MPU.ORG



February 14, 2023

Honorable Mayor Justin Nickels And Members of Manitowoc Common Council Manitowoc City Hall 900 Quay Street Manitowoc, WI 54220

Honorable Mayor and Members of Council:

As required by the amended resolution creating the reporting and action protocol for and between the City Council and MPU Commission, I am pleased to present the following highlights for 2022 of the activities of Great Lakes Utilities (GLU) - a municipal electric company organized under §66.0825, Wis. Stat.

- 1. GLU's Mission Statement: Providing value to our members through offering reliable and costeffective solutions centered on power supply to enhance the quality of life in each of the communities.
  - GLU's Vision Statement: To strengthen our members' local status by enhanced service offering, cost effective power supply solutions, and increased member participation.
- 2. The continued strategic focus of GLU for the next two years will be as follows:
  - a. Planning and Implementing Generating Asset Ownership.
  - b. Succession Planning and Leadership Transition
  - c. Member Retention and Strategic Growth
- 3. As of December 31, 2022, there are a total of twelve (12) members of GLU. The members are: Bangor, Clintonville, Cornell, Escanaba (Michigan), Kiel, Manitowoc, Marshfield, Medford, Shawano, Stratford, Trempealeau, and Wisconsin Rapids.
- 4. The Officers of the Great Lakes Utilities are as follows:
  - Chair: Jem Brown, Wisconsin Rapids Water and Lighting Commission
  - Vice Chair: Brian Knapp, Shawano Utilities
  - Secretary: Nicolas Kumm, City of Marshfield
  - Treasurer: Dave DeJongh, City of Cornell
- 5. Troy Adams is the Managing Director of Great Lakes Utilities as of January 1, 2022.
- 6. GLU's power supply rates for the GLU-East group (Wisconsin Rapids, Kiel, Manitowoc, Stratford, and the Badger Power Marketing Authority members Shawano and Clintonville) remain very competitive. Average system rates for 2023 were set by the Project Committee and approved by the GLU Board with a resulting increase of 8.3% as compared to 2022 budgeted rates.
- 7. GLU's power supply rates for the GLU West members (Bangor, Cornell, Medford, and Trempealeau) also remain very competitive. Average system rates for 2023 were set by the Project Committee and approved by the GLU Board with a resulting increase of 6.9%. as compared to budgeted rates for 2022.
- 8. The operation of the Lakeswind project, of which GLU is the primary off-taker, continues to be stable. The large increase in natural gas prices this year has resulted in higher energy prices in

the MISO market. Due to these higher energy prices the revenues from energy sales this year have consistently exceeded the costs for the purchase of the energy and the wind project financial performance has improved significantly. In 2022, through the end of April the Lakeswind project has generated ~ \$1.1 million in excess cash flows. Due to the excess cash flows GLU approved a member credit of \$20/MWh back to members rather than a charge. This has resulted in the net loss for the project for 2022 to be approximately \$140,000. The wind project committee continues to monitor project performance and adjusts rates accordingly. For 2023, GLU decreased the member assessment credit to \$5.00/MWh from \$20.00/MWh effective January 1, 2023.

- GLU created a Rate Stabilization Committee to monitor the rate stabilization funds developed for members.
- 10. The RICE Project was withdrawn from the regulatory approval process in early 2022 due to anticipated cost overruns and expiration of the equipment contract prior to regulatory approval.
- 11. In 2022, GLU continued working on several key initiatives from its strategic plan. The following is an update on these initiatives:
  - a. GLU completed the investigation into the economic feasibility of installing solar facilities on the distribution systems of GLU members and continues to explore front of the meter and behind the meter options for solar generation;
  - b. GLU completed an investigation into acquiring hydroelectric facilities in Wisconsin and determined that it was not in the best interest of GLU at this time;
  - c. The GLU Board continues to develop a plan for member retention and strategic growth which includes evaluation of expansion of services and the potential addition of new members.
- 12. Through its operating services agreement with MPU, GLU continues to perform market participant functions in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) on behalf of its GLU East and West power supply members as well as Escanaba and Marshfield. In late 2022, the GLU Board approved a plan to transfer responsibility for operating and power supply services from MPU to ACES.
- 13. The MPU-GLU Management Services Contract expires June 2023; MPU will not pursue an extension.
- 14. GLU joined MEUW and WPPI Energy and a coalition of public utilities in opposing two petitions from solar developers at the Public Service Commission. The petitions each sought a declaratory judgment from the Commission to authorize the third-party financing of distributed generation resources in utility territory. Troy Adams provided testimony. One petition was granted on a limited basis; the other was remanded. Potential appeals are pending.
- 15. The GLU Board generally meets every month, with most meetings occurring in Wisconsin Rapids or via teleconference.
- 16. The agendas of each meeting are forwarded to the City Clerk before each regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting minutes are also forwarded on a regular basis to the City Clerk.
- 17. The 2021 Annual Report, approved by the GLU Board at its Annual Meeting in September 2022, is attached. The financial statements of GLU are being audited by KerberRose of Appleton, Wisconsin.



Please advise me if you have any questions on the report or feel free to call me at 686-4377. Again, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our Utility and GLU.

Best regards,

Troy Adams, P. E. General Manager

Attachment

cc: MPU Commission w/o attachment





# ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

# GREAT LAKES UTILITIES 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# HISTORY AND MISSION OF GREAT LAKES UTILITIES

Great Lakes Utilities (GLU) is a municipal electric company formed under Section 66.0825, Wis. Stats. As such, it is a public body and a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin, with separate legal status from that of its members. GLU was formed in 2000 in order to become a vehicle for obtaining low cost and reliable electric power for its members.

GLU currently operates two power supply pools: GLU East (serving Manitowoc, Kiel, Stratford, Wisconsin Rapids, and Badger Power Marketing Authority, which is comprised of the cities of Shawano and Clintonville); and GLU West (serving Cornell, Bangor, Trempealeau and Medford). Power supply pool members are served under long term requirements contracts using a portfolio of power supply resources, which includes short-term and long-term wholesale power contracts, as well as member-owned generation.

