

## **Free Translation**

### **Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

(a 51% owned subsidiary of Panama Distribution Group,  
S.A.)

### **Financial Statements**

**For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

**Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

(a 51% owned subsidiary of Panama Distribution Group, S.A.)

**Financial Statements 2009 and 2008**

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### **Management Responsibility for Financial Reporting**

The management of Elektra Noreste, S.A. is responsible for the information and representations in the Company's financial statements. The Company prepares the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America based upon available facts and circumstances and management best estimates and judgments of known conditions.

The Company maintains an accounting system and related system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance to Elektra's management regarding the preparation of reliable financial statements and that the financial records are accurate and Company's assets are protected. The Company's staff of internal auditors conducts periodic reviews to maintain the effectiveness of internal control procedures, corrective actions are taken to address control deficiencies and other opportunities for improving the system as they are identified.

Based on our knowledge, the financial statements as of December 31, 2009, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Company as of, and for, the periods presented.

Javier Pariente  
Executive Vice-president &  
General Manager

Eric Morales  
Chief Financial Officer  
C.P.A. #1769

February 10, 2010  
Panama, Republic of Panama

**Elektra Noreste, S.A.**  
(a 51% owned subsidiary of Panama Distribution Group, S.A.)

**Balance Sheets (unaudited)**  
**As of December 31, 2009 and 2008**  
(Expressed in United States dollars)

Assets	Notes	2009	2008	Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	Notes	2009	2008
Current assets:				Current liabilities:			
Cash		\$ 5,912,571	\$ 25,373,854	Accounts payable:		\$ 66,240,862	\$ 47,159,356
Accounts receivable:				Generation and Transmission		8,943,649	9,431,649
Trade and other, net	3	59,868,480	65,667,959	Suppliers		8,685,853	7,953,645
Fuel component adjustment, net	2n, 6	15,785,351	5,807,351	Construction contracts		64	4,301,946
Others, net		2,428,060	1,679,920	Advance on tariffs subsidy		440,319	474,343
Accounts receivable, net		78,091,891	73,155,230	Income tax payable		-	3,915,882
Inventory		4,256,241	5,533,491	Deferred income tax	4	7,711,413	781,434
Prepaid income tax		2,820,998	-	Customers' deposits		1,445,373	3,916,151
Other current assets		1,154,185	1,032,627	Withholding taxes		270,286	405,385
Total current assets		92,225,886	105,115,202	Total accounts payable		83,856,191	72,540,435
Property, plant, and equipment, net		254,295,944	247,792,970	Short-term debt	5	-	35,000,000
Other assets:				Interest payable on debt		3,653,024	3,854,384
Debt issuance costs		2,509,019	2,739,968	Accrued expenses		1,232,072	1,449,002
Severance fund		1,383,421	1,079,128	Total current liabilities		80,211,200	102,844,421
Security deposits on facilities		81,939	81,939	Long-term debt	5	139,280,205	119,221,308
Tools and spare parts		759,936	673,786	Customers' deposits and other liabilities:			
Total other assets		4,834,315	4,574,821	Customers' deposits	4	2,730,085	2,821,314
				Customers' deposits		5,557,514	5,963,555
				Reserves for contingencies	7	216,393	361,646
				Other accrued liabilities		2,488,307	2,512,062
				Total liabilities		219,457,612	233,839,446
				Stockholders' equity:			
				Common stock authorized, issued and outstanding, 50,000,000			
				shares without par value, 160,031 held in treasury		106,498,575	106,498,575
				Retained earnings		25,709,653	17,554,672
				Total stockholders' equity		132,208,228	122,653,247
Total assets		\$ 351,346,145	\$ 357,482,993	Total liabilities and stockholders' equity		\$ 351,346,145	\$ 357,482,993

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

(a 51% owned subsidiary of Panama Distribution Group, S.A.)

**Statements of Income (unaudited)****For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008****(Expressed in United States dollars)**

		<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Twelve Months Ended</b>	
		<b>December 31,</b>		<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Revenues:					
Energy sales		\$ 104,940,398	\$ 136,652,824	\$ 389,177,811	\$ 506,430,023
Other revenues		1,798,209	2,707,526	7,237,064	8,353,772
Total revenues		106,738,607	139,360,350	396,414,875	514,783,795
Purchase of energy and transmission charges, net	6	84,182,329	120,100,202	308,972,678	433,712,618
Gross distribution margin		22,556,278	19,260,148	87,442,197	81,071,177
Operating expenses:					
Labor and other personnel		2,291,465	2,278,881	8,829,960	9,027,864
Severance expenses		112,613	47,981	381,137	301,258
Provision for doubtful accounts, net		899,325	(52,484)	2,504,437	3,988,870
Repair and maintenance		679,387	822,344	2,887,016	2,853,097
Professional services		2,809,058	2,723,849	10,640,719	9,556,987
Management fees		449,719	474,347	2,067,370	1,951,682
Depreciation and amortization		3,720,659	3,442,358	14,520,999	13,097,654
Administrative and other		2,318,856	1,738,540	8,318,027	8,175,146
Loss on disposal of fixed asset		52,845	158,946	328,306	234,213
Total operating expenses		13,333,927	11,634,762	50,477,971	49,186,771
Operating income		9,222,351	7,625,386	36,964,226	31,884,406
Other income (expense):					
Other income		50,680	(169,014)	585,920	289,361
Interest income		356,815	565,375	1,348,015	1,807,515
Interest expense		(2,226,504)	(2,589,816)	(8,979,219)	(9,268,445)
Total other expenses		(1,819,009)	(2,193,455)	(7,045,284)	(7,171,569)
Income before income taxes		7,403,342	5,431,931	29,918,942	24,712,837
Income taxes:	4				
Current		357,150	9,029,329	6,201,235	8,967,119
Deferred expense (benefit)		1,880,281	(7,447,776)	2,838,190	(1,638,948)
Total income taxes		2,237,431	1,581,553	9,039,425	7,328,171
Net income		\$ 5,165,911	\$ 3,850,378	\$ 20,879,517	\$ 17,384,666

