

Northern Natural Gas Company

Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report as of and for the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

Deloitte.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors and Shareholder of Northern Natural Gas Company

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Natural Gas Company (the "Company"), which comprise the balance sheets as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of income, changes in shareholder's equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher

than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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- 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 Company's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

March 29, 2024

Northern Natural Gas Company Balance Sheets

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	As of December 31,			er 31,
		2023		2022
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	10,540	\$	16,597
Accounts receivable, net		154,884		172,890
Accounts receivable from affiliate		13,877		11,578
Notes receivable from affiliate		200,000		225,000
Transportation and exchange gas receivables		14,031		22,674
Inventories		85,919		76,398
Income tax receivable from affiliate		34,149		
Other current assets		46,748		44,285
Total current assets		560,148		569,422
Property, plant and equipment, net		5,468,266		5,127,698
Regulatory assets		220,884		182,033
Other assets		55,111		53,448
Total assets	\$	6,304,409	\$	5,932,601
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$	68,398	\$	111,576
Accounts payable to affiliates		5,601		4,822
Accrued interest		23,116		23,116
Accrued property, income and other taxes		80,584		84,167
Accrued employee expense		18,328		17,913
Transportation and exchange gas payables		13,338		20,254
Other current liabilities		63,370		65,379
Total current liabilities		272,735		327,227
Long-term debt		1,588,111		1,587,817
Regulatory liabilities		393,043		389,130
Deferred income taxes, net		714,395		681,469
Asset retirement obligations		14,603		14,256
Other long-term liabilities		57,235		61,628
Total liabilities		3,040,122		3,061,527
Commitments and contingencies (Note 11)				
Shareholder's equity:				
Series A preferred stock - 1,000 shares authorized, \$0.01 par value, no shares issued and outstanding		- over one		E-MARAGER P
Common stock - 10,000 shares authorized, \$1.00 par value, 1,002 shares issued and outstanding		1		1
Additional paid-in capital		981,868		981,868
Retained earnings		2,282,418		1,889,205
Total shareholder's equity		3,264,287		2,871,074
Total liabilities and shareholder's equity	\$	6,304,409	\$	5,932,601
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Northern Natural Gas Company Statements of Income

(Amounts in thousands)

Operating revenue: 1000000000000000000000000000000000000	(7 mounts in thousands)	Years Ended December 31,			
Transportation \$ 1,064,225 \$ 897,334 Storage 112,477 97,372 Gas, liquids and other sales 49,049 123,464 Total operating revenue 1,225,751 1,118,370 Operating expenses: Operations and maintenance 379,799 345,911 Cost of gas and liquids sales 37,751 95,419 Depreciation and amortization 195,595 172,402 Taxes, other than income taxes 691,646 687,545 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense \$333,213 \$319,213					
Transportation 112,477 97,372 Storage 49,049 123,464 Total operating revenue 1,225,751 1,118,370 Operating expenses: Operations and maintenance 379,799 345,911 Cost of gas and liquids sales 37,751 95,419 Depreciation and amortization 195,595 172,402 Taxes, other than income taxes 78,501 73,813 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense \$333,213 \$319,213	Operating revenue:		ф 007.524		
Storage 49,049 123,464 Total operating revenue 1,225,751 1,118,370 Operating expenses: Operating expenses: 379,799 345,911 Cost of gas and liquids sales 37,751 95,419 Depreciation and amortization 195,595 172,402 Taxes, other than income taxes 78,501 73,813 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income 534,105 430,825 Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense 339,213 \$319,213	Transportation				
Gas, Inquiries and other sales 1,225,751 1,118,370 Total operating expenses: 379,799 345,911 Operations and maintenance 377,511 95,419 Cost of gas and liquids sales 37,751 95,419 Depreciation and amortization 195,595 172,402 Taxes, other than income taxes 78,501 73,813 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income 534,105 430,825 Other income (expense): (68,265) (62,975) Interest expense 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) 515,562 399,811 Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense \$30,213 \$319,213	Storage	•			
Operating expenses: Operations and maintenance 379,799 345,911 Cost of gas and liquids sales 37,751 95,419 Depreciation and amortization 195,595 172,402 Taxes, other than income taxes 78,501 73,813 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense \$393,213 \$3,19,213	Gas, liquids and other sales				
Operations and maintenance 379,799 345,911 Cost of gas and liquids sales 37,751 95,419 Depreciation and amortization 195,595 172,402 Taxes, other than income taxes 78,501 73,813 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 52,303,213 80,598	Total operating revenue	1,225,751	1,118,370		
Operations and maintenance 37,751 95,419 Cost of gas and liquids sales 195,595 172,402 Depreciation and amortization 78,501 73,813 Taxes, other than income taxes 691,646 687,545 Total operating expenses 534,105 430,825 Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598	Operating expenses:	a = a = a = a	245 011		
Cost of gas and liquids sales 195,595 172,402 Depreciation and amortization 78,501 73,813 Taxes, other than income taxes 691,646 687,545 Operating expenses Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$303,213 \$319,213	Operations and maintenance	*	•		
Depreciation and amortization 78,501 73,813 Taxes, other than income taxes 691,646 687,545 Total operating expenses 534,105 430,825 Other income (expense): Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense 939,213 319,213	Cost of gas and liquids sales	•			
Taxes, other than income taxes 691,646 687,545 Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income Other income (expense): (68,265) (62,975) Interest expense (68,265) (9,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$ 393,213 \$ 319,213	Depreciation and amortization	ŕ			
Total operating expenses 691,646 687,545 Operating income 534,105 430,825 Other income (expense): (68,265) (62,975) Interest expense 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$ 393,213 \$ 319,213	Taxes, other than income taxes				
Operating income Other income (expense): (68,265) (62,975) Interest expense 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 ** 393,213 \$ 319,213	Total operating expenses	691,646	687,545		
Interest expense (68,265) (62,975) Interest income 25,905 9,396 Other, net 23,817 22,565 Total other income (expense) (18,543) (31,014) Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 \$ 393,213 \$ 319,213	Operating income	534,105	430,825		
Interest expense 25,905 9,396 Interest income 23,817 22,565 Other, net (18,543) (31,014) Income before income (expense) 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$ 393,213 \$ 319,213	Other income (expense):		(50 OFF)		
Interest income 23,817 22,565 Other, net (18,543) (31,014) Total other income (expense) 515,562 399,811 Income before income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$ 393,213 \$ 319,213	Interest expense	,	,		
Other, net (18,543) (31,014) Total other income (expense) 515,562 399,811 Income before income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$ 303,213 \$ 319,213	Interest income	•	-		
Income before income tax expense 515,562 399,811 Income tax expense 122,349 80,598 \$ 393,213 \$ 319,213	Other, net				
Income before income tax expense 122,349 80,598 Income tax expense \$ 303,213 \$ 319,213	Total other income (expense)	(18,543)	(31,014)		
Income tax expense $ \frac{122,349}{\$ 303,213} \frac{80,598}{\$ 319,213} $	Income before income tax expense	515,562	•		
\$\tag{9.3213} \tag{8} \tag{319.213}		122,349	80,598		
	-	\$ 393,213	\$ 319,213		

