

Form **990**  
 Department of the Treasury  
 Internal Revenue Service

# Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

**Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)**

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public  
 ▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/foi/m990](http://www.irs.gov/foi/m990)

OMB No 1545-0047  
2015  
**Open to Public Inspection**

**A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2015, and ending 06-30-2016**

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>B</b> Check if applicable:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Address change<br><input type="checkbox"/> Name change<br><input type="checkbox"/> Initial return<br><input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amended return<br><input type="checkbox"/> Application pending | <b>C</b> Name of organization<br>MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP<br><br>Doing business as<br><br>Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite<br>546 RICE STREET NO 100<br><br>City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code<br>SAINT PAUL, MN 55103 | <b>D</b> Employer identification number<br><br>41-1986433<br><br><b>E</b> Telephone number<br><br>(651) 290-0154<br><br><b>G</b> Gross receipts \$ 206,748   |
| <b>F</b> Name and address of principal officer<br>STEVEN MORSE<br>546 RICE STREET NO 100<br>SAINT PAUL, MN 55103   |   | <b>H(a)</b> Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No<br><b>H(b)</b> Are all subordinates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>If "No," attach a list (see instructions)<br><b>H(c)</b> Group exemption number ▶ |
| <b>I</b> Tax-exempt status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) ( ) ◀ (insert no ) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527  |   | <b>L</b> Year of formation 1998 <b>M</b> State of legal domicile MN  |
| <b>J</b> Website: ▶ WWW.MEPARTNERSHIP.ORG  |   |  |
| <b>K</b> Form of organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other ▶   |   |  |

**Part I Summary**

|   |  |                                  |                     |
|---|--|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities<br>SEE SCHEDULE O MEP IS A COALITION OF 70 MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE MINNESOTA'S CLEAN WATER, CLEAN ENERGY AND GREAT OUTDOORS THE PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES A VITAL WAY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO COLLABORATE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO MAKE SURE THAT MINNESOTA'S NATURAL RESOURCES ARE WELL PROTECTED |                                  |                     |
| <b>2</b>  | Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets   |                                  |                     |
| <b>3</b>  | Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)  | <b>3</b>                         | 10                  |
| <b>4</b>  | Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)  | <b>4</b>                         | 8                   |
| <b>5</b>  | Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)   | <b>5</b>                         | 7                   |
| <b>6</b>  | Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)   | <b>6</b>                         | 13                  |
| <b>7a</b>   | Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12   | <b>7a</b>                        | 0                   |
| <b>7b</b>   | Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34   | <b>7b</b>                        | 0                   |
| <b>Revenue</b>  | <b>8</b> Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)   | <b>Prior Year</b>                | <b>Current Year</b> |
|   | <b>9</b> Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)  | 1,001,607                        | 196,757             |
|   | <b>10</b> Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)  | 257,742                          | 5,223               |
|   | <b>11</b> Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)   | 235                              | 228                 |
|   | <b>12</b> Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)   | 4,440                            | 4,540               |
| <b>Expenses</b>   | <b>13</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)   | 1,264,024                        | 206,748             |
|   | <b>14</b> Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)  | 0                                | 0                   |
|   | <b>15</b> Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)  | 0                                | 0                   |
|   | <b>16a</b> Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)   | 400,437                          | 371,239             |
|   | <b>b</b> Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 67,587  | 0                                | 0                   |
|   | <b>17</b> Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)   | 505,196                          | 238,258             |
|   | <b>18</b> Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)   | 905,633                          | 609,497             |
| <b>19</b> Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12 | 358,391  | -402,749                         |                     |
| <b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>                            | <b>20</b> Total assets (Part X, line 16)   | <b>Beginning of Current Year</b> | <b>End of Year</b>  |
|   | <b>21</b> Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)  | 672,394                          | 263,498             |
|   | <b>22</b> Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20  | 15,856                           | 9,709               |

**Part II Signature Block**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, in my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer has any knowledge

|                               |  |   |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Sign Here</b>              | *****  | Signature of officer  |
|                               |  | STEVEN MORSE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR<br>Type or print name and title |
| <b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b> | Print/Type preparer's name                         | Preparer's signature  |
|                               | MARC KOTSONAS                                      | MARC KOTSONAS   |
|                               | Firm's name ▶ MAHONEYULBRICHCHRISTIANSEN & RUSS PA |   |
|                               | Firm's address ▶ 10 RIVER PARK PLAZA SUITE 800     |   |
|                               | SAINT PAUL, MN 55107                               |   |

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III [X]

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission

MEP'S MISSION IS TO STRENGTHEN THE EFFECTIVENESS AND BUILD THE POWER OF OUR MEMBERS TO ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST QUALITY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT FOR MINNESOTANS

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? [Yes] [X]No
If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? [Yes] [X]No
If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

4a (Code ) (Expenses \$ 496,485 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ 5,223 )