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

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**Statements of Changes in Equity (unaudited)****For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	Notes	Common Stock	Treasury Stock	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
Balance as of January 1, 2008		\$ 106,642,962	\$ (544,087)	\$ 23,549,480	\$ 129,648,355
Net income		-	-	17,384,666	17,384,666
Dividends paid		-	-	(23,549,480)	(23,549,480)
Accredited complementary dividend tax		-	-	775,202	775,202
Complementary dividend tax paid		-	-	(605,196)	(605,196)
Balance as of December 31, 2008		106,642,962	(544,087)	17,554,672	123,653,547
Net income		-	-	20,879,517	20,879,517
Dividends paid		-	-	(12,260,000)	(12,260,000)
Accredited complementary dividend tax		-	-	490,400	490,400
Complementary dividend tax paid		-	-	(874,936)	(874,936)
Balance as of December 31, 2009		<u>\$ 106,642,962</u>	<u>\$ (544,087)</u>	<u>\$ 25,789,653</u>	<u>\$ 131,888,528</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

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**Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)****For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	2009	2008
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 20,879,517	\$ 17,384,666
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	14,520,999	13,097,654
Loss on disposal of fixed asset	328,306	234,213
Provision for doubtful accounts	2,504,437	3,988,870
Discount amortization of senior notes	38,897	36,067
Amortization of debt issuance costs	140,949	114,668
Provision for severance payments net of contribution to severance fund	(109,105)	(36,039)
Deferred income tax	2,838,190	(1,638,948)
Fuel component adjustment	(9,978,000)	5,023,000
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(1,755,019)	(18,425,790)
Other assets	(346,914)	(187,142)
Inventory	1,297,250	814,737
Trade accounts payable and other liabilities	15,968,888	(10,121,650)
Income tax	(6,736,880)	6,865,105
Seniority premium	(55,983)	53,656
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>39,535,532</u>	<u>17,203,067</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Acquisition of fixed assets	(21,507,200)	(19,711,985)
Proceeds from sales of fixed assets	<u>154,921</u>	<u>238,493</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(21,352,279)</u>	<u>(19,473,492)</u>

(Continued)

**Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

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**Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)****For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	2009	2008
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from long-term debt	-	20,000,000
(Repayment) proceeds from short-term debt	(25,000,000)	25,000,000
Debt issuance costs	-	(375,814)
Dividends paid	<u>(12,644,536)</u>	<u>(23,379,474)</u>
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	<u>(37,644,536)</u>	<u>21,244,712</u>
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Net (decrease) increase for the year	(19,461,283)	18,974,287
Beginning of year	<u>25,373,854</u>	<u>6,399,567</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 5,912,571</u>	<u>\$ 25,373,854</u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the year for:		
Interest, net of amounts capitalized	<u>\$ 8,752,868</u>	<u>\$ 8,507,318</u>
Income taxes	<u>\$ 12,801,625</u>	<u>\$ 2,102,015</u>

(Concluded)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



## **Elektra Noreste, S.A.**

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### **Notes to financial statements**

**For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

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#### **1. Nature of Business and Basis of Presentation**

##### ***Nature of Business***

Elektra Noreste, S.A. (the "Company") is a corporation formed as a result of the privatization of the Institute for Hydraulic Resources and Electricity (Instituto de Recursos Hidráulicos y Electrificación ("IRHE") in Spanish). The Company was incorporated by means of Public Deed No.143, dated January 19, 1998, and began operations in January 1998. The authorized capital stock of the Company consists of fifty million common shares without par value. At present, Panama Distribution Group, S.A. ("PDG") owns 51% of the authorized, issued and outstanding shares of common stock of the Company, while the Panamanian Government and former employees of IRHE own 48.25% and 0.43%, respectively. The remaining amount of shares is held as treasury stock.

The activities of the Company include the purchase of energy in blocks and its transportation through the distribution network to customers. The Company performs voltage transformation, delivers the power to end consumers, and performs meter reading, billing and collections. The Company is also responsible for installing, operating, and maintaining public lighting in the concession zone (as defined in the following paragraph), according to the lighting levels and criteria established by the Public Services Authority (Autoridad Nacional de los Servicios Públicos ("ASEP") in Spanish). Additionally, the Company is authorized to perform power generation activities up to a limit of 15% of the maximum demand and energy in the concession zone.

According to the concession contract described in Note 15, the Company has exclusivity for the distribution and commercialization of electric power to customers located in the geographical areas of Panama East, Colon, Panama Bay, the Comarca of San Blas and Darien. In regards to "large customers," defined by Law 6, dated February 3, 1997, as customers with a maximum demand over 100 KW per site that have the option to purchase energy directly from other agents of the electricity market, the Company has exclusivity for only the distribution of electricity.

##### ***Basis of Presentation***

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP").

