



Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation

## NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOVEMBER 17, 2021 – 9:30 A.M.  
TELECONFERENCE ONLY

### AGENDA

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. ELECTION OF ACTING CHAIR
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. MINUTES: JUNE 15, 2021 (SPECIAL MEETING)
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- VI. ORGANIZATION OF BOARD
  - A. BOARD MEMBERS' OATH OF OFFICE
  - B. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION ON THE SERIES 2021 TOBACCO BOND ISSUANCE
  - B. RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02: REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET AND APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET
  - C. RESOLUTION NO. 2021-03: APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL REPORT
  - D. OTHER MATTERS TO PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

*The Chair may announce changes in the order of business during the meeting.*



**NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION  
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**June 15, 2021**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Anchorage / Juneau / Fairbanks**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation was held at Alaska Housing Finance Corporation ("AHFC"), 1st Floor, 4300 Boniface Parkway, in Anchorage, Alaska via WebEx on June 15, 2021 commencing at approximately 11:30 a.m.

The following board members were present at the meeting via WebEx:

**JULIE ANDERSON**  
Via Teleconference

**Commissioner**  
Department of Commerce, Community,  
& Economic Development

**MIKE BARNHILL**  
Via Teleconference

**Designee for Commissioner**  
Department of Revenue

**ALBERT WALL**  
Via Teleconference

**Designee for Commissioner**  
Department of Health & Social Services

**I. ROLL CALL.** A quorum was declared present and the meeting was duly and properly convened for the transaction of business.

\* To conduct business, an acting chair needed to be elected. JULIE ANDERSON nominated MIKE BARNHILL as Acting Chair for the meeting. ALBERT WALL seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed to elect Mike Barnhill as Acting Chair. (3-0)

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.** ACTING CHAIR BARNHILL proposed the agenda be approved as presented. Seeing and hearing no objections, the agenda was approved as presented.

**III. MINUTES: NOVEMBER 18, 2020.** ACTING CHAIR BARNHILL asked for revisions or acceptance of the minutes. JULIE ANDERSON made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. ALBERT WALL seconded. Seeing and hearing no objection, the minutes were approved as presented.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** There were no public comments.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS.** There was no old business to present.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS.**

**A. RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF TOBACCO SETTLEMENT ASSET-BACKED BONDS, SERIES**



2021, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$350,000,000 (INCLUDING THE INITIAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT WITH RESPECT TO CAPITAL APPRECIATION BONDS). ACTING CHAIR BARNHILL introduced the item and MIKE STRAND presented. Mr. Strand stated that staff is proposing the issuance of up to \$350 million Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2021, proceeds of which will be used to fully redeem the currently outstanding Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2006, and to provide additional funding for certain State of Alaska public use projects appropriated by the Alaska State Legislature. Discussion followed. JULIE ANDERSON made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-01. ALBERT WALL seconded the motion. No further discussion or objection was heard. Resolution No. 2021-01 passed (3-0).

#### RESOLUTION 2021-01

RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF TOBACCO SETTLEMENT ASSET-BACKED BONDS, SERIES 2021, OF THE CORPORATION IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$350,000,000 (INCLUDING THE INITIAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT WITH RESPECT TO CAPITAL APPRECIATION BONDS); AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED TRUST INDENTURE, AS SUPPLEMENTED BY A SERIES SUPPLEMENT, TO SECURE THE SERIES 2021 BONDS AND THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE SALE OF SAID SERIES 2021 BONDS; APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY OFFERING CIRCULAR AND AN OFFERING CIRCULAR WITH RESPECT TO THE SERIES 2021 BONDS; AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS.

**B. OTHER MATTERS TO PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD.** No other matters were brought before the Board.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT.** ACTING CHAIR BARNHILL asked if there were any other matters to properly come before the board. JULIE ANDERSON made a motion to adjourn. Seeing and hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

ATTESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 17, 2021

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Staff

**RE:** Oath of Office

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***Issue:***

The State of Alaska Oath of Office must be taken by directors on the NTSC Board or affirmed as having been taken previously and remaining in effect.

***Recommendation and requested action:***

The minutes should reflect that all directors executed the State of Alaska Oath of Office either at or prior to the present meeting, and that each director confirms at the present meeting that his or her oath remains in effect.