GLU also provides a range of utility services to all of its members, including power supply planning and forecasting, market participation and scheduling, retail rate case support, and others.

# **MEMBER COMMUNITIES**

Bangor, Cornell, Clintonville, Escanaba (Michigan), Kiel, Manitowoc, Marshfield, Medford, Shawano, Stratford, Trempealeau, and Wisconsin Rapids.

#### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bangor – Patrick Reilley

Clintonville – Jim Supanich

Cornell – Dave DeJongh (Treasurer)

Escanaba – Gerald Pirkola

Kiel – Kris August

Manitowoc – Troy Adams (Co-Managing Director)

Marshfield – Nicolas Kumm (Secretary)

Medford – Joe Harris

Shawano – Brian Knapp (Vice Chair)

Stratford - Scott Dennee

Trempealeau - Kurt Wood

Wisconsin Rapids – Jem Brown (Chair)

# GREAT LAKES UTILITIES 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

With approval of the Manitowoc Public Utilities Commission (MPU), the GLU Board extended managing director services through 2021 with Nilaksh Kothari, who had retired in 2020 from the General Manager role at MPU, and then contractually the GLU Managing Director role for GLU. The extension of services through contract with MPU allowed for overlap and the transition of the GLU Managing Director role through MPU as well as provide project management oversight for various generation projects GLU was pursuing.

GLU submitted an application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin for a Certificate of Authority to construct a 45 MW Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine Plant Generation Project to be located at the Manitowoc Public Utilities existing Custer Energy Center Electric Generation Site. The project included converting four gray-market engines from marine to land-based units. Subsequently this project was abandoned due to regulatory delays and cost concerns.

GLU completed the investigation into the economic feasibility of installing solar PV facilities on the distribution systems of the GLU members.

GLU completed an investigation into acquiring hydroelectric facilities in Wisconsin and determined that it was not in the best interest of GLU at this time.

GLU continues to provide demand forecasting, meter data management services, and rate case services to members under the GLU-MPU Operating Agreement. GLU also continues to provide MISO market services for the operation of the Marshfield CT under the GLU-MPU Operating Agreement.

GLU continues to participate actively in a coalition of municipal power agencies in federal energy regulatory commission ("FERC") proceedings related to the operation and administration of the MISO energy markets.

GLU continues monitoring state and federal regulatory activities and intervenes when appropriate.

GLU continues to file aggregated RPS compliance reports for members so that REC retirement can be undertaken on behalf of power supply groups rather than individual municipalities. GLU also assisted Bangor with rate case filings at the Public Service Commission during 2021.

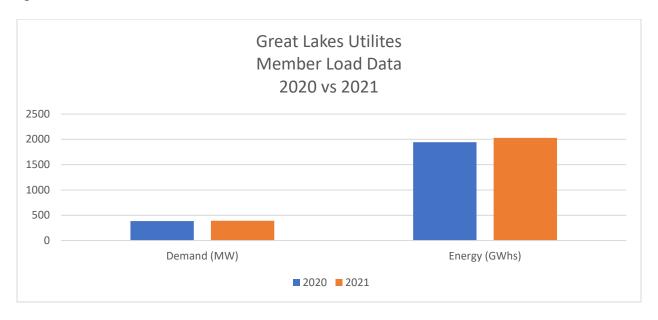
With the assistance of a facilitator, the GLU Board conducted a planning session to establish priorities and strategic initiatives. Two clear Board priorities became evident: By a significant margin, controlling costs and keeping rates low was the most important priority for members; and, maintaining and clarifying our "project oriented" agency model also came to light through discussion. The session produced three action areas:

- 1. Develop a new Board Member orientation and training process
- 2. Develop agency growth plan and related by-law revisions
- 3. Develop committee and project rules

# GREAT LAKES UTILITIES 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# POWER SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The combined 2021 load of GLU members was approximately 390 MWs and 2,029,450 MWhs. The 2021 GLU member's demand was up  $\sim$ 1.5% from 2020 and the energy requirements were up over 4%.



For GLU-West Power Supply Pool, 2021 budgeted average system rates remained the same as budgeted 2020 wholesale rates. The pool experienced increased wholesale costs of ~5.7% verses 2021 budgeted and were able to maintain the 2021 budgeted wholesale rates via use of available cash reserves.

For GLU-East Power Supply Pool, 2021 budgeted average system rates were decreased by approximately 3.5% versus budgeted 2020 wholesale rates. The pool experienced increased wholesale power costs of  $\sim 9.4\%$  versus 2021 budgeted. The pool implemented a 5.7% increase to wholesale rates for the October through December 2021 period.

The energy production from the Lakeswind facility in 2021 was 157,237 MWhs which is a little short of the projected annual production of 172,000 MWhs. Energy pricing in MISO during the latter half of 2021 was significantly higher than recent years. This increased energy pricing resulted in the financial performance of the project to be well above budget. The weather event in February of 2021 resulted in a week of very high energy prices. This led to the financial performance of the project in February of 2021 for the first time to actually generate more revenues than expenses. The higher MISO energy prices in the latter half of 2021 resulted in every month from June through the end of the year to have positive cash flows. This has resulted in positive cash flows for the wind project for 2021 of approximately \$2.9 million versus a budgeted cash flow of \$111,000.

GLU's financial position continues to remain solid. Details are provided in the attached audited financial statements for 2021. Overall, GLU members maintain among the lowest retail rates in the state due in large measure to GLU's low cost wholesale power supply tariffs.

