
Table of Contents

of trends in the power industry, information provided by our power purchasers and information available to management from other outside sources, as appropriate. These estimates are subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty.

We use estimates, assumptions and judgments for certain items, including the depreciable lives of property and equipment, income tax, revenue recognition and certain components of cost of revenue. These estimates, assumptions and judgments are derived and continually evaluated based on available information, experience and various assumptions we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. To the extent these estimates are materially incorrect and need to be revised, our operating results may be materially adversely affected.

Our significant accounting policies are summarized in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to our predecessor audited combined financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. We identify our most critical accounting policies as those that are the most pervasive and important to the portrayal of our financial position and results of operations, and that require the most difficult, subjective and/or complex judgments by management regarding estimates about matters that are inherently uncertain.

Use of estimates

In preparing our predecessor audited combined financial statements, we use estimates and assumptions that may affect reported amounts and disclosures. Estimates are used when accounting for depreciation, leases, derivatives, asset retirement obligations, accrued liabilities, and income taxes, among others. These estimates and assumptions are based on current facts, historical experience and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities and the recording of revenue, costs and expenses that are not readily apparent from other sources. To the extent there are material differences between the estimates and actual results, our future results of operations would be affected.

Asset retirement obligations

We operate under solar power services agreements with some customers that include a requirement for the removal of the solar energy systems at the end of the term of the agreement. Asset retirement obligations are recognized at fair value in the period in which they are incurred and the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset is correspondingly increased. Over time, the liability is accreted to its expected future value. The corresponding asset capitalized at inception is depreciated over the useful life of the solar energy system.

Revenue recognition

A significant majority of our revenues are obtained through the sale of energy (based on megawatts) pursuant to terms of PPAs or other contractual arrangements, which have a weighted average remaining life of 19 years as of March 31, 2015. All PPAs are accounted for as operating leases, have no minimum lease payments and all of the rental income under these leases is recorded as income when the electricity is delivered.

Impairment of long-lived assets

Long-lived assets that are held and used are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate carrying values may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized if the total future estimated undiscounted cash flows expected from an asset are less than its carrying value. An impairment charge is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and fair value with the difference recorded in operating costs and expenses in the statement of operations. Fair values are determined by a variety of valuation methods, including appraisals, sales prices of similar assets and present value techniques.