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 17, 2021  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Election of Officers

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The NTSC By-Laws provide for an election of officers for the NTSC Board at the Annual Meeting. The officers to be elected are as follows:

Chair  
President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Current officers: (Vacant), Chair/President  
(Vacant), Secretary/Treasurer  
Bryan Butcher, Vice President



**DATE:** November 17, 2021  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Informational Presentation on the 2021 Bond Issuance

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At its June 15, 2021, Special Meeting, the Corporation's Board of Directors approved the issuance and sale of up to \$350 million of Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2021, at interest rates not to exceed 8% per annum and secured solely by revenues received from Tobacco Assets purchased from the State of Alaska ("State").

On July 1, 2021, the Corporation issued its \$282.5 million, fixed rate, tax-exempt Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2021, proceeds from the sale of which were used, along with approximately \$36.1 million of original issuance premium and \$34.8 million of assets held under the Indenture, to fully refund approximately \$316.8 million of then-outstanding Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2006, and to provide approximately \$19.0 million of additional capital project funding to the State.

**Structure:** \$282,480,482.50 Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2021  
    \$152,825,000.00 Series 2021A Class 1 Senior Current Interest Bonds  
    \$ 35,000,000.00 Series 2021B-1 Class 2 Senior Current Interest Bonds  
    \$ 94,655,482.50 Series 2021B-2 Class 2 Senior Capital Appreciation Bonds

**Sale:** The Series 2021 Bonds were sold on June 24, 2021. Pricing was very competitive, with over \$5.9 billion of total orders received across syndicate members, allowing significant downward adjustments to spreads across most of the structure.

**Yield:** The Series 2021A and 2021B-1 current interest bonds were issued at expected yields ranging from 0.18% to 2.20%. The Series 2021B-2 capital appreciation bonds accrete interest at 3.40% to an expected value at maturity of \$430.4 million

**Savings:** Refunding the Series 2006 Bonds is estimated to produce net present value debt service savings of \$134.0 million, or 42.5%, over the life of the Series 2021 Bonds.

**Security:** The Series 2021 Bonds are secured solely by the Corporation's right to receive 80% of payments to the State under the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement along with all assets held under and pledged to the Indenture.

**\*\*\* This item is for informational purposes only. No further Board action is requested. \*\*\***

**Syndicate:** The underwriting syndicate was selected by an evaluation committee consisting of staff from the Corporation and its financial advisor, Masterson Advisors. Based on responses to the Corporation's request for proposals dated April 5, 2021, Jefferies was selected as senior bookrunning manager, with Citigroup and Ramirez & Co. chosen as co-senior managers based on the strength of their respective RFP responses. Two additional large and highly experienced firms, Bank of America Securities and Wells Fargo Securities, were selected as co-managers to further support the transaction.

**Sale:** The Series 2021 Bonds were sold on June 24, 2021. Pricing was very competitive, with over \$5.9 billion of total orders received across syndicate members, allowing significant downward adjustments to spreads across most of the structure. Underwriter fees and other costs of issuance totaled approximately \$2.4 million.

**Savings:** The Corporation's use of Series 2021 bond proceeds to fully refund its Series 2006 Bonds is expected to result in net present value debt service savings of approximately \$134.0 million, or approximately 42.5%, over the life of the Series 2021 Bonds.

**\*\*\* This item is for informational purposes only. No further Board action is requested. \*\*\***



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 17, 2021  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Review of FY 2021 Budget and Approval of FY 2023 Budget

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***Issue:***

The Corporation requires Board approval of its annual budget.

A draft budget for FY 2023 is attached, along with a comparison of budgeted-to-actual expenses for FY 2021.

***Recommendation and requested action:***

The Board is requested to authorize the attached budget for FY 2023.





Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHERN TOBACCO  
SECURITIZATION CORPORATION APPROVING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023.**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation hereby approves the annual budget for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, a copy of which has been presented to, and is made a part of the record of, this meeting.

