



**Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy**

January 12, 2017

Board of Directors
Cascade Water Alliance
Bellevue, Washington

Contracted CPA Firm's Audit Report on Financial Statements

We have reviewed the audit report issued by a certified public accounting (CPA) firm on the Cascade Water Alliance's financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The Alliance contracted with the CPA firm for this audit under an agreement with the State Auditor's Office.

Based on this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by RCW 43.09.260. The State Auditor's Office did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion on those financial statements.

This report is being published on the State Auditor's Office website as a matter of public record.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy
State Auditor
Olympia, WA

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Financial Statements and
Government Auditing Standards Report

For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

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Independent Auditor's Report

**To the Board of Directors
Cascade Water Alliance
Bellevue, Washington**

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Cascade Water Alliance (Cascade) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Cascade's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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

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



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Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Cascade as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matter

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and modified approach for White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Infrastructure Capital Assets on pages 3 through 10 and on pages 33 through 37, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

OTHER REPORTING REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 21, 2016 on our consideration of Cascade's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Cascade's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Certified Public Accountants
July 21, 2016

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Management's Discussion and Analysis presents our review of Cascade Water Alliance's (Cascade) net position as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and Cascade's financial performance for the years then ended. These comments should be read in conjunction with Cascade's financial statements, which follow this section.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The financial statements include the Statements of Net Position, Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position, Statements of Cash Flows and Notes to Financial Statements.

The Statements of Net Position provide a record, or snapshot, of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources of Cascade at the close of the year. It provides information about the nature and amounts of investments in resources (assets) and obligations to creditors (liabilities). It provides a basis for evaluating the capital structure of Cascade and for assessing its liquidity and financial flexibility.

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position present the results of the business activities over the course of the year. This information can be used to determine whether Cascade has successfully recovered all its costs through its user fees and other charges, and to evaluate its financial viability and credit worthiness.

The Statements of Cash Flows report cash receipts, cash payments and net changes in cash resulting from operating, capital and related financing and investing activities over the course of the year. The statements present information on where cash came from and what it was used for.

The Notes to Financial Statements provide useful information regarding Cascade's significant account balances and activities, certain material risks, estimates, obligations, commitments, contingencies, and subsequent events, if any.

Cascade's overall financial position is strong, with sufficient liquidity to finance operations and sufficient debt capacity to finance future capital asset acquisitions. Cascade is financed by equity and long-term debt.

Depreciable capital assets have increased due to Cascade obtaining sources of water supply and related water systems needed to deliver the supply. Cascade primarily serves a suburban area east of Lake Washington in King County.

Major debt financing to date includes:

- \$10,000,000 borrowed in 2004 from member Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District for acquisition of water supply sources and water systems (repaid from bond proceeds in 2006);
- \$25,904,442 owed to the City of Tacoma for acquisition of water supply sources and water systems (repaid from bond proceeds in 2006);
- Twenty-five year \$55,230,000 revenue bond proceeds (2006 revenue bonds) to pay the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District and City of Tacoma and to finance system development (refunded by 2014 revenue bonds);

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Overview of the Financial Statements (Continued)

- Twenty-five year \$80,095,000 revenue bond proceeds (2009 revenue bonds) to acquire the Lake Tapps system from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and to fund property acquisitions and pipeline construction along a potential water transmission corridor;
- Twenty-five year \$42,695,000 revenue bond proceeds (2012 revenue bonds) to acquire independent supply production capacity, to restructure the Tacoma Water Contract, to extend the Seattle Water Contract, and to fund Lake Tapps capital improvements; and
- Fifteen year \$29,220,000 refunding revenue bonds (2014 revenue bonds) to pay a portion of the cost of refunding the callable portion of the outstanding 2006 Bonds. The net proceeds were placed in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide funds for the future debt service payment on the refunded bonds. As a result, a portion of the 2006 bonds are considered defeased and the liability for those bonds has been removed from the statement of net position. The reacquisition price exceeded the net carrying amount of the old debt by \$2,692,477. This amount is being netted against the new debt and amortized over the remaining life of the refunding debt. The government advance refunded the 2006 revenue bonds to reduce its total debt service payments over 14 years by \$6,270,530 and to obtain an economic gain (difference between the present values of the debt service payments on the old and new debt) of \$5,462,625. At December 31, 2015, \$40,690,000 of defeased bonds remain outstanding.

Condensed Financial Statements

Statements of Net Position as of December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013

	2015	2014	2013
Current assets	\$ 21,027,024	\$ 16,722,806	\$ 25,493,353
Net capital assets	271,805,152	265,652,583	263,735,209
Other assets	39,417,403	54,935,363	62,258,081
Total Assets	332,249,579	337,310,752	351,486,643
Deferred Outflows of Resources	2,194,966	2,379,014	
Current liabilities	14,964,179	16,332,199	14,292,682
Long-term liabilities	253,018,894	264,815,782	283,764,874
Total Liabilities	267,983,073	281,147,981	298,057,556
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	21,519,773	19,925,423	10,370,564
Restricted for-			
Debt service	23,158,989	24,986,410	26,569,680
Unrestricted	21,782,710	13,629,952	16,488,843
Total Net Position	\$ 66,461,472	\$ 58,541,785	\$ 53,429,087

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Financial Analysis

Current assets increased by 26.8% in 2015 due in large part to increases in cash and cash equivalents, offset by the difference in accounts receivable between 2015 and 2014. Net capital assets increased by over \$6 million with a number of large capital projects in 2015 and other assets decreased by 28.2% because bond proceeds were used for those projects. Current liabilities decreased by 8.38%, due largely to a decrease in accounts payable at year end. Invested in capital assets net of related debt increased by 8.0% because capital projects increased. Unrestricted net assets which consist of accumulated assets that do not meet the definition of invested in capital assets, net of related debt or restricted increased by 59.10%.

Condensed Financial Statements

Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position For the Years Ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Water sales	\$ 31,761,946	\$ 30,747,222	\$ 29,642,807
Administrative dues	2,966,435	3,014,341	2,729,012
Conservation program and other	<u>2,911,519</u>	<u>1,223,993</u>	<u>1,213,193</u>
Total Operating Revenue	37,639,900	34,985,556	33,585,012
Cost of water sold	19,909,486	20,830,850	19,101,196
Other operating costs	<u>13,067,538</u>	<u>12,876,638</u>	<u>11,718,455</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>32,977,024</u>	<u>33,707,488</u>	<u>30,819,651</u>
Operating Income	4,662,876	1,278,068	2,765,361
Nonoperating expenses	(5,597,562)	(6,178,709)	(19,943,342)
Capital contributions	<u>8,854,373</u>	<u>10,013,339</u>	<u>8,458,044</u>
Changes in Net Position	7,919,687	5,112,698	(8,719,937)
Net position, beginning of year	<u>58,541,785</u>	<u>53,429,087</u>	<u>62,149,024</u>
Net Position, End of Year	<u>\$ 66,461,472</u>	<u>\$ 58,541,785</u>	<u>\$ 53,429,087</u>

Results of Operations

Operating revenues are received principally from water sales, administrative dues, and conservation charges. Cascade commenced water sales in 2004 upon acquisition of the Seattle Water Contract from Seattle Public Utilities. Cascade collects capital contributions from its members. These contributions consist of Regional Capital Facilities Charges (RCFC's) and donated systems. RCFC's are due from members for new residential equivalent customers connecting to the members' systems. Donated systems consisted of a donation of a portion of the Bellevue Issaquah pipeline in 2004 valued at \$9,208,077.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Results of Operations (Continued)

Conservation charges decreased by 31.1% in 2015 to \$843,102 from \$1,223,993 in 2014 as the corresponding conservation budget was reduced as well. Total operating revenues for 2015 were \$37,639,900 compared to \$34,985,556 for 2014, an increase of 1.7%, attributable to increased demand share charges. The cost of water sold decreased by 4.4% because in 2015 Seattle reduced our cost by 10% during a summer drought curtailment. The increased demand share revenue coupled with the water cost savings resulted in a 264.8% increase in operating income for 2015. Nonoperating income/expenses decreased by 9.4% due a decrease in interest expense. Capital contributions were down 11.6% in 2015 over 2014 but were still higher than what was budgeted. Overall net assets increased by 54.9% in 2015.

Capital Assets and Long-Term Debt

The capital assets of Cascade increased \$6.0 million in 2015 due to ongoing capital projects. Capital asset expenditures have been funded from capital contributions and the 2006, 2009, and 2012 revenue bonds.

In 2012, Cascade issued revenue bonds in the amount of \$42,695,000. The proceeds of this obligation were used in 2012 and 2013 to acquire independent supply production capacity (by purchasing RCFC credits from Cascade members), to restructure the Tacoma Water Contract, to extend the Seattle Water Contract, and to fund Lake Tapps capital improvements.