# **Annual Financial Report**

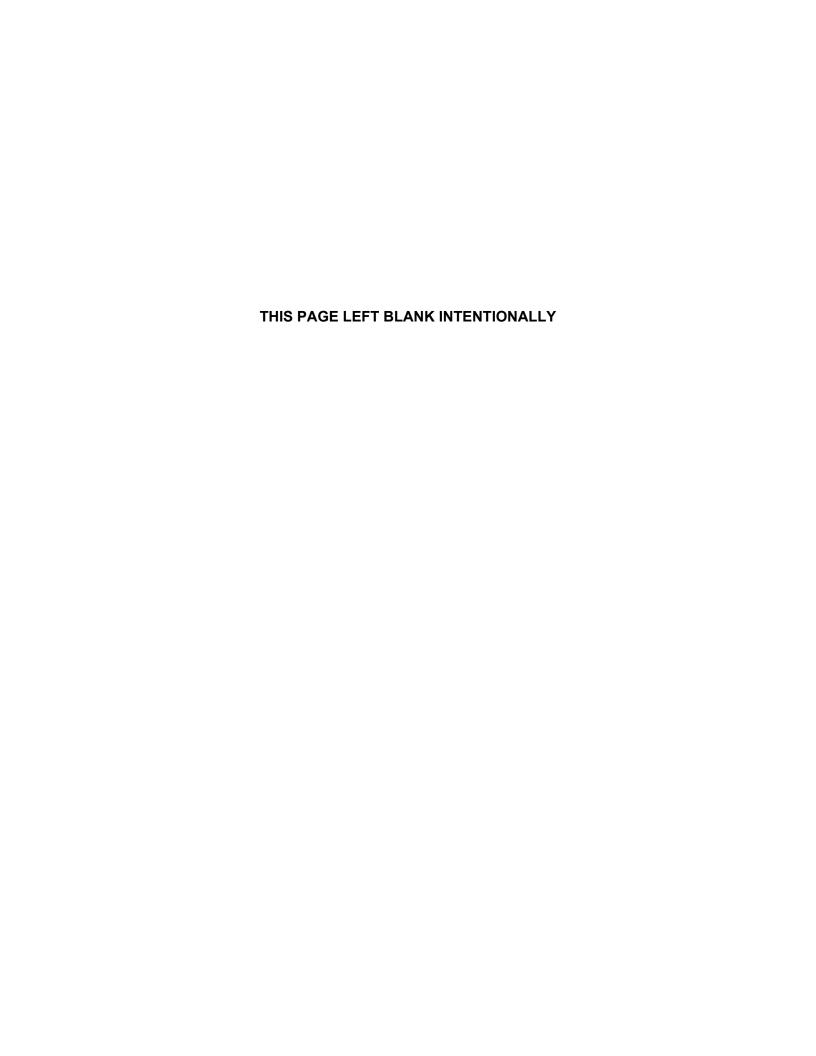
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

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# **December 31, 2021**

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#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

To the Board of Directors Great Lakes Utilities Manitowoc, Wisconsin

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Great Lakes Utilities (GLU), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the GLU's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Great Lakes Utilities, as of December 31, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

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

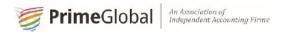
#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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 the GLU's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

# Auditors' 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 auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.



To the Board of Directors Great Lakes Utilities

Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
  fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures
  include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial
  statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
  that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
  effectiveness of the Great Lakes Utilities' 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 Great Lakes Utilities' 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 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.

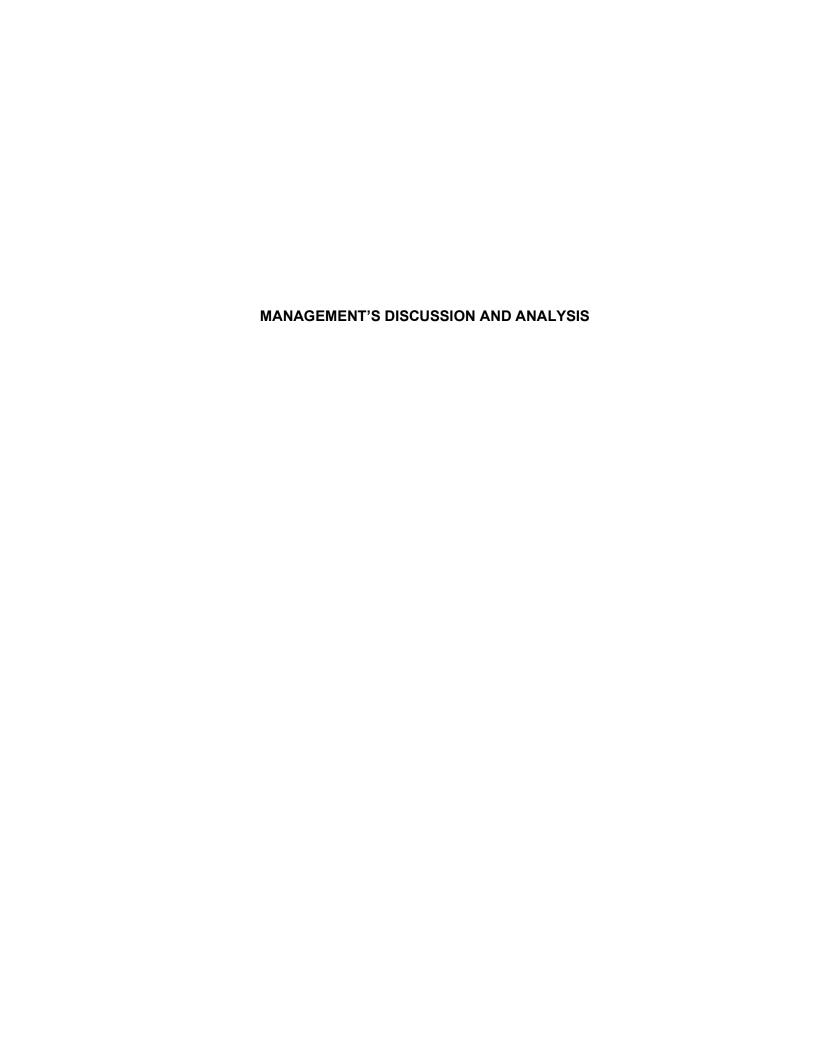
#### **Prior Year Summarized Information**

GLU's December 31, 2020 financial statements were audited by CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP and in their report dated April 22, 2021, they expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial information from which it was derived.