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair



**Budget-to-Actuals Analysis**  
**Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Tobacco Settlement Revenues	\$ 68,405	\$ 52,891	\$ 15,514
AHFC Building Lease	3,600	3,592	8
AHFC Services	5,305	5,325	(20)
General Expenses	20,000	9,643	10,357
Trustee Fees and Expenses	17,000	16,831	169
Audit Fees	17,000	13,100	3,900
Board Travel & Stipend Expenses	1,000	0	1,000
Board Liability Insurance	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,400</u>	<u>100</u>
Total Expenses	\$ <u>68,405</u>	\$ <u>52,891</u>	\$ <u>15,514</u>



**Operating Budget  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023**

**Revenues**

Tobacco Settlement Revenues	\$ 60,000	
Total Revenues	<u>                    </u>	\$ 60,000

**Expenditures**

AHFC Building Lease	3,600	
AHFC Services	5,400	
General Expenses	12,000	
Trustee Fees & Expenses	20,000	
Audit Fees	13,500	
Board Travel & Stipend Expenses	1,000	
Board Liability Insurance	4,500	
Total Expenses	<u>                    </u>	60,000
Excess of Expenses over Revenues		<u>                    </u> \$ 0

Note that the revenues and expenses anticipated for debt service are not shown on this budget.



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 17, 2021  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Authorization of Annual Report

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***Issue:***

Article VII, Section (xiii) of the Articles of Incorporation requires that the Corporation be audited annually and any financial reports required of the Corporation be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Article III, Section 11, of the By-Laws requires that such annual reports be entered into the minutes of, and filed with the records of, the Corporation at its annual meeting.

***Recommendation and requested action:***

In accordance with the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation, the Board is requested to authorize the attached annual report for FY 2021.



Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-03**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021.**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation hereby approves the Annual Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, a copy of which has been presented to, and is made a part of the record of, this meeting.

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

# **Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation**

a component unit of the State of Alaska

## **Financial Statements**

**June 30, 2021**

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For comments please contact:

Mailing: 4300 Boniface Parkway, Suite 205  
Anchorage, AK 99504  
(907) 330-8322



## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors  
Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation  
Anchorage, Alaska

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, and each major fund of Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation (NTSC), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise NTSC'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 opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit 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 opinions.



**Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of NTSC, as of June 30, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note A to the financial statements, NTSC's repayment of long-term debt is dependent on several factors, including the continued financial capability of participating cigarette manufactures to pay tobacco settlement revenues and future cigarette consumption. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

**Other Matters****Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 5 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.



Boise, Idaho  
October 15, 2021

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues and activities and to identify significant changes in the financial position of Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation ("NTSC") during the year ended June 30, 2021. This information should be read in conjunction with the Independent Auditors' Report, financial statements and accompanying notes.

NTSC is a component unit of the State of Alaska ("the State").

## OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NTSC's annual financial statements consist of two parts: Management's Discussion and Analysis and basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include government-wide presentation, governmental fund presentation and Notes to Financial Statements. The financial statements for June 30, 2021, are intended to facilitate and enhance understanding of NTSC's financial position and results of operations for the current fiscal year.

The government-wide financial statements of NTSC, which include the *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities*, are presented to display information about NTSC as a whole and are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows.

The *Statement of Net Position* (Exhibit A) answers the question, "How is our financial health at the end of the year?" This statement includes all assets and liabilities. Over time, changes in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of NTSC is improving or deteriorating.

The *Statement of Activities* (Exhibit B) accounts for all of the revenues and expenses. This statement measures the success of NTSC's operations over the past year and can be used to determine whether NTSC has successfully recovered all of its costs through its revenue sources. This statement helps answer the question "Is NTSC as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?"

The *Reconciliation of the Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities* (Exhibit C) is provided to assist readers in understanding the differences between government-wide and governmental fund financial statements.

The *Notes to Financial Statements* provide additional information that is essential to obtain a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide financial statements. The Notes to Financial Statements follow Exhibit C.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Tobacco settlement revenue received by NTSC in fiscal year 2021 was \$17.1 million, compared to \$16.1 million in fiscal year 2020.
- Bond principal in the amount of \$2.5 million was paid in fiscal year 2021.
- Bond interest totaling \$14.4 million was paid in fiscal year 2021.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
(in thousands)

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Investments	\$ 35,060	\$ 34,986
Interest receivable	1	5
Total assets	<u>35,061</u>	<u>34,991</u>
Bonds, net	310,673	311,121
Bond interest payable	1,171	1,181
Total liabilities	<u>311,844</u>	<u>312,302</u>
Restricted net position	34,857	34,793
Unrestricted net position (deficit)	<u>(311,640)</u>	<u>(312,104)</u>
Total net position (deficit)	<u>\$ (276,783)</u>	<u>\$ (277,311)</u>

There were no significant changes in total assets, total liabilities, or total net position as of June 30, 2021.