SEE SCHEDULE OVERVIEW THE MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP (MEP) WORKS IN A UNIQUE WAY TO BRING TOGETHER THE ENERGIES AND PASSIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION NONPROFITS INTO A SINGLE POWERFUL VOICE WE WORK IN SYNCHRONY WITH OUR MEMBERS AT THE STATE AND FEDERAL LEVEL AND WORK WITH THE PUBLIC ON THE MOST PRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS, INVESTMENTS AND INITIATIVES MEP'S WORK IS FUNDED THROUGH INDIVIDUAL INVESTMENTS, MEMBER GROUP DUES, AND FOUNDATIONS THREE OF MEP'S CURRENT FOUNDATION PARTNERS SUPPORT MEP THROUGH STRATEGIC TWO-YEAR GRANTS, WHICH WERE EACH RENEWED IN FY16 MEP'S ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES CALL FOR GRANTS TO BE REPORTED AS REVENUE IN THE FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THEY ARE RECEIVED, OR AWARDED, AND RELEASED MONTHLY AS THE TERMS OF THE GRANT ARE FULFILLED, THROUGHOUT THE GRANT PERIOD BECAUSE OF THIS INDUSTRY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE, FOUNDATION GRANTS INTENDED FOR AND KEPT FOR FY17 AND BEYOND APPEAR AS REVENUE IN THIS YEAR'S STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND FORM 990 LIKEWISE, FOUNDATION GRANTS AWARDED IN PREVIOUS YEARS INTENDED FOR FY16 ARE INCLUDED AS RESTRICTED ASSETS AND RELEASED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, BUT WILL NOT APPEAR AS REVENUE IN THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CORE CONVENING, COORDINATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING - AS A COALITION, MEP'S ROLE IS TO BRING ORGANIZATIONS TOGETHER TO NETWORK, COLLABORATE, AND ADVOCATE TO BUILD THEIR INDIVIDUAL EFFECTIVENESS, AS WELL AS FOR THE COALITION-IDENTIFIED PRIORITY INITIATIVES MEP COORDINATES MEMBER EFFORTS SO OUR COMMUNITY-WIDE RESOURCES ARE USED AS EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY AS POSSIBLE TO THIS END, MEP PROVIDES THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY THE FOLLOWING SERVICES AND STRATEGIC EXPERTISE 1 LEADERSHIP AND EXPERTISE ON COLLABORATIVE ISSUE INITIATIVES MEP RALLIES THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION COMMUNITY AROUND PRIORITY ISSUES, PROVIDING THE LEADERSHIP, EXPERTISE, COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH, CONVENING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE RESULTS WE LEAD ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES AS WELL AS MULTI-YEAR, MULTI-STRATEGY CAMPAIGNS 2 COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH, MESSAGING AND TRAINING MEP CONDUCTS PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH TO TRACK CONCERNS AND PERCEPTIONS OF OUR PRIORITY ISSUES MEP USES THIS DATA TO DEVELOP COMPELLING MESSAGES THAT ARE INCORPORATED INTO ONLINE AND PRINTED MATERIALS, EARNED MEDIA, AND ELECTRONIC, SOCIAL MEDIA AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS WE ALSO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING TO OUR MEMBER GROUP LEADERS AND SPOKESPEOPLE 3 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT MEP WORKS TO BUILD STRONG CONSTITUENCIES OF ENVIRONMENTALLY-AWARE CITIZENS ACROSS THE STATE THROUGH GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING, PARTNERING ON ENVIRONMENTALLY-FOCUSED EVENTS, AND EFFORTS THAT ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY LEADERS TO ACT AS SPOKESPEOPLE ON KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WE USE OUR MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION NETWORK (MEAN) E-MAIL NETWORK AND OUR RAPID RESPONSE PHONE SYSTEM TO ACTIVATE CITIZENS AT KEY DECISION POINTS THE MEAN IS A SHARED SYSTEM OF MEP'S AND MANY OF OUR MEMBERS' LIST RESOURCES THAT CAN REACH MORE THAN 60,000 MINNESOTANS ON KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OUR USE OF THE CATALIST, AN ENHANCED DATABASE OF MORE THAN FOUR MILLION MINNESOTANS, FURTHERS OUR ABILITY TO REACH AND ENGAGE AND EDUCATE CITIZENS IN STRATEGICALLY TARGETED AREAS WE ALSO PROVIDE FORUMS FOR CITIZENS TO TALK TO DECISION MAKERS IN THEIR HOME DISTRICTS AND AT THE STATE CAPITOL 4 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH WE MAINTAIN A CURRENT MEDIA LIST OF MORE THAN 300 REPORTERS AND PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST, AND STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH KEY ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTERS TO TELL THE STORY OF MINNESOTA'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES MEP ALSO REGULARLY REACHES A BROAD AND ACTIVE ONLINE AUDIENCE, WITH OVER 3,000 VISITORS TO OUR WEBSITE AND LOON COMMONS BLOG EACH MONTH, OVER 3,400 SUBSCRIBERS TO OUR WEEKLY UPDATE E-NEWSLETTERS, AND OVER 2,000 FOLLOWERS ON BOTH FACEBOOK AND TWITTER EACH MEDIUM ALLOWS US TO CUSTOMIZE MESSAGES AND PROVIDE OUR AUDIENCE WITH TARGETED INFORMATION 5 MEMBER SERVICES MEP CONVENES MEETINGS OF OUR MEMBERS AROUND TIMELY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES WE ALSO BUILD THE CAPACITY OF OUR MEMBER GROUPS BY SPONSORING TRAININGS AND PROVIDING TARGETED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE CLUSTERS OF GROUPS WORKING ON PRIORITY ISSUES WE HELP THE CONSERVATION COMMUNITY "SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE" ON KEY EMERGING ISSUES MEP ORGANIZES AND CONVENES THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE IN "CLUSTERS, OR WORKING GROUPS, INCLUDING THE CLEAN WATER, GREAT LAKES, MINING, POLLINATOR, ENERGY, AND CLIMATE AND TRANSPORTATION FORWARD CLUSTERS MEP ALSO WORKS TO COORDINATE GROUPS FOCUSING ON SAFEGUARDING THE STATE'S CLEAN WATER, LAND AND LEGACY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THROUGH THESE GROUPS, MEP GATHERS MEMBERS AND OTHER PARTNERS TOGETHER TO WORK TOGETHER, SHARE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES, AND CREATE SHARED POSITIONS AND STRATEGIES THIS MODEL HAS PROVEN TO BE EFFECTIVE AT GROWING A STRONG, EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY SECTOR, THAT IS ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THINGS THAT INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS CANNOT CURRENT PROGRAMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS SIMULTANEOUSLY, RECENT YEARS HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING AND CHALLENGING FOR PROTECTING MINNESOTA'S GREAT OUTDOORS IN THE FACE OF MULTIPLE PROPOSALS THAT WOULD TURN BACK MINNESOTA'S WATER PROTECTIONS AND CLEAN ENERGY ADVANCEMENTS, MEP'S CLUSTERS CAPITALIZED ON THE MEP COLLABORATIVE MODEL, BRINGING TOGETHER DOZENS OF GROUPS FOR A COORDINATED, MULTIFACETED AND EFFECTIVE EFFORT THAT ULTIMATELY TURNED BACK THE WORST OF THE WORST MEP PRODUCED THE ENVIRONMENTAL BRIEFING BOOK, MAKING THE CASE FOR THE COALITION'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES, AND DISTRIBUTED IT TO LEGISLATORS, AGENCY STAFF, MEDIA, AND MEP SUPPORTERS MEP LED THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF 12 SIGN ON LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNOR, LEGISLATORS, AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS ON TOPICS INCLUDING SUPPORTING GOVERNOR DAYTON'S VETO OF THE WAUKESHA DIVERSION PROPOSAL, SUPPORTING BONDING PRIORITIES, SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM, AND MORE MEP USED ITS MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION NETWORK TO SEND 14 ACTION ALERTS IN 2016 MEP ALSO CONVENED CRITICAL MEETINGS WITH KEY LEGISLATORS AND CONSTITUENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL FORUMS, WITH EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION FROM CONSTITUENTS IN ADDITION TO WORKING ON DEFENSIVE STRATEGIES, MEP'S 2016 WORK FOCUSED ON RESTORING THE MPCA CITIZEN'S BOARD IN THE FINAL HOURS OF THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, LANGUAGE WAS INSERTED INTO A MUST-PASS BUDGET BILL THAT ABOLISHED THE 48-YEAR OLD BOARD THAT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO CREATE AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT DECISION MAKING PROCESS FOR THE MN POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY GOVERNOR DAYTON'S 2015 EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING A CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MPCA WAS A POSITIVE STEP, YET THE NEWLY FRAMED BODY LACKS THE DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY NEED TO ENSURE THAT THE MPCA FUNCTIONS AS INTENDED TRANSPARENTLY, FREE OF POLITICAL INTERFERENCE, AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST PRESERVING LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS IN OUR GREAT OUTDOORS WE WILL WORK TO ENSURE THAT CAPITAL INVESTMENTS FOR MINNESOTA'S GREAT OUTDOORS MAKE UP AT LEAST THE TRADITIONAL AMOUNT OF THE TOTAL STATE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS MEP COALITION BONDING PRIORITIES INCLUDED \$167 MILLION TO HELP COMMUNITIES REPAIR AND MODERNIZE AGING WASTEWATER AND DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS, \$30 MILLION FOR TARGETED CONSERVATION EASEMENTS WITH WILLING FARMLAND OWNERS TO CONSERVE SOIL, ELIMINATE EROSION, AND PROTECT HABITAT AND WATER QUALITY, AND \$12.7 MILLION TO REMOVE POLLUTED RIVERBED SEDIMENT FROM THE ST. LOUIS RIVER ESTUARY EACH OF THESE PRIORITIES WOULD LEVERAGE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL DOLLARS IN ADDITION CAPITAL INVESTMENT FOR KEY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IS A PRIORITY, INCLUDING BUS FACILITIES AND SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STATEWIDE, AND TWIN CITIES METRO LIGHT RAIL EXPANSION IN 2016, THE BONDING BILL FAILED TO WIN FINAL AGREEMENT BY THE LEGISLATURE IN THE FINAL HOURS OF THE SESSION NUMEROUS DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD TO REACH A SPECIAL SESSION AGREEMENT TO PASS A BONDING BILL IN 2016, BUT THIS GOAL WAS NEVER ACHIEVED HOWEVER, MEP'S COALITION CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THESE PRIORITIES

4b (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

4c (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

4e Total program service expenses ▶ 496,485

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question number, Question text, Yes, No. Rows include questions 1 through 20b regarding organizational requirements and reporting.