KerberRose S.C. Certified Public Accountants Appleton, Wisconsin

March 30, 2022

KerberRose SC



MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2021

The management of Great Lakes Utilities ("GLU") offers all parties interested in the financial position of GLU the following overview and analysis of GLU's financial performance during the year ending December 31, 2021.

Please read the narrative in conjunction with GLU's financial statements.

### Financial Highlights from 2021

In 2020 GLU authorized multiple power supply studies to identify the most cost-effective long-term power supply plan. The analysis concluded that for a diversified power supply portfolio, GLU should pursue ownership of a dual fuel generation with Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine (RICE) units in combination with a front of the meter solar power purchase agreement and behind the meter solar generation.

In 2021, GLU filed a Certificate of Authority with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) for approval to construct a 45 MW RICE plant generation project located in the City of Manitowoc. GLU had been in negotiations with TOTE Marine Services to obtain these engines with generators that were slated for upgrading a ship which sunk in the Atlantic before they could be installed. Ultimately the project was withdrawn from approval in early 2022 due to anticipated cost overruns and the expiration of the contract with TOTE Marine prior to regulatory approval. GLU is currently reassessing options to create a diversified power supply portfolio.

The power supply rates for the GLU-East members were increased by approximately 5.7% in October 2021. Rates for the GLU-West power supply members in 2021 remained flat to 2020.

\$1.9 million in notes payable to members were obtained so that GLU could meet credit requirements necessary to function as a market participant in the MISO energy markets on behalf of GLU members. The deposit is recorded in the Statement of Net Position as an asset.

Please see the Condensed statements and the presented management comments for additional detailed financial highlights.

#### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

Great Lakes Utilities is a municipal electric company formed under Wisconsin Statute 66.0825. As such, it is a public body and a subdivision of the State of Wisconsin with a legal nature and authority separate from its municipal members. GLU was formed in 2000 as a power supply alternative for members in order to increase their ability to obtain reliable electric capacity and energy at reasonable costs. GLU currently has 12 members: the Wisconsin communities of Bangor, Clintonville, Cornell, Kiel, Manitowoc, Marshfield, Medford, Shawano, Stratford, Trempealeau, Wisconsin Rapids; and Escanaba, MI.

The Statement of Net Position (Table 1) and the Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position (Table 2) provide an indication of GLU's change in financial condition during the last year. GLU's net position reflects the difference between assets and liabilities. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position reflects the income and expenses of GLU for the year.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2021

# **Financial Analysis**

Table 1
Condensed Statement of Net Position

	 2021	2020	 Dollar Change	Percent Change
Current Assets Cash and investments Other	\$ 10,844,688 7,977,253 18,821,941	\$ 11,233,771 7,210,913 18,444,684	\$ (389,083) 766,340 377,257	-3.5% 10.6% 2.0%
Restricted Assets Long-term Investments Other Assets	 16,415,406 12,364,369 2,809,820	11,460,049 15,614,893 2,809,820	4,955,357 (3,250,524) -	43.2% -20.8% 0.0%
Total Assets	 50,411,536	48,329,446	2,082,090	4.3%
Current Liabilities and Other Accrued Expenses Rate Stabilization Deposits Notes Payable	\$ 8,359,182 16,415,406 1,900,000	\$ 7,535,456 11,460,049 1,900,000	\$ 823,726 4,955,357 -	10.9% 43.2% 0.0%
Total Liabilities	 26,674,588	20,895,505	5,779,083	27.7%
Total Net Position	\$ 23,736,948	\$ 27,433,941	\$ (3,696,993)	-13.5%

# **Variance Explanations**

• Investments of money market and fixed income securities were purchased during 2021 and 2020.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2021

Table 2
Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

	2021	2020	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Power Supply Billings	\$ 93,278,248	\$ 90,920,766	\$ 2,357,482	2.6%
Member Assessments	 223,331	 208,331	 15,000	7.2%
Total Revenues	 93,501,579	 91,129,097	2,372,482	2.6%
Power Supply Expenses	88,418,228	79,448,600	8,969,628	11.3%
West Power Supply Expenses	8,866,228	8,677,527	188,701	2.2%
Wind Expenses (Revenue)	(596,184)	3,144,003	(3,740,187)	-119.0%
Administrative and General Expenses	 182,073	 123,466	 58,607	47.5%
Total Expenses	 96,870,345	91,393,596	 5,476,749	6.0%
Operating Income (Loss)	(3,368,766)	(264,499)	(3,104,267)	1173.6%
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	(328,227)	985,118	(1,313,345)	-133.3%
Change in Net Position	(3,696,993)	720,619	(4,417,612)	-613.0%
Net Position - Beginning	27,433,941	26,713,322	720,619	2.7%
Net Position - Ending	\$ 23,736,948	\$ 27,433,941	\$ (3,696,993)	-13.5%

# **Variance Explanations**

- Power supply and West Power supply expenses increased due to an increase in natural gas prices resulting in higher energy prices in the MISO energy market.
- Wind expenses decreased due to higher MISO energy prices which resulted in increased revenues from the sales of the energy generated by the wind facility.
- Administrative expenses increased due to transition with overlap of the Managing Director, publication of a new annual report and other administrative items.
- Investment income (nonoperating revenues) decreased due to an increase in unrealized market losses on investments.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS **DECEMBER 31, 2021** 

# Table 3 **Net Plant Activity**

Table 3 **Net Plant Activity** 

			Dollar	Percent
	 2021	 2020	 Change	Change
Equipment	\$ 237,935	\$ 237,935	\$ -	0.0%
Less Accumulated Depreciation	 (237,935)	 (237,935)	 -	0.0%
Net Capital Assets	\$ _	\$ _	\$ -	0.0%

#### **Variance Explanations**

· Nothing significant to report.