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
(in thousands)

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Tobacco settlement revenue	\$ 17,103	\$ 16,052
Investment interest	110	532
Net decrease in fair value of investments	(59)	87
Realized loss on investments	(3)	-
Total revenue	<u>17,151</u>	<u>16,671</u>
Interest expense	16,418	16,336
Insurance and financing	181	33
General and administrative	24	25
Total expenses	<u>16,623</u>	<u>16,394</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	528	277
Changes in net position	<u>\$ 528</u>	<u>\$ 277</u>

In fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, tobacco revenues received and expenses incurred by NTSC were similar to the prior year. As a result, the excess of revenues over expenses remained relatively unchanged.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**FUNDS**

NTSC has two funds.

- The debt service fund is restricted solely to debt service activities.
- The general fund is the operating fund of NTSC. It represents all of NTSC's activities not presented in the debt service fund.

**DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

As of June 30, 2021, NTSC had \$310.7 million in outstanding revenue bonds, net of discount and accreted value, secured solely by future tobacco settlement revenue and investment earnings. Significant debt activity during fiscal year 2021 consisted of debt service payments of \$16.9 million of which \$14.4 million represented interest and \$2.5 million represented principal paydown.

Ratings on NTSC's bonds are subject to change as the companies that rate the bonds analyze numerous factors that may affect NTSC's ability to pay interest on and principal of its outstanding obligations. Therefore, there has been no attempt to list the ratings as of the date of this report. However, current information is available through the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access service ("EMMA") at <http://emma.msrb.org>.

Additional information on NTSC's long-term debt can be found in the Notes to Financial Statements.

**ECONOMIC FACTORS**

Tobacco settlement revenue, the primary revenue source for NTSC, is dependent on future tobacco product sales. If the consumption of tobacco products increases, then NTSC's tobacco settlement revenue will increase; if consumption decreases, revenue will also decrease. If consumption remains consistent, tobacco settlement revenue will remain stable.

**CONTACTING NTSC'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of NTSC's finances and to show NTSC's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, please contact NTSC at (907) 330-8396 or [finance@ntscak.us](mailto:finance@ntscak.us).

**NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION**

**EXHIBIT A**

(A Component Unit of the State of Alaska)

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET / STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

As of June 30, 2021

(in thousands of dollars)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Debt Service Fund</u>	<u>Governmental Funds Balance Sheet Total</u>	<u>Adjustments*</u>	<u>Statement of Net Position Total</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Investments	\$ 204	\$ 34,856	\$ 35,060	\$ -	\$ 35,060
Interest receivable	-	1	1	-	1
Total Assets	<u>204</u>	<u>34,857</u>	<u>35,061</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,061</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Bond interest payable	-	-	-	1,171	1,171
Long-term debt:					
Due after one year	-	-	-	297,333	297,333
Unamortized bond discount	-	-	-	(4,555)	(4,555)
Accreted value	-	-	-	17,895	17,895
Total Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>311,844</u>	<u>311,844</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Fund balances:					
Unassigned	204	-	204		
Restricted for debt service	-	34,857	34,857		
Total Fund Balances	<u>204</u>	<u>34,857</u>	<u>35,061</u>		
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 204</u>	<u>\$ 34,857</u>			
<b>NET POSITION</b>					
Restricted for debt service					34,857
Unrestricted (deficit)					(311,640)
Total Net Position (deficit)				<u>\$ (311,844)</u>	<u>\$ (276,783)</u>

**\*Adjustments:**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different than the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet totals because:

Total Fund Balances	35,061
Interest payable and long-term debt are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds.	(298,504)
Governmental funds report bond discounts as other financing uses when incurred. The Statement of Net Position records bond discounts as a contra-liability to long-term debt and amortizes such items to interest expense over the life of the debt.	4,555
Governmental funds report accreted value at the time the bonds are redeemed. The Statement of Net Position amortizes such items as a reduction to expense over the life of the debt .	(17,895)
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ (276,783)</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION**