Northern Natural Gas Company Statements of Changes in Shareholder's Equity

(Amounts in thousands)

	Comm	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital		Retained Earnings		Total
Balance, December 31, 2021	\$	1	\$	981,868	\$	1,569,992	\$	2,551,861
Net income		_				319,213		319,213
Balance, December 31, 2022		1		981,868		1,889,205		2,871,074
Net income		_				393,213		393,213
Balance, December 31, 2023	\$	1	\$	981,868	\$	2,282,418	\$	3,264,287

Northern Natural Gas Company Statements of Cash Flows

(Amounts in thousands)

	Years Ended December 31			mber 31,
		2023		2022
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net income	\$	393,213	\$	319,213
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash flows from operating activities:				
Depreciation and amortization		195,595		172,402
Amortization of debt issuance costs		340		331
Deferred income taxes		34,914		21,375
Other, net		(10,466)		(9,165)
Changes in other operating assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable and other assets		17,543		(46,127)
Inventories		(10,352)		(14,176)
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities		(15,998)		36,784
Accrued property, income and other taxes		(37,731)		35,156
Gas balancing activities		27,385		(3,820)
Net cash flows from operating activities		594,443		511,973
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Capital expenditures		(680,258)		(631,439)
Reimbursement of capital expenditures, net of refunds		56,034		42,195
Issuance of affiliate notes receivable		(490,000)		(215,000)
Proceeds from repayment of affiliate notes receivable		515,000		315,000
Purchases of marketable securities		(4,072)		(4,424)
Proceeds from sales of marketable securities		2,567		4,738
Net cash flows from investing activities		(600,729)	_	(488,930)
Cash flows from financing activities:				
Net cash flows from financing activities				
Net change in cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents		(6,286)		23,043
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		37,804		14,761
Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	31,518	\$	37,804
Supplemental Disclosure:	Φ.	<i>(7.600</i>	Φ	65.600
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$	65,600	\$	65,600
Income taxes paid	\$	130,246	\$	24,519
Non-cash investing transactions-				
Accruals related to property, plant and equipment additions	\$	35,447	\$	67,580

Northern Natural Gas Company Notes to Financial Statements

(1) Organization and Operations

Northern Natural Gas Company (the "Company") is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company ("BHE"), a holding company that owns locally managed and operated businesses principally engaged in the energy industry. BHE is a consolidated subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. ("Berkshire Hathaway"). The Company owns the largest interstate natural gas pipeline system in the United States, as measured by pipeline miles, which reaches from west Texas to Michigan's Upper Peninsula (the "System"). The Company primarily transports and stores natural gas for utilities, municipalities, gas marketing companies and industrial and commercial users. The System consists of two commercial segments. Its traditional end-use and distribution market area in the northern part of its system, referred to as the Market Area, includes points in Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Michigan and Illinois. Its natural gas supply and delivery service area in the southern part of its system, referred to as the Field Area, includes points in Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. The Market Area and Field Area are separated at a Demarcation Point. The System consists of 14,200 miles of natural gas pipelines, including 5,800 miles of mainline transmission pipelines and 8,400 miles of branch and lateral pipelines, with a Market Area design capacity of 6.3 billion cubic feet ("Bcf") per day, a Field Area delivery capacity of 1.7 Bcf per day to the Market Area and 1.5 Bcf per day to the West Texas area and over 95.6 Bcf of working gas capacity in five storage facilities. The System is configured with approximately 2,362 active receipt and delivery points which are integrated with the facilities of local distribution companies ("LDC"). Many of the Company's LDC customers are part of combined utilities that also use natural gas as a fuel source for electric generation. The Company delivered over 1.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas to its customers in 2023.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Company has no subsidiaries and does not hold a controlling financial interest in any other entity. The Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Use of Estimates in Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of the Financial Statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. These estimates include, but are not limited to, the effects of regulation; recovery of long-lived assets; asset retirement obligations ("AROs"); income taxes; unbilled revenue; valuation of certain financial assets and liabilities, including derivative contracts; and accounting for contingencies. Actual results may differ from the estimates used in

preparing the Financial Statements. The Company has evaluated subsequent events through March 29, 2024, which is the date the audited Financial Statements were available to be issued.

Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation

The Company's operations are subject to the regulation of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). The Company's accounting policies and the accompanying Financial Statements conform to GAAP applicable to rate-regulated enterprises and reflect the effects of the ratemaking process. The Company prepares its Financial Statements in accordance with authoritative guidance for regulated operations, which recognizes the economic effects of regulation. Accordingly, the Company is required to defer the recognition of certain costs or income if it is probable that, through the ratemaking process, there will be a corresponding increase or decrease in future regulated rates. Regulatory assets and liabilities are established to reflect the impacts of these deferrals.