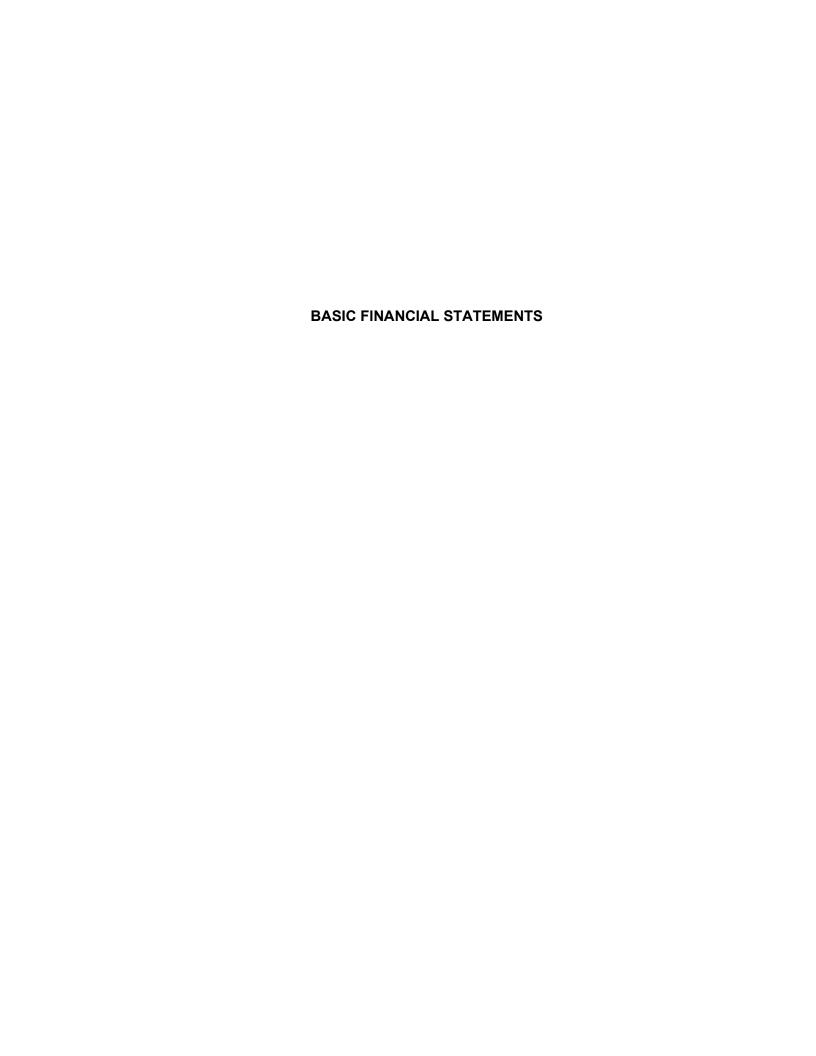
# **Power Supply Cost Factors/ Other Issues**

GLU's policy is to manage power supply costs in order to achieve a low risk profile. GLU manages power supply costs for its members as follows:

- The long-term power supply contracts presently in place are as follows:
  - Wisconsin Public Service 0 to 55 MWs through 2031.
  - WE Energies 30 to 80 MWs through mid-2029.
- GLU has a contract with Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU) generating assets for the purchase of approximately 77 MW of capacity and associated energy that expires in 2026 unless extended by either party with a four-year notice.
- GLU is a member of the North American Energy Markets Association (NAEMA). Through this association, GLU makes short to medium term energy and/or capacity purchases with various energy marketers to meet a portion of its requirements.
- GLU makes short-term, non-firm energy purchases and sales when economic to do so via participation in the MISO market.
- GLU receives renewable energy credits through its contracted power supply purchases and Lakeswind power purchase agreement.

#### **Contacting Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our members, investors, and other interested parties with a general overview of the utilities' financial operations and condition. If you have questions regarding the information provided in this report of wish to request additional financial information, contact the Managing Director, Great Lakes Utilities, 1303 S 8th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220.



# Statement of Net Position As of December 31, 2021

With Summarized Information from December 31, 2020

		2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	\$	5,524,733	\$ 7,025,533
Investments		5,319,955	4,208,238
Customer Accounts Receivable		7,477,233	6,660,893
Prepayments		500,020	550,020
Total Current Assets		18,821,941	 18,444,684
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Restricted Assets:			
Cash and Investments		16,415,406	 11,460,049
Other Assets:			
Long-term Investments		12,364,369	15,614,893
MISO Collateral Deposit		2,544,820	2,544,820
Investment in HCI		265,000	265,000
Total Other Assets		15,174,189	18,424,713
Total Non-Current Assets		31,589,595	29,884,762
TOTAL ASSETS		50,411,536	 48,329,446
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable		8,359,182	 7,535,456
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Rate Stabilization Deposits		16,415,406	11,460,049
Notes Payable		1,900,000	1,900,000
Total Non-Current Liabilities	<u> </u>	18,315,406	13,360,049
TOTAL LIABILITIES		26,674,588	 20,895,505
NET POSITION			
Unrestricted	\$	23,736,948	\$ 27,433,941

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 With Summarized Information from December 31, 2020

	 2021		2020
OPERATING REVENUES			
Member Assessments	\$ 223,331	\$	208,331
Power Supply:			
Billings	93,164,916		90,807,025
Supply Charges	 113,332		113,741
Total Operating Revenues	 93,501,579		91,129,097
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Power Supply:			
Purchased Power	83,327,918		79,194,466
Transmission Costs	12,236,995		11,408,679
Outside Services:			
Legal and Intervention	52,991		69,710
Technical Services - Consultant	182,784		218,647
Technical Services - Manitowoc Public Utilities	281,907		275,474
Insurance Expense	14,692		12,883
Administrative and General:			
Administrative Services - Manitowoc Public Utilities	170,663		109,116
Meeting Expenses	11,410		14,350
Supplies and Other Expenses	92,580		90,271
RICE Project	 498,405		-
Total Operating Expenses	 96,870,345	_	91,393,596
OPERATING LOSS	 (3,368,766)		(264,499)
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)			
Investment Income	767,191		186,064
Unrealized Gain (Loss)	(1,010,409)		901,248
Investment Fees	(70,399)		(73,433)
Interest Expense	(14,610)		(28,761)
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)	(328,227)		985,118
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	(3,696,993)		720,619
NET POSITION - BEGINNING	 27,433,941		26,713,322
NET POSITION - ENDING	\$ 23,736,948	\$	27,433,941