In 2014, Cascade issued revenue bonds in the amount of \$29,220,000. The proceeds of this obligation were used to advance refund the 2006 bonds.

Seattle Water Contract - The Seattle water contract entitles Cascade to a specified amount of water each year for a fifty-year period ending December 31, 2053. The amount of the block can be amended based on new members joining Cascade or existing members withdrawing from Cascade prior to December 31, 2011, or a reduction in water yield available to Seattle due to an order of an appropriate federal or state regulatory agency. At the end of the contract term, Cascade may continue to purchase up to 5.3 million gallons per day (mgd) for members that cannot be economically served by any other means. In December 2008, this agreement was amended to entitle Cascade to a supplemental block of additional water through December 31, 2023.

In 2013, the negotiations were finalized that extend the contract with Seattle by 10 years, to 2063. The new contract extends current capacity of 30.3 mgd through 2039 and then ramps down throughout the remaining years. Under the contract extension, Cascade makes three scheduled capacity reservation payments to Seattle; the first payment was \$5 million in 2013 using bond proceeds, with subsequent payments in 2018 and 2024. Ratification of the contract occurred in July 2013.

Amortization of the Seattle water contract cost is based on the ratio of water to be supplied in that calendar year to total water to be supplied during the contract. Amortization expense for this contract was \$561,775 and \$561,775 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Capital Assets and Long-Term Debt (Continued)

Tacoma Water Contract - In December 2012, a new contract was signed with Tacoma. The new contract restructures the prior Tacoma supply contract, and it clarifies Cascade's rights and responsibilities for the previously purchased capacity to enable and transfer to specific third parties through a joint offering. Under the new contract, minimum water purchase volumes have been replaced by a structured capacity reservation schedule and a new capacity commitment of 8.0 mgd provided to Cascade through 2042. The 2012 bond proceeds are funding initial payments to Tacoma of \$20 million, which started with a payment of \$10 million in January 2013.

Prior costs incurred to obtain the 2005 Tacoma water contract consist of system development charges of \$16,484,000 and capacity reservation fees of \$9,420,442. The system development charges relate to the base amount of water, and capacity reservation fees relate to the additional water to be supplied. As part of the agreement with Tacoma, Cascade and Tacoma jointly offered the 2005 contract water supply to four cities (City of Bonney Lake, City of Auburn, City of Buckley, and City of Sumner) in 2013. In 2013, the City of Auburn agreed to purchase 2.5 mgd of the system development charges for \$7,893,300 and have an option to purchase all the capacity reservation fee portion of the 2005 Tacoma contract for \$1,427,864 with the option extending through June 2017.

In 2011, the City of Bonney Lake agreed to purchase \$2,747,334 as a base amount of 2005 Tacoma water contract from Cascade for the system development charge that Cascade had paid to Tacoma. In 2013, the City of Bonney Lake agreed to purchase an additional portion of the 2005 Tacoma water contract for \$391,222.

Interest Capitalization - Interest costs incurred for the acquisition and/or construction of assets are subject to capitalization based on the guidelines established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 34 and 62. Interest paid was \$6,846,632 and \$7,940,605 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Total interest incurred on bonds for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was \$7,171,223 and \$7,700,178, respectively. No interest was capitalized in 2015 and 2014.

System Infrastructure - In February 2012, a pipe leak at a delivery point of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) water to a Cascade member utility (City of Tukwila) has prompted a review by attorneys and engineers of SPU and Cascade to determine which agency is financially responsible for pipe leaks and other unforeseeable incidents at water points of delivery, and to determine exactly at which physical system points each agency bears responsibility. The outcome of this review may lead to an increased annual operational financial obligation for Cascade.

Barrier Apron Improvement - In 2015, in coordination with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and other interested parties, (Tribes, State and Federal fishery agencies) Cascade replaced the severely damaged downstream apron on the Barrier Structure with a newly designed and improved apron. The USACE Mud Mountain Dam Fish Passage Barrier Structure Apron Repair project (the Apron Repair Project) was a requirement of Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) action item under the Mud Mountain Biological Opinion and Conference Opinion issued to the USACE by the National Marine Fisheries Service in October 2014 (Bi-Op). Cascade performed the apron replacement on behalf of the USACE under the 2010 Cooperative Agreement. As with other Barrier Structure activities, the USACE was responsible for environmental and regulatory coordination, and obtaining all applicable environmental authorizations necessary to carry out the work.

Pipeline Routing: Tacoma Cascade Pipeline - The Tacoma Cascade Pipeline (TCP) is an eighteen-mile pipeline extending from the Tacoma Second Supply Pipeline to the Bellevue Issaquah pipeline. The TCP will deliver Tacoma water supply to Cascade members. Cascade has acquired property and easements for the entire eighteen-mile route, with the exception of portions along King County (County) roads for which a franchise with the County will be sought.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Projects in Process

The TCP project consists of three segments: 1) the 1.1-mile segment at the north end of the route along SR-900; 2) the northern segment between Segment 1 and Lake Youngs; and 3) the central segment between Lake Youngs to the Tacoma Second Supply Pipeline.

Construction of Segment 1 has been completed and the asset began depreciation in 2012. The pipeline's useful life is dependent on soil conditions, environment, and other factors. Cascade will use a 50-year useful life for depreciation, which is consistent with other utilities' practices (like Seattle Public Utilities). Although construction is complete, the project will not be finalized until the Washington State Department of Transportation signs a final acceptance letter.

Prior to 2012, all three segments were considered as a single combined TCP project for the work and expenditures that occurred along the entire project. Starting in 2012, however, Segments 1, 2, and 3 are being accounted for separately, since separate decisions have been made for the future of each segment.

Previously capitalized expenditures related to Segment 2 were expensed in 2012 since it had become less probable that this segment would ultimately be put into service due to its complicated property and routing configuration.

Minor work and expenditures will continue on Segment 3, however, as it is far more likely than Segment 2 to ultimately be put into service. Segment 3 will not be operational until 2024 at the earliest. Starting in 2012, Segment 3 has been placed into "on hold" status until the project is more fully resumed. All or portions of the TCP is being evaluated for eventual integration into a region-wide water delivery resiliency system, and will be held as an asset by Cascade until the evaluation is completed by 2016 or so.

Lake Tapps Milfoil Control - Due to a delayed refilling of the Lake Tapps Reservoir in 2015, Cascade conducted only minimal milfoil control efforts in 2015. Annual inspections and maintenance will continue as necessary to control the invasive weed.

White River System Operator - Veolia Water started working on January 1, 2012, under contract by Cascade, to operate and maintain the White River - Lake Tapps Reservoir Project. For 2014, the fixed fee budget was \$1.5 million and a variable budget of \$1.3 million. A Project Operations and Maintenance Manual was completed in 2012.

Security Improvements - After a security strategic plan was performed by Carollo Engineers in 2015, a study was conducted to look at each Cascade asset and evaluate them to determine the potential range of threats, liability, and impacts on operation in the event of a loss. Each asset was prioritized using a pairwise comparison, then prioritizations were refined based on operational importance, public safety, and economic value. Each asset was prioritized high, medium, or low. Cascade is going out to bid in early 2016 to implement some of the high priority recommendations.

Powerhouse Valve #3 Replacement - An options analysis has been completed for powerhouse valve #3, with the recommended option being a configuration utilizing a new "plunger" valve and installing it in a cast in place of the concrete vault on the south side of the tailrace just outside the powerhouse. If successful, the new valve will dissipate energy, provide more flow capacity, be able to control flow, and have a longer service life. Next steps are to get to 60% design and order the valve from the VAG manufacturer.

Bellevue Issaquah Pipeline (BIP) - A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in 2013 between Cascade and the City of Bellevue to operate and maintain the BIP. A project to install meters along the BIP began in 2014 and will be completed in early 2016.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Projects in Process (Continued)

2012 Transmission and Supply Plan Update - The Cascade Water Alliance Board of Directors adopted the 2012 Transmission and Supply Plan (the 2012 TSP) in July 2012. This 2012 TSP fulfills Cascade's responsibility to submit a water system plan to the Washington State Department of Health. In addition, it supplements information on regional supply provided by each of its members in their respective individual water system plans. Cascade updates its TSP every six years. The TSP update includes analysis of regional growth and water demand. These have demonstrated that Cascade members will need less water than was anticipated in the 2004 TSP. The outcome of the TSP update determines Cascade's capital investment program for the next several years, including the extent of contracting with Seattle and Tacoma for water and the development schedule for Lake Tapps and water transmission systems. In 2010, Cascade determined that expenditure for TSP updates do not meet the criteria for being a capitalizable intangible asset, so expenditures for TSP update expenditures have been expensed accordingly.

Eastside Reservoir - Like the TCP, the Eastside Reservoir project is being evaluated for eventual integration into a region-wide water delivery resiliency system, and will be held as an asset by Cascade until the evaluation is completed by 2016 or so.