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

#### **2. Significant Accounting Policies**

A summary of the significant accounting policies used in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

- a. Cash and Cash Equivalents* - All highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less are classified as cash equivalents.
- b. Accounts Receivable* - Accounts receivable are recorded at the invoiced amount and bear interest on past due amounts. The interest is recognized up until customer account is closed or terminated, which occurred approximately 60 days after service has been suspended.

It is the Company's policy to review outstanding accounts receivable on a monthly basis and adjust the corresponding allowance for doubtful accounts.

The Company establishes a provision for losses if it determines that amounts may not be collectible. The Company estimates the allowance based on the length of time the receivables are past due, conditions affecting

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### **Notes to financial statements**

**For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

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its customers, and historical experience. Account balances are written off after all means of collection have been exhausted and the potential for recovery is considered remote. The Company does not have any off-balance-sheet credit exposure related to its customers.

- c. **Fuel Component Adjustment** - The regulated system under which the Company operates provides that any excess or deficiency between the estimated energy costs included in the tariff and the actual costs incurred by the Company be included as a compensation adjustment to be recovered from or refunded to customers in the next tariff charges semi annual adjustment. Any excess in energy costs charged to customers is accrued in the accounts payable on the balance sheet and leads to a reduction in the next tariff charges adjustment. Conversely, any deficit in energy cost charged to customers is accrued in the account receivable on the balance sheet and leads to an increase in the next tariff charges adjustment to be recovered from customers.
- d. **Inventory** - Inventory consists primarily of materials and supplies for the Company's consumption. Tools and spare parts are considered part of the inventory but are classified as non-current assets. Inventory is accounted for at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the average cost method.
- e. **Property, Plant, and Equipment** - Upon the Company's formation, the IRHE transferred a portion of its productive assets stated at historical cost net of the associated accumulated depreciation. New asset acquisitions and construction in progress are recorded at their original cost which includes materials, contractor costs, construction overhead and financing costs. The Company reports property, plant and equipment on the balance sheet net of accumulated depreciation.

Costs associated with improvements made to property, plant and equipment are capitalized as well as major disbursements for renewals. Costs associated with repairs and minor replacements are expensed as incurred. Major maintenance costs that do not extend the useful life by improving the conditions of the asset to the state it held when it was originally purchased are also expensed. The Company also capitalizes interest during construction in accordance with the Accounting Standard Codification ("ASC") 835 "Interest", issued by the Financial Accounting Standard Board ("FASB").

Long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes occur if circumstances indicate the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable through operations, in accordance with ASC 360, Property, Plant and Equipment (ASC 360-10-35) "Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets". If the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the expected undiscounted future cash flows generated by the asset or group of assets, an impairment loss is recognized and the asset is written down to its fair value. Fair value can be determined by the use of quoted market prices, appraisals or other valuation techniques, such as expected discounted future cash flows. Management's judgment is involved in both deciding whether testing for recoverability is necessary and estimating undiscounted cash flows. As of December 31, 2009 and 2008, no impairments of long-lived assets were identified.

Gains or losses on property, plant and equipment are recognized when the assets are retired or otherwise disposed of. The difference between the net book value of the property and any proceeds received for the property is recorded as a gain or loss in the Statements of Income.

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**Notes to financial statements**

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(Expressed in United States dollars)

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Depreciation and amortization are calculated on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Estimated useful lives used for each fixed asset category are shown below:

	<b>Estimated Useful Life (in years)</b>
Poles, towers and accessories	30
Electric transformers	30
Underground conductors and ducts	30
Overhead conductors and accessories	25
Substation equipment	30
Consumer meters	30
Buildings and improvements	35
Public lighting equipment	25
Transportation equipment	8
Communications equipment	15 to 25
Office furniture and equipment	5 to 15

*f. Debt Issuance Costs* - The Company defers all costs related to the issuance of long-term debt. These costs include borrowers' commissions and other costs such as legal, registration and stamp costs. Debt issuance costs are amortized over the term of the debt instrument using the effective interest method.

*g. Purchased Energy and Transmission Charges* - The Company records the annual cost of purchased energy obtained under long-term and short-term contracts in the Statements of Income. These contracts are considered executory in nature, since they do not convey to the Company the right to use the related property, plant or equipment. The Company also engages in short-term hourly purchases in the wholesale market, which is administered by the National Dispatch Center (Centro Nacional de Despacho ("CND") in Spanish).

The Company also pays a regulated tariff to ETESA, a company fully-owned by the Panamanian Government for connecting to and for use of the transmission system. ETESA is responsible for expanding and upgrading the interconnecting transmission system to meet the requirements of demand growth and system stability. The current transmission tariff is due to remain in force until June 30, 2013, thereafter the tariff would be revised by ETESA and the ASEP for a four-year period.

*h. Income Taxes* - Income taxes are accounted for under the asset-liability method as prescribed by ASC 740, "Income Taxes". Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to temporary differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax basis. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in the Statement of Income in the period that includes the enactment date.

*i. Investment Tax Credit* - The Company accounts for Investment Tax Credit ("ITC") under the flow-through accounting method (full recognition in the period the asset is placed in service). Thus, a future deductible temporary difference exists, with which a deferred income tax asset is associated.