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 With Summarized Information from December 31, 2020

		2021		2020
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Received from Customers	\$	92,685,239	\$	91,305,184
Paid to Suppliers for Goods and Services		(95,996,618)		(91,515,156)
Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities	_	(3,311,379)		(209,972)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Rate Stabilization Deposits Received		4,955,357		1,111,738
Interest Paid on Notes		(14,610)		(28,761)
Net Cash Flows From Noncapital Financing Activities		4,940,747		1,082,977
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Investment Income		767,191		1,087,314
Investment Fees		(70,399)		(73,435)
Purchase of Investments		(16,089,583)		(6,814,069)
Proceeds from Maturity of Investments		12,262,623		4,480,814
Net Cash Flows From Investing Activities	_	(3,130,168)		(1,319,376)
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND INVESTMENTS		(1,500,800)		(446,371)
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR		7,025,533		7,471,904
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	\$	5,524,733	\$	7,025,533
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO				
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Operating Loss	\$	(3,368,766)	\$	(264,499)
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		(040.040)		470.007
Customer Accounts Receivable		(816,340)		176,087
Prepayments Accounts Payable		50,001 823,726		(299,340) 177,780
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$	(3,311,379)	\$	(209,972)
	÷	(0,000)	÷	(===;===)
RECONCILIATION OF CASH AND EQUIVALENTS TO THE STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION				
Cash and Investments in Current Assets	\$	23,209,057	\$	26,848,663
Cash and Investments in Restricted Assets		16,415,406		11,460,049
Less: Investments		(34,099,730)		(31,283,179)
TOTAL CASH AND EQUIVALENTS	\$	5,524,733	\$	7,025,533

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2021

#### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Introduction

This summary of significant accounting policies of Great Lakes Utilities (GLU) is presented to assist in understanding GLU's financial statements. The financial statements and notes are representations of GLU's management who is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the financial statements. These accounting policies conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and have been consistently applied in the preparation of the financial statements. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standards setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

#### **Reporting Entity Enterprise Fund**

The accounts of Great Lakes Utilities are accounted for as an enterprise fund as required by GAAP. An enterprise fund is used to account for government operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises – where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability and other purposes.

#### Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Basis of Presentation

GLU's financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing or related cash flows. Unpaid customer accounts receivable are recorded at year end.

Great Lakes Utilities distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with GLU's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of GLU are charges to customers for services. Operating expenses include the costs of services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

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

#### **Cash and Investments**

Cash deposits consist of demand and time deposits with financial institutions and are carried at cost. Investments are stated at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. For purpose of the statement of cash flows, all cash deposits and highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition are considered to be cash equivalents.

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2021

#### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Receivables

Accounts receivable are recorded at gross amounts with uncollectible amounts recognized under the direct write-off method. No allowance for uncollectible accounts has been provided since it is believed that the amount of such allowance would not be material to the financial statements.

#### **Prepayments**

Payments made to vendors that will benefit periods beyond the end of the current fiscal year are recorded as prepayments and are accounted for on the consumption method.

# **Investment in Hometown Connections, Inc. (HCI)**

GLU holds an equal ownership interest in Hometown Connections, Inc. (HCI), a non-profit entity that was created with six other utilities to provide greater value to public power utilities by offering a variety of consulting and technology services, as well as advanced metering programs. By combining resources through this organization, HCI will help public power utilities of all sizes (including the GLU members) obtain the products and services they need to keep their electric systems robust and to preserve the benefits of community-owned electric utilities.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 72, GLU considers its unrestricted investment in HCl as level 3 inputs and is reported at cost, which is management's estimate of fair market value as no quotable market is available.

#### **Capital Assets**

Capital assets are generally defined by GLU as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated acquisition value at the date of donation.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets of the Utility are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	Service Lives
	(Years)
Equipment	6

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2021

#### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Net Position**

Net position is classified into three components defined as follows:

- Net investment in capital assets Amount of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, less outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets.
- Restricted net position Amount of net position that is subject to restrictions that are imposed by 1) external
  groups, such as creditors, contributors or laws or regulations of other governments or 2) law through constitutional
  provisions or enabling legislation.
- Unrestricted net position Net position that is neither classified as restricted nor as net investment in capital assets.

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

#### **Prior Year Information**

Comparative amounts for the prior year have been presented in the financial statements to provide an understanding of changes in GLU's financial position and operations. The comparative amounts may be summarized in total and not at the level of detail required for a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with GLU's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020, from which the summarized information was derived.

#### Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the prior year financial statements have been reclassified to conform with the presentation in the current year financial statements with no change in previously reported net position, or changes in net position.

#### **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 and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates, particularly given the significant social and economic disruptions and uncertainties associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the COVID-19 control responses, and such differences may be material.

#### Note 2 - Cash and Investments

Wisconsin statutes authorize GLU to make deposits and invest in the accounts of banks, credit unions, savings banks, trust companies, and savings and loan associations, which are authorized to transact business in the State of Wisconsin. GLU is allowed to invest in:

- Time deposits in any credit union, bank, savings bank or trust company maturing in three year or less.
- Bonds or securities of any county, city, drainage district, technical college district, village, town, or school
  district of the state. Also, bonds issued by a local exposition district, local professional baseball park district,
  or the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics.
- Bonds or securities issued or guaranteed by the federal government.
- The Wisconsin local government investment pool.
- Any security maturing in seven year or less and having the highest or second highest rating category of a nationally recognized rating agency.

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2021

#### Note 2 - Cash and Investments (Continued)

- Securities of an open-end management investment company or investment trust subject to various conditions and investment options.
- Repurchase agreements with public depositories, with certain conditions.

Additional restrictions could arise from local charters, ordinances, resolutions and grant regulations of GLU.