Electronic Document Management System - Cascade began implementing an electronic document management system (EDMS) at its main office in Bellevue and at the White River Lake Tapps facilities in 2013. Implementation continued through 2015 in a phased-in approach. The EDMS will improve document storage, access, security, and retrieval.

Other White River Lake Tapps Projects - Several repair and upgrade projects, as described more fully in Cascade's Capital Improvement Program, were advanced in 2015 and will continue in 2016, including:

- Network and IT architecture upgrades
- SCADA upgrades
- Valve house controls upgrade

Invested Funds

In accordance with state investment laws, Cascade's governing body has entered into a formal interlocal agreement with Cascade's *ex officio* treasurer, King County, to have all its funds not required for immediate expenditure to be invested in the King County Investment Pool (Pool).

As of December 31, 2015, Cascade had the following investments:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Effective Duration</u>
King County Investment Pool	\$ 49,231,887	0.93 years

Impaired Investments - As of December 31, 2015, all impaired commercial paper investments have completed enforcement events. The King County impaired investment pool (Impaired Pool) held one commercial paper asset where the Impaired Pool accepted an exchange offer and is receiving the cash flows from the investment's underlying securities. Additionally, the Impaired Pool accepted the cash out option for the residual investments in four commercial paper assets that were part of completed enforcement events. Cascade's share of the impaired investment pool principal is \$119,944, and Cascade's fair value of these investments is \$75,270.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Invested Funds (Continued)

Interest Rate Risk - As of December 31, 2015, the Pool's average duration was 0.93 years. As a means of limiting its exposure to rising interest rates, securities purchased in the Pool must have a final maturity or weighted average life of no longer than five years. While the Pool's market value is calculated on a monthly basis, unrealized gains and losses are not distributed to participants. The Pool distributes earnings monthly using an amortized cost methodology.

Credit Risk - As of December 31, 2015, Cascade's investment in the Pool was not rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). In compliance with state statutes, Pool policies authorize investments in U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. agency securities and mortgage-backed securities, municipal securities (rated at least "A" by two NRSROs), commercial paper (rated at least the equivalent of "A-1" by two NRSROs), certificates of deposit issued by qualified public depositories, repurchase agreements, and the Local Government Investment Pool managed by the Washington State Treasurer's Office.

Budget Variances

Capital expenditures in 2015 related to the White River Lake Tapps project improvements, the Tacoma contract, and other major capital expenditures, were held within budget.

RCFC revenue was budgeted to be \$8.4 million in 2015, but actual RCFC revenue was \$8.9 million due to improved construction growth in Cascade's service area. RCFC revenue is budgeted to remain around \$8.4 million in 2015.

Wholesale water costs were lower than budgeted by \$0.65 million because costs were reduced 10% by Seattle during Seattle's water drought curtailment.

Interest revenue in 2015 was \$0.75 million lower than budgeted due to prevailing and persistent low interest rates nationally.

The administrative and conservation dues were within budget in 2015.

Maintenance costs were \$1.1 million higher in 2015 than 2014 due to repairs done to a portion of the existing concrete flume that had exposed rebar.

USACE reimbursement was \$1.8 million higher than budget because of the barrier apron replacement.

Total fund expenditures were held within budgeted amounts in 2015. In the Operating Fund, conservation program rebate expenditures were \$99,935 less than budgeted due to the lower than anticipated interest in the commercial rebate program. Unexpended funds are carried forward in fund balances and are incorporated into Cascade's rate model for future year budgeting and planning.

Requests for Information

This financial report has been prepared to provide readers with a general overview of the Cascade Water Alliance's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report, or requests for additional information, should be addressed to the Director of Finance and Administration's Office, 520 112th Ave. NE, Suite 400, Bellevue, WA 98004.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Statements of Net Position
December 31, 2015 and 2014**

	2015	2014
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,360,258	\$ 8,033,636
Regional capital facility charges receivable	1,399,928	2,635,349
Restricted cash and cash equivalents, current portion	5,306,040	5,202,000
Interest rebate receivable	379,356	377,320
Water rights receivable, current portion	391,222	391,222
Prepaid expenses	190,220	83,279
Total Current Assets	21,027,024	16,722,806
Capital Assets Net of Accumulated Depreciation:		
Equipment and furniture	1,579,426	1,554,939
Seattle water contract	22,267,611	22,267,611
Tacoma water contract	121,168,551	121,168,551
SR900 pipeline	10,021,201	10,021,201
Bellevue Issaquah pipeline	22,176,148	22,100,209
Lake Tapps buildings	2,641,128	2,087,707
	179,854,065	179,200,218
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(20,402,537)	(14,994,158)
	159,451,528	164,206,060
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:		
Lake Tapps - infrastructure	95,063,834	84,156,733
Projects in process and assets not yet in service-		
Tacoma Cascade Pipeline	17,027,223	17,027,223
Eastside reservoir	262,567	262,567
Total Capital Assets	271,805,152	265,652,583
Restricted cash and cash equivalents, net of current portion	30,345,224	45,464,144
Water rights receivable, net of current portion	9,066,968	9,458,190
Bond issuance costs, net of accumulated amortization of \$74,264 (\$66,446 - 2014)	5,211	13,029
Total Assets	\$ 332,249,579	\$ 337,310,752
Deferred Outflows of Resources:		
Advanced refunding of debt	\$ 2,194,966	\$ 2,379,014
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 2,194,966	\$ 2,379,014

See accompanying notes.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Statements of Net Position (Continued)
December 31, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Liabilities and Net Position		
Payables and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,434,917	\$ 3,297,693
Payables related to Tacoma water contract, current portion	5,306,040	5,202,000
Long-term debt payable from unrestricted assets, current portion	<u>40,876</u>	<u>40,673</u>
	6,781,833	8,540,366
Payables From Restricted Assets:		
Accrued interest	2,807,346	2,666,833
Long-term debt, current portion	<u>5,375,000</u>	<u>5,125,000</u>
	<u>8,182,346</u>	<u>7,791,833</u>
Total Current Liabilities	14,964,179	16,332,199
Long-Term Debt, Net of Current Portion:		
Long-term debt payable from unrestricted assets	353,862	393,539
Long-term debt payable from restricted assets	<u>132,805,000</u>	<u>138,180,000</u>
	133,158,862	138,573,539
Other Long-Term Liabilities:		
Payable related to Seattle water contract	17,000,000	17,000,000
Payable related to Tacoma water contract, net of current portion	94,132,647	99,438,687
Bond premium, net of amortization	<u>8,727,385</u>	<u>9,803,556</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 267,983,073</u>	<u>\$ 281,147,981</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Net Position:		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	\$ 21,519,773	\$ 19,925,423
Restricted for-		
Debt service	23,158,989	24,986,410
Unrestricted	<u>21,782,710</u>	<u>13,629,952</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 66,461,472</u>	<u>\$ 58,541,785</u>

See accompanying notes.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Operating Revenue:		
Water sales	\$ 31,761,946	\$ 30,747,222
Administrative dues	2,966,435	3,014,341
Conservation program and other	<u>2,911,519</u>	<u>1,223,993</u>
Total Operating Revenue	37,639,900	34,985,556
Operating Expenses:		
Cost of water sold	19,909,486	20,830,850
Salaries and benefits	1,713,505	1,585,345
Professional services	2,004,493	2,073,509
Conservation rebate program	123,891	245,125
Depreciation and amortization	4,337,360	5,028,940
Communication and public information	305,576	313,274
Office expenses	75,565	69,354
Rent	165,874	163,422
Maintenance	1,017,312	5,050
Operations	3,066,216	3,066,444
Insurance	96,468	96,488
Dues and subscriptions	43,260	29,666
Miscellaneous	<u>118,018</u>	<u>200,021</u>
Total Operating Expenses	32,977,024	33,707,488
Operating Income	4,662,876	1,278,068
Nonoperating Revenue (Expenses):		
BAB rebate	1,133,996	1,148,494
Interest income	448,253	603,938
Interest expense	(7,179,811)	(7,942,741)
Gain (loss) on disposition of assets	<u>11,600</u>	<u>11,600</u>
Total Nonoperating Expenses	(5,597,562)	(6,178,709)
Capital Contributions (Expenses):		
Regional capital facilities charges	<u>8,854,373</u>	<u>10,013,339</u>
Total Capital Contributions	8,854,373	10,013,339
Total Change in Net Position	7,919,687	5,112,698
Net position, beginning of year	<u>58,541,785</u>	<u>53,429,087</u>
Net Position, End of Year	\$ 66,461,472	\$ 58,541,785