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules** (continued)

|            |  |            |     |
|------------|--|------------|-----|
| <b>21</b>  | Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II . . . . .</i>   | <b>21</b>  | No  |
| <b>22</b>  | Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III . . . . .</i>   | <b>22</b>  | No  |
| <b>23</b>  | Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J . . . . .</i>  | <b>23</b>  | No  |
| <b>24a</b> | Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a . . . . .</i>                            | <b>24a</b> | No  |
| <b>b</b>   | Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? . . . . .  | <b>24b</b> |     |
| <b>c</b>   | Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? . . . . .   | <b>24c</b> |     |
| <b>d</b>   | Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? . . . . .  | <b>24d</b> |     |
| <b>25a</b> | <b>Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations.</b><br>Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>  | <b>25a</b> | No  |
| <b>b</b>   | Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>                                       | <b>25b</b> | No  |
| <b>26</b>  | Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II . . . . .</i>                                 | <b>26</b>  | No  |
| <b>27</b>  | Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III . . . . .</i> | <b>27</b>  | No  |
| <b>28</b>  | Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)   |            |     |
| <b>a</b>   | A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>   | <b>28a</b> | No  |
| <b>b</b>   | A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>  | <b>28b</b> | No  |
| <b>c</b>   | An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>  | <b>28c</b> | Yes |
| <b>29</b>  | Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>  | <b>29</b>  | No  |
| <b>30</b>  | Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>  | <b>30</b>  | No  |
| <b>31</b>  | Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I . . . . .</i>  | <b>31</b>  | No  |
| <b>32</b>  | Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II . . . . .</i>  | <b>32</b>  | No  |
| <b>33</b>  | Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I . . . . .</i>  | <b>33</b>  | No  |
| <b>34</b>  | Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1 . . . . .</i>  | <b>34</b>  | No  |
| <b>35a</b> | Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?  | <b>35a</b> | No  |
| <b>b</b>   | If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>   | <b>35b</b> |     |
| <b>36</b>  | <b>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>   | <b>36</b>  | No  |
| <b>37</b>  | Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI . . . . .</i>   | <b>37</b>  | No  |
| <b>38</b>  | Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? <b>Note.</b> All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O . . . . .  | <b>38</b>  | Yes |

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

Table with columns for question numbers (1a-14b), Yes/No columns, and input fields. Includes questions about Form 1096, Form W-2G, backup withholding, Form W-3, federal employment tax returns, Form 990-T, Form 8886-T, Form 8282, Form 8899, Form 1098-C, Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041, and Form 720.

**Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure**

For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

**Section A. Governing Body and Management**

|           |   | Yes | No |
|-----------|---|-----|----|
| <b>1a</b> | Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year<br>If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O |     |    |
| <b>1b</b> | Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent  |     |    |
| <b>2</b>  | Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?   | Yes |    |
| <b>3</b>  | Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?   |     | No |
| <b>4</b>  | Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?  |     | No |
| <b>5</b>  | Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?  |     | No |
| <b>6</b>  | Did the organization have members or stockholders?  | Yes |    |
| <b>7a</b> | Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?  | Yes |    |
| <b>7b</b> | Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?   |     | No |
| <b>8</b>  | Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following  |     |    |
| <b>8a</b> | The governing body?   | Yes |    |
| <b>8b</b> | Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?   | Yes |    |
| <b>9</b>  | Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O  |     | No |

**Section B. Policies** (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

|            |  | Yes | No |
|------------|--|-----|----|
| <b>10a</b> | Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?   |     | No |
| <b>10b</b> | If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?   |     |    |
| <b>11a</b> | Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?  | Yes |    |
| <b>11b</b> | Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990   |     |    |
| <b>12a</b> | Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13  | Yes |    |
| <b>12b</b> | Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?  | Yes |    |
| <b>12c</b> | Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done   | Yes |    |
| <b>13</b>  | Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?  | Yes |    |
| <b>14</b>  | Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?   | Yes |    |
| <b>15</b>  | Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?   |     |    |
| <b>15a</b> | The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official   | Yes |    |
| <b>15b</b> | Other officers or key employees of the organization  |     | No |
|            | If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions)   |     |    |
| <b>16a</b> | Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?  |     | No |
| <b>16b</b> | If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements? |     |    |

**Section C. Disclosure**

**17** List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed **MN**

**18** Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.  
 Own website  Another's website  Upon request  Other (explain in Schedule O)

**19** Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year

**20** State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records  
 THE ORGANIZATION 546 RICE STREET NO 100 SAINT PAUL, MN 55103 (651) 290-0154

**Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

**Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees**

**1a** Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

| (A)<br>Name and Title                            | (B)<br>Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line) | (C)<br>Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee) |                       |         |              |                              |         | (D)<br>Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC) | (E)<br>Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC) | (F)<br>Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|---------|--------------|------------------------------|---------|--|---|---|
|  |  | Individual trustee or director  | Institutional Trustee | Officer | Key employee | Highest compensated employee | Former  |  |   |   |
| (1) SCOTT STRAND<br>BOARD CHAIR                  | 1 00   | X   |                       | X       |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (2) KEITH BLOMSTROM<br>BOARD MEMBER              | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (3) BILL CLAPP<br>BOARD MEMBER                   | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (4) WHITNEY CLARK<br>BOARD MEMBER                | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (5) BILL DROESSLER<br>BOARD MEMBER               | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (6) LEAH GARDNER<br>BOARD MEMBER                 | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (7) BOBBY KING<br>BOARD MEMBER                   | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (8) JOHN LENCZEWSKI<br>BOARD MEMBER              | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (9) GWEN MYERS<br>BOARD MEMBER                   | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (10) DEANNA WHITE<br>BOARD MEMBER                | 1 00   | X   |                       |         |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (11) MATTHEW ANDERSON<br>TREASURER, PARTIAL YEAR | 1 00   | X   |                       | X       |              |                              | 0       | 0  | 0   |   |
| (12) STEVEN MORSE<br>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR          | 45 00  |   |                       | X       |              |                              | 117,326 | 0  | 23,217  |   |
|  |  |   |                       |         |              |                              |         |  |   |   |
|  |  |   |                       |         |              |                              |         |  |   |   |
|  |  |   |                       |         |              |                              |         |  |   |   |
|  |  |   |                       |         |              |                              |         |  |   |   |





**Part VIII Statement of Revenue**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

|   |  | (A)<br>Total revenue   | (B)<br>Related or<br>exempt<br>function<br>revenue | (C)<br>Unrelated<br>business<br>revenue | (D)<br>Revenue<br>excluded from<br>tax under<br>sections<br>512-514 |  |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>                       | <b>1a</b> Federated campaigns . . . . . <b>1a</b> _____  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>b</b> Membership dues . . . . . <b>1b</b> _____ 50,000  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>c</b> Fundraising events . . . . . <b>1c</b> _____  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>d</b> Related organizations . . . . . <b>1d</b> _____   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>e</b> Government grants (contributions) <b>1e</b> _____   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>f</b> All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above <b>1f</b> _____ 146,757                                      |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>g</b> Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$ _____  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>h Total.</b> Add lines 1a-1f . . . . . <b>▶</b>   |  | 196,757  |   |   |  |
| <b>Program Service Revenue</b>  | <b>2a</b> CONTRACTS _____ Business Code _____ 900099 3,004 3,004   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>b</b> OTHER _____ Business Code _____ 900099 2,219 2,219  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>c</b> _____   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>d</b> _____   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>e</b> _____   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>f</b> All other program service revenue   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>g Total.</b> Add lines 2a-2f . . . . . <b>▶</b>   |  | 5,223  |   |   |  |
| <b>Other Revenue</b>  | <b>3</b> Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) . . . . . <b>▶</b>   |  | 228  |   | 228   |  |
|   | <b>4</b> Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . . . . . <b>▶</b>   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>5</b> Royalties . . . . . <b>▶</b>  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>6a</b> Gross rents  | (i) Real 4,540   |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | (ii) Personal  |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>b</b> Less rental expenses 0  |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>c</b> Rental income or (loss) 4,540                                   |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>d</b> Net rental income or (loss) . . . . . <b>▶</b>  |  | 4,540  |   | 4,540   |  |
|   | <b>7a</b> Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory   | (i) Securities   |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | (ii) Other   |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>b</b> Less cost or other basis and sales expenses                     |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>c</b> Gain or (loss)  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>d</b> Net gain or (loss) . . . . . <b>▶</b>   |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>8a</b> Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 . . . . . <b>a</b> |  |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>b</b> Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>                         |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . . . . <b>▶</b> |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>9a</b> Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19 . . . . . <b>a</b>  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   |  | <b>b</b> Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>                         |  |   |   |  |
| <b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . . . . <b>▶</b>             |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>10a</b> Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . . <b>a</b> |  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>b</b> Less cost of goods sold . . . . . <b>b</b>  |  |  |   |   |  |
|   | <b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . . . . <b>▶</b>   |  |  |   |   |  |
| Miscellaneous Revenue   | Business Code  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>11a</b> _____  |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>b</b> _____  |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>c</b> _____  |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>d</b> All other revenue . . . . .  |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>e Total.</b> Add lines 11a-11d . . . . . <b>▶</b>                                |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>12 Total revenue.</b> See Instructions . . . . . <b>▶</b>                        |  | 206,748  | 5,223  | 0                                       | 4,768   |  |

**Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses**

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A)

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX  . . . . .

| <b>Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.</b> |   | <b>(A)</b><br>Total expenses | <b>(B)</b><br>Program service expenses | <b>(C)</b><br>Management and general expenses | <b>(D)</b><br>Fundraising expenses |
|---|---|------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments See Part IV, line 21 . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>2</b>  | Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals See Part IV, line 22 . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>3</b>  | Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals See Part IV, lines 15 and 16 . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>4</b>  | Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>5</b>  | Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees . . . . .  | 144,963                      | 104,556                                | 15,671  | 24,736                             |
| <b>6</b>  | Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>7</b>  | Other salaries and wages . . . . .  | 172,756                      | 149,359                                | 5,871   | 17,526                             |
| <b>8</b>  | Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions) . . . . .  | 3,027                        | 2,726                                  |   | 301                                |
| <b>9</b>  | Other employee benefits . . . . .   | 25,447                       | 22,570                                 |   | 2,877                              |
| <b>10</b>   | Payroll taxes . . . . .   | 25,046                       | 20,155                                 | 1,639   | 3,252                              |
| <b>11</b>   | Fees for services (non-employees)   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>a</b>  | Management . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>b</b>  | Legal . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>c</b>  | Accounting . . . . .  | 24,532                       | 9,764                                  | 13,193  | 1,575                              |
| <b>d</b>  | Lobbying . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>e</b>  | Professional fundraising services See Part IV, line 17  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>f</b>  | Investment management fees . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>g</b>  | Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O) . . . . .  | 94,507                       | 92,725                                 | 1,782   |                                    |
| <b>12</b>   | Advertising and promotion . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>13</b>   | Office expenses . . . . .   | 28,232                       | 19,756                                 | 755   | 7,721                              |
| <b>14</b>   | Information technology . . . . .  | 10,638                       | 7,731                                  | 418   | 2,489                              |
| <b>15</b>   | Royalties . . . . .   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>16</b>   | Occupancy . . . . .   | 39,240                       | 32,136                                 | 2,381   | 4,723                              |
| <b>17</b>   | Travel . . . . .  | 8,720                        | 8,361                                  | 118   | 241                                |
| <b>18</b>   | Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>19</b>   | Conferences, conventions, and meetings . . . . .  | 10,855                       | 9,161                                  | 1,419   | 275                                |
| <b>20</b>   | Interest . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>21</b>   | Payments to affiliates . . . . .  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>22</b>   | Depreciation, depletion, and amortization . . . . .   | 4,816                        | 3,876                                  | 315   | 625                                |
| <b>23</b>   | Insurance . . . . .   | 1,567                        |  | 1,567   |                                    |
| <b>24</b>   | Other expenses Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>a</b>  | ELECTRONIC OUTREACH   | 8,373                        | 8,373                                  |   |                                    |
| <b>b</b>  | MISCELLANEOUS   | 6,778                        | 5,236                                  | 296   | 1,246                              |
| <b>c</b>  |   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>d</b>  |   |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>e</b>  | All other expenses  |                              |  |   |                                    |
| <b>25</b>   | <b>Total functional expenses.</b> Add lines 1 through 24e   | 609,497                      | 496,485                                | 45,425  | 67,587                             |
| <b>26</b>   | <b>Joint costs.</b> Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720) |                              |  |   |                                    |

**Part X Balance Sheet**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

|  |   | (A)               |           | (B)              |
|--|---|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
|  |   | Beginning of year |           | End of year      |
| <b>Assets</b>  | <b>1</b> Cash—non-interest-bearing . . . . .  |                   | <b>1</b>  |                  |
|  | <b>2</b> Savings and temporary cash investments . . . . .   | 207,615           | <b>2</b>  | 237,123          |
|  | <b>3</b> Pledges and grants receivable, net . . . . .   | 449,250           | <b>3</b>  | 11,000           |
|  | <b>4</b> Accounts receivable, net . . . . .   | 6,904             | <b>4</b>  | 8,593            |
|  | <b>5</b> Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .  |                   | <b>5</b>  |                  |
|  | <b>6</b> Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . . |                   | <b>6</b>  |                  |
|  | <b>7</b> Notes and loans receivable, net . . . . .  |                   | <b>7</b>  |                  |
|  | <b>8</b> Inventories for sale or use . . . . .  |                   | <b>8</b>  |                  |
|  | <b>9</b> Prepaid expenses and deferred charges . . . . .  | 2,164             | <b>9</b>  | 2,094            |
|  | <b>10a</b> Land, buildings, and equipment—cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D   | <b>10a</b> 15,986 |           |                  |
|  | <b>b</b> Less accumulated depreciation . . . . .  | <b>10b</b> 11,298 | 6,461     | <b>10c</b> 4,688 |
|  | <b>11</b> Investments—publicly traded securities . . . . .  |                   | <b>11</b> |                  |
|  | <b>12</b> Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .  |                   | <b>12</b> |                  |
|  | <b>13</b> Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .   |                   | <b>13</b> |                  |
|  | <b>14</b> Intangible assets . . . . .   |                   | <b>14</b> |                  |
|  | <b>15</b> Other assets. See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .  |                   | <b>15</b> |                  |
| <b>16</b> <b>Total assets.</b> Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) . . . . . | 672,394   | <b>16</b>         | 263,498   |                  |
| <b>Liabilities</b>   | <b>17</b> Accounts payable and accrued expenses . . . . .   | 15,486            | <b>17</b> | 9,709            |
|  | <b>18</b> Grants payable . . . . .  |                   | <b>18</b> |                  |
|  | <b>19</b> Deferred revenue . . . . .  | 370               | <b>19</b> |                  |
|  | <b>20</b> Tax-exempt bond liabilities . . . . .   |                   | <b>20</b> |                  |
|  | <b>21</b> Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D . . . . .   |                   | <b>21</b> |                  |
|  | <b>22</b> Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .  |                   | <b>22</b> |                  |
|  | <b>23</b> Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .  |                   | <b>23</b> |                  |
|  | <b>24</b> Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .  |                   | <b>24</b> |                  |
|  | <b>25</b> Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D . . . . .   |                   | <b>25</b> |                  |
|  | <b>26</b> <b>Total liabilities.</b> Add lines 17 through 25 . . . . .   | 15,856            | <b>26</b> | 9,709            |
| <b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>   | <b>Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.</b>  |                   |           |                  |
|  | <b>27</b> Unrestricted net assets . . . . .   | 79,288            | <b>27</b> | 56,626           |
|  | <b>28</b> Temporarily restricted net assets . . . . .   | 577,250           | <b>28</b> | 197,163          |
|  | <b>29</b> Permanently restricted net assets . . . . .   |                   | <b>29</b> |                  |
|  | <b>Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.</b>   |                   |           |                  |
|  | <b>30</b> Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds . . . . .  |                   | <b>30</b> |                  |
|  | <b>31</b> Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund . . . . .   |                   | <b>31</b> |                  |
|  | <b>32</b> Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds . . . . .  |                   | <b>32</b> |                  |
| <b>33</b> Total net assets or fund balances . . . . .                                | 656,538   | <b>33</b>         | 253,789   |                  |
| <b>34</b> Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances . . . . .                   | 672,394   | <b>34</b>         | 263,498   |                  |

**Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

|           |   |           |          |
|-----------|---|-----------|----------|
| <b>1</b>  | Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)   | <b>1</b>  | 206,748  |
| <b>2</b>  | Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)  | <b>2</b>  | 609,497  |
| <b>3</b>  | Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1   | <b>3</b>  | -402,749 |
| <b>4</b>  | Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))                     | <b>4</b>  | 656,538  |
| <b>5</b>  | Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments  | <b>5</b>  |          |
| <b>6</b>  | Donated services and use of facilities  | <b>6</b>  |          |
| <b>7</b>  | Investment expenses   | <b>7</b>  |          |
| <b>8</b>  | Prior period adjustments  | <b>8</b>  |          |
| <b>9</b>  | Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)  | <b>9</b>  | 0        |
| <b>10</b> | Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B)) | <b>10</b> | 253,789  |

**Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

|           |   | Yes | No |
|-----------|---|-----|----|
| <b>1</b>  | Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____<br>If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O   |     |    |
| <b>2a</b> | Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?<br>If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis | Yes |    |
| <b>2b</b> | Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?<br>If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both<br><input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis                                      |     | No |
| <b>2c</b> | If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?<br>If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O   | Yes |    |
| <b>3a</b> | As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?  |     | No |
| <b>3b</b> | If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits  |     |    |

SCHEDULE A (Form 990 or 990EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Employer identification number

41-1986433

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box )

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).
2 A school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).
3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).
4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).
5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).
6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).
7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).
8 A community trust described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).
9 An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions...
10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety.
11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations...
a Type I. A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s)...
b Type II. A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s)...
c Type III functionally integrated. A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s)...
d Type III non-functionally integrated. A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated...
e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
f Enter the number of supported organizations.
g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

Table with 6 columns: (i) Name of supported organization, (ii) EIN, (iii) Type of organization, (iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?, (v) Amount of monetary support, (vi) Amount of other support. Includes a Total row at the bottom.

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**  
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

| Calendar year<br>(or fiscal year beginning in) ▶   | (a)2011 | (b)2012   | (c)2013 | (d)2014   | (e)2015 | (f)Total  |
|--|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| <b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any unusual grants.)   | 670,727 | 1,185,626 | 224,586 | 1,001,607 | 196,757 | 3,279,303 |
| <b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf   |         |           |         |           |         |           |
| <b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge   |         |           |         |           |         |           |
| <b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3  | 670,727 | 1,185,626 | 224,586 | 1,001,607 | 196,757 | 3,279,303 |
| <b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) |         |           |         |           |         | 1,704,534 |
| <b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4   |         |           |         |           |         | 1,574,769 |

**Section B. Total Support**

| Calendar year<br>(or fiscal year beginning in) ▶  | (a)2011 | (b)2012   | (c)2013 | (d)2014   | (e)2015 | (f)Total  |
|---|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| <b>7</b> Amounts from line 4  | 670,727 | 1,185,626 | 224,586 | 1,001,607 | 196,757 | 3,279,303 |
| <b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources | 352     | 352       | 276     | 235       | 228     | 1,443     |
| <b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on                             |         |           |         |           |         |           |
| <b>10</b> Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)                                |         |           |         |           |         |           |
| <b>11 Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10   |         |           |         |           |         | 3,280,746 |

**12** Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) **12** 596,072

**13 First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here**

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

|  |           |          |
|--|-----------|----------|
| <b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2015 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) | <b>14</b> | 48 000 % |
| <b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2014 Schedule A, Part II, line 14                        | <b>15</b> | 49 740 % |

**16a 33 1/3% support test—2015.** If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

**b 33 1/3% support test—2014.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

**17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2015.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the facts-and-circumstances test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

**b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

**18 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

**Section A. Public Support**

| Calendar year<br>(or fiscal year beginning in) ▶  | (a)2011 | (b)2012 | (c)2013 | (d)2014 | (e)2015 | (f)Total |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| <b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>2</b> Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>3</b> Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513   |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>4</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>5</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>6 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 5   |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>7a</b> Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>b</b> Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year           |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>c</b> Add lines 7a and 7b  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>8 Public support.</b> (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)  |         |         |         |         |         |          |

**Section B. Total Support**

| Calendar year<br>(or fiscal year beginning in) ▶   | (a)2011 | (b)2012 | (c)2013 | (d)2014 | (e)2015 | (f)Total |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| <b>9</b> Amounts from line 6   |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>10a</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>b</b> Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975   |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>c</b> Add lines 10a and 10b   |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>11</b> Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>12</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)  |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>13 Total support.</b> (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)   |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| <b>14 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> <span style="float: right;">▶ <input type="checkbox"/></span> |         |         |         |         |         |          |

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

|  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| <b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2015 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) | <b>15</b> |  |
| <b>16</b> Public support percentage from 2014 Schedule A, Part III, line 15                      | <b>16</b> |  |

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

|  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| <b>17</b> Investment income percentage for <b>2015</b> (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) | <b>17</b> |  |
| <b>18</b> Investment income percentage from <b>2014</b> Schedule A, Part III, line 17                        | <b>18</b> |  |

- 19a 33 1/3% support tests—2015.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶
- b 33 1/3% support tests—2014.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶
- 20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶

**Part IV Supporting Organizations**

(Complete only if you checked a box on line 11 of Part I. If you checked 11a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 11b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 11c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 11d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

**Section A. All Supporting Organizations**

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| <b>1</b> Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? If "No," describe in <b>Part VI</b> how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.   |     |    |
| <b>2</b> Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in <b>Part VI</b> how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).  |     |    |
| <b>3a</b> Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.   |     |    |
| <b>b</b> Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? If "Yes," describe in <b>Part VI</b> when and how the organization made the determination.  |     |    |
| <b>c</b> Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? If "Yes," explain in <b>Part VI</b> what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.   |     |    |
| <b>4a</b> Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? If "Yes" and if you checked 11a or 11b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.   |     |    |
| <b>b</b> Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.  |     |    |
| <b>c</b> Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.   |     |    |
| <b>5a</b> Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI, including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed, (ii) the reasons for each such action, (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action, and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document). |     |    |
| <b>b Type I or Type II only.</b> Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?  |     |    |
| <b>c Substitutions only.</b> Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?   |     |    |
| <b>6</b> Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (a) its supported organizations, (b) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (c) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .   |     |    |
| <b>7</b> Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in IRC 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35-percent controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).  |     |    |
| <b>8</b> Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? If "Yes," complete Part II of Schedule L (Form 990).   |     |    |
| <b>9a</b> Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .  |     |    |
| <b>b</b> Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9(a)) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .  |     |    |
| <b>c</b> Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9(a)) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .   |     |    |
| <b>10a</b> Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of IRC 4943 because of IRC 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? If "Yes," answer b below.   |     |    |
| <b>b</b> Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings.)   |     |    |
| <b>11</b> Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?   |     |    |
| <b>a</b> A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization?  |     |    |
| <b>b</b> A family member of a person described in (a) above?  |     |    |
| <b>c</b> A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI.  |     |    |



**Part IV Supporting Organizations** (continued)**Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? If "No," describe in **Part VI** how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.
- 2** Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? If "Yes," explain in **Part VI** how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised or controlled the supporting organization.

|          | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| <b>1</b> |     |    |
| <b>2</b> |     |    |

**Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? If "No," describe in **Part VI** how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).

|          | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| <b>1</b> |     |    |

**Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (1) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (2) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (3) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?
- 2** Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? If "No," explain in **Part VI** how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).
- 3** By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? If "Yes," describe in **Part VI** the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.

|          | Yes | No |
|----------|-----|----|
| <b>1</b> |     |    |
| <b>2</b> |     |    |
| <b>3</b> |     |    |

**Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (**see instructions**):
- a**  The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete **line 2** below.
- b**  The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete **line 3** below.
- c**  The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions).
- 2** **Activities Test. Answer (a) and (b) below.**

- a** Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? If "Yes," then in **Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain** how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.
- b** Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? If "Yes," explain in **Part VI** the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.
- 3** **Parent of Supported Organizations. Answer (a) and (b) below.**
- a** Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? Provide details in Part VI.
- b** Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.

|           | Yes | No |
|-----------|-----|----|
| <b>2a</b> |     |    |
| <b>2b</b> |     |    |
| <b>3a</b> |     |    |
| <b>3b</b> |     |    |

**Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov 20, 1970 **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E

