term was November 7, 2007, through December 31, 2010, with provisions to continue from year-to-year thereafter. The project budget is \$1,000,000. Since this is an activity intended to identify projects for future development by SSEA and not a particular contemplated project, intended to result in the development of capital assets under GAAP and FERC provisions, the related costs are not capitalized, but are recorded as period costs when incurred.

On June 11, 2008, the Board approved PSA No. 2: *Eastern Nevada Transmission Project* (PSA #2). The project participants are the City of Boulder City, Overton Power District No. 5, Lincoln County Power District No. 1 and SNWA.

PSA #2 involves the joint exploration, research, investigation, review, and evaluation of the feasibility of constructing 230 kV high voltage electrical transmission lines and related facilities to allow the interconnection of the participant electrical systems with Mead Substation in Southern Nevada. Work performed under this agreement includes siting, permitting, and preliminary design of the proposed transmission lines, of which \$402,342 has been recorded as capitalized project costs under the provisions of GAAP and FERC.

The original project term was June 11, 2008, through June 11, 2011, unless terminated earlier by the project participants. PSA #2 was amended on February 28, 2011, to extend the term of PSA #2 for an additional three years. The project budget was \$2,600,000.

On July 17, 2014, the Board approved PSA No. 2A: *Eastern Nevada Transmission Project* (PSA #2A). The project participants are the City of Boulder City, Overton Power District No. 5, Lincoln County Power District No. 1 and SNWA. PSA #2A supersedes PSA #2 which concluded in June 2014. PSA #2A is a continuation of the project commenced under PSA #2 but with a reduced scope of work and a reduced budget of \$100,000, of which \$16,522 has been recorded as

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

capitalized project costs under the provisions of GAAP and FERC. The project term is for five years commencing on July 17, 2014.

On November 10, 2009, the Board approved PSA No. 3: *Power Supply Management Services Agreement* (PSA #3). The project participants are the City of Boulder City, Lincoln County Power District No. 1, Overton Power District No. 5 and SNWA.

PSA #3 allows the project participants to request that SSEA provide various power supply management services in connection with the operation, scheduling, hedging or optimization of a project participant's resources or in furtherance of meeting the power supply needs of a project participant. There are two service schedules offered under PSA #3: 1) Load Requirements Service (LRS), which includes full commodity management; and 2) Power Purchase and Sale Service (PPSS), which enables the project participant to buy and sell specifically requested products with SSEA.

The project term is November 10, 2009, to termination of the cooperative agreement. The project budget is to be developed as service is initiated by project participants. Since this is an activity intended to provide ongoing services to the participants and not a particular contemplated project that is intended to result in the development of capital assets, under GAAP and FERC provisions, the related costs are not capitalized, but are recorded as period costs when incurred.

Under the provisions of service schedule LRS of PSA #3, SSEA has been delivering energy to the City of Boulder City since June 1, 2011, and to SNWA since April 1, 2013. Overton Power District No. 5 and Lincoln County Power District No. 1 entered into service schedule PPSS under PSA #3 on September 1, 2011 and October 1, 2011, respectively.

NOTE 4. RISK MANAGEMENT

SSEA is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. The United States has experienced a widespread recession accompanied by declines in residential real estate sales, mortgage lending and related construction activity, and other inflationary trends and weakness in the commercial and investment banking systems, all of which are likely to continue to have far-reaching effects on the economic activity in the country for an indeterminate period. The near- and long-term impact of these factors on the Nevada economy and the SSEA's operations cannot be predicted at this time but may be substantial.

SSEA often carries cash on deposit with a financial institution in excess of federally-insured limits. The financial institution pledges sufficient collateral with the Nevada State Treasurer for

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

all amounts which exceed the applicable FDIC insurance. The financial institution pledges only AAA rated instruments to secure the deposits.

NOTE 5. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Litigation: The SSEA is not currently a party to any litigation. However, the SSEA may, from time-to time, be a party in various litigation matters. It is management's opinion, based upon advice from legal counsel, that the risk of financial losses to SSEA from such litigation, if any, will not have a material adverse effect on SSEA's future financial position, results of operations or cash flows. Accordingly, no provision has been made for any such losses.