See accompanying notes.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Statements of Cash Flows
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Cash received from members	\$ 37,639,900	\$ 34,985,556
Cash paid to suppliers	(28,758,156)	(27,499,955)
Cash paid to and for employees	(1,710,712)	(1,589,509)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	7,171,032	5,896,092
Cash Flows From Capital and Related Financing Activities:		
Regional capital facilities charges	10,089,794	10,165,162
Water rights receivable	391,222	391,222
Proceeds from long-term debt		29,220,000
Payments on long-term debt	(5,164,474)	(44,982,644)
Acquisition of capital assets	(16,720,819)	(9,635,895)
Loss on disposition of assets		74,698
BAB rebate proceeds	1,133,996	1,148,494
Interest paid on bonds and other long-term debt	(7,037,262)	(8,270,042)
Net Cash Used in Capital and Related Financing Activities	(17,307,543)	(21,889,005)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Interest received	448,253	603,938
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	448,253	603,938
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(9,688,258)	(15,388,975)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	58,699,780	74,088,755
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	\$ 49,011,522	\$ 58,699,780
Cash and Cash Equivalents Balance is Composed of the Following at December 31:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,360,258	\$ 8,033,636
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	35,651,264	50,666,144
	\$ 49,011,522	\$ 58,699,780

See accompanying notes.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Statements of Cash Flows (Continued)
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash From Operating Activities:		
Net operating income	\$ 4,662,876	\$ 1,278,068
Adjustments to reconcile change in operating income to net cash provided by operating activities-		
Depreciation and amortization	4,337,360	5,028,940
Changes in operating assets and liabilities-		
Prepaid expenses	(106,941)	29,206
Payables and accrued liabilities	<u>(1,722,263)</u>	<u>(440,122)</u>
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>\$ 7,171,032</u>	<u>\$ 5,896,092</u>

See accompanying notes.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Note 1 - Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Cascade Water Alliance (Cascade), established on April 1, 1999, converted from a Washington State nonprofit corporation to a Washington State joint municipal utility service corporation on July 12, 2012, in accordance with the Interlocal Cooperation Act (Chapter 39.34) and the Non-Profit Miscellaneous and Mutual Corporations Act (Chapter 24.06) as a public governmental body and an instrumentality of its members. Cascade exercises essential governmental functions by providing wholesale water to meet the current and future water supply needs of its members in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner.

Cascade members include the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond and Tukwila, along with the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District and the Skyway Water and Sewer District.

Basis of Accounting - Cascade uses the accrual basis of accounting and the total economic resources measurement focus. Expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, and revenues are recorded when earned.

Cash and Cash Equivalents - For purposes of the statements of cash flows, Cascade considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less and investments in the King County Treasurer's Investment Pool to be cash equivalents. Investments in the King County Treasurer's Investment Pool are stated at fair value.

Concentration of Credit Risk - Cascade maintains cash balances at financial institutions that at times exceed federally insured limits.

As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the King County Investment Pool (the Pool) which holds Cascade investments was not rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). In compliance with state statutes, Pool policies authorize investments in U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. agency securities and mortgage-backed securities, municipal securities (rated at least "A" by two NRSROs), commercial paper (rated at least the equivalent of "A-1" by two NRSROs), certificates of deposit issued by qualified public depositories, repurchase agreements, and the Local Government Investment Pool managed by the Washington State Treasurer's office.

Capital Assets - Capital assets purchased at more than \$5,000, are recorded at cost. Water systems conveyed to Cascade by bill of sale are recorded at the contributing party's cost, contract price or appraised value. Major expenses for capital assets, including capital leases and major repairs that increase useful lives, are capitalized. Maintenance, repairs, and minor renewals are expensed when incurred. Estimated useful lives for capital assets are as follows:

Computer equipment	5 years
Furniture and equipment	3 - 7 years
Pipelines	50 years

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 1 - Continued

Cascade has elected to use the modified approach of accounting for the Lake Tapps asset. The modified approach allows Cascade to report as expenses in lieu of depreciation, infrastructure expenditures which maintain the asset but do not add to or improve the asset. Additions and improvements to the Lake Tapps asset are capitalized.

Regional Capital Facility Charges (RCFC) Receivable - RCFC receivables are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Balances still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to change in net position and a credit to accounts receivable.

Deferred Outflow of Resources - Deferred outflow of resources is the consumption of net position that is applicable to a future reporting period. A deferred outflow of resources involves no consumption of resources that results in either a net decrease in assets or a net increase in liabilities. Deferred outflows of resources presented in this manner on the accompanying financial statements are related to the advanced refunding of bonds.

Long-Term Debt - Long-term debt is reported net of discounts, premiums and issuance costs. Discounts, premiums and issuance costs incurred on issuance of long-term debt are amortized by the interest method over the period the related debt is outstanding. A portion of the long-term debt is funded by Build America Bonds and is eligible for an annual interest rebate of up to 35%. The amount of the subsidy payment for the Build America Bonds was reduced by 7.3% through September 30, 2015 and then reduced by 6.8% through September 30, 2016.

Net Position - Net position is classified in the following three components: 1) Invested in capital assets, net of related debt - This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds is not included in the calculation of invested in capital assets, net of related debt. Rather, that portion of the debt is included in the same net position component as the unspent proceeds. 2) Restricted - This component of net position consists of restrictions placed on net asset use by external creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors or contributors. 3) Unrestricted net position - This component of net position consists of net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

Revenues and Expenses - Revenues and expenses are distinguished between operating and nonoperating items. Operating revenues result from providing products in connection with the water system and services to members. Operating expenses include the costs associated with providing the products and services, general and administrative expenses and depreciation and amortization on capital assets. Nonoperating includes interest income rebates and expense, bond issuance costs, and losses on disposition of assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting these definitions are classified as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

Regional Capital Facilities Charges (RCFC) - RCFCs are paid to Cascade by each member for each new equivalent residential unit connected to its water distribution system, and are intended to allocate growth costs to those members that require capacity increases due to growth in customer demand. The RCFC for both 2015 and 2014 is \$6,005 per new Cascade Equivalent Residential Unit (CERU).

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 1 - Continued

Federal Tax Status - Cascade Water Alliance is an authority and instrumentality of its governmental members, organized as a joint municipal utility service corporation pursuant to Washington State's Interlocal Cooperation Act (Chapter 39.34 RCW). As a governmental entity formed by political subdivisions of the State of Washington, it is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code. As an instrumentality of its members, Cascade may issue obligations, the interest of which is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 103 of the Code.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate, during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Reclassifications - Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2014 financial statements to conform to the 2015 presentation. Such reclassifications have no effect on the previously reported change in net position or net position.

Compensated Absences - At termination of employment, employees may receive cash payments for accumulated vacation leave, based on current wages at termination for which an accrual has been provided.

Note 2 - Capitalizable Contracts

Seattle Water Contract - The Seattle Water Contract entitles Cascade to a specified amount (block) of water each year for a fifty year period ending December 31, 2053. The amount of the block can be amended based on new members joining Cascade prior to December 31, 2011, or a reduction in water yield available to Seattle due to an order of an appropriate federal or state regulatory agency. At the end of the contract term, Cascade may continue to purchase up to 5.3 million gallons per day (mgd) for members that cannot be economically served by any other means. In December 2008, this agreement was amended to entitle Cascade to a supplemental block of additional water through December 31, 2023.

In July 2013, a new contract was signed between the City of Seattle and Cascade which extends the contract by ten years, to 2063. The contract extends the current capacity of 30.3 mgd through 2039 and then ramps down through the remaining years. Under the contract extension, Cascade would make three scheduled capacity reservation payments to Seattle; the first payment of \$5 million was made in July 2013, with subsequent payments of \$12 million and \$5 million due in December 2018 and December 2024, respectively.

Amortization of the Seattle Water Contract cost is based on the ratio of water to be supplied in that calendar year to total water to be supplied during the contract. Amortization expense for this contract was \$561,775 for both years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The Tacoma Water Contract - In December 2012, a water contract was signed between City of Tacoma and Cascade which superseded the Tacoma Water Contract signed in 2005. Under the water contract, minimum water purchase volumes have been replaced by a structured capacity reservation schedule, and a capacity commitment of 8.0 mgd is provided to Cascade through 2042. Cascade is required to make an annual installment payment in a range of \$1 million to \$6.8 million through 2042. The 2012 Tacoma Water Contract cost is amortized over the life of the contract which is 30 years. Amortization expense for this contract was \$3,991,356 for both years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 2 - Continued

The system development charges relate to the base amount of water and the capacity reservation fees relate to the additional water to be supplied under the 2005 Tacoma Water Contract. The additional water supply will be amortized based on the ratio of the additional water to be supplied in that calendar year to total additional water to be supplied during the contract.

During 2011, the City of Bonney Lake entered into an agreement with Cascade for water rights purchase of the 2005 Tacoma Water Contract for a total of \$2,747,334. In 2013, City of Bonney Lake purchased an additional portion of water rights that extended the contract to 2019, with an annual payment of \$391,222 through maturity. At both December 31, 2015 and 2014, the water rights receivable of \$1,564,890 and \$1,956,112, respectively, is included in the statements of net position.