**Section A - Adjusted Net Income**

- 1** Net short-term capital gain
- 2** Recoveries of prior-year distributions
- 3** Other gross income (see instructions)
- 4** Add lines 1 through 3
- 5** Depreciation and depletion
- 6** Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)
- 7** Other expenses (see instructions)
- 8** **Adjusted Net Income** (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4)

|          | (A) Prior Year | (B) Current Year (optional) |
|----------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1</b> |                |                             |
| <b>2</b> |                |                             |
| <b>3</b> |                |                             |
| <b>4</b> |                |                             |
| <b>5</b> |                |                             |
| <b>6</b> |                |                             |
| <b>7</b> |                |                             |
| <b>8</b> |                |                             |

**Section B - Minimum Asset Amount**

- 1** Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year)
- a** Average monthly value of securities
- b** Average monthly cash balances
- c** Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets
- d** **Total** (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)
- e** **Discount** claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2** Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets
- 3** Subtract line 2 from line 1d
- 4** Cash deemed held for exempt use Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)
- 5** Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)
- 6** Multiply line 5 by .035
- 7** Recoveries of prior-year distributions
- 8** **Minimum Asset Amount** (add line 7 to line 6)

|           | (A) Prior Year | (B) Current Year (optional) |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>1a</b> |                |                             |
| <b>1b</b> |                |                             |
| <b>1c</b> |                |                             |
| <b>1d</b> |                |                             |
| <b>2</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>3</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>4</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>5</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>6</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>7</b>  |                |                             |
| <b>8</b>  |                |                             |

**Section C - Distributable Amount**

- 1** Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)
- 2** Enter 85% of line 1
- 3** Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)
- 4** Enter greater of line 2 or line 3
- 5** Income tax imposed in prior year
- 6** **Distributable Amount.** Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions)
- 7** Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions)

|          |  | Current Year |
|----------|--|--------------|
| <b>1</b> |  |              |
| <b>2</b> |  |              |
| <b>3</b> |  |              |
| <b>4</b> |  |              |
| <b>5</b> |  |              |
| <b>6</b> |  |              |

**Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations (continued)**

| <b>Section D - Distributions</b>  | <b>Current Year</b> |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>1</b> Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes  |                     |
| <b>2</b> Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity    |                     |
| <b>3</b> Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations  |                     |
| <b>4</b> Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets  |                     |
| <b>5</b> Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)  |                     |
| <b>6</b> Other distributions (describe in Part VI) See instructions   |                     |
| <b>7 Total annual distributions.</b> Add lines 1 through 6  |                     |
| <b>8</b> Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI) See instructions |                     |
| <b>9</b> Distributable amount for 2015 from Section C, line 6   |                     |
| <b>10</b> Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount  |                     |

| <b>Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)</b>   | <b>(i)<br/>Excess Distributions</b> | <b>(ii)<br/>Underdistributions<br/>Pre-2015</b> | <b>(iii)<br/>Distributable<br/>Amount for 2015</b> |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>1</b> Distributable amount for 2015 from Section C, line 6  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>2</b> Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2015 (reasonable cause required--see instructions)   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>3</b> Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2015   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>a</b>   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>b</b>   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>c</b>   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>d</b> From 2013. . . . . _____  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>e</b> From 2014. . . . . _____  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>f Total</b> of lines 3a through e   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>g</b> Applied to underdistributions of prior years  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>h</b> Applied to 2015 distributable amount  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>i</b> Carryover from 2010 not applied (see instructions)  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>j</b> Remainder Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>4</b> Distributions for 2015 from Section D, line 7   |                                     |   |  |
| \$ _____   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>a</b> Applied to underdistributions of prior years  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>b</b> Applied to 2015 distributable amount  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>c</b> Remainder Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>5</b> Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2015, if any Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2 (if amount greater than zero, see instructions) |                                     |   |  |
| <b>6</b> Remaining underdistributions for 2015 Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1 (if amount greater than zero, see instructions)                        |                                     |   |  |
| <b>7 Excess distributions carryover to 2016.</b> Add lines 3j and 4c   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>8</b> Breakdown of line 7   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>a</b>   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>b</b>   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>c</b> Excess from 2013. . . . . _____   |                                     |   |  |
| <b>d</b> From 2014. . . . . _____  |                                     |   |  |
| <b>e</b> From 2015. . . . . _____  |                                     |   |  |

**Part VI Supplemental Information.**

Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Facts And Circumstances Test</b> |
|                                     |

| Return Reference | Explanation |
|------------------|-------------|
|                  |             |

**SCHEDULE C**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities**

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527  
 ▶ Complete if the organization is described below. ▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.  
 ▶ Information about Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

OMB No 1545-0047

**2015**

**Open to Public Inspection**

- If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then**
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations Complete Parts I-A and B Do not complete Part I-C
  - Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations Complete Parts I-A and C below Do not complete Part I-B
  - Section 527 organizations Complete Part I-A only
- If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then**
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-A Do not complete Part II-B
  - Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-B Do not complete Part II-A
- If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then**
- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations Complete Part III

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Name of the organization<br>MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP | Employer identification number<br>41-1986433 |
|---|--|

**Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.**

- 1** Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV
- 2** Political expenditures ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3** Volunteer hours \_\_\_\_\_

**Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).**

- 1** Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2** Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3** If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?  Yes  No
- 4a** Was a correction made?  Yes  No
- b** If "Yes," describe in Part IV

**Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).**

- 1** Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2** Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3** Total exempt function expenditures Add lines 1 and 2 Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 4** Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?  Yes  No
- 5** Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC) If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV

| (a) Name | (b) Address | (c) EIN | (d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds If none, enter -0- | (e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization If none, enter -0- |
|----------|-------------|---------|---|--|
|          |             |         |   |  |
| 2        |             |         |   |  |
| 3        |             |         |   |  |
| 4        |             |         |   |  |
| 5        |             |         |   |  |
| 6        |             |         |   |  |

**Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).**

**A** Check  if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures)

**B** Check  if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply

**Limits on Lobbying Expenditures**  
(The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)

| (a) Filing organization's totals | (b) Affiliated group totals |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|

| <b>1a</b> Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)   | 11,236  |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
|--|---|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|--|--|-------------------|-------------|
| <b>b</b> Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)   | 6,380   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>c</b> Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)   | 17,616  |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>d</b> Other exempt purpose expenditures   | 591,881   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>e</b> Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)   | 609,497   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>f</b> Lobbying nontaxable amount Enter the amount from the following table in both columns  | 116,425   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th align="left">If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th align="left">The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |   |  | If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is: | The lobbying nontaxable amount is: | Not over \$500,000 | 20% of the amount on line 1e | Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000 | \$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000 | Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000 | \$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000 | Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000 | \$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000 | Over \$17,000,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:  | The lobbying nontaxable amount is:                |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| Not over \$500,000   | 20% of the amount on line 1e                      |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000  | \$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000  | \$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000 |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000   | \$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000  |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| Over \$17,000,000  | \$1,000,000                                       |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>g</b> Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)   | 29,106  |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>h</b> Subtract line 1g from line 1a If zero or less, enter -0-  | 0   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>i</b> Subtract line 1f from line 1c If zero or less, enter -0-  | 0   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |
| <b>j</b> If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?   |   |  |   |                                    |                    |                              |   |   |   |   |  |  |                   |             |

**Y e s**    **N o**

**4-Year Averaging Period Under section 501(h)**  
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

**Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period**

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)                      | (a)2012 | (b)2013 | (c)2014 | (d)2015 | (e) Total |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| <b>2a</b> Lobbying nontaxable amount                             | 141,143 | 122,241 | 160,845 | 116,425 | 540,654   |
| <b>b</b> Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))    |         |         |         |         | 810,981   |
| <b>c</b> Total lobbying expenditures                             | 33,785  | 19,094  | 38,377  | 17,616  | 108,872   |
| <b>d</b> Grassroots nontaxable amount                            | 35,286  | 30,560  | 40,211  | 29,106  | 135,163   |
| <b>e</b> Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e)) |         |         |         |         | 202,745   |
| <b>f</b> Grassroots lobbying expenditures                        | 23,893  | 16,373  | 27,883  | 11,236  | 79,385    |



**SCHEDULE D**  
(Form 990)

**Supplemental Financial Statements**

OMB No 1545-0047  
**2015**  
Open to Public Inspection

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.  
▶ Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Name of the organization**  
MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