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### **Notes to financial statements**

**For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

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- j. Customer Deposits* - The Company requires customers to provide cash deposits as a guarantee of payment for energy consumed, according to the legislation set forth by the ASEP. The ASEP has issued resolutions JD-219 (March 31, 1998) and JD-761 (June 8, 1998) which provide that in those cases where the customer has established a good payment record, defined as no more than three late payments in a twelve-month period, the deposit shall be returned.
- k. Contingencies* - In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to various regulatory actions, proceedings, and lawsuits related to tax or other legal matters. The Company establishes reserves for these potential contingencies when they are deemed probable and reasonably estimable. For further discussion of contingencies, see Note 7.
- l. Seniority Premium and Severance Fund* - According to the Panamanian Labor Code, upon the termination of any employee contracted for an indefinite period of time, regardless the causes, the employee is entitled to a seniority premium at the rate of one week's salary for every year of work, since they were first employed. Seniority premiums represent 1.92% of total salaries paid.

Law 44 of 1995 introduced reforms to the Panamanian Labor Code by requiring all employers to make a cash contribution to a severance fund that would cover the payment to employees of a seniority premium and severance for unjustified dismissal. The Company maintains a trust fund through an authorized private entity, Progreso, S. A., who acts as trustee to secure the severance fund liability. This trust fund is reported in the Balance Sheets under "Severance fund".

- m. Related Parties* - As a result of the restructuring of the electricity sector of Panama, three distribution companies, four generating companies and one transmission company were formed. The Panamanian Government retains an approximate fifty-one percent (51%) interest in the hydraulic generating companies, a forty-nine percent (49%) interest in the thermal generating company and distribution companies, and a one hundred percent (100%) interest in the transmission company. The Panamanian Government retained 48.25% of the Company's stock and 0.43% is owned by former IRHE employees.

In the normal course of business, the Company purchases electricity from the generating and other distribution companies, sells energy to governmental institutions and makes payments to the transmission company. The Company recognizes these activities as related party transactions.

Pursuant to a Management Consulting Agreement dated November 16, 1998, as amended on March 4, 2002, CPI, Ltd., which owns 100% of PDG shares provides the Company with management and consulting services, including but not limited to, strategic and operating advice, business development and contract review. PDG owns 51% of the Company authorized issued and outstanding shares of common stock. This Agreement was concluded on November 30, 2009 upon mutual decision from both parties. Actually the Company is negotiating the scope and terms of a new Management Consulting Agreement with AEI Services LLC. The Company records the related fees derived from the agreement as management fees within the Statements of Income and any outstanding unpaid balance is shown in the balance sheets as others payable.

- n. Utility Regulation* - The Company is subject to regulation by the ASEP. This agency regulates and makes the final determination regarding the rates the Company charges to its customers. The Company maintains its accounts in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts prescribed for electric utilities by the ASEP.

The Company is subject to the provisions of ASC 980, "Regulated Operations". Regulatory assets represent probable future revenues associated with certain costs that are expected to be recovered from customers through the ratemaking process. Regulatory liabilities represent probable future reductions in revenues associated with amounts that are expected to be credited to customers through the ratemaking process.

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**Notes to financial statements**

**For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

Regulatory assets and (liabilities) reflected in the Company's balance sheets at December 31 relate to the following:

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Note</u>
Fuel component adjustment - asset	\$ 15,785,351	\$ 5,807,351	(See fuel component adjustment in Note 6)
Deferred income tax liabilities	<u>(4,735,605)</u>	<u>(1,742,205)</u>	
	<u>\$ 11,049,746</u>	<u>\$ 4,065,146</u>	

In the event that a portion of the Company's operations is no longer subject to the provisions of ASC 980, the Company would be required to write off related regulatory assets and liabilities that are not specifically recoverable through regulated rates. In addition, the Company would be required to determine if any impairment to other assets, including Property, plant and equipment exists and, if impaired, write down the assets to their fair value.

***o. Revenue Recognition***

***Energy Sales***

The Company recognizes its revenues for energy sales when service is delivered to and consumed by customers. The Company bills customers based on meter readings that are performed on a systematic basis throughout the month. The applicable rates used to bill the customers include energy cost and distribution components. The energy cost component operates as a pass-through for the energy purchased and transmission charges while the distribution components in the tariff are set by the ASEP to allow distributors to recover the cost of operating, maintenance, administration and commercial expenses, depreciation, standard energy losses and also to obtain a fair return on their investment. The energy cost component is adjusted every six months to reflect fluctuations in energy costs and the distribution components are adjusted based on the consumer price index.

The Company recognizes revenue for energy sales that have not yet been billed, but where electricity has been consumed by customers. This revenue is recorded as unbilled revenue within the trade receivables on the balance sheet and is calculated based on actual daily average energy consumption and applicable rates to the customers of the Company.

***Other Revenues***

The Company recognizes connection and reconnection charges, pole rentals, and wheeling charges as service is rendered. These charges are included in other operating revenue in the Statements of Income.

- p. Use of Estimates*** - The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. The estimates and assumptions used are based upon management's evaluation of the relevant facts and judgments. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The most significant estimates include but are not limited to, the useful lives for depreciation and amortization, allowances for doubtful accounts receivable, estimates of future cash flows associated with asset impairments, loss contingencies, collection or reimbursement of the fuel component adjustment account and estimated unbilled revenue.

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### **Notes to financial statements**

**For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008**

(Expressed in United States dollars)

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- q. Concentration of Credit Risk* - The Company has exclusivity for the distribution and marketing of electric power to customers located in its concession zone. The Company does not believe that significant risk of loss from a concentration of credit risk exists given the large number of customers that comprise its customer base and their geographical dispersion. The Company also believes that its potential credit risk is adequately covered by the allowance for doubtful accounts.
- r. Environmental Matters* - The Company is subject to a broad range of environmental, health and safety laws and regulations. In July 1998, the Panamanian Government enacted environmental legislation creating an environmental protection agency (Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente ("ANAM") in Spanish) and imposing new environmental standards affecting the Company's operations. Failure to comply with these applicable environmental standards, stricter laws and regulations may require additional investments or may adversely affect the Company's financial results.