During 2013, the City of Auburn entered into an agreement with Cascade for water rights purchase of the 2005 Tacoma Water Contract for a total of \$7,893,300 plus an annual interest at 3.20% starting in 2017 that expires 2029, with annual interest payments of \$252,586 from 2017 to 2019 and with annual principal and interest payments of \$934,805 thereafter. City of Auburn has an option to purchase all of the capacity reservation fees of the 2005 Tacoma Water Contract for a total price of \$1,427,864 with the option expiring June 2017. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, the water rights receivable of \$7,893,300 for both years is included in the statements of net position.

Interest Capitalization - Interest costs incurred for the acquisition and/or construction of assets are subject to capitalization based on the guidelines established by generally accepted accounting principles.

Total interest incurred on bonds for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, was \$7,177,821 and \$7,700,178, respectively. The interest rebate related to the Build America Bonds was \$1,133,996 and \$1,148,494 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, and is included as an offset to interest expense in the statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position. No interest was capitalized in 2015 and 2014.

Project in Process -

Tacoma Cascade Pipeline - A pipeline extending from the Tacoma Water supply pipelines is under development to connect to the Bellevue Issaquah pipeline and deliver the Tacoma water supply to Cascade members. During the year ended December 31, 2009, management opted to defer completion of this project. The Transmission and Supply Plan was adopted by Cascade in July 2012 (and approved by King County in February 2013 and by the State Department of Health in March 2013) and projects 2024 as the estimated in-service date for this pipeline.

Eastside Reservoir - The Eastside Reservoir is a concrete reservoir and booster pump station constructed and owned by the City of Seattle to serve Cascade's members. The purchase of the Eastside Reservoir by Cascade was considered probable when the Tacoma Cascade Pipeline was moving forward and the project designs were capitalized. When the completion of the Tacoma Cascade Pipeline was deferred on December 31, 2009, plans to purchase the reservoir were deferred as well. In addition to its use as a potential storage facility for Tacoma water, Cascade is currently evaluating the purchase of the Eastside Reservoir as a method of providing earthquake resiliency to its members.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 3 - Cash and Cash Equivalents

In accordance with state investment laws, Cascade's governing body has entered into a formal interlocal agreement with Cascade's *ex officio* treasurer, King County, to have all its funds not required for immediate expenditure to be invested in the King County Investment Pool (Pool). Investments in the Pool are stated at the fair value of the Pool's underlying assets. As of December 31, 2015, the net asset value at fair value price per share was \$0.9988. The King County Executive Finance Committee provides oversight of the Pool.

As of December 31, Cascade had the following on deposit in the pool:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Unrestricted cash and equivalents	\$ 13,596,696	\$ 8,037,993
Restricted cash and equivalents	<u>35,694,106</u>	<u>50,676,282</u>
	49,290,802	58,714,275
Add fair value adjustment	(58,916)	(11,747)
Less checks in excess of cash	<u>(220,364)</u>	<u>(2,748)</u>
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 49,011,522</u>	<u>\$ 58,699,780</u>

Impaired Investments

As of December 31, 2015, all impaired commercial paper investments have completed enforcement events. The King County impaired investment pool (Impaired Pool) held one commercial paper asset where the Impaired Pool accepted an exchange offer and is receiving the cash flows from the investment's underlying securities. The Impaired Pool also held the residual investments in two commercial paper assets that were part of completed enforcement events, where the Impaired Pool accepted the cash-out option. Cascade's share of the impaired investment pool principal is \$119,944 and Cascade's fair value of these investments is \$75,270.

Interest Rate Risk

As of December 31, 2015, the Pool's average duration was 0.93 years. As a means of limiting its exposure to rising interest rates, securities purchased in the Pool must have a final maturity, or weighted average life, no longer than five years. While the Pool's market value is calculated on a monthly basis, unrealized gains and losses are not distributed to participants. The Pool distributes earnings monthly using an amortized cost methodology.

Credit Risk

As of December 31, 2015, Cascade's investment in the Pool was not rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). In compliance with state statutes, Pool policies authorize investments in U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. agency securities and mortgage-backed securities, bank corporate note (rated at least "A" by two NRSROs), municipal securities (rated at least "A" by two NRSROs), commercial paper (rated at least the equivalent of "A-1" by two NRSROs), certificates of deposits issued by qualified public depositories, repurchase agreements, and the Local Government Investment Pool managed by the Washington State Treasurer's office.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 4 - Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

In accordance with the bond agreements, separate restricted accounts are required to be established. The assets held in these accounts are restricted for specific uses, including construction, debt service and other special reserve requirements. Current year disbursements from the restricted asset accounts are included in total expenditures in the financial statements.

Restricted cash and cash equivalents are presented in the statements of net position as of December 31 as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents, current portion	\$ 5,306,040	\$ 5,202,000
Restricted cash and cash equivalents, long-term	<u>30,345,224</u>	<u>45,464,144</u>
	<u>\$ 35,651,264</u>	<u>\$ 50,666,144</u>

Changes in restricted assets for the year ended December 31, 2015, are as follows:

	<u>Balance 12/31/2014</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Net Return</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2015</u>
Revenue bond funds	\$ 24,986,711	\$ 8,330,241	\$ (10,236,953)	\$ 74,555	\$ 23,154,554
Construction funds	<u>25,679,433</u>	<u>5,034,773</u>	<u>(18,306,663)</u>	<u>89,167</u>	<u>12,496,710</u>
	<u>\$ 50,666,144</u>	<u>\$ 13,365,014</u>	<u>\$ (28,543,616)</u>	<u>\$ 163,722</u>	<u>\$ 35,651,264</u>

For the year ended December 31, 2015, changes in restricted assets included interest earnings of \$89,563 and unrealized losses of \$15,008 for the revenue bond funds and interest earnings of \$117,001 and unrealized losses of \$27,834 for the construction funds.

Changes in restricted assets for the year ended December 31, 2014, are as follows:

	<u>Balance 12/31/2013</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Net Return</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2014</u>
Revenue bond funds	\$ 26,569,680	\$ 22,477,405	\$ (24,252,215)	\$ 191,841	\$ 24,986,711
Construction funds	<u>30,802,188</u>	<u>4,904,464</u>	<u>(10,178,033)</u>	<u>150,814</u>	<u>25,679,433</u>
	<u>\$ 57,371,868</u>	<u>\$ 27,381,869</u>	<u>\$ (34,430,248)</u>	<u>\$ 342,655</u>	<u>\$ 50,666,144</u>

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 5 - Capital Assets

The following summarizes the changes in capital assets of Cascade:

	Balance 12/31/2014	Additions	Transfers	Deletions	Balance 12/31/2015
Capital Assets					
Being Depreciated:					
Equipment and furniture	\$ 1,554,939	\$ 37,980	\$ -	\$ (13,493)	\$ 1,579,426
Seattle water contract	22,267,611				22,267,611
Tacoma water 2005 contract	1,427,864				1,427,864
Tacoma water 2012 contract	119,740,687				119,740,687
SR900 pipeline	10,021,201				10,021,201
Bellevue Issaquah pipeline	22,100,209	75,939			22,176,148
Lake Tapps buildings	2,087,707	553,421			2,641,128
Total Capital Assets					
Being Depreciated	179,200,218	667,340		(13,493)	179,854,065
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(14,994,158)	(5,419,215)		10,836	(20,402,537)
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	164,206,060	(4,751,875)		(2,657)	159,451,528
Capital Assets Not					
Being Depreciated:					
Lake Tapps - infrastructure	84,156,733	10,907,101			95,063,834
Tacoma Cascade pipeline	17,027,223				17,027,223
Eastside reservoir	262,567				262,567
Total Capital Assets Not					
Being Depreciated	101,446,523	10,907,101			112,353,624
Total Capital Assets	\$ 265,652,583	\$ 6,155,226	\$ -	\$ (2,657)	\$ 271,805,152

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 5 - Continued

	Restated Balance 12/31/2013	Additions	Transfers	Deletions	Balance 12/31/2014
Capital Assets					
Being Depreciated:					
Equipment and furniture	\$ 1,384,317	\$ 197,623	\$ -	\$ (27,001)	\$ 1,554,939
Seattle water contract	22,267,611				22,267,611
Tacoma water 2005 contract	1,427,864				1,427,864
Tacoma water 2012 contract	119,740,687				119,740,687
SR900 pipeline	10,021,201				10,021,201
Bellevue Issaquah pipeline	22,049,184	51,025			22,100,209
Lake Tapps buildings		9,542	2,078,165		2,087,707
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	176,890,864	258,190	2,078,165	(27,001)	179,200,218
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(9,458,311)	(5,549,347)		13,500	(14,994,158)
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	167,432,553	(5,291,157)	2,078,165	(13,501)	164,206,060
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:					
Lake Tapps - infrastructure	79,012,866	7,222,032	(2,078,165)		84,156,733
Tacoma Cascade pipeline	17,027,223				17,027,223
Eastside reservoir	262,567				262,567
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	96,302,656	7,222,032	(2,078,165)		101,446,523
Total Capital Assets	\$ 263,735,209	\$ 1,930,875	\$ -	\$ (13,501)	\$ 265,652,583