The Company continually evaluates the applicability of the guidance for regulated operations and whether its regulatory assets and liabilities are probable of inclusion in future regulated rates by considering factors such as a change in the regulator's approach to setting regulated rates from cost-based ratemaking to another form of regulation, other regulatory actions or the impact of competition that could limit the Company's ability to recover its costs. The Company believes the application of the guidance for regulated operations is appropriate and its existing regulatory assets and liabilities are probable of inclusion in future regulated rates. The evaluation reflects the current political and regulatory climate at the federal level. If it becomes no longer probable that the deferred costs or income will be included in future regulated rates, the related regulatory assets and liabilities will be recognized in net income, returned to customers or re-established as accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ("AOCI").

Fair Value Measurements

As defined under GAAP, fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability between market participants in the principal market or in the most advantageous market when no principal market exists. Adjustments to transaction prices or quoted market prices may be required in illiquid or disorderly markets in order to estimate fair value. Alternative valuation techniques may be appropriate under the circumstances to determine the value that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction. Market participants are assumed to be independent, knowledgeable, able and willing to transact an exchange and not under duress. Nonperformance or credit risk is considered when determining fair value. Considerable judgment may be required in interpreting market data used to develop the estimates of fair value. Accordingly, estimates of fair value presented herein are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that could be realized in a current or future market exchange.

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of funds invested in money market mutual funds, U.S. Treasury Bills and other investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased. Cash and cash equivalents exclude amounts where availability is restricted by legal requirements, loan agreements or other contractual provisions. Restricted cash and cash equivalents consist substantially of escrow funds held to provide the Company with protection against customer credit risk. A reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, as presented in the Statements of Cash Flows is outlined below and disaggregated by the line items in which they appear on the Balance Sheets (in thousands):

	As of December 31,					
	2023			2022		
Cash and cash equivalents Restricted cash and cash equivalents in other current assets Restricted cash and cash equivalents in other assets	\$	10,540 7,303 13,675	\$	16,597 510 20,697		
Total cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents	\$	31,518	\$	37,804		

Allowance for Credit Losses

Accounts receivable are primarily short-term in nature with stated collection terms of less than one year from the date of origination and are stated at the outstanding principal amount, net of an estimated allowance for credit losses. The allowance for credit losses is based on the Company's assessment of the collectability of amounts owed to the Company by its customers. This assessment requires judgment regarding the ability of customers to pay or the outcome of any pending disputes. In measuring the allowance for credit losses for accounts receivable, the Company primarily utilizes credit loss history. However, the Company may adjust the allowance for credit losses to reflect current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts that deviate from historical experience. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the allowance for credit losses was insignificant and is included in accounts receivable, net on the Balance Sheets.

Transportation Imbalances

Shippers schedule their volumes into the Company's System with subsequent deliveries to various markets. Imbalance receivables from and payables to shippers are created when receipts to the System from shippers vary from deliveries off the System, excluding quantities retained by the pipeline for fuel. Receipts and deliveries from third parties in connection with balancing and other gas service contracts also result in imbalances. Such imbalances are valued at contractual or market rates and recorded as transportation and exchange gas receivables or payables on the Balance Sheets with offsetting entries to cost of gas and liquids sales on the Statements of Income. The imbalances cause offsetting changes in the volumes of system balancing gas, which are priced at contractual or market rates, and are recorded as adjustments to system gas balances in property, plant and equipment, net on the Balance Sheets and to cost of gas and liquids sales

on the Statements of Income. Settlement of imbalances occurs in accordance with the contractual terms of the agreements and timing of delivery of gas based on operational conditions.

Derivatives

The Company employs a number of different derivative contracts, which may include forwards, futures, options, swaps and other agreements to manage price risk for natural gas. Derivative contracts are recorded on the Balance Sheets as either assets or liabilities and are stated at estimated fair value unless they are designated as normal purchases or normal sales and qualify for the exception afforded by GAAP. Derivative balances reflect offsetting permitted under master netting agreements with counterparties.

Commodity derivatives used in normal business operations that are settled by physical delivery, among other criteria, are eligible for and may be designated as normal purchases or normal sales. Normal purchases or normal sales contracts are not marked-to-market and settled amounts are recognized as operating revenue or cost of gas and liquids sales on the Statements of Income.

For the Company's derivatives not designated as hedging contracts, the settled amount is probable of inclusion in regulated rates. Accordingly, the net unrealized gains and losses associated with interim price movements on contracts that are accounted for as derivatives and probable of inclusion in regulated rates are recorded as regulatory assets and liabilities.

For the Company's derivatives designated as hedging contracts, the Company formally assesses, at inception and thereafter, whether the hedging contract is highly effective in offsetting changes in the hedged item. The Company formally documents hedging activity by transaction type and risk management strategy.

Inventories

Inventories consist primarily of materials and supplies, which mainly include replacement parts used in the periodic overhaul of gas compressor units and materials for construction, operation and maintenance and are stated at lower of cost, or market value.

Property, Plant and Equipment, Net

General

Additions to property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost. The Company capitalizes all construction-related material, direct labor and contract services, as well as indirect construction costs, which include debt and equity allowance for funds used during construction ("AFUDC") on rate base assets. The cost of additions and betterments are capitalized, while costs incurred that do not improve or extend the useful lives of the related assets are generally expensed.

Depreciation and amortization are computed using the straight-line method based on either estimated useful lives or mandated recovery periods as prescribed by the FERC. Depreciation studies are completed by the Company to determine the appropriate group lives, net salvage and group depreciation rates. These studies are reviewed and rates are ultimately approved by the FERC. The United States Code of Federal Regulations require that when utility property, plant and equipment are retired, the original cost of the property retired be charged to accumulated depreciation and amortization, net of salvage and removal costs.