The carrying amount of GLU's cash and investments totaled \$39,624,463 on December 31, 2021 as summarized below:

Deposits with financial institutions	\$ 5,524,733
Investments	34,099,730
	\$ 39,624,463

Reconciliation to the basic finanical statements:

Basic financial statements	
Cash and investments	\$ 23,209,057
Restricted cash and investments	16,415,406
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 39,624,463

#### **Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, GLU will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The state statutes do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial risks for deposits.

Deposits in each bank are insured by the FDIC up to \$250,000 for the combined amounts of all time and savings accounts (including NOW accounts); up to \$250,000 for the combined amount of all interest and noninterest bearing demand deposit accounts.

Any losses caused by failure of public depositories are also covered by the State Deposit Guarantee Fund. The fund provides coverage of \$400,000 in each financial institution above the applicable insurance coverage provided by the FDIC. However, although the fund had reserves available at December 31, 2021, the future availability of resources to cover the losses cannot be projected because provisions of the 1985 Wisconsin Act 25 provided that the amount in the fund will be used to repay public depositors for losses until the appropriation is exhausted, at which time the fund will be abolished; therefore, the State Deposit Guarantee Fund is not considered in covered amounts noted below.

The following represents a summary of deposits as of December 31, 2021:

Fully Insured Deposits	\$ 966,608
Collateralized	4,578,827
	\$ 5,545,435

The difference between bank deposits and carrying value are outstanding checks.

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2021

#### Note 2 - Cash and Investments (Continued)

#### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment.

As of December 31, 2021, GLU's investments were as follows:

	_	Remaining Maturity (in Months)								
	_	12 Months or		13 to 24		25 to 60		N	Nore Than	
Investments	Total	Less		Months		Months		60 Months		
U.S. Treasury Securities	\$ 18,745,862	\$	2,475,227	\$	2,967,906	\$	8,706,013	\$	4,596,716	
Corporate Bonds and Notes	13,804,210		2,844,728		2,358,670		8,513,033		87,779	
Federal National Mortgage	1,165,658		-		-		-		1,165,658	
Federal Home Loan Mortgage	384,000		-		-		-		384,000	
	\$ 34,099,730	\$	5,319,955	\$	5,326,576	\$	17,219,046	\$	6,234,153	

#### Credit Risk

State law limits investments in commercial paper, corporate bonds, and mutual bond funds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. GLU's investment policy does not further limit its investment choices. Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations.

As of December 31, 2021, GLU's credit quality ratings are as follows:

Investments	Fair Value		AAA		AA		Α	
U.S. Treasury Securities	\$	18,745,862	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Corporate Bonds and Notes		13,804,210		704,517		1,179,927	10	,654,789
Federal National Mortgage Association		1,165,658		1,165,658		-		-
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation		384,000		384,000		-		-
	\$	34,099,730	\$	2,254,175	\$	1,179,927	\$10	,654,789
Investments		BBB+	ı	Not Rated				
U.S. Treasury Securities	\$	-	\$	18,745,862				
Corporate Bonds and Notes		1,264,977		-				
Federal National Mortgage Association		-		-				
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation		-		-				
	\$	1,264,977	\$	18,745,862				

# Fair Value

Investments are measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Recurring fair value measurements are those that Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements require at the end of each reporting period. Fair value measurements are categorized based on the valuation inputs used to measure an asset's fair value. Adjustments necessary to record investments at fair value are recorded as increases or decreases in investment income.

- Level 1 Valuation for assets are from quoted prices in active markets. These valuations are obtained from readily available pricing sources from market transactions involving identical assets.
- Level 2 Valuation for assets are from less active markets. These valuations are obtained from third party pricing services for identical or similar assets.

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2021

#### Note 2 - Cash and Investments (Continued)

• Level 3 – Measurements that are least observable are estimated from related market data, determined from sources with little or no market activity for comparable contracts, or are positions with longer durations. These valuations incorporate certain assumptions and projections in determining fair value assigned to such assets.

As of December 31, 2021, GLU had the following investments at fair value:

Investments	Level 1		Level 2	Level 3	
U.S. Treasury Securities	\$		\$ 18,745,862	\$	_
Corporate Bonds and Notes		-	13,804,210		-
Federal National Mortgage		-	1,165,658		-
Federal Home Loan Mortgage		-	384,000		-
	\$	-	\$ 34,099,730	\$	-

#### Note 3 - Midcontinent Independent System Operator Collateral Debt

As of December 31, 2021, GLU delivered \$2,544,820 to Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), under a cash collateral agreement. The deposit will be held under the name of MISO for the benefit of GLU. The deposit account shall be drawn upon in case of payment default by GLU. The deposit shall be interest bearing and interest payments will be made payable to GLU quarterly, provided there are no instances of default.

#### **Note 4 - Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2021 was as follows:

	Balance 1/1/21		Increases		Decreases		Balance 12/31/21	
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:								
Equipment	\$	237,935	\$	-	\$	-	\$	237,935
Less Accumulated Depreciation:		(237,935)		-		-		(237,935)
Total Capital Assets, Net of								
Depreciation	\$	-	\$		\$		\$	-

#### Note 5 - Long-Term Obligations

GLU issued notes payable to three members to procure funds to provide necessary collateral as a market participant in accordance with the Transmission and Energy Market Tariff of the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO). The notes are due on January 31, 2022 and, in accordance with the terms of the notes, the term of the notes was extended for a year. The notes will automatically renew at the due date for another year unless either party decides to terminate the note on provisions of 120 days prior written notice prior to the end of the term. Interest is paid on a quarterly basis based on the JP Morgan Prime Capital Daily Fluctuating Rate plus an adder equivalent to 75% of the cost of borrowing or obtaining a letter of credit for the principal amount (whichever is less) from a designated local private lender. The outstanding balance as of December 31, 2021 was \$1,900,000, detailed as follows:

Outstanding Notes Payable:	
Manitowoc Public Utilities	\$ 720,000
Badger Power Marketing Authority, Inc.	680,000
Wisconsin Rapids Water Works and Lighting	
Commission	500,000
Total	\$ 1,900,000

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2021

#### Note 6 - Risk Management

GLU is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets, errors and omission, workers compensation, and health care of its employees. These risks, except those related to health care, are covered through the purchase of commercial insurance, with minimal deductibles. Settled claims have not exceeded the commercial coverage in the past year. There were no significant reductions in coverage compared to the prior three years.