**EXHIBIT B**

(A Component Unit of the State of Alaska)

**STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES / STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the Year Ending June 30, 2021

(in thousands of dollars)

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Debt Service Fund</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Adjustments (Exhibit C)</b>	<b>Statement of Activities</b>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES</b>					
Tobacco settlement revenues	\$ -	\$ 17,103	\$ 17,103	\$ -	\$ 17,103
Investment interest	-	110	110	-	110
Net increase (decrease) in fair value of investments	-	(59)	(59)	-	(59)
Realized gain (loss) on investments	-	(3)	(3)	-	(3)
Total revenues	<u>-</u>	<u>17,151</u>	<u>17,151</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,151</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES</b>					
Current:					
Insurance and financing	181	-	181	-	181
General and administrative	24	-	24	-	24
Debt Service:					
Principal	-	2,510	2,510	(2,510)	-
Interest	-	14,366	14,366	2,052	16,418
Total expenditures/expenses	<u>205</u>	<u>16,876</u>	<u>17,081</u>	<u>(458)</u>	<u>16,623</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(205)</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>458</u>	<u>528</u>
Transfers - internal activities	<u>211</u>	<u>(211)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	6	64	70	(70)	-
Change in net position	-	-	-	528	528
<b>FUND BALANCES and NET POSITION (DEFICIT)</b>					
Beginning of year	198	34,793	34,991	(312,302)	(277,311)
End of year	<u>\$ 204</u>	<u>\$ 34,857</u>	<u>\$ 35,061</u>	<u>\$ (311,844)</u>	<u>\$ (276,783)</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION**

**EXHIBIT C**

(A Component Unit of the State of Alaska)

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the Year Ending June 30, 2021

(in thousands of dollars)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different than the Total Governmental Funds because:

Net change in fund balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ 70

Repayment of bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. 2,510

*Adjustments to Debt Service-Interest:*

Governmental funds report accreted value at the time the bonds are redeemed. The Statement of Net Position amortizes the accreted value to interest expense over the life of the debt. (1,820)

Governmental funds report bond discount as a financing use when incurred. The Statement of Activities amortizes the bond discount to interest expense over the life of the debt. (242)

Bond interest is reported as an expenditure in the governmental funds when paid. Interest expense is reported in the Statement of Activities when incurred. 10

Change in net position of government activities \$ 528

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

**FOOTNOTE INDEX**

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Notes to Financial Statements

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

**NOTE A: THE NORTHERN TOBACCO SECURITIZATION CORPORATION**

The Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation (“NTSC”) is a not-for-profit corporation. It was incorporated on September 29, 2000, under the Alaska Nonprofit Corporation Act and provisions of the Alaska Statutes creating the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, as amended. NTSC was formed as an affiliate of Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (“AHFC”) pursuant to House Bill No. 281 of the Alaska Legislature. NTSC is legally independent and separate from AHFC, and there is no financial accountability between NTSC and AHFC.

NTSC is a component unit of the State of Alaska (“the State”) and is presented as a component of the special revenue and debt service funds in the State’s financial statements. NTSC is a government instrumentality of the State but has legal existence independent of and separate from the State. The Board of Directors of NTSC is comprised of the Commissioners of the Alaska Departments of Revenue, Health & Social Services, and Commerce, Community & Economic Development, or their designees, and two independent members of the public recommended by the Governor.

The purpose of NTSC is to purchase from the State portions of its future right, title and interest in the Tobacco Settlement Revenues (“TSRs”) under the Master Settlement Agreement and the Consent Decree and Final Judgment (“MSA”). The MSA resolved tobacco-related litigation between the settling states and the Participating Manufacturers (“PMs”), released the PMs from past and present tobacco-related claims of the settling states, and provides for a continuing release of future tobacco-related claims, in exchange for certain payments to be made to the settling states, as well as certain tobacco advertising and marketing restrictions, among other things.

In October 2000, pursuant to a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the State, the State sold to NTSC 40% of its future right, title and interest in the TSRs. Specifically, these rights include a 40% share of TSRs received by the State starting January 10, 2002, and in perpetuity under the MSA. When NTSC’s obligations under the bonds have been fulfilled, the TSRs revert back to the State under a residual certificate. Consideration paid by NTSC to the State for TSRs consisted of a cash amount sent to the State’s custodial trust accounts and a residual certificate assigned to the State.