Negative salvage is the amount recovered in rates for the estimated removal cost after salvage proceeds to retire defined retirement units over the life of the system. A negative salvage balance that exceeds accumulated net removal costs incurred is recorded as a regulatory liability. If accumulated net removal costs incurred exceeds a negative salvage balance, a regulatory asset is recorded.

For general plant, the original cost of the property retired is charged to accumulated depreciation and amortization at the end of the depreciable lives of the asset vintages. Retirement gains or losses are not included in income except in the case of sales of operating units.

The Company capitalizes debt and equity AFUDC, which represent the cost of debt and equity funds necessary to finance the construction of regulated facilities, as a component of property, plant and equipment, with offsetting credits to the Statements of Income. AFUDC is computed based on guidelines set forth by the FERC. The company is permitted to earn a return on the cost of its rate base assets as well as recover these costs through depreciation expense over the useful lives of the assets.

AFUDC on borrowed funds totaled \$1.9 million and \$3.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and is included in interest expense, net on the Statements of Income. AFUDC on equity funds totaled \$10.5 million and \$16.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and is included in other, net on the Statements of Income.

The Company receives monetary contributions from customers that are used to aid in the construction or modification of facilities to be owned by the Company.

System Gas

Storage base gas and system balancing gas are accounted for utilizing the fixed asset accounting method as prescribed by the FERC. Under this approach, system gas volumes are classified as property, plant and equipment, net and valued at cost. Temporary encroachments upon system gas are valued at contractual or current market prices.

Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company recognizes AROs when it has a legal obligation to remove or abandon-in-place an asset upon retirement. The Company's AROs are related to the decommissioning of all offshore Gulf Coast facilities. The fair value of an ARO liability is recognized in the period in which it is incurred, if a reasonable estimate

of fair value can be made, and is added to the carrying amount of the associated asset, which is then depreciated over the remaining useful life of the asset. Subsequent to the initial recognition, the ARO liability is adjusted for any revisions to the original estimate of undiscounted cash flows (with corresponding adjustments to property, plant and equipment) and for accretion of the ARO liability due to the passage of time. The difference between the ARO liability, the corresponding ARO asset included in property, plant and equipment, net and amounts recovered in regulated rates to satisfy such liabilities is recorded as a regulatory asset or liability.

Impairment

The Company evaluates long-lived assets for impairment, including property, plant and equipment, when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of such assets may not be recoverable or when the assets are being held for sale. Upon the occurrence of a triggering event, the asset is reviewed to assess whether the estimated undiscounted cash flows expected from the use of the asset plus the residual value from the ultimate disposal exceeds the carrying value of the asset. If the carrying value exceeds the estimated recoverable amounts, the asset is written down to the estimated fair value and any resulting impairment loss is reflected on the Statements of Income. The impacts of regulation are considered when evaluating the carrying value of regulated assets. There were no impairments in the periods presented.

Revenue Recognition

The Company uses a single five-step model to identify and recognize revenue from contracts with customers ("Customer Revenue") upon transfer of control of promised services in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for those services.

Substantially all of the Company's Customer Revenue is derived from tariff-based transportation and storage arrangements approved by the FERC. These tariff-based revenues have performance obligations to deliver services to customers which are satisfied over time as services are provided.

Revenue recognized is equal to what the Company has the right to invoice as it corresponds directly with the value to the customer of the Company's performance to date and includes billed and unbilled amounts. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, unbilled revenue was \$8.2 million and \$9.0 million, respectively, and is included in accounts receivable, net on the Balance Sheets. The Company's transportation and storage revenue is primarily derived from fixed reservation charges based on contractual quantities and regulated rates. The remaining revenue, consisting primarily of commodity charges, is based on contractual rates and estimated usage based on scheduled quantities. Differences between scheduled quantities and actual measured quantities are reflected in revenue during the following month and historically have been immaterial.

The Company is subject to FERC regulations and, accordingly, certain revenue collected may be subject to possible refunds upon final FERC orders in pending regulated rate proceedings. The Company may record revenue that is subject to refund based on its best estimates of the final outcomes of such proceedings and

other third party regulatory proceedings, advice of counsel and estimated total exposure, as well as collection and other risks. The Company had no earned revenue subject to refund for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Income Taxes

Berkshire Hathaway includes the Company in its consolidated United States federal income tax return. Consistent with established regulatory practice, the Company's provision for income tax expense has been computed on a stand-alone return basis.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are based on differences between the financial statement and income tax basis of assets and liabilities using enacted income tax rates expected to be in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. Changes in deferred income tax assets and liabilities that are associated with components of other comprehensive income ("OCI") are charged or credited directly to OCI. Changes in deferred income tax assets and liabilities that are associated with property-related basis differences and other various differences that the Company deems probable of being reflected in future regulatory rates, are charged or credited directly to a regulatory asset or liability and will be included in rates when the temporary differences reverse. Other changes in deferred income tax assets and liabilities are included as a component of income tax expense. Changes in deferred income tax assets and liabilities attributable to changes in enacted income tax rates are charged or credited to income tax expense or a regulatory asset or liability in the period of enactment. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce certain deferred income tax assets to the amount that is more-likely-than-not to be realized.

In determining the Company's income taxes, management is required to interpret complex income tax laws and regulations, which includes consideration of regulatory implications imposed by the FERC. The Company's income tax returns are subject to continuous examinations by federal and state income tax authorities that may give rise to different interpretations of these complex laws and regulations. Due to the nature of the examination process, it generally takes years before these examinations are completed and these matters are resolved. The Company recognizes the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only if it is more-likely-than-not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the Financial Statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that is more-likely-than-not of being realized upon ultimate settlement. Although the ultimate resolution of the Company's federal, state and local income tax examinations is uncertain, the Company believes it has made adequate provisions for these income tax positions. The aggregate amount of any additional income tax liabilities that may result from these examinations, if any, is not expected to have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial results. The Company's unrecognized tax benefits are included in other current assets and other long-term liabilities on the Balance Sheets. Estimated interest and penalties, if any, related to uncertain tax positions are included as a component of income tax expense on the Statements of Income.