**Employer identification number**  
41-1986433

**Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

|  | (a) Donor advised funds | (b) Funds and other accounts                             |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| <b>1</b> Total number at end of year   |                         |  |
| <b>2</b> Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)   |                         |  |
| <b>3</b> Aggregate value of grants from (during year)  |                         |  |
| <b>4</b> Aggregate value at end of year  |                         |  |
| <b>5</b> Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?  |                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <b>6</b> Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? |                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

**Part II Conservation Easements.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

**1** Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education)  Preservation of an historically important land area

Protection of natural habitat  Preservation of a certified historic structure

Preservation of open space

**2** Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

|   | Held at the End of the Year |
|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>a</b> Total number of conservation easements   |                             |
| <b>b</b> Total acreage restricted by conservation easements   |                             |
| <b>c</b> Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)   |                             |
| <b>d</b> Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register |                             |

**3** Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**5** Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?  Yes  No

**6** Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year  
▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**7** Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year  
▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**8** Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4) (B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?  Yes  No

**9** In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

**1a** If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

**b** If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2** If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

**a** Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**b** Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets**  
(continued)

- 3** Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)
- a**  Public exhibition
  - b**  Scholarly research
  - c**  Preservation for future generations
  - d**  Loan or exchange programs
  - e**  Other
- 4** Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII
- 5** During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?  Yes  No

**Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a** Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?  Yes  No

**b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table

|  | Amount    |
|--|-----------|
| <b>c</b> Beginning balance             | <b>1c</b> |
| <b>d</b> Additions during the year     | <b>1d</b> |
| <b>e</b> Distributions during the year | <b>1e</b> |
| <b>f</b> Ending balance                | <b>1f</b> |

- 2a** Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?  Yes  No

- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

**Part V Endowment Funds.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

|   | (a) Current year | (b) Prior year | b (c) Two years back | (d) Three years back | (e) Four years back |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>1a</b> Beginning of year balance . . . . .                     |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |
| <b>b</b> Contributions . . . . .                                  |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |
| <b>c</b> Net investment earnings, gains, and losses . . . . .     |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |
| <b>d</b> Grants or scholarships . . . . .                         |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |
| <b>e</b> Other expenditures for facilities and programs . . . . . |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |
| <b>f</b> Administrative expenses . . . . .                        |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |
| <b>g</b> End of year balance . . . . .                            |                  |                |                      |                      |                     |

- 2** Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as

- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶
  - b** Permanent endowment ▶
  - c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶
- The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

- 3a** Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by
- |  | Yes           | No |
|--|---------------|----|
| <b>(i)</b> unrelated organizations . . . . .   | <b>3a(i)</b>  |    |
| <b>(ii)</b> related organizations . . . . .  | <b>3a(ii)</b> |    |
| <b>b</b> If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? . . . . . | <b>3b</b>     |    |

- 4** Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

**Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

| Description of property                   | (a) Cost or other basis (investment) | (b) Cost or other basis (other) | (c) Accumulated depreciation | (d) Book value |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>1a</b> Land . . . . .                  |                                      |                                 |                              |                |
| <b>b</b> Buildings . . . . .              |                                      |                                 |                              |                |
| <b>c</b> Leasehold improvements . . . . . |                                      | 1,200                           | 613                          | 587            |
| <b>d</b> Equipment . . . . .              |                                      | 14,786                          | 10,685                       | 4,101          |
| <b>e</b> Other . . . . .                  |                                      |                                 |                              |                |

**Total.** Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c)) . . . . . ▶ 4,688

**Part VII Investments—Other Securities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

| (a) Description of security or category<br>(including name of security)  | (b) Book value | (c) Method of valuation<br>Cost or end-of-year market value |
|--|----------------|---|
| <b>(1)</b> Financial derivatives   |                |   |
| <b>(2)</b> Closely-held equity interests                                 |                |   |
| <b>(3)</b> Other   |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
| <b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12 ) |                |   |

**Part VIII Investments—Program Related.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

| (a) Description of investment  | (b) Book value | (c) Method of valuation<br>Cost or end-of-year market value |
|--|----------------|---|
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
|  |                |   |
| <b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13 ) |                |   |

**Part IX Other Assets.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15

| (a) Description  | (b) Book value |
|--|----------------|
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
| <b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 15 ) |                |

**Part X Other Liabilities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

| 1. (a) Description of liability  | (b) Book value |
|--|----------------|
| Federal income taxes   |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
|  |                |
| <b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25 ) |                |

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

**Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

|          |   |           |           |  |
|----------|---|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements . . . . .                      |           | <b>1</b>  |  |
| <b>2</b> | Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12                                      |           |           |  |
| <b>a</b> | Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments . . . . .  | <b>2a</b> |           |  |
| <b>b</b> | Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .  | <b>2b</b> |           |  |
| <b>c</b> | Recoveries of prior year grants . . . . .   | <b>2c</b> |           |  |
| <b>d</b> | Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .  | <b>2d</b> |           |  |
| <b>e</b> | Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .   |           | <b>2e</b> |  |
| <b>3</b> | Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .  |           | <b>3</b>  |  |
| <b>4</b> | Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1                                     |           |           |  |
| <b>a</b> | Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .                              | <b>4a</b> |           |  |
| <b>b</b> | Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .  | <b>4b</b> |           |  |
| <b>c</b> | Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .   |           | <b>4c</b> |  |
| <b>5</b> | Total revenue Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12 ) . . . . . |           | <b>5</b>  |  |

**Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

|          |  |           |           |  |
|----------|--|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements . . . . .                                     |           | <b>1</b>  |  |
| <b>2</b> | Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25   |           |           |  |
| <b>a</b> | Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .   | <b>2a</b> |           |  |
| <b>b</b> | Prior year adjustments . . . . .   | <b>2b</b> |           |  |
| <b>c</b> | Other losses . . . . .   | <b>2c</b> |           |  |
| <b>d</b> | Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .   | <b>2d</b> |           |  |
| <b>e</b> | Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .  |           | <b>2e</b> |  |
| <b>3</b> | Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .   |           | <b>3</b>  |  |
| <b>4</b> | Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:                                       |           |           |  |
| <b>a</b> | Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .                               | <b>4a</b> |           |  |
| <b>b</b> | Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .   | <b>4b</b> |           |  |
| <b>c</b> | Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .  |           | <b>4c</b> |  |
| <b>5</b> | Total expenses Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18 ) . . . . . |           | <b>5</b>  |  |

**Part XIII Supplemental Information**

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

| Return Reference | Explanation  |
|------------------|--|
| PART X, LINE 2   | MEP IS EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAXES UNDER INTERNAL REVENUE CODE SECTION 501(C)(3) AND APPLICABLE MINNESOTA STATUTES, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT IT HAS TAXABLE INCOME FROM BUSINESSES THAT ARE NOT RELATED TO ITS EXEMPT PURPOSE. MANAGEMENT BELIEVES MEP DID NOT HAVE ANY UNRELATED BUSINESS INCOME IN 2016 OR 2015. MANAGEMENT BELIEVES MEP HAS APPROPRIATE SUPPORT FOR ANY TAX POSITIONS TAKEN, AND ACCORDINGLY, DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS THAT ARE MATERIAL TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. |

**Part XIII** Supplemental Information *(continued)*

| Return Reference | Explanation |
|------------------|-------------|
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|                  |             |
|                  |             |
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**Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

| (a) Name of interested person                          | (b) Relationship between interested person and the organization      | (c) Amount of transaction | (d) Description of transaction                                    | (e) Sharing of organization's revenues? |    |
|--|--|---------------------------|---|---|----|
|  |  |                           |   | Yes                                     | No |
| (1) MINNESOTA CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY (MCEA) | SCOTT STRAND IS A BOARD MEMBER OF MEP AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MCEA | 50,000                    | MEP HAS CONTRACTS FOR RESEARCH, OUTREACH, AND EDUCATION WITH MCEA |   | No |
| (2) CLEAN WATER ACTION (CWA)                           | DEANNA WHITE IS A BOARD MEMBER OF MEP AND STATE DIRECTOR OF CWA      | 25,000                    | MEP HAS CONTRACTS FOR OUTREACH AND EDUCATION WITH CWA             |   | No |
|  |  |                           |   |   |    |
|  |  |                           |   |   |    |
|  |  |                           |   |   |    |
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|  |  |                           |   |   |    |
|  |  |                           |   |   |    |

