

AGL RESOURCES INC
Form 11-K
June 24, 2016

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

þ ANNUAL
REPORT
PURSUANT
TO SECTION
15(d) OF
THE
SECURITIES
EXCHANGE
ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal
year ended
December 31,
2015

OR

“ TRANSITION
REPORT
PURSUANT
TO SECTION
15(d) OF
THE
SECURITIES
EXCHANGE
ACT OF 1934

For the
transition
period from to

Commission File Number 1-14174

A.Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

Nicor Gas Thrift Plan

B.Name of the issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

AGL Resources Inc.
Ten Peachtree Place
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Nicor Gas
Thrift Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule
As of December 31, 2015 and 2014 and
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Nicor Gas
Thrift Plan
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Note: Other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA have been omitted because they are not applicable.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Plan Administrator
Nicor Gas Thrift Plan
Naperville, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Nicor Gas Thrift Plan (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Plan is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The accompanying supplemental schedule of Schedule H, line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2015 has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Plan's financial statements. The supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental schedule reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental schedule. In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In our opinion, the supplemental schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP

Atlanta, Georgia
June 24, 2016

Nicor Gas
Thrift Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
As of December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
Assets:		
Investments, at fair value:		
Registered investment companies	\$ 115,415,035	\$ 116,519,868
Collective trust	39,890,371	39,821,158
AGL Resources Inc. common stock	11,763,406	10,162,095
Total investments	167,068,812	166,503,121
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	5,319,539	5,305,342
Employer contributions	601,711	914,476
Participant contributions	317,709	—
Due from broker for securities sold	459	759
Total receivables	6,239,418	6,220,577
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 173,308,230	\$ 172,723,698

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nicor Gas
Thrift Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	2015
Additions:	
Investment income	\$ 1,864,374
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	220,301
Contributions:	
Participant	6,103,384
Employer	2,737,986
Rollover	103,430
Total contributions	8,944,800
Total additions	11,029,475
Deductions:	
Benefits paid to participants	(8,517,005)
Administrative expenses	(188,529)
Total deductions	(8,705,534)
Net increase before transfers out to related plan	2,323,941
Net transfers out to related plan	(1,739,409)
Net increase after transfers out to related plan	584,532
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	172,723,698
End of year	\$ 173,308,230

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nicor Gas
Thrift Plan
Notes to Financial Statements

1. Plan Description

The following description of the Nicor Gas Thrift Plan (the “Plan”) is provided for general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). The Plan is designed to provide retirement benefits to substantially all employees of Northern Illinois Gas Company (doing business as Nicor Gas Company) (the “Company” or “Plan Sponsor”) represented by a collective bargaining agreement. Employees are eligible to participate in the Plan after completing four months of service.

The Plan Sponsor is a wholly owned subsidiary of AGL Resources Inc. The Plan consists of both a profit sharing plan and an employee stock ownership plan (“ESOP”). The ESOP consists of the portion of the Plan which is invested in AGL Resources Inc. common stock. Both the ESOP and non-ESOP portion of the Plan are intended to constitute a single plan.

In August 2015, AGL Resources Inc. entered into a definitive merger agreement with The Southern Company. At the effective time of the proposed merger, which is expected to be completed in the second half of 2016, each share of AGL Resources Inc.’s common stock, other than certain excluded shares, will convert into the right to receive \$66 in cash, without interest, and AGL Resources Inc. will become a wholly owned, direct subsidiary of The Southern Company. The Company will continue to be a wholly owned subsidiary of AGL Resources Inc. Completion of the proposed merger remains subject to various closing conditions, which include, among other things, the receipt of required regulatory approval from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities.

Administration

The Plan is administered by the Administrative Committee (the “Committee”), which is appointed by the Company’s Board of Directors. The Committee has the sole discretion and authority to interpret the provisions of the Plan, including determinations as to eligibility, amounts of benefits payable, and the resolution of all factual questions arising in connection with the administration of the Plan.

The Committee has engaged Bank of America, N.A. (“Trustee”) to maintain a trust under which contributions to the Plan are invested in various investment funds and AGL Resources Inc. common stock. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Incorporated (“Merrill Lynch”) serves in the role of record keeper and custodian for the Plan.