New Accounting Pronouncements

During the current year, the Company did not adopt any new accounting standards. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2023-07, Segment Reporting Topic 280, "Segment Reporting—Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures" and ASU 2023-09, Income Taxes Topic 740, "Income Tax—Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures" on its Financial Statements and disclosures included within the Notes to Financial Statements.

(3) Property, Plant and Equipment, Net

Property, plant and equipment, net consists of the following as of December 31 (in thousands):

	Depreciation Rates ⁽¹⁾	2023	2022
Transmission and other plant	2.49% to 10.0%	\$ 5,814,513	\$ 5,359,088
Storage plant ⁽²⁾	1.25% to 10.0%	926,608	872,810
Intangible plant ⁽³⁾	10.0% to 13.0%	153,473	269,102
General plant and buildings	2.75% to 20.0%	164,677	152,964
Total operating assets		7,059,271	6,653,964
Accumulated depreciation and amortization		(1,767,365)	(1,626,844)
Net operating assets		5,291,906	5,027,120
Construction work-in-progress		176,360	100,578
Property, plant and equipment, net		\$ 5,468,266	\$ 5,127,698

- (1) Rates effective January 1, 2023, Docket No RP22-1033
- (2) Includes recoverable system gas that is not depreciated.
- (3) Includes costs for capitalized software development, contributions in aid of construction, organization and leasehold improvements.

The Company had gross costs for capitalized right of use or right of way of \$120.0 million and \$119.5 million and accumulated amortization of \$49.2 million and \$47.7 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, which is included in transmission and other plant and storage plant and reflected in property, plant and equipment, net on the Balance Sheets. Capitalized right of use or right of way costs based on surviving life of operating plant are amortized at rates of 1.25% for storage plant and 2.49% for transmission plant. Capitalized right of way costs with limited term life contracts are amortized over the life of the contract.

The Company had gross costs for capitalized software development of \$126.7 million and \$130.7 million and accumulated amortization of \$69.9 million and \$69.1 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, which is included in intangible plant and reflected in property, plant and equipment, net on the Balance Sheets. Capitalized software development costs are amortized at a rate of 13.0%.

For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, depreciation expense of \$173.4 million and \$150.0 million, respectively, and amortization expense of \$22.2 million and \$22.4 million, respectively, were included in depreciation and amortization on the Statements of Income. The Company expects amortization expense to be \$23.6 million for 2024, \$26.6 million for 2025, \$26.0 million for 2026, \$24.9 million for 2027 and \$22.1 million for 2028.

(4) Regulatory Matters

Regulatory Assets

Regulatory assets represent costs that are expected to be recovered in future regulated rates. The Company's regulatory assets reflected on the Balance Sheets consist of the following as of December 31 (in thousands):

	Remaining Life	2023		,	2022
Onshore negative salvage value	26 years	\$	142,855	\$	77,921
Deferred income taxes associated with equity AFUDC ⁽¹⁾	44 years		33,052		30,429
Employee benefit plan ⁽²⁾	9 years		22,415		22,381
Unrecovered offshore ARO	2 years		8,086		9,160
Smart pigging and hydrostatic testing costs	4 years		6,754		9,369
Deferred unamortized loss on derivative contract value	1-2 years		6,262		32,772
Fuel trackers periodic rate adjustments	1 year		5,041		9,035
Other	Various		1,460		
Total regulatory assets		\$	225,925	\$	191,067
Reflected as:					
Other current assets		\$	5,041	\$	9,034
Noncurrent assets			220,884		182,033
Total regulatory assets		\$	225,925	\$	191,067

- (1) Amortized at the same rate as onshore transmission plant.
- (2) Represents amounts not yet recognized as a contponent of net periodic benefit cost that are expected to be included in regulated rates when recognized.

The Company had regulatory assets not earning a return on investment of \$47.9 million and \$77.9 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Regulatory Liabilities

Regulatory liabilities represent income to be recognized or amounts to be returned to customers in future periods. The Company's regulatory liabilities reflected on the Balance Sheets consist of the following as of December 31 (in thousands):

	Remaining Life	 2023	 2022
Excess deferred income taxes (1)	34 years or less	\$ 366,437	\$ 364,450
Employee benefit plan (2)	9 years	19,816	14,135
Unrealized gain on derivative contracts	1-2 years	6,788	10,545
Other	1 year	 7,844	 9,769
Total regulatory liabilities		\$ 400,885	\$ 398,899
Reflected as:			
Other current liabilities		\$ 7,842	\$ 9,769
Noncurrent liabilities		 393,043	 389,130
Total regulatory liabilities		\$ 400,885	\$ 398,899

- (1) Amounts represent income tax liabilities related to tax rate changes on deferred income tax assets and liabilities that the Company deems probable of being reflected in future regulatory rates.
- (2) Represents amounts not yet recognized as a component of net periodic benefit cost that are to be returned to customers in future periods when recognized.

In July 2022, the Company filed a general rate case that proposed increases in various rates, including transportation and storage reservation rates, and various tariff changes. The Company proposed an overall annual cost-of-service of \$1.3 billion, an increase of \$323 million above the cost of service filed in its 2019 rate case of \$1.0 billion. Depreciation on increased rate base and an increase in depreciation and negative salvage rates accounted for \$115 million of the \$323 million increase in the filed cost of service. In January 2023, the FERC issued an order accepting the Company's proposed interim rates, effective January 1, 2023, subject to refund and the outcome of hearing procedures. In June 2023, a settlement agreement was filed with the FERC resolving all pending issues in the rate case and providing for increased service rates and increased depreciation rates for onshore transmission plant from 2.30% to 2.49%. Market Area transportation reservation rates increased 32.5%, Field Area transportation reservation rates increased 20.5% and storage reservation rates increased 13.0% from the rates that were in effect in 2022. The settlement also provided for a rate action moratorium through June 30, 2024, subject to certain exceptions. Settlement rates were implemented effective May 1, 2023. In September 2023, the FERC approved the settlement and rate refunds to customers of \$95 million were processed in October 2023.