In August 2001, pursuant to a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the State, the State sold to NTSC an additional 40% of its future right, title and interest in the TSRs. Specifically these rights include a 40% share of TSRs received by the State starting January 10, 2002, and in perpetuity under the MSA. This 40% share is above and beyond the 40% share originally purchased from the State by NTSC in October 2000. When NTSC’s obligations under the bonds have been fulfilled, the TSRs revert back to the State under a residual certificate. Consideration paid by NTSC to the State for TSRs consisted of a cash amount sent to the State’s custodial trust accounts and a residual certificate assigned to the State.

In August 2006, pursuant to a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the State, the State extended NTSC’s right, title and interest in the previously purchased TSRs until such time as NTSC’s obligations under the 2006 bonds have been fulfilled, after which the TSRs revert back to the State under residual certificates.

The bonds of NTSC are asset-backed instruments secured solely by the TSRs, and NTSC’s right to receive TSRs is expected to produce funding for its obligations. The TSR payments are dependent on a variety of factors, some of which are:

- the financial capability of the participating cigarette manufacturers to pay TSRs,
- future cigarette consumption which impacts the TSR payment, and
- future legal and legislative challenges against the tobacco manufacturers and the master settlement agreement providing for the TSRs.

Changes in these factors could affect the amount of funds available to pay scheduled debt service requirements.

Notes to Financial Statements

**NOTE B: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

***Basis of Presentation***

NTSC's annual financial statements include a Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") and basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include a Governmental Funds Balance Sheet / Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances / Statement of Activities, a Reconciliation of the Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities, and Notes to Financial Statements. The financial statements are intended to facilitate and enhance understanding of NTSC's financial position and results of operations for the current fiscal year.

***Government-wide and Governmental Fund Financial Statements***

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information on all of the activities of NTSC. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. The Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances are provided for governmental funds.

***Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation***

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, NTSC considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

The General Fund is the operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources not required to be accounted for in the Debt Service Fund. The Debt Service Fund accounts for the financial resources accumulated for payments of principal and interest of NTSC's long-term debt.

**NOTE C: ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY**

***Assets***

The assets reported are investments stated at fair value based on quoted market prices. Because the bonds were issued to purchase a future revenue stream, no other assets are reported, resulting in a negative fund balance.

***Long-Term Debt***

NTSC reports long-term debt at face value, net of discounts. Bond discounts are capitalized and amortized over the life of the related debt in the entity-wide financial statements. The governmental fund financial statements recognize bond discounts, in their entirety, during the period incurred. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as expenditures.

Gains and losses associated with the extinguishment of long-term debt are recognized in the current period for both the entity-wide and governmental financial statements. In the entity-wide statements, such gains and losses arise from the difference between the repurchase price and the par value of the bonds, along with any forfeited unamortized bond discount amounts. In the governmental fund statements, such gains and losses arise solely due to the difference between the repurchase price and the par value of the bonds, because bond discounts are expensed in the current period rather than capitalized and amortized over the life of the related debt. For fiscal year 2021, no such gains or losses are reported in the financial statements.

Interest expense is recognized on the accrual basis in the entity-wide financial statements. Interest

Notes to Financial Statements

expenditures are recognized when paid in the individual governmental fund financial statements.

***Fund Balances and Net Position***

The General Fund balance is unassigned, meaning it is the total of net resources of the General Fund in excess of nonspendable, restricted or committed funds balance. Its financial resources are used to pay NTSC's operating expenditures. At the government-wide level the Net Position balance has an unrestricted deficit balance. There is no formal policy for the order in which the Corporation spends restricted, committed, and unassigned funds.

The Debt Service Fund balance is restricted. All its financial resources are restricted for debt service payments. At the government-wide level the Net Position balance is also restricted due to bond indenture requirements.