During the year ended December 31, 2014, Cascade made a change in accounting policy over certain buildings originally reported as part the purchase of the Lake Tapps and included in infrastructure assets. As a result of the change in accounting policy, total building assets of \$1,755,822 were transferred from the Lake Tapps infrastructure to buildings as reported in depreciable capital assets.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Note 6 - Long-Term Debt - Unrestricted

Long-term debt payable from unrestricted assets consisted of the following at December 31:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>Public Works Trust Fund Loans (PWTF)</u>		
\$1,000,000 loan authorized, payable in equal annual principal payments based on the amount of the loan drawn to the payment due date with the first payment due July 2006 and the last payment due July 2025, plus interest at .50%, secured by net revenues.	\$ 394,738	\$ 434,212
Less current portion	<u>(40,876)</u>	<u>(40,673)</u>
Long-Term Portion	<u>\$ 353,862</u>	<u>\$ 393,539</u>

The estimated annual debt service requirements on long-term debt, payable from unrestricted assets are as follows:

For the Year Ending December 31,	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2016	\$ 40,876	\$ 1,953
2017	41,081	1,748
2018	41,286	1,543
2019	41,492	1,337
2020	41,700	1,129
2021 - 2022	84,026	1,632
2023 - 2025	<u>104,277</u>	<u>865</u>
	<u>\$ 394,738</u>	<u>\$ 10,207</u>

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Note 6 - Continued

Long-term debt, payable from unrestricted assets, activity was as follows:

	<u>Balance 12/31/2014</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Repayments</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2015</u>
2015-				
Loan #PW-05-691-PRE-142	\$ 434,212	\$ -	\$ (39,474)	\$ 394,738
	<u>\$ 434,212</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (39,474)</u>	<u>\$ 394,738</u>
	<u>Balance 12/31/2013</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Repayments</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2014</u>
2014-				
Loan #PW-05-691-PRE-142	\$ 473,685	\$ -	\$ (39,473)	\$ 434,212
	<u>\$ 473,685</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (39,473)</u>	<u>\$ 434,212</u>

Note 7 - Long-Term Debt - Restricted

Long-term debt outstanding payable from restricted assets consisted of the following at December 31:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>Revenue Bonds</u>		
\$29,220,000 issued on August 5, 2014 for advanced refunding of the 2006 bonds and to pay the costs of issuing and selling the bonds. The bond is payable from and secured by a pledge of net revenues and assets held in the bond fund and construction fund; principal due serially through the year 2029, interest payable semi-annually at 4.00 annual percentage rate.	\$ 29,220,000	\$ 29,220,000
\$42,695,000 issued on December 27, 2012 for restructuring the Tacoma water contract in 2012, extending the Seattle water contract, acquiring independent supply production capacity, funding Lake Tapps capital improvements and cost of issuing the bond. The bond is payable from and secured by a pledge of net revenues and investments held in the bond fund and construction fund; principal due serially through the year 2038, interest payable semi-annually at 3.31 annual percentage rate.	40,690,000	41,695,000

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 7 - Continued

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$80,095,000 issued October 15, 2009 for supporting capital program, providing for a debt service reserve and cost of issuing the bonds. The bonds are payable from and secured by a pledge of net revenues and investments held in the bond fund and construction fund.		
- \$4,940,000 term bonds due September 1, 2017, interest payable semi-annually 3.61 annual percentage rate.	2,530,000	4,940,000
- \$75,155,000 due serially through September 1, 2034, with interest payable semi-annually 3.61 annual percentage rate.	63,940,000	63,940,000
\$55,230,000 issued May 10, 2006 for supporting capital program, payment for Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District Loan and cost of issuing the bonds. The bonds are payable from and secured by a pledge of net revenues and investments held in the bond fund and construction fund.		
- \$29,490,000 due serially through the year 2023, interest payable semi-annually 4.50 to 5.00 annual percentage rate.		
- \$8,880,000 term bonds due September 1, 2026, with interest payable semi-annually at 4.75 annual percentage rate.		
- \$16,860,000 term bonds due September 1, 2031, with interest payable semi-annually at 5.00 annual percentage rate.	<u>1,800,000</u>	<u>3,510,000</u>
Total long-term debt	138,180,000	143,305,000
Less current portion	<u>(5,375,000)</u>	<u>(5,125,000)</u>
Long-Term Portion	<u>\$ 132,805,000</u>	<u>\$ 138,180,000</u>

The 2014 bonds were issued at a premium of \$4,396,430 which is being amortized over the life of the bonds. Amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$516,099 and \$25,696, respectively.

The 2012 bonds were issued at a premium of \$5,764,037 which is being amortized over the life of the bonds. Amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$330,487 and \$327,449, respectively.

The 2009 bonds were issued at a premium of \$761,955 which is being amortized over the life of the bonds. Amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$124,623 and \$114,294 respectively.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Note 7 - Continued

The 2006 bonds were issued at a premium of \$1,857,106 which is being amortized over the life of the bonds. Amortization expense was \$74,284 for both years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

On September 3, 2014, Cascade issued \$29,220,000 of Water System Refunding Revenue Bonds. The net proceeds of \$44,363,880 (after issuance costs of \$130,224) were used to advance refund a portion of the 2006 Series Revenue Bonds.

The net proceeds were used to purchase U.S. government securities. Those securities were deposited into an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide for future debt service payments on the refunded bonds. As a result, the refundable bonds are considered to be defeased, and the related liability for the bonds has been removed from Cascade's liabilities. This advanced refunding was undertaken to reduce total debt service payments over the next 15 years by \$17,630,530 and resulted in an economic gain of \$5,462,625.

The estimated annual debt service requirements on long-term debt payable from restricted assets are as follows:

For the Year Ending December 31,	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2016	\$ 5,375,000	\$ 6,823,707
2017	5,405,000	6,487,487
2018	5,605,000	6,233,097
2019	5,830,000	5,961,917
2020	6,070,000	5,676,845
2021 - 2024	26,945,000	19,486,318
2025 - 2028	31,665,000	13,736,801
2029 - 2032	27,425,000	8,071,993
2033 - 2038	23,860,000	3,064,513
	<u>\$ 138,180,000</u>	<u>\$ 75,542,678</u>

Long-term debt, payable from restricted assets, activity was as follows:

	<u>Balance 12/31/2014</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Repayments</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2015</u>
Revenue bonds	\$ 143,305,000	\$ -	\$ (5,125,000)	\$ 138,180,000

	<u>Balance 12/31/2013</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Repayments</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2014</u>
Revenue bonds	\$ 159,655,000	\$ 29,220,000	\$ (45,570,000)	\$ 143,305,000

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 8 - Commitments

Lease Commitments - Cascade leases office space under a noncancelable lease agreement expiring in July 2017. The lease calls for payments of \$6,999 per month through August 2012, increasing to \$13,999, for the first year, with additional annual stepped increases after the first year.

Future minimum rentals as of December 31 under noncancelable operating leases are as follows:

For the Year Ending December 31,

2016	\$ 186,561
2017	<u>118,318</u>
Total Minimum Rental Payments	<u><u>\$ 304,879</u></u>

Rent expense for operating leases totaled \$165,874 and \$163,422 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Contracts - Cascade has entered into contracts with various vendors in relation to ongoing consulting services, construction services and financial services that extend beyond December 31, 2015.

Contracted services agreed to and expected to be expended in 2016 include the following:

Construction and design services	\$ 3,050,871
Consulting contracted services	<u>1,303,377</u>
	<u><u>\$ 4,354,248</u></u>

Note 9 - Retirement Benefits

Cascade provides a Section 401(a) defined contribution retirement plan (the Plan) to all full-time and certain part-time employees. Employees contribute 4% of their annual salary. Cascade contributes 7% of an employee's salary. In addition, as a replacement of the contribution to Social Security, employees contribute an additional 6.2% of their annual salary. Cascade contributes an additional 6.2% up to the limit (\$7,347 in 2015) established by the Internal Revenue Service. Employees are immediately vested upon enrollment and, therefore, having no forfeitures.

Employee and employer contributions were \$176,944 and \$149,332, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2015 and \$148,036 and \$177,601, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2014. As of December 31, 2015, accrued expenses under the Plan totaled \$33,146.