(5) Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following, including unamortized premiums, discounts, and debt issuance costs as of December 31 (in thousands):

	<u>F</u>	Par Value 2023		 2022	
Long-term debt:					
5.80% Senior Bonds, due 2037	\$	150,000	\$	149,278	\$ 149,242
4.10% Senior Bonds, due 2042		250,000		248,009	247,939
4.30% Senior Bonds, due 2049		650,000		650,501	650,516
3.40% Senior Bonds, due 2051		550,000		540,323	 540,120
Total long-term debt	\$	1,600,000	\$	1,588,111	\$ 1,587,817

In January 2024, the Company issued \$500.0 million of its 5.625% Senior Bonds due February 1, 2054.

All of the Company's senior notes and bonds are due and payable on their respective maturity dates and none have mandatory prepayment terms.

The Company is prohibited from making distributions in respect of the shares of its capital stock unless, on the date of any such distribution, none of certain specified events of default exist under its senior unsecured debt and either (1) at the time and as a result of such distribution, the ratio of its debt to its total capital does not exceed 0.65 to 1.0 and the ratio of its earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, to its interest expense is not less than 2.5 to 1.0, or (2) if the Company is not in compliance with such ratios, its senior unsecured long-term debt rating is at least BBB (or its then equivalent) from Standard and Poor's and Baa2 (or its then equivalent) from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. The Company was in compliance with these covenants as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

(6) Income Taxes

Income tax expense consists of the following for the years ended December 31 (in thousands):

	2023	
Current:		
Federal	\$ 66,325	\$ 47,986
State	21,110_	11,237
	87,435	59,223
Deferred:		
Federal	24,340	22,241
State	10,574_	(866)
	34,914_	21,375
Total	\$ 122,349	\$ 80,598

A reconciliation of the federal statutory income tax rate to the effective income tax rate applicable to income before income tax expense is as follows for the years ended December 31:

	2023	2022
Federal statutory income tax rate	21.0 %	21.0 %
State income tax, net of federal income tax benefit	4.5	5.0
State apportionment change	***************************************	(2.7)
Effects of ratemaking	(2.2)	(2.9)
Other	0.4	(0.2)
Effective income tax rate	23.7 %	20.2 %

The net deferred income tax liability consists of the following as of December 31 (in thousands):

		2023		2023		2023		2023		2023		2023		2023		2023		20232		2022	
Deferred income tax assets:																					
Regulatory liabilities	\$	96,805	\$	97,394																	
Accrued employee expenses		7,658		7,111																	
Asset retirement obligations		3,685		3,668																	
State carryforwards		3,897		4,191																	
Other		8,738		10,077																	
Total deferred income tax assets		120,783		122,441																	
Valuation allowance		(1,446)		(1,306)																	
Total deferred income tax assets, net		119,337		121,135																	
Deferred income tax liabilities:	,																				
Property, plant and equipment, net		(772,505)		(751,127)																	
Regulatory assets		(54,431)		(40,455)																	
Employee benefits		(5,001)		(3,637)																	
Other		(1,795)		(7,385)																	
Total deferred income tax liabilities		(833,732)		(802,604)																	
Net deferred income tax liability	\$	(714,395)	\$	(681,469)																	

The Company did not have federal net operating loss or credit carryforwards as of December 31, 2023. The following table provides the Company's state net operating loss, charitable contributions, credit carryforwards and expiration dates as of December 31, 2023 (in thousands):

Net operating loss carryforwards	\$	72,354
Deferred income taxes on net operating loss carryforwards		3,889
Expiration dates	202	4-indefinite
Charitable contribution carryforwards	\$	648
Deferred income taxes on charitable contribution carryforwards		3
Expiration dates		2024-2026
Other tax credits	\$	5
Expiration dates		2024-2027

The valuation allowance primarily relates to Kansas net operating loss carryforwards that are not expected to be realized.

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has closed or effectively settled its examination of the Company's income tax returns through December 31, 2013. The statute of limitations for the Company's income tax returns have expired for certain states through December 31, 2011, and for other states through December 31, 2019, except for the impact of any federal audit adjustments. The closure of examinations, or the expiration of the statute of limitations, for state filings may not preclude the state from adjusting the state net operating loss carryforward utilized in a year for which the statute of limitations is not closed.

On August 16, 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (the "2022 Act") was signed into law. The 2022 Act contains numerous provisions, including a 15% corporate alternative minimum income tax on "adjusted financial statement income". The provisions of the 2022 Act become effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022. The Company currently does not expect a material impact on its financial statements. However, the Company expects future guidance from the Treasury Department and will continue to evaluate the impact of the 2022 Act as more guidance becomes available.

(7) Employee Benefit Plans

The Company is a participant in benefit plans sponsored by MidAmerican Energy Company ("MEC"), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of BHE. The MidAmerican Energy Company Retirement Plan provides pension benefits for eligible employees ("pension plan") and the MidAmerican Energy Company Welfare Benefit Plan provides certain postretirement health care and life insurance benefits for eligible retirees ("other postretirement plan") on behalf of the Company. The Company's contributions to the pension plan and other postretirement plan totaled \$0.7 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. The Company recorded in other long-term liabilities its portion of the under funded status of the pension plan of \$22.4 million as of both December 31, 2023 and 2022. The Company reported in other assets its portion of the over funded status of the other postretirement plan of \$19.8 million and \$14.1 million, as of

December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Amounts attributable to the Company were allocated from MEC to the Company in accordance with the intercompany administrative service agreement. Offsetting regulatory assets and liabilities have been recorded related to the amounts not yet recognized as a component of net periodic benefit costs that will be included in regulated rates.