Contributions

Employee Contributions. Participants may elect to make either before-tax contributions, Roth after-tax contributions, traditional after-tax contributions, or a combination thereof. The amount a participant elects to contribute will be withheld from his or her compensation through payroll deductions, and such contributions will be transferred by the Company to the Trustee of the Plan at each payroll period and will be credited to the participant’s account as soon as administratively practicable after such transfer. An automatic before-tax contribution deferral of 3% of eligible compensation is generally provided for employees hired or rehired on or after January 1, 2010, when no other election is made. The automatic enrollment will become effective as soon as administratively feasible following 30 days after the eligible new employee enters the Plan.

Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make additional catch-up contributions. The Plan also accepts certain rollover contributions representing distributions from other qualified

plans. Participants direct the investment of their contributions, Company contributions and account balances into various investment options offered by the Plan. To the extent a participant does not elect to invest their account balances in any investment fund, the Plan has designated a qualified default investment fund. Maximum contributions cannot exceed limits as set forth in the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC").

Company Contributions. Generally, on behalf of each participant who makes contributions, the Company makes a matching contribution each payroll period. The matching contribution is equal to 60% of the participant's first 6% of contributions. Effective January 1, 2016, the matching contribution increased to 100% of the participant's first 3% of contributions and 75% of the participant's next 3% of contributions.

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For employees who are not eligible to accrue benefits under a defined benefit pension plan, the Company makes an additional profit sharing contribution if the employee has completed a year of service and is either employed on the last day of the plan or terminated employment during the year due to death or disability, after reaching age 65, or after reaching age 55 with 10 years of service.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and allocations of the Company's matching contributions, as well as allocations of the Company's non-discretionary annual profit sharing contribution, and Plan earnings. Participant accounts are charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions. A participant is entitled to the benefits that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting

A participant's contributions and earnings thereon, and all AGL Resources Inc. common stock dividends are vested immediately. The Company's contributions and earnings thereon are vested upon occurrence of any one of the following:

- Completion of three years of vesting service;
- Attainment of age 65 while employed by the Company;
- Eligible to receive benefits under the Company's Long-Term Disability Plan; or
- Death while employed by the Company.

Withdrawals

A participant's traditional after-tax contributions (including earnings) may be withdrawn. Participants also may be eligible for hardship withdrawals from their before-tax contributions and Roth after-tax contributions (but not the earnings on those contributions earned after 1988) if they meet certain "immediate and heavy financial need" hardship requirements. An additional 10% income tax generally will be imposed on the taxable portion of the withdrawal unless the participant has reached age 59 ½ (or has satisfied certain other criteria established in the IRC) at the time of withdrawal. Additionally, participants over age 59 ½ are permitted to take a distribution from the Plan without an early withdrawal penalty.

Distribution of Benefits

The Plan provides that distribution of benefits may be made as soon as practicable after an employee's death or separation from service. If the vested account balance is \$1,000 or less, the Plan may make an immediate distribution without the consent of the participant. For balances of more than \$1,000 but not over \$5,000, if participants do not choose a method of distribution, the account balance will be automatically rolled over by the Plan to an individual retirement account with Merrill Lynch upon separation of service. Otherwise, a participant may delay the distribution of his or her account until the date the participant reaches age 70 ½.

Generally, a participant's distribution will be made in a single sum of cash. To the extent a participant's account is invested in AGL Resources Inc. common stock on the date of distribution, at the option of the participant, the distribution may be made in the form of whole shares of AGL Resources Inc. common stock (and cash representing any fractional share). In addition to the lump sum option, partial distributions, and monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual installments of a fixed amount or period are allowed.

Distributions of cash or AGL Resources Inc. common stock from a participant's account (other than amounts attributable to the participant's Roth after-tax contributions or traditional after-tax contributions) which are made upon

the participant's termination of employment or death, generally will be taxable in the year of distribution. Such distributions generally will be subject to 20% federal income tax withholding.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their participant accounts. Such borrowings represent loans to the participant and notes receivable to the Plan. The minimum loan amount to a participant is \$1,000 and may not exceed the lesser of i) \$50,000 minus the participant's highest outstanding loan balance during the previous twelve months, or ii) 50% of the participant's vested account balance less the participant's highest outstanding loan balance during the previous twelve months. Participants generally repay loans through payroll withholdings over a period not to exceed 5 years. The currently outstanding notes receivable from participants are secured by the vested portion of the participant's account and bear interest at fixed rates that

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Notes to Financial Statements

range from 4.25% to 4.50%. The interest rate is established at the date of the loan and is based on the prime rate plus 1%. The interest rate remains fixed over the life of the loan and interest is computed monthly.