**Part V Supplemental Information**

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions)

| Return Reference | Explanation |
|------------------|-------------|
|                  |             |

**SCHEDULE O  
(Form 990 or  
990-EZ)**

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

**2015**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on  
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at  
[www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Department of the  
Treasury  
Internal Revenue  
Service

Name of the organization  
MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Employer identification number

41-1986433

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

| Return Reference                     | Explanation   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| FORM 990, PART III, LINE 4A          | <p>INVESTING IN CLEAN WATER AND LIVING LANDSCAPES BARE SOIL HAS LITTLE WILDLIFE VALUE AND IS PRONE TO RUNOFF AND EROSION, CARRYING SEDIMENT AND FARM CHEMICALS INTO NEARBY STREAMS, RIVERS, AND LAKES. THE STATE HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR NEW INITIATIVES THAT DIVERSIFY THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE AND HELP ENSURE CONTINUOUS LIVING COVER THAT PROTECTS SOIL HEALTH AND WATER QUALITY, WHILE MAXIMIZING ECONOMIC RETURN FOR FARMERS. THIS INCLUDES FULLY FUNDING THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S FOREVER GREEN INITIATIVE AND GETTING THE WORKING LANDS WATERSHED RESTORATION PERENNIAL PROGRAM UNDERWAY. THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE PASSED BOTH OF THESE INITIATIVES IN 2016, AND THEY WERE SIGNED INTO LAW BY GOVERNOR DAYTON. A COMMITMENT TO CLEAN AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION GENERATES 25% OF THE CARBON POLLUTION IN MINNESOTA, SECOND ONLY TO THE POWER SECTOR. AIR QUALITY IS OFTEN WORST NEAR AREAS WITH BAD TRAFFIC CONGESTION. THESE MEANS THOSE LIVING CLOSE TO MAJOR ROADS AND HIGHWAYS CONFRONT THE HIGHEST HEALTH RISKS DUE TO POOR AIR QUALITY. FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS, MEP WORKED WITH THE MOVE MN AND THE TRANSPORTATION FORWARD CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT A 10-YEAR TRANSPORTATION PLAN THAT INVESTS NOT ONLY IN ROADS AND BRIDGES, BUT ALSO TRANSIT AND SAFE WALKING AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGHOUT THE STATE WHILE A COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE DID NOT BECOME A REALITY THIS YEAR, MEP AND OUR MEMBERS ARE NOW STRATEGIZING OUR NEXT STEPS TO PASSING A COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE IN MINNESOTA. GROWING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE ACCESS TO HIGH SPEED BROADBAND INTERNET IS CRITICAL TO ENABLING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL BUSINESSES, ATTRACTING RESIDENTS WHO USE THE INTERNET FOR DISTANCE WORK, AND ATTRACTING NEW INDUSTRIES THAT RELY ON HIGH-SPEED INTERNET. BROADBAND IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF BUILDING A STRONGER, MORE DIVERSE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY FOR THE FUTURE. THE MEP COALITION SUPPORTED GOVERNOR DAYTON'S REQUEST FOR \$100 MILLION FOR THE BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUND TO MAKE SURE NO COMMUNITY IS LEFT BEHIND. IN 2016, \$35 MILLION WAS PROVIDED FOR THIS PROGRAM. MEP'S COALITION CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF BROADBAND TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY. SULFIDE MINING PROPOSED SULFIDE MINES IN NORTHEAST MINNESOTA, SUCH AS THE POLYMET NORTHMET PROJECT, THREATEN OUR LAKES AND RIVERS WITH SIGNIFICANT ONGOING POLLUTION. IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THE POLYMET MINE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE LONG-LASTING NEGATIVE EFFECTS, POLYMET'S OWN DATA SHOW THAT ONGOING WATER TREATMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR 500 YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE MINE HAS STOPPED. MEP HAS LEVERAGED OUR POSITION TO CONVENE THE MINING CLUSTER, WHICH WAS A MAJOR CATALYST IN GENERATING MORE THAN 50,000 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PROJECT (98% OF WHICH OPPOSE THE MINE). IN ADDITION, WE'VE BEEN PUBLICLY HIGHLIGHTING THE DANGER TO THE ST. LOUIS RIVER. IN 2015 THE RIVER WAS NAMED ONE OF AMERICAN RIVERS 10 MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS BECAUSE OF THE POLYMET PROJECT, WHICH WE WORKED TO PUBLICIZE IN THE MEDIA AND THROUGH OUR OWN AND MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS AND ACTION ALERTS. PROTECTING THE GREAT LAKES. MINNESOTA IS THE HEADWATERS STATE FOR THE GREAT LAKES, WITH 190 MILES OF RUGGED LAKE SUPERIOR COASTLINE AMONG ITS NATURAL ASSETS. SINCE 2005, MEP'S COALITION HAS WORKED TOGETHER TO SUPPORT THE GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE (GLRI), A LONG-TERM REGIONAL PLAN TO RESTORE THE LAKES AND STIMULATE THE REGION'S ECONOMY. THE MEP COALITION HAS SUPPORTED FULL CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING FOR GLRI, AS WELL AS LEVERAGING STATE DOLLARS THROUGH THE LEGACY AMENDMENT AND BONDING BILL. IN ADDITION, THE COALITION SUPPORTED PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF THE GREAT LAKES COMPACT, INCLUDING HOLDING THE WAUKESHA DIVERSION PROPOSAL TO THE COMPACT CRITERIA.</p> |
| FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 2 | <p>CLEAN WATER ACTION HAS A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH LUTHERAN COALITION FOR PUBLIC POLICY IN MINNESOTA.</p>  |

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

| Return Reference                      | Explanation   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 6  | THE ORGANIZATION HAS APPROXIMATELY 70 MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE VOTING MEMBERS UNDER STATE LAW |
| FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 7A | ALL MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED TO ONE VOTE ON ANY MATTER PROPERLY PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERS                                |



## 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

| Return Reference                       | Explanation   |
|--|---|
| FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11  | ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE GIVEN A COPY OF THE DRAFT FORM 990 FOR REVIEW THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REVIEWS THE FORM 990 IN DETAIL AND MAKES A RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD ON APPROVAL |
| FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C | BOARD MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO COMPLETE A CONFLICT DISCLOSURE FORM AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH FISCAL YEAR AND ARE ASKED TO UPDATE THAT FORM WITH ANY NEW CONFLICTS AT EACH BOARD MEETING  |

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

| Return Reference                                | Explanation  |
|---|--|
| FORM 990,<br>PART VI,<br>SECTION B, LINE<br>15A | COMPENSATION PROCESS FOR TOP OFFICIAL THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONDUCTS A REVIEW OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE UTILIZING INPUT FROM BOARD, STAFF AND MEMBERS IT ALSO REVIEWS THE SALARY IN RELATION TO THE MN COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS SALARY SCHEDULE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS USES THIS INFORMATION IN RELATION TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF POSITIONS TO SET THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMPENSATION FOR THE YEAR FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15B THERE ARE NO OTHER KEY EMPLOYEES SO THIS IS NOT APPLICABLE |
| FORM 990,<br>PART VI,<br>SECTION C, LINE<br>19  | IF THERE IS A REQUEST FOR ONE OF THESE DOCUMENTS, IT WOULD GO TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL  |

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

| Return Reference                  | Explanation   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| FORM 990,<br>PART IX, LINE<br>11G | CONSULTING AND CONTRACTED SERVICES PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSES 2,725 MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL EXPENSES 0 FUNDRAISING EXPENSES 0 TOTAL EXPENSES 2,725 CONTRACTING ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSES 90,000 MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL EXPENSES 0 FUNDRAISING EXPENSES 0 TOTAL EXPENSES 90,000 PAYROLL SERVICE PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSES 0 MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL EXPENSES 1,782 FUNDRAISING EXPENSES 0 TOTAL EXPENSES 1,782 |
| FORM 990,<br>PART XII, LINE<br>2C | THIS PROCESS HAS NOT CHANGED FROM THE PRIOR YEAR  |