(8) Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company estimates its ARO liabilities based upon detailed engineering calculations of the amount and timing of the future cash spending for a third party to perform the required work. Spending estimates are escalated for inflation and then discounted at a credit-adjusted, risk-free rate. Changes in estimates could occur for a number of reasons, including plan revisions, inflation and changes in the amount and timing of the expected work.

The Company has concluded that it is legally obligated to remove, or abandon-in-place, its onshore pipeline and related equipment upon the final retirement of the pipeline. While interim removal or abandonment-in-place and replacement of such equipment is probable, the final retirement dates of these assets are not determinable, and therefore, the liabilities for their removal cannot be reasonably estimated. The Company has also identified AROs related to asbestos siding on some of its buildings. Because both the methods of settlement and the timing of the retirements are unknown, the amounts of these obligations cannot be reasonably estimated to determine the fair value of these obligations.

The Company's ARO liability relates to the abandonment of pipeline assets located in offshore waters. The following table reconciles the beginning and ending balances of the Company's ARO liabilities for the years ended December 31 (in thousands):

_ _ _

	 2023			
Beginning balance	\$ 14,256	\$	14,397	
Retirements	(82)		·····	
Accretion	 429		(141)	
Ending balance	\$ 14,603	\$	14,256	

(9) Fair Value Measurements

The carrying value of the Company's cash, certain cash equivalents, receivables, payables and accrued liabilities approximates fair value because of the short-term maturity of these instruments. The Company has various financial assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on the Financial Statements using inputs from the three levels of the fair value hierarchy. A financial asset or liability classification within the hierarchy is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The three levels are as follows:

- Level 1 Inputs are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted
 prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than
 quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability and inputs that are derived principally
 from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means (market
 corroborated inputs).
- Level 3 Unobservable inputs reflect the Company's judgments about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability since limited market data exists. The Company develops these inputs based on the best information available, including its own data.

The following table presents the Company's financial assets and liabilities recognized on the Balance Sheets and measured at fair value on a recurring basis (in thousands):

		Input I	eve	ls for Fai	r V	alue				
	Measurements									
	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3			Other(1)		Total				
As of December 31, 2023:										
Assets:										
Commodity derivatives	\$		\$	4,167	\$		\$	(1,711)	\$	2,456
Money market mutual funds		48,591				***************************************				48,591
Investment funds		17,981								17,981
	\$	66,572	\$	4,167	\$		\$	(1,711)	\$	69,028
Liabilities - commodity derivatives	<u>\$</u>		<u>\$</u>	(1,830)	\$		<u>\$</u>	1,711	\$	(119)
As of December 31, 2022:										
Assets:	_									
Commodity derivatives	\$		\$	13,726	\$		\$	(2,812)	\$	10,914
Money market mutual funds		45,697		-						45,697
Investment funds		14,860								14,860
•	\$	60,557	\$	13,726	\$		\$	(2,812)	\$	71,471
Liabilities - commodity derivatives	_\$_		_\$_	(3,181)	\$		\$	2,812	\$	(369)

⁽¹⁾ Represents netting under master netting arrangements.

Derivative contracts are recorded on the Balance Sheets as either assets or liabilities and are stated at estimated fair value unless they are designated as normal purchases or normal sales and qualify for the exception afforded by GAAP. When available, the fair value of derivative contracts is estimated using unadjusted quoted prices for identical contracts in the market in which the Company transacts. When quoted prices for identical contracts are not available, the Company uses forward price curves. Forward price curves represent the Company's estimates of the prices at which a buyer or seller could contract today for delivery or settlement at future dates. The Company bases its forward price curves upon market price quotations, when available, or internally developed and commercial models, with internal and external fundamental data inputs. Market price quotations are obtained from independent energy brokers, exchanges, direct communication with market participants and actual transactions executed by the Company. Market price quotations for certain major natural gas trading hubs are generally readily obtainable for the applicable term of the Company's outstanding derivative contracts; therefore, the Company's forward price curves for those locations and periods reflect observable market quotes. The estimated fair value of these derivative contracts is a function of underlying forward commodity prices, related volatility, counterparty creditworthiness and duration of contracts.

The Company's investments in money market mutual funds and investment funds are stated at fair value. A readily observable quoted market price or net asset value of an identical security in an active market is used to record the fair value.

The Company's long-term debt is carried at cost on the Financial Statements. The fair value of the Company's long-term debt is a Level 2 fair value measurement and has been estimated based upon quoted market prices, where available, or at the present value of future cash flows discounted at rates consistent with comparable maturities with similar credit risks. The following table presents the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company's long-term debt as of December 31 (in thousands):

	 20	23					
	 Carrying Value	Fair Value			Carrying Value	Fair Value	
Long-term debt	\$ 1,588,111	\$	1,293,922	\$	1,587,817	\$	1,233,306

(10) Credit Risk

The Company has a concentration of customers in the electric and gas utility industries, principally in the upper Midwestern states. This concentration of customers may impact the Company's overall exposure to credit risk in that the customer base may be similarly affected by changes in economic, industry, weather or other conditions. The Company's 10 largest customers accounted for 64% of its system-wide transportation and storage revenue in 2023.

The following customers accounted for 10% or more of the Company's total revenues for the years ended December 31 and trade receivables as of December 31:

	Reven	ue	Accounts Receivable			
_	2023	2022	2023	2022		
CenterPoint Energy Resources Corporation (1)	13 %	14 %	14 %	12 %		
Xcel Energy, Inc. ⁽²⁾	12	12	8	8		

- (1) The Company's agreements are with CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, CenterPoint Energy Services and CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission, subsidiaries of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corporation.
- (2) The Company's agreements are with Northern States Power-Minnesota, Northern States Power-Wisconsin, Northern States Power-Generation and Southwestern Public Service Company, subsidiaries of Xcel Energy, Inc.