Accruals for environmental matters are recorded when it is probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of the liability can be reasonably estimated based on current law.

Established accruals are adjusted periodically due to new assessments and remediation efforts or as additional technical and legal information become available.

Environmental costs are capitalized if the costs extend the life of the property, increase its capacity and mitigate or prevent contamination from future operations. Costs related to environmental contamination treatment and clean-up are charged to expense.

- s. Application of Recent Accounting Pronouncements* - The Company adopted, or will adopt, the recent accounting standards listed below, if applicable, on their respective effective dates.

In September 2006, the FASB issued ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures". ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants in the market in which the reporting entity transacts. The standard clarifies that fair value should be based on the assumptions market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability. Certain requirements of ASC 820 were effective for annual periods beginning after November 15, 2007, and for interim periods within this annual period. The effective date for others requirements of ASC 820 were postponed for annual periods that begin after November 15, 2008. The adoption of this standard did not have any impact on the Company's financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB issued an update of ASC 825, "Financial Instruments" which requires disclosures about fair value of financial instruments in periods of interim reports for publicly traded companies that was previously only required to be revealed in the annual financial statement. This pronouncement permits, and do not require that companies record the financial instruments at fair value that otherwise would not have been required to measure at fair value. Originally this pronouncement was effective for annual periods beginning after November 15, 2007 and its updated is effective for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2009. The adoption of this interpretation had no impact on the Company's financial statements.

In May 2009, the FASB issued ASC 855, "Subsequent Events", which establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before the financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. The standard is effective for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2009. The Company adopted this standard as of June 30, 2009 and there was no significant impact on the Company's financial statements.

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In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 167 "Amendments to FASB Interpretation No. 46(R)" (will amends FASB ASC 810 Consolidation). This pronouncement amends certain requirements of FASB Interpretation No. 46 (Revised December 2003), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" to improve financial reporting by enterprises involved with variable interest entities and to provide more relevant and reliable information to users of financial statements. This pronouncement is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after November 15, 2009. The Company adopted this standard as of December 31, 2009 and there was no significant impact on the Company's financial statements.

In June 2009, the FASB issued Statement No. 105 "The FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. ASC 105 identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements of nongovernmental entities that are presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. The standard is effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. The Company adopted this statement at September 30, 2009 and incorporated the new codification in its financial statement. Although the adoption of ASC 105 does not have an impact on the Company's financial statements. ASC 105 changed the reference to authorized and unauthorized accounting literature in the notes to the financial statements.

In August 2009, the FASB issued Accounting Standard Update 2009-05, "Measuring Liabilities at Fair Value" on ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures". This update provides explanations of how liabilities should be measure at fair value, potentially reducing the ambiguity in financial reports at measuring the liabilities at fair values, and helps to improve consistency in the application of such measurement. This update is effective for the first reporting period including interim periods that begin after its enactment. The adoption of this standard did not have any impact in the Company's financial statements.

**3. Accounts Receivable – Trade and other**

At December 31, 2009 and 2008, accounts receivable – trade and other, are as follows:

	2009	2008
Customers	\$ 47,661,966	\$ 58,437,236
Government and municipal entities	<u>6,704,285</u>	<u>6,518,741</u>
	54,366,251	64,955,977
Unbilled revenue	7,452,881	7,150,167
Government subsidy	<u>6,860,043</u>	<u>2,300,158</u>
	68,679,175	74,406,302
Allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>(8,810,695)</u>	<u>(8,738,343)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 59,868,480</u>	<u>\$ 65,667,959</u>

During the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, the Company charged off against the allowance for doubtful

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accounts the amounts of US\$2,623,755 and US\$2,671,782 and recovered from previous write-off balances the amounts of US\$221,131 and US\$275,565, respectively.

**4. Income Tax**

The provision for income tax is determined based on book income before income taxes, adjusted for any non-taxable income and non-deductible expenses. The statutory income tax rate is 30%. Deferred income tax is recognized for the effects of all temporary differences between the book and tax basis of assets and liabilities. A valuation reserve is recorded to reduce the value of deferred tax assets when it is more likely than not that tax benefits will not be totally realized.

The difference between the provision for income tax for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, and the income tax calculated using the enacted statutory corporate tax rate of 30% for income before income tax reported in the financial statements is attributable to the following:

	2009	2008
<b>Income tax:</b>		
Computed at expected statutory rate	\$ 8,975,683	\$ 7,413,851
Decrease in income tax due to non-taxable income	(49,421)	(154,373)
Increase in income tax due to non-deductible expenses	<u>113,163</u>	<u>68,693</u>
Total income tax	<u>\$ 9,039,425</u>	<u>\$ 7,328,171</u>

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities recognized on temporary differences that will be reversed in future periods, are as follows:

	2009	2008
<b>Current deferred income tax assets:</b>		
Provision for doubtful accounts	\$ 759,948	\$ 732,067
Other	<u>264,244</u>	<u>228,244</u>
Total deferred income tax assets	<u>1,024,192</u>	<u>960,311</u>
 Current liabilities-fuel component adjustment (see Note 2.n)	 <u>(4,735,605)</u>	 <u>(1,742,205)</u>
Current deferred income tax liabilities, net	<u>\$ (3,711,413)</u>	<u>\$ (781,894)</u>