Cascade also provides a Section 457 retirement plan available to certain employees who make salary deferral contributions up to the maximum allowed by law. No employer contributions were made to the Section 457 retirement plan. Employee salary deferrals were \$178,080 and \$162,988 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Note 10 - Concentrations

All water purchases by Cascade were from the City of Seattle as further described in Note 2. Water sales, conservation revenues, administration dues, regional capital facilities charges and contributions for member cities for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

2015 Member Charges-

Members	Water Sales	Water Usage Adjustment	Conservation Revenues	Administration Dues	Regional Capital Facilities Charges	Total
Bellevue	\$ 17,337,500	\$ -	\$ 347,435	\$ 1,222,443	\$ 1,939,615	\$ 20,846,993
Issaquah	902,245		62,284	219,144	2,287,905	3,471,578
Kirkland	4,515,034		95,016	334,312	996,830	5,941,192
Redmond	5,446,712		163,071	573,763	1,792,493	7,976,039
Sammamish	910,387		114,815	403,973	1,720,433	3,149,608
Skyway	354,475		19,675	69,226	36,029	479,405
Tukwila	2,295,593		40,806	143,574	81,068	2,561,041
Total	\$ 31,761,946	\$ -	\$ 843,102	\$ 2,966,435	\$ 8,854,373	\$ 44,425,856

2014 Member Charges-

Members	Water Sales	Water Usage Adjustment	Conservation Revenues	Administration Dues	Regional Capital Facilities Charges	Total
Bellevue	\$ 16,762,457	\$ -	\$ 352,567	\$ 1,238,812	\$ 2,398,998	\$ 20,752,834
Issaquah	834,324		62,641	220,100	2,335,945	3,453,010
Kirkland	4,332,698	(35,600)	96,663	339,645	855,713	5,589,119
Redmond	5,305,553	35,600	165,293	580,791	2,398,998	8,486,235
Sammamish	907,410		116,420	409,064	1,798,498	3,231,392
Skyway	354,346		20,321	71,402	45,037	491,106
Tukwila	2,250,434		43,979	154,527	180,150	2,629,090
Total	\$ 30,747,222	\$ -	\$ 857,884	\$ 3,014,341	\$ 10,013,339	\$ 44,632,786

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 11 - Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

There have been no material violations of finance-related legal or contractual provisions, and there have been no expenditures exceeding legal appropriations.

Note 12 - Risk Management

Cascade Water Alliance is a member of the Water and Sewer Risk Management Pool (the Risk Pool). Chapter 48.62 RCW authorizes the governing body of any one or more governmental entities to form together into or join a pool or organization for the joint purchasing of insurance, and/or joint self-insuring, and/or joint hiring or contracting for risk management services to the same extent that they may individually purchase insurance, self-insure, or hire or contract for risk management services. An agreement to form a pooling arrangement was made pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 39.34 RCW, the Interlocal Cooperation Act. The Risk Pool was formed on November 1987 when water and sewer districts in the state of Washington joined together by signing an Interlocal Governmental Agreement to pool their self-insured losses and jointly purchase insurance and administrative services. The Risk Pool currently has 68 members and a fiscal year of November 1st through October 31st.

The Risk Pool allows members to jointly purchase insurance coverage, establish a plan of self-insurance coverage, and provide related services, such as risk management and loss prevention. The Risk Pool provides the following forms of group purchased insurance coverage for its members: Property (including Building, Electronic Data Processing, Boiler and Machinery, and Mobile Equipment); General Liability; Automotive Liability; Excess Liability, Crime; Public Officials Liability; Identity Fraud Reimbursement Program; and bonds of various types. All coverages are on an "occurrence" basis.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Note 12 - Continued

Members make an annual contribution to fund the Risk Pool. The Risk Pool purchases insurance policies from unrelated underwriters as follows:

Type of Coverage	Member Deductible	Self-Insured Retention	Excess Limits
Property Loss:			
Buildings and contents	\$1,000 (c)	\$25,000	\$1,000,000,000
Flood	See (a) below	See (a) below	\$50,000,000
Earthquake	See (b) below	See (b) below	\$75,000,000
Terrorism	\$1,000	\$25,000	\$100,000,000
Boiler and machinery	\$1,000	\$25,000 - \$350,000	\$100,000,000
Auto - physical damage	\$1,000	\$25,000	\$10,000,000
Liability:			
Comprehensive general liability	\$1,000 (c)	\$200,000	\$10,000,000
Auto liability	\$1,000	\$200,000	\$10,000,000
Public officials errors and omissions	\$1,000	\$200,000	\$10,000,000
Employment practices	\$1,000	\$200,000	\$10,000,000
Other:			
Public officials bonds	Various	N/A	Various
Crime	\$1,000	\$25,000	\$2,000,000
Identity fraud	\$0	\$25,000	\$0

- a. \$100,000 member deductibles, per occurrence, in Flood zones except Zones A&V; \$250,000 member deductible per occurrence, in Flood Zones A&V.
- b. Member deductible for earthquakes is 5% subject to \$100,000 minimum Earthquake Shock. If the stated deductible is on a percentage basis, the deductible will apply per occurrence on a per unit basis, as defined in the policy form, subject to the stated minimum.
- c. In addition to the \$75,000,000 of shared earthquake coverage amongst pool members Cascade shares a \$10,000,000 policy with Sammamish Plateau Water that in the event that the earthquake did less than \$5M in damage to one of the parties then the other party would be able to collect the remaining available funds.
- d. Member deductible for Cyber liability is \$100,000 and where applicable the dollar amount of the business interruption loss during the policy's required 8 hour waiting period.

Risk Pool members are responsible for a deductible on each coverage and the Risk Pool is responsible for the remainder of the self-insured retention listed in the table above except where noted as follows. The insurance carriers then cover the loss to the maximum limit of the policy. Each member is responsible for the full deductible applicable to the perils of earthquake and flood (the Pool is not responsible for any deductible or self-insured retention for earthquake and flood claims). Each member is also responsible for the full deductible applicable to the Cyber Liability, and that part of a Boiler & Machinery deductible which exceeds \$25,000.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Notes to Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Note 12 - Continued

Upon joining, the members contract to remain in the Pool for one full policy period. Following completion of one full policy period, members must give six months' notice before terminating participation (e.g. to withdraw from the Pool on November 1, 2015, written notice must be in possession of the Risk Pool by April 30, 2015). The Interlocal Governmental Agreement is renewed automatically each year. Even after termination of relationship with the Risk Pool, a member is still responsible for contributions to the Risk Pool for any unresolved, unreported, and in process claims, for the period that the District was a signatory to the Interlocal Governmental Agreement.

The Risk Pool is fully funded by its member participants. Claims are filed by members with the Pool who determines coverage and performs claims adjustment in consultation with Arcadia Claims Services.

The Risk Pool is governed by a Board of Directors, which is comprised of one designated representative from each participating member. An Executive Committee is elected at the annual meeting, and is responsible for overseeing the business affairs of the Risk Pool and providing policy direction to the Risk Pool's Executive Director.

In the past three years (2014, 2013, and 2012), there have been no claim settlements, per occurrence or in aggregate, that have exceeded the coverage provided by excess/reinsurance contracts.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Required Supplementary Information For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Modified Approach for White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Infrastructure Capital Assets

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 34, Cascade is required to account for and report infrastructure capital assets. Cascade defines infrastructure as the basic physical assets used by Cascade in the conduct of its business. Each major infrastructure system can be divided into subsystems. For example, the White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project (the Lake Tapps Project) can be divided into several distinct facilities: White River divergence; conveyance and sediment control systems; Lake Tapps Reservoir and embankments; outlet structure to forebay; penstocks; hydroelectric station; and tailrace and return to White River. For ease of defining the Lake Tapps Project, these facilities have been consolidated into three main subsystems: Upper Conveyance System (the White River divergence and conveyance and sediment control facilities); Reservoir and Embankments (or the Storage System consisting of the Lake Tapps Reservoir and dike facilities); and Lower Conveyance System (all facilities from the Lake Tapps outlet structure to the tailrace return to the White River). Subsystem detail is not presented in the basic financial statements; however, Cascade maintains detailed information on these subsystems.

Cascade has elected to use the “Modified Approach” as defined by GASB Statement No. 34 for infrastructure reporting for its Lake Tapps Project. Under GASB Statement No. 34, eligible infrastructure capital assets are not required to be depreciated under the following requirements:

- Cascade manages the eligible infrastructure capital assets using an asset management system with characteristics including: (1) an up-to-date inventory; (2) performance of condition assessments and summarization of the results using a measurement scale; and (3) an estimate of the annual amount required to maintain and preserve at the established condition assessment level.
- Cascade documents that the eligible infrastructure capital assets are being preserved approximately at or above the established and disclosed condition assessment level.