For shippers that have withdrawn gas prior to injection under the Company's deferred delivery services, the Company is exposed to credit risk with respect to those counterparties based upon the value of the gas withdrawn. The balances in transportation and exchange gas receivables were \$14.0 million and \$22.7 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Included in these amounts were balances owed of \$11.2 million and \$16.3 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, which were related to the Company's deferred delivery services.

As a general policy, collateral is not required for receivables from creditworthy customers. Customers' financial condition and creditworthiness are regularly evaluated, and historical losses have been minimal. In order to provide protection against credit risk, and as permitted by the terms of the Company's tariff, the Company has, among other alternatives, required customers that lack creditworthiness as defined by the tariff to provide letters of credit, cash security deposits or to establish separate legally restricted escrow funds to be held until these customers' creditworthiness can be demonstrated. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Company has reflected on the Balance Sheets escrow funds of \$7.3 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, in other current assets and \$13.7 million and \$20.7 million, respectively, in other assets with offsetting amounts in other current liabilities and long-term liabilities, respectively.

(11) Commitments and Contingencies

Purchase Obligations

The company expects to incur significant future capital expenditures to meet system reliability objectives. As of December 31, 2023, the company had firm purchase commitments of \$72.2 million. These commitments stem from the deferral of various planned 2023 construction projects due to the timing of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approval. In addition, the Company expects to incur significant future capital expenditures for increased customer growth including a commitment to one of its largest customers to meet minimum levels of incremental capacity requests through 2025. Capital expenditure needs are reviewed regularly by management and may change significantly as a result of such reviews. Estimates may change significantly at any time as a result of, among other factors, changes in rules and regulations, including environmental; changes in income tax laws; general business conditions; load projections; system reliability standards; the cost and efficiency of construction labor, equipment, and materials; and the cost and availability of capital.

Easements

The Company has non-cancelable easements with minimum payment commitments as of December 31, 2023 of \$1.6 million, \$1.4 million, \$1.4 million and \$1.4 million for the years 2024 through 2028, respectively, and \$5.1 million for the total of the years thereafter.

Legal Matters

The Company is party to a variety of legal actions arising out of the normal course of business. Plaintiffs occasionally seek punitive or exemplary damages. The Company does not believe that such normal and routine litigation will have a material impact on its financial results. The Company is also involved in other kinds of legal actions, some of which assert or may assert claims or seek to impose fines, penalties and other costs in substantial amounts and are described below.

On March 12, 2021, Vagts Dairy, et al. filed suit against Northern Natural Gas, et al. in Fayette County, Iowa District Court claiming that the cathodic protection system on Northern Natural Gas' pipeline was causing damage to the dairy farm through "stray voltage." The case went to trial on January 18, 2023, and the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs in the amount of \$4.75 million, which was subsequently reduced to \$4.25 million by the presiding judge. Northern Natural Gas appealed the damage award to the Iowa Supreme Court. Oral arguments on the appeal were heard on January 23, 2024.

(12) Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The following table summarizes the Company's Customer Revenue and revenue not considered Customer Revenue ("Other Revenue") (in thousands):

	Years Ended December 31,					
	2023			2022		
Customer Revenue:						
Transportation service	\$	1,064,225	\$	897,533		
Storage service		119,857		106,887		
Gas, liquids and other sales		41,433		125,527		
Total Customer Revenue		1,225,515		1,129,947		
Other Revenue (1)		236		(11,577)		
Total	\$	1,225,751	\$	1,118,370		

⁽¹⁾ Other Revenue consists of revenue recognized in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 815,"Derivative and Hedging" and includes net payments to counterparties for the financial settlement of certain derivative contracts.

Remaining Performance Obligations

The following table summarizes the Company's revenue it expects to recognize in future periods related to significant unsatisfied performance obligations for fixed contracts with expected durations in excess of one year as of December 31, 2023 (in thousands):

Less than 12 months	\$ 1,023,277
More than 12 months	 3,824,628
Total	\$ 4,847,905

(13) Other Related Party Transactions

The Company provided gas transportation, storage and other services to MEC totaling \$98.4 million and \$73.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. MEC provides certain administrative and management services to the Company, including executive, financial, legal, human resources, payroll and tax. Expenses incurred by MEC and billed to the Company are based on the individual services and expense items provided and were \$9.4 million and \$8.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. MEC also provided electricity and other services to the Company of \$0.9 million and \$1.5 million for years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The Company reimbursed MEC \$98.4 million and \$91.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, for payroll, healthcare benefits and other benefit payments that MEC processed on behalf of the Company.

BHE provides certain administrative and management services, including executive, financial, legal and tax, to the Company. Expenses incurred by BHE and billed to the Company are based on the individual services and expense items provided and were \$34.2 million and \$19.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Income tax transactions with BHE resulted in net payments of \$129.5 million and \$24.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The income tax receivable of \$34.1 million and \$— million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively are due from BHE. The income tax payable of \$— million and \$8.6 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively are due to BHE.

The Company had net accounts payable to BHE and certain subsidiaries for intercompany transactions totaling \$5.6 million and \$4.8 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The Company also had accounts receivable from affiliates of \$13.9 million and \$11.6 million as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

The Company provides certain administrative and management services, including executive, financial, regulatory, legal, information technology, human resources and procurement, to Kern River Gas Transmission Company ("Kern River"), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of BHE. The Company billed Kern River \$2.1 million and \$1.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, for these services.

The Company possesses demand promissory notes from BHE. The balance of the demand promissory notes as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$200.0 million and \$225.0 million, respectively. The notes contain variable interest rates based on 30-day SOFR plus a fixed spread per annum. Interest income of \$22.1 million and \$7.3 million was recorded for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

(14) Subsequent Events

In January through March of 2024, BHE issued promissory notes totaling \$810.0 million and redeemed promissory notes totaling \$15.0 million.