A participant may not have more than two loans outstanding at any time. In the event that a participant terminates employment for any reason, any outstanding loan balance will become due and payable in full at that time. However, the Plan provides that the Committee may take certain actions (as appropriate) to allow the participant to cure a default on a Plan loan.

Forfeited Accounts

Any forfeited amounts resulting from employee terminations prior to completion of the vesting period may be used to reduce future Company contributions or may be applied to Plan expenses incurred with respect to administering the Plan. Forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$630 at December 31, 2015 and \$2,956 at December 31, 2014. In 2015, the Plan used \$23,729 of the forfeited non-vested account balances to decrease Company contributions. No forfeitures were applied to Plan expenses during 2015.

Administrative Expenses

Loan origination and maintenance fees associated with notes receivable from participants, overnight check service fees, and the Plan's investment advisory and shareholder servicing fees are paid by the Plan and are reflected in the financial statements as administrative expenses. Investment management fees are charged to the Plan as a reduction of investment return and included in the investment income reported by the Plan. All other expenses of the Plan are paid by the Company.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance 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 changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation

The Plan's investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan's Investment Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisors and custodians. See Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements for discussion of fair value.

Income Recognition

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

The Plan presents, in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits, the net change in the fair value of its investments as investment income, which consists of the realized gains or losses and the unrealized appreciation or depreciation of those investments.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is reported on the accrual basis. No allowance for credit loss has been recorded as of December 31, 2015 or 2014. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the Plan administrator deems the participant loan to be in default, the participant loan balance is taxable and, if the participant is eligible to receive a distribution, a benefit payment is recorded.

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Accounting Standards Adopted in 2015

In July 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued authoritative guidance that removes the requirement to report fully-benefit responsive investment contracts at fair value with an adjustment to contract value for defined benefit pension plans, defined contribution pension plans and health and welfare benefit plans. Under the amendment, fully-benefit responsive investment contracts are measured, presented, and disclosed only at contract value. In addition, this amendment simplifies the investment disclosures required for employee benefit plans, including eliminating the requirements to disclose (i) individual investments that represent 5% or more of net assets available for benefits, (ii) net appreciation (depreciation) by individual investment type, and (iii) investment information disaggregated based on the nature, characteristics and risks. While the guidance would have been effective for the Plan beginning January 1, 2016, it provided for an early adoption, and the Plan elected to adopt its provisions effective January 1, 2015. The relevant provisions of this amendment were applied retrospectively to the accompanying Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2014 and Note 3 - Fair Value Measurements.

Other Newly Issued Accounting Standards

In May 2015, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on disclosures for entities that calculate net asset value per share for investments. The update aims to remove the requirement to categorize within the fair value hierarchy all investments for which fair value is measured using the net asset value per share practical expedient. The update also removes the requirement to make certain disclosures for all investments that are eligible to be measured at fair value using the net asset value per share practical expedient. Investments that calculate net asset value per share (or its equivalent), but for which the practical expedient is not applied, will continue to be included in the fair value hierarchy along with the related required disclosures. This guidance became effective for the Plan on January 1, 2016 and will impact disclosures only.

3. Fair Value Measurements

As defined in authoritative guidance related to fair value measurements and disclosure, fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The guidance establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurement).

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy defined by the guidance are as follows:

- Level 1 Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date. Active markets are those in which transactions for the assets or liabilities occur in sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.
- Level 2 Pricing inputs are other than quoted prices in active markets included in Level 1, which are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date.
- Level 3 Pricing inputs include significant unobservable inputs that are used to determine management’s best estimate of fair value from the perspective of market participants.

The asset or liability fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable

inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

It is important to note that the principal market and market participants should be considered from the reporting entity's perspective, as differences may occur between and among entities with differing activities.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

AGL Resources Inc. Common Stock

Shares of AGL Resources Inc. common stock are valued at the closing price per unit on each business day on the active