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	2009	2008
Non-current deferred income tax assets-		
Provision for contingencies	\$ 63,091	\$ 108,500
Non-current liabilities-depreciation expense	<u>(2,793,176)</u>	<u>(2,929,914)</u>
Non-current deferred income tax liabilities, net	<u>\$ (2,730,085)</u>	<u>\$ (2,821,414)</u>

In accordance with tax regulations, the income tax returns of companies in Panama are open for examination by the tax authorities for the last three years. Years starting with 2006 are subject to examination by tax authorities, although no examination is currently scheduled or in process. Those prior to 2006 are considered closed years. Companies are also subject to examination by the Panamanian tax authorities regarding compliance with stamp tax regulations.

Pursuant to ASC 740, "Income Taxes", the Company is required to recognize the financial statement effects of tax positions if they meet a "more-likely-than-not" threshold. In evaluating items relative to this threshold, the Company must assess whether each tax position will be sustained based solely on its technical merits assuming examination by a taxing authority. The interpretation requires the Company to establish liabilities to reflect the portion of those positions that cannot be concluded as "more likely than not" of being realized upon ultimate settlement. These are referred to as liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits under FIN No. 48. The Company identified and evaluated any potential uncertain tax positions and concluded that there are no uncertain tax positions requiring recognition in the financial statements. Management expects the tax authorities to allow these positions when and if examined and has a high confidence level in the technical merits of these positions. Accordingly, Management expects the full amount of the tax position to be ultimately realized in the financial statements.

**Investment Tax Credit**

During 2001, the Company received an investment tax credit of US\$13,673,745 which was granted by the Panamanian Government under an incentive law that promoted investments in infrastructure to enhance the energy distribution network. The tax credit can be used as a reduction of up to 25% of the income tax incurred in any given year, until 100% of the amount pending to be realized in future years is consumed. The Company had been using the tax credit during the course of these years. At December 31, 2008 the remaining balance of US\$798,292 was fully utilized.

Due to the benefit received, the Company is not allowed to deduct for tax purposes, the depreciation on US\$13,673,745 of investments in infrastructure. The tax effect of this is US\$4,102,123.

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**5. Debt****Short-term debt**

At December 31, 2009 and 2008, borrowings under revolving credit facilities are as follows:

	2009	2008
<b>Promissory notes</b>		
The Bank of Nova Scotia	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000
HSBC Bank (Panama), S.A.	-	10,000,000
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total short-term debt	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 25,000,000</u>

The Company has available revolving credit lines with The Bank of Nova Scotia, Banco General, S. A., HSBC Bank (Panama), S.A., Banco Panamá, S.A. and Banco Nacional de Panamá with an aggregated credit line of US\$100,000,000 in 2009, and annual interest rates ranging between 1 to 6 months LIBOR plus 1.50% and 3.75%. The Company had revolving credit lines with The Bank of Nova Scotia, Banco General, S.A., and HSBC Bank (Panama), S.A. with an aggregated credit line of US\$50,000,000 in 2008, with annual interest rates ranging between 1 to 6 months LIBOR plus 1.50% and 2.50%. These unsecured credit facilities are available with a maximum term of up to one year. The Company uses these facilities as needed for working capital and other needs. The Company had no outstanding debt under these credit facilities as of December 31, 2009 and reported US\$25,000,000 outstanding debt for the same period of last year.

**Long-term Notes**

At December 31, 2009 and 2008, the balance of the long-term notes is as follows:

	2009	2008
<b>Long-Term Notes</b>		
Senior Notes	\$ 100,000,000	\$ 100,000,000
Corporate Bonds	20,000,000	20,000,000
Less:		
Senior notes discount	<u>(739,795)</u>	<u>(778,692)</u>
Total Long-term debt	<u>\$ 119,260,205</u>	<u>\$ 119,221,308</u>

The Company has notes payable under a senior debt agreement ("Senior Notes") totaling US\$100,000,000 which is recorded at US\$99,260,205, net of US\$739,795 unamortized discount at December 31, 2009. The notes have a fixed interest rate of 7.6%, payable semiannually, and mature in 2021. Principal payment is due upon maturity. The notes maintain a senior credit position and are unsecured. The Company may redeem the Senior Notes, in whole or

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in part, at any time prior to their maturity.

On October 20, 2008, in a public offering, the Company submitted a US\$40,000,000 aggregate principal amount of unsecured and unsubordinated corporate bonds ("Bonds") due October 20, 2018. On such date, US\$20,000,000 of this corporate bond offering was subscribed and issued with Banco General. The bonds rank pari passu among equal in right of payment with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations. The bonds will bear interest at LIBOR plus 2.375% per annum, payable on a quarterly basis. Principal is due upon maturity. The proceeds from the offering of the bonds will be used to fund current and future capital expenditures and for general corporate purposes. The bonds are subject to additional terms and conditions which are customary for this transaction. Bonds covenants include debt coverage ratios and other provisions. The Company may redeem the Bonds, in whole or in part, at the third anniversary from the date of the offer.