**NOTE D: INVESTMENTS**

**Deposit and Investment Policies**

Investments are made under the terms of the governing bond indenture. The following types of investments are considered eligible:

- Direct obligations of, or obligations guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by, FHLMC, FNMA or the Federal Farm Credit System;
- Demand and time deposits in, certificates of deposit of, and bankers' acceptances issued by, any bank, trust company, savings and loan, or savings bank provided such instruments have been rated at least "A-1+" by S&P, "P-1" by Moody's and "F1" by Fitch (if rated by Fitch);
- General obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by, any state of the United States or the District of Columbia receiving one of the two highest long-term unsecured debt rating categories available for such securities from S&P, Moody's and Fitch (if rated by Fitch);
- Commercial or finance company paper rated "A-1+" by S&P, "P-1" by Moody's and "F1" by Fitch (if rated by Fitch);
- Repurchase obligations rated in one of the two highest long-term rating categories by S&P, Moody's and Fitch (if rated by Fitch) or collateralized at a minimum level of 102%;
- Interest-bearing or discount securities issued by any corporation incorporated under the laws of the United States or any state thereof rated "A-1+" by S&P, "P-1" by Moody's and "F1" by Fitch (if rated by Fitch);
- Taxable money market funds rated in one of the two highest categories by Moody's or Fitch (if rated by Fitch), or at least "AAm" or "Aam-G" by S&P;
- Investment agreements or guaranteed investment contracts rated in one of the two highest long-term rating categories by S&P, Moody's or Fitch (if rated by Fitch) or collateralized at a minimum level of 102%;
- Other obligations, securities, agreements or contracts which are non-callable and acceptable to each rating agency.

**Investment Valuation**

NTSC categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

NTSC measures its investments in money market funds of \$35,060,185 using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs).

Notes to Financial Statements

**Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk of loss due to the failure of the security or backer. Per policy, NTSC mitigates its credit risk by limiting investments to those permitted under the terms of the governing bond indenture, diversifying the investment portfolio, and pre-qualifying firms with which NTSC administers its investment activities.

The credit quality ratings of NTSC's investments as of June 30, 2021, as described by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, are shown below (in thousands).

<b>Investment</b>	<b>Moody's</b>	<b>Fitch</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>
<b>Money market funds</b>	Aaa-mf	AAAmf	\$ 35,060,185
<b>Total investments</b>			<b>\$ 35,060,185</b>

**Concentration Risk**

Concentration risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of NTSC's investment in a single issuer. Concentration limits are not established under the terms of the governing bond indenture and governing agreements for trust investments. NTSC has not established a formal concentration risk policy for its investments.

***Investment Holdings Greater than Five Percent of Total Portfolio***

The following investment holdings, summarized by issuer, are trusted investments which have no established concentration limits. Investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government and investments in mutual funds are excluded from this summary. As of June 30, 2021, NTSC had investment balances greater than 5 percent of its total investments with the following issuer (in thousands)

<b>Issuer</b>	<b>Investment Fair Value</b>	<b>Percentage of Portfolio</b>
Morgan Stanley	35,060,185	100.00%

**Custodial Credit Risk**

For investments, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of failure of the custodian or counterparty holding the investment, NTSC will not be able to recover the value of the investment. NTSC has not established a formal custodial credit risk policy for its investments.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the market value of investments will decline as a result of changes in general interest rates. Per its policy, NTSC mitigates interest rate risk by structuring investment maturities to meet cash requirements as outlined in the governing bond indenture and contractual agreements.

***Modified Duration***

Modified duration estimates the sensitivity of an investment to interest rate changes. The following table shows the modified duration of NTSC's investments (in thousands) as of June 30, 2021:

	<b>Investment Fair Value</b>	<b>Modified Duration</b>
<b>Money market funds</b>	\$ 35,060,185	0.000
<b>Total Investment</b>	<u>\$ 35,060,185</u>	
<b>Portfolio modified duration</b>		<u>0.000</u>

Notes to Financial Statements

**Investment Term**

The investment term of all debt security investments by contractual maturity is one year or less. Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

**NOTE E: LONG-TERM DEBT**

On October 13, 2000, NTSC issued \$116,050,000 of its Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2000, to purchase the initial 40% portion of TSRs from the State. On August 2, 2001, NTSC issued an additional \$126,790,000 of its Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2001, to purchase an additional 40% portion of TSRs from the State.