SSEA does not accrue for estimated future legal and defense costs, if any, to be incurred in connection with outstanding or threatened litigation and other disputed matters, but rather records such as period costs when the services are rendered.

Forward Energy Contracts: To provide electrical energy at a known and budgeted cost, SSEA actively manages a portfolio of energy resources and adheres to a strict set of energy risk management procedures established to fulfill the Energy Risk Management Policy adopted by the Board. The portfolio is composed of forward electricity contracts as well as natural gas and electricity financial contracts that exist solely for the purpose of serving SSEA's projected energy requirements over the next 5 years. These contracts are considered to be "normal purchases and sales contracts" and, therefore, they are considered to be outside the scope of GASB Statement No. 53, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments*.

The primary risks associated with this portfolio are counter-party credit and termination risks, which are managed by policies and procedures that require careful financial evaluation of trading partners, trading limits and in some cases as specified by policy, the posting of collateral.

As of June 30, 2015 and 2014, prepaid items related to the future purchases of power were \$18,271,810 and \$3,303,538, respectively. In addition, in relation to the aforementioned forward energy contracts, the SSEA had commitments at June 30, 2015 and 2014 to sell energy in the amounts of \$25,331,285 and \$20,616,930, respectively, (net of commitments to purchase energy). The SSEA intends to enter into additional energy supply contracts in the future as the delivery period for the committed sales nears.

SILVER STATE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES, BUDGET AND ACTUAL

				For year ended June 30, 2015		
				Budget		
				Original and Final	Actual	Variance
ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL						
Labor				\$ 39,537	\$ 36,331	\$ 3,206
Other				21,060	19,025	2,035
Total administrative and general expenses				<u>60,597</u>	<u>55,356</u>	<u>5,241</u>
Project Service Agreement #3						
Power purchases and related costs and expenses				<u>\$ 75,601,675</u>	<u>\$ 70,376,269</u>	<u>\$ 5,225,406</u>
RECONCILIATION OF EXPENSES						
Current year expenses (net)						
Project Service Agreement #3					\$ 70,376,269	
Total administrative and general expenses					55,356	
Add back:						
Interest income					4,245	
Total operating expenses					<u>\$ 70,435,870</u>	
				Through June 30, 2015		
				Budget		
				Original and Final	Actual	Remaining Available
NON-CAPITALIZED PROJECTS						
Project Service Agreement #1						
Phase I				\$ 5,000	\$ 2,073	\$ 2,927
Phase II				5,000	2,971	2,029
Phase III:						
Work Effort 1				2,500	1,911	589
Work Effort 2				5,000	1,927	3,073
Work Effort 3				10,000	368	9,632
				<u>\$ 27,500</u>	<u>\$ 9,250</u>	<u>\$ 18,250</u>
CAPITALIZED PROJECTS						
Project Service Agreement #2						
Administrative				\$ 20,000	\$ 11,647	\$ 8,353
Siting and permitting				2,271,500	390,695	1,880,805
Project management				308,500		308,500
				<u>2,600,000</u>	<u>402,342</u>	<u>2,197,658</u>
Project Service Agreement #2A				<u>100,000</u>	<u>16,522</u>	<u>83,478</u>
Total capitalized project costs				<u>\$ 2,700,000</u>	<u>\$ 418,864</u>	<u>\$ 2,281,136</u>

This page intentionally left blank

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

P B T K

PIERCY BOWLER
TAYLOR & KERN

Certified Public Accountants
Business Advisors

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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**

Board of Directors
Silver State Energy Association
Las Vegas, Nevada

We 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 the Silver State Energy Association (the SSEA) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the SSEA's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents, and have issued our report thereon dated October 7, 2015.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting. In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements, we considered the SSEA's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the SSEA's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the SSEA'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 SSEA's basic 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.

Our 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 our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we 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 the SSEA's basic financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of basic financial statement amounts, including whether the funds established by the SSEA, as listed in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 354.624 (5)(a)(1 through 5), complied with the express purposes required by NRS 354.6241. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the SSEA in a separate letter dated October 7, 2015.

Purpose of this Report. The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the SSEA's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the SSEA internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Priscilla Bowen Taylor Kern". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Las Vegas, Nevada

October 7, 2015