**6. Purchase of Energy and Transmission Charges, Net**

The Company recorded purchase of energy and transmission charges as follows:

	2009	2008
Purchase of energy	\$ 308,612,567	\$ 418,059,103
Transmission charges	10,338,111	10,630,515
Fuel component adjustment	<u>(9,978,000)</u>	<u>5,023,000</u>
Total purchase of energy and transmission charges, net	<u>\$ 308,972,678</u>	<u>\$ 433,712,618</u>

***Fuel Component Adjustment***

Changes in the under/over collection of these energy costs are reflected under net energy purchased and transmission costs in the Statements of Income. The cumulative amount receivable/payable is presented as a fuel component adjustment receivable/payable on the balance sheets until these amounts are billed or reimbursed to customers. The fuel component adjustment includes six months with actual fuel price information, plus six months of estimated fuel price information.

For the last several years, the fuel component adjustment has not been fully passed through to distribution company customers in the form of a tariff increase; the amount not billed to customers has been subsidized by the Panamanian Government, see Note 3.

At December 31, 2009, a net receivable balance of US\$15,785,351 (US\$5,807,351 in 2008) was determined as a consequence of the variance resulting from the energy cost considered in the electric tariff for the year 2009 over the actual cost of energy purchased. The balance is comprised of receivables of US\$1,897,000, accumulated from January to June 2009 to be recovered from customers in the first semester of 2010 and receivables of US\$13,888,351 accumulated from July to December 2009 to be recovered from customers during the year 2010.

**7. Commitments and Contingencies**

As result of issues generated from the ordinary course of business, the Company is or can be involved in legal, tax and regulatory proceedings before various courts, regulatory commissions and governmental agencies. The ultimate

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outcome of these proceedings is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position, result of operations or liquidity. At December 31, 2009 and 2008, the Company had total reserves for loss contingencies in the amount of US\$210,304 and US\$361,666 respectively; these reserves are reported in the Balance Sheets in "Reserves for contingencies". Following are the most representative matters:

***Litigations***

The ASEP through Resolution JD-5956 dated April 11, 2006 ordered the Company to return US\$4,033,188 to customers as monthly credits on their bills starting May 2006 until December 2006 allegedly on excess in the authorized Maximum Allowed Income charged by the Company to its customers from July 2002 through June 2006. The Company appealed this decision base on lack of legal grounds and by sustaining that the alleged excess was incorrect. On December 22, 2008, the regulatory entity issued Resolution No.2269, revoking in all its parts Resolution JD-5956. This decision was based on the fact that the Company was able to fully prove and demonstrate with recalculations the nonexistence of such excess.

The ASEP through Resolution JD-5863, dated February 17, 2006 approved Title IV of the Distribution and Commercialization Regimen enacted from July 2006 through June 2010, which contains a provision on its article number 22, requiring that excess earnings considered above a reasonable margin of the company's Maximum Allowed Income at the end of the July 2006 - June 2010 tariff period will cause an adjustment by reducing the approved Maximum Allowed Income to be applied in the July 2010 - June 2014 period. However and even though the procedure to calculate and adjust an unreasonable excess has yet to be defined by the regulatory body, the Company's management position is that as of December 31, 2009 there is no contingency loss to be recorded in the Financial Statements as a consequence of this particular provision under the above mentioned resolution. This conclusion is based on: i) a final outcome still in progress at the Supreme Court related to the appeal of this article filed in the Supreme Court by another power distribution company; ii) in case the regulatory entity approves a resolution to adjust any unreasonable excess, the Company has the right to file an appeal in the Supreme Court which is the independent body and final instance that will decide on this particular matter; and iii) there is no written nor approved procedure to calculate and adjust what could be deemed by the regulatory body as an unreasonable excess, ergo, any calculation will be highly subjective.

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***Commitments***

As of December 31, 2009, the Company had energy and long-term firm capacity purchase contracts with the following generation companies:

<u>Company</u>	<u>MW (Monthly)</u>	<u>Begins</u>	<u>Ends</u>
Termica del Noreste, S.A.	as requested	June 19, 2000	July 19, 2010
Sistema de Generación, S.A.	as requested	July 01, 2010	June 30, 2020
Esti - AES Panama	48.72	November 20, 2003	November 20, 2013
Paso Ancho Hydro-Power	4	January 1, 2008	December 31, 2015
Enel Fortuna	80	January 1, 2009	December 31, 2012
Enel Fortuna	120	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2018
Semper Group.	30	January 1, 2009	December 31, 2010
Panam Generating	16; 16; 45; 45	January 1, 2007	December 31, 2010
Semper Group.	0.0075	January 1, 2010	December 31, 2010
Autoridad del Canal de Panamá	27	enero 01, 2011	diciembre 31, 2011
Autoridad del Canal de Panamá	16.2	enero 01, 2011	diciembre 31, 2011
Semper Group.	23	January 1, 2011	December 31, 2012
Bahía Las Minas	108	January 1, 2010	December 31, 2018
Bahía Las Minas	108	January 1, 2019	December 31, 2023
Panam Generating	20	January 1, 2010	December 31, 2019
Panam Generating	60	January 1, 2011	December 31, 2020
Termica del Caribe	2.85	March 1, 2009	March 30, 2014
Inversiones y Desarrollos Balboa	24.6	January 1, 2009	December 31, 2011
Energía y Servicios de Panamá, S.A.	0.96	July 1, 2009	June 30, 2014
Generadora del Atlántico	30	July 1, 2009	June 30, 2014
Enel Fortuna	55.5	January 1, 2010	December 31, 2011
Pedregal Power Co.	15	January 1, 2010	December 31, 2011
Autoridad del Canal de Panamá	30; 22	January 1, 2010	December 31, 2011
AES Panamá	39	January 1, 2012	December 31, 2012
AES Panamá	23	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2021
Enel Fortuna	8.05	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2022
AES Panamá	9.43	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2022
Hidro Caisan	5.09	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2022
Electron Investment	10.35	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2022
Alternegy	18.4	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2022
Bontex	4.6	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2022