Capital Assets Assessment Prior to Cascade Ownership - In September 2006, prior to entering into the Asset Purchase Agreement with Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE), Cascade received an Engineering Report (prepared by CH2MHill for Buck and Gordon, LLP and Cascade) which, among other things, included a Facility Condition Assessment and Capital Improvement Plan for the Lake Tapps Project. The condition assessment was based on a review of available documents (such as design documents, condition inspections conducted by or for PSE and operation and maintenance evaluations), cursory field inspections and observation and interviewing site (PSE) personnel. The report described the condition of major facilities constituting the Upper and Lower Conveyance Systems and recommended improvements. The following categories of improvements were used:

- Initial Capital Upgrade (ICU): Projects need to be completed immediately to allow proper operation, to reduce the rate of deterioration or to protect health and safety (by 2010).
- Short Term Improvement (STI): Projects recommended, but not necessary to maintain the current conditions of facilities (between 2011 and 2018).
- Long Term Improvement (LTI): Projects that should be replaced at the end of their projected useful life (between 2019 and 2050).
- Maintenance (M): Projects typically included in annual maintenance programs.

See independent auditor’s report.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Required Supplementary Information
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Modified Approach for White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Infrastructure Capital Assets (Continued)

The following is a listing of the major Lake Tapps Project facilities in the Upper Conveyance and Lower Conveyance Systems, with the category of facility improvement recommended by CH2MHill in 2006:

Upper Conveyance System:

Headworks Area Buildings	M; ICU; STI
Headgates	ICU; LTI
Rock Chutes	STI
Concrete Lined Canal	M
Timber Flume	LTI
6-Foot Outlet (Wolslegal Basin)	None
Fish Screen	STI
Twin Pipelines	M; STI; LTI

Lower Conveyance System:

Tunnel Inlet/Lake Outlet	ICU
12-Foot Concrete Tunnel	LTI
“Bear Pit” Overflow Shaft	LTI
Forebay Caisson and Building	M; LTI
Penstocks/Standpipes/Surge Chambers	ICU; STI; LTI
Powerhouse	ICU

In 2008, the Washington Department of Ecology’s Dam Safety Office (DSO) published the First Periodic Dam Safety Inspection Report for the Lake Tapps Project (Dikes 1 through 15). DSO inspected the Lake Tapps dikes in August 2007 and the report included an evaluation and analysis of the condition of the dikes and Printz Basin Backflow Prevention Structure.

The DSO report concluded that the dikes and the Backflow Prevention Structure “...appeared to be in good condition and the project meets current engineering standards for dam design and construction with regard to floods and earthquakes”. A few deficiencies were found and are summarized below:

- Refinements are necessary to the monitoring routines for Dikes 9,10 and 12;
- Dike 3 requires improvement to address potential for internal soil erosion, in conjunction with a proposed roadway improvement by Pierce County;
- Discharge capacity of the project may need to be increased to accommodate both the Local and General Storm Probable Maximum Flood;
- Relocating or adding weirs and adding seepage monitoring to Dike 8; and
- Completion of maintenance items, such as vegetation removal.

In 2012, DSO conducted the Second Periodic Dam Safety Inspection. Cascade addressed the issues raised by DSO.

See independent auditor’s report.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Required Supplementary Information For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Modified Approach for White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Infrastructure Capital Assets (Continued)

Capital Assets Assessment Since Cascade Ownership - The Lake Tapps Project had been operated by PSE, under contract to Cascade, since Cascade acquired the Project from PSE in 2009. Cascade selected Veolia Water North America (Veolia) as its long-term contract operator for the project in January 2011. Veolia entered into the Transition Phase of the contract in January 2012 (observing PSE operation and training staff) and assumed all operation and maintenance responsibilities on April 16, 2012. During the Transition Phase (April through December 2012), Veolia, in addition to performing all necessary operation and maintenance activities:

- Developed Operation and Maintenance Manuals for all Project facilities;
- Selected and implemented a Maintenance Management System (MMS) for the Project; and
- Developed the 2013 Operations and Maintenance Budget for Cascade's approval.

The Manuals and 2013 budget were approved by Cascade and were the basis for Veolia's performance during 2013. The initial contract term is through 2016. Annual revisions to the Manuals and Budget for 2014 and 2015 were negotiated and agreed upon and are the basis for Veolia's performance during 2014, 2015 and 2016. Cascade extended the contract term for one additional five year period and may extend for one more additional period of up to five years.

Since 2009, Cascade has conducted additional facility condition assessment and repair/maintenance/upgrade activities, including:

- Contracted with AECOM to perform a condition assessment of certain Project facilities;
- Contracted with NAES to repair and upgrade the Fish Screen Facility;
- Contracted with GeoEngineers to assess the condition of the dikes;
- Performed inspections and effected repairs to the Timber Flume and Twin Pipelines and removal of sediment from the settling basins during the 2010/2011 and 2014/2015 outages;
- Performed removal of sediment from settling basins during the 2010/2011 and 2014/2015 outages;
- Implemented DSO recommended monitoring routines on Dikes 9,10 and 12;
- Implemented DSO recommendations on Dike 8;
- Implemented seismic remediation project on Dike 3 in 2014/2015;
- Installed piezometers in all Dikes;
- Demonstrated available discharge capacity;
- Completed PMP/PMF study;
- Performed repairs and inspection of the Barrier Structure in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015;
- Repaired the ecology block wall on Dike 13 in 2013;
- Repaired Tailrace "wingwall" adjacent to rail road crossing in 2011;
- Performed repairs on Dikes 2B, 3 and 11 in 2012;
- Performed repairs on Dikes 1, 3, 4 and 12 in 2013;
- Improved and upgraded Project security (fences, gates, locks, etc.);
- Contracted with Carollo to develop security master plan;
- Improved and upgraded gaging stations;

See independent auditor's report.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Required Supplementary Information For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Modified Approach for White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Infrastructure Capital Assets (Continued)

- Repaired pipeline and valve leaks;
- Implemented plan for Powerhouse roof replacement;
- Replaced roofs on Headworks area buildings;
- Removed Gatekeeper residence and related outbuildings;
- Upgraded SCADA system;
- Developed plan to comply with L&I / DOSH recommendations; implementation is ongoing;
- Removed hazardous wastes from Powerhouse;
- Removed lead paint in Powerhouse;
- Installed electric meters and disconnected power to non-essential equipment;
- Removed and salvaged unnecessary or retired/obsolete equipment;
- Upgraded and replaced culverts at headworks and valve house;
- Stockpiled sand for emergencies at strategic locations;
- Replaced telephone system;
- Performed HPA required plantings along Tailrace and on Dike 11;
- Conducted inspections of all cranes and performed necessary maintenance and repairs;
- Contracted with Carollo Engineers to perform condition assessment on Lower Conveyance System;
- Implemented Lower Conveyance System repairs/improvements recommended by Carollo, including replacement of Tunnel Intake Trash Racks and Stop Logs, concrete repairs, maintenance of Tunnel Intake slide gate and replacement of fill gate; maintenance of Forebay slide gates, relief valve repairs and flow tube repairs;
- Contracted with HDR Engineering to design Timber Flume replacement and Headgate improvements;
- Completed replacement of the Timber Flume, including repairs to an existing section of concrete flume;
- Completed implemented Headgate Improvement Project;
- Performed repairs to slide gates at 6 foot valve in Dingle Basin;
- Inspected and performed repairs to ten 10 foot tunnels;
- Performed maintenance on Fish Screens;
- Performed routine maintenance and repairs on roads; and
- Performed routine vegetation removal.

These activities expanded upon the CH2MHill assessment and implemented some of the recommendations from Carollo, CH2MHill, AECOM, GeoEngineers and DSO.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Required Supplementary Information
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

Modified Approach for White River/Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Infrastructure Capital Assets (Continued)

Capital Assets Funding - Based on the condition assessment work completed to date, Cascade has included funding for ongoing maintenance and repair of Lake Tapps Project Capital Assets in its annual operating budget as well as funding for upgrading and replacement of Lake Tapps Project Capital Assets in its Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Operation and Maintenance Budget and CIP for Cascade’s 2016-2017 Biennium are summarized below:

Lake Tapps Project Operation and Maintenance Budget:

2016	\$ 3,076,415
2017	3,144,200

Lake Tapps Project CIP Budget:

2016	\$ 1,745,000
2017	1,550,000
2018	1,500,000
2019 - 2020	4,750,000

The Operation and Maintenance Budget and CIP for Cascade’s 2016-2017 Biennium were adopted by the Board in September 2015.

**ADDITIONAL AUDITOR'S REPORT
IN ACCORDANCE WITH
*GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an
Audit of Financial Statements Performed in
Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards***

Independent Auditor's Report

**To the Board of Directors
Cascade Water Alliance
Bellevue, Washington**

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the business-type activities of Cascade Water Alliance (Cascade) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Cascade's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 21, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.



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Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Cascade's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

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



Certified Public Accountants
July 21, 2016

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

**Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015**

No matters are reported.