#### Note 7 - Contingencies

From time to time, GLU is party to other various pending claims and legal proceedings. Although the outcome of such matters cannot be forecast with certainty, it is the opinion of management that the likelihood is remote that any such claims or proceedings will have a material adverse effect on GLU's financial position or results of operations.

#### **Note 8 - Related Party Transactions**

At the present time, GLU has no employees. Therefore, in order to facilitate operations, GLU has contracted with one of its members, Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU), to provide management, secretarial, accounting, and technical support services. GLU is charged for these services based upon the actual time spent by MPU personnel on GLU operations. GLU is then billed for these services based upon contracted hourly rates. For the year ended December 31, 2021, technical and administrative services provided by MPU totaled \$403,310, with a current liability to MPU of \$37,601 for services rendered.

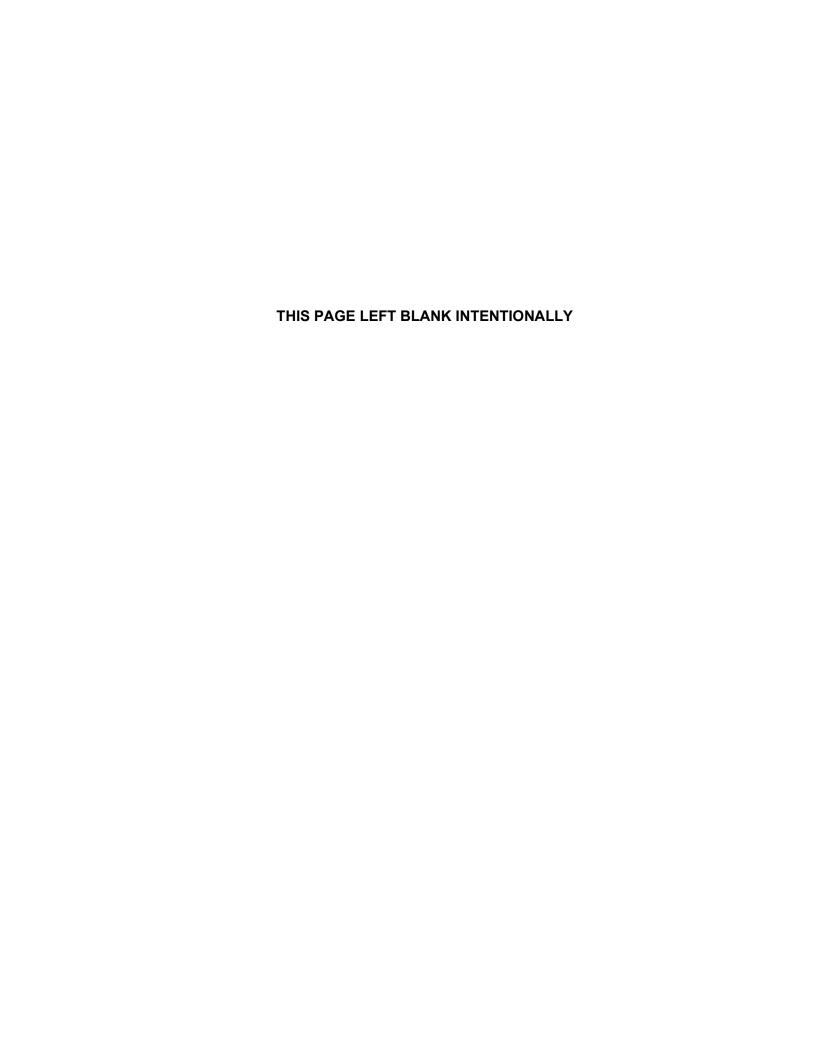
In addition, GLU has purchased power totaling \$25,392,437 from MPU for the year ended December 31, 2021, with a current liability to MPU of \$2,598,442 at December 31, 2021.

#### **Note 9 - Purchase Power Contract**

In October 2011, GLU approved an authorization to enter a purchased power contract with Lakeswind LLC. GLU's commitment will be 71.3% of 50MW for 20 years that began in 2014. In July 2013, GLU approved assignment of Rice Lake's PPA for 9.7% to GLU, making the total commitment 81.0%.

#### Note 10 - Subsequent Event

Subsequent to December 31, 2021, GLU and Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU) agreed to terminate MPU's steam capacity contract. The effects of this transaction are unable to be determined at this point and will be evaluated during 2022.





To the Board of Directors Great Lakes Utilities Manitowoc, Wisconsin

We have audited the financial statements of Great Lakes Utilities (GLU) for the year ended December 31, 2021. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated information in our engagement letter to you as well as verbally during our initial planning meetings. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

### Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated February 17, 2022, our responsibility as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. We are responsible for planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore our audit involved judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriate of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. Any internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards are included later in this letter.

Generally accepted accounting principles provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI) to supplement the basic financial statements. Our responsibility with respect to the management's discussion and analysis as indicated in the financial statement's table of contents, which supplement the basic financial statements, was to apply certain limited procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. However, the RSI was not audited and, because the limited procedures did not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance, we did not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

#### **Significant Audit Findings**

#### Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Great Lakes Utilities are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended December 31, 2021. We noted no transactions entered into by the GLU during the year for which there is lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

To the Board of Directors Great Lakes Utilities Page 2

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter, dated March 30, 2022.

#### Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the GLU's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the GLU's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the GLU as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the GLU's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the GLU's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the GLU's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, and, therefore, there can be no assurance that all such deficiencies have been identified.

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 misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected on a timely basis. We did not identify and deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

To the Board of Directors Great Lakes Utilities Page 3

# Closing

We would like to thank Cindy Carter, Tiffany Myers and the rest of the GLU's staff for their support and assistance during our audit.

This information is intended solely for the use of management, the GLU Board, and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

KerberRose SC

KerberRose SC Certified Public Accountants Appleton, Wisconsin March 30, 2022