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In accordance with the 1997 Electricity Law, the Company enters into long-term power purchase agreements with generation companies that cover most of its regulated customers' contributions to the total peak customer demand of electricity and work towards limiting any associated energy costs. Historically, the Company contracts annually for approximately 79% to 95% of its total energy requirements via purchase agreements on the contract market. For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, the Company purchased approximately 98% and 81%, respectively, of its total energy requirements via power purchase agreements on the contract market. These purchase agreements include both a fixed charge based on energy capacity requirements and a variable charge based on energy use. The aggregate amount of future payments required under such unconditional purchase obligations, is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Payment Obligation</b>
2010	\$ 85,990,308
2011	91,193,618
2012	75,994,248
2013	89,867,724
Thereafter	<u>647,144,218</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 990,190,116</u></b>

During the years ended, December 31, 2009 and 2008, the Company has expensed the amount of US\$63,872,987 and US\$38,455,131 respectively on such unconditional purchase obligations, recorded under Purchase of energy and transmission charges, net on the Statements of Income.

On October 20, 2003, the Company and the workers' union signed its second Labor Collective Agreement for a four-year term that expired on October 20, 2007. On January 30, 2008 negotiations with the worker's union were concluded and a new Labor Collective Agreement was signed. These agreements do not maintain or considered additional material commitments besides those established in the labor law. The new Labor Collective Agreement is effective as from February 2008 and is valid for the term of four years.

***Operating Leases***

The Company has entered into a seven year non-cancelable lease agreement which will provide for the use of office and operating facilities. As of December 31, 2009 the future minimum rental payments required under this operating lease with initial or remaining non-cancelable lease terms in excess of one year are:

Year ending December 31:

2010	\$ 473,936
2011	488,155
2012	502,799
2013	517,883
Thereafter	<u>174,320</u>
<b>Total minimum payments required</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,157,093</u></b>

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The total rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 for all operating leases was US\$1,608,818 and US\$1,577,674 respectively.

#### ***Guarantees***

The Company has provided limited guarantees to generation companies in order to provide for credit assurance and performance obligations under the power purchase agreements. These guarantees are not recognized on the balance sheets, because the Company believes that it will be able to perform under these contracts and that is not probable that payments will be required. The guaranteed amounts are limited to a month's estimate of energy capacity and associated energy consumption and are established for a twelve-month period with automatic renewals as long as the power purchase agreement is in place. The aggregate guarantee amount for the performance obligation is US\$25,617,387. The Company has also issued a guarantee in favor of the ASEP for US\$8,500,000 in compliance with clause 53 of the Concession Contract.

The Company has several standby letters of credit for US\$4,536,597 in favor of ETESA guaranteeing the payment of transmission costs and energy purchases in the energy exchange market.

#### ***Concession Contract***

The Company has exclusive rights to install, own and operate an energy distribution network, and to supply energy to end customers other than large customers, currently defined as those with peak demand on a site-by-site basis of over 100kW. Large customers can choose to buy energy directly from generation companies or from the spot market.

The Company's concession contract has a 15-year term and expires in October 2013. One year prior to the expiration of the concession period, the ASEP will hold a competitive tender offer for the sale of 51% ownership share currently held by Panama Distribution Group, S.A., and who owns the right to set the asking price for the tender (by making its own bid) and will only be required to sell its share of the Company if a higher offer is made, in which case, Panama Distribution Group, S.A. will be entitled to retain the sale proceeds. If no higher offer is made, Panama Distribution Group, S.A. will retain its ownership for another 15-year term, subject to the same renewal procedure thereafter with no requirement to make any payment to the Panamanian Government.

The concession contract establishes provisions related to the Concessionaire's obligation in service supply issues, the non separation of the majority shares package, the delivery of periodic, technical and financial information to the ASEP, compliance with the technical quality standards (quality standards, measurement standards and operation regulations of the CND), and payment of the control, supervision and monitoring tariff of the ASEP, which may not be transferred to the users through the tariff.

## **8. Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The estimated fair values of financial instruments as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 are based on the information available at the date of the balance sheets. The Company has no knowledge of any factors that may significantly affect the estimated fair values of the most common financial assets and liabilities such as cash, trade receivables, severance funds, accounts payable, short-term and long-term debt, and customer deposits. The Company uses the following methods and assumptions for estimating fair value of financial instruments:

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***Trade Receivable, Accounts Payable, Short-Term Debt and Customer Deposits***

The carrying amount approximates fair value because of the short maturity of those instruments.

***Long-Term Debt***

The fair value of long-term debt with variable interest rates approximates their carrying value. For fixed rate long-term debt, fair value has been determined using discounted cash flow analyses based on available market information. These estimates are subjective in nature and involve uncertainties. Therefore, actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimated fair values of financial instruments are as follows:

	2009		2008	
	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
Long-term debt	<u>\$119,260,205</u>	<u>\$130,476,606</u>	<u>\$119,221,308</u>	<u>\$147,520,664</u>

**9. Subsequent Events**

The Company evaluated all events and transactions that took place after the balance sheet date throughout February 10, 2010, when the financial statements were issued and determined that additional disclosures are not required.