On August 17, 2006, NTSC issued \$411,988,000 of its Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2006A, B, and C. These bonds were issued to fully defease the Series 2000 and Series 2001 bonds. Pursuant to the terms of the bond indenture, proceeds from the sale in the amount of \$170,280,000 was used to fund additional capital projects as appropriated by the Alaska State Legislature. The Series 2006 bonds are secured by and payable solely from the TSRs and investment earnings pledged under the indenture and amounts held in accordance with the indenture. The Series 2006A bonds bear interest at a fixed annual rate, between 4.625% and 5.00%, payable semi-annually until the principal is redeemed. These bonds have scheduled sinking fund maturities of June 1, 2046. The Series 2006B and 2006C bonds accrete interest at 6.125% and 6.375% respectively, compounded semi-annually, to become part of the accreted value until the principal is redeemed.

The term bonds in all Series contain turbo redemption features which require that all TSR collections in excess of operating expenditures and scheduled debt service be applied to the redemption of the term bonds. The turbo redemptions are not scheduled amortization payments and are to be made only from surplus collections, if any. Failure to make a turbo principal payment will not constitute an event of default under the indenture.

**Debt Service Requirements**

Debt service requirements represent the minimum amount of sinking fund and term maturity principal and interest that NTSC must pay as of the specific distribution dates. A failure to make an interest payment or a term maturity principal payment (June 1 of 2023, 2032, and 2046) constitutes an event of default under the indenture. A failure to make a sinking fund payment does not constitute an event of default under the indenture. Debt service requirements, through 2026 and in five year increments thereafter to maturity, are shown below (in thousands):

<b>Year Ended June 30</b>	<b>Series 2006 Bonds</b>		
	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2022	\$ -	\$ 14,251	\$ 14,251
2023	2,855	14,251	17,106
2024	5,930	14,119	20,049
2025	6,480	13,822	20,302
2026	6,590	13,498	20,088
2027-2031	41,160	61,983	103,143
2032-2036	54,255	50,367	104,622
2037-2041	71,225	35,323	106,548
2042-2046	108,838	15,071	123,909
	<b>\$ 297,333</b>	<b>\$ 232,685</b>	<b>\$ 530,018</b>

Notes to Financial Statements

The activity for long-term debt for the year ended June 30, 2021, is summarized in the following schedule (in thousands):

<b>TOTAL ACTIVITY</b>	<b>June 30, 2020</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Reductions</b>	<b>June 30, 2021</b>	<b>Due Within One Year</b>
Series 2006 bonds payable	\$ 299,843	\$ -	\$ (2,510)	\$ 297,333	\$ -
Plus: Accreted value	16,076	1,819	-	17,895	-
Less: Discount	(4,798)	-	243	(4,555)	-
<b>Total long term debt</b>	<b>\$ 311,121</b>	<b>\$ 1,819</b>	<b>\$ (2,267)</b>	<b>\$ 310,673</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

At June 30, 2021, NTSC maintained a debt service reserve account for the Series 2006 bonds of \$27,620,000. The amount required under the governing bond indenture is \$27,618,000.

**NOTE F: YIELD RESTRICTION AND ARBITRAGE REBATE**

Most of the investments made under NTSC's tax-exempt bond program are subject to rebate provisions or restricted as to yields. The rebate provisions require that a calculation be performed every five years and upon full retirement of the bonds to determine the amount, if any, of excess yield earned and owed to the Internal Revenue Service. There were no excess earnings recorded or paid for the year ended June 30, 2021.

**NOTE G: CONTINGENCIES**

***Tobacco Litigation Risk***

The amount of revenue recognized by NTSC could be adversely impacted by certain third party litigation involving tobacco companies and others.

**NOTE H: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

NTSC entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with AHFC that retains AHFC as Administrator with respect to the preparation of all reports and other instruments and documents that NTSC is required to prepare, execute, file or deliver pursuant to the bond indenture and related agreements for a monthly fee. NTSC also entered into a Sub-Lease Agreement with AHFC for office space, overhead and operating services from AHFC for a monthly fee. The cost to NTSC for these services provided by AHFC for the year ended June, 30, 2021, was approximately \$9,000. This amount was included as a portion of General and Administrative Expenditures/Expenses.

**NOTE I: SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

On July 1, 2021, the Corporation issued \$282,480,483 of its Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, 2021 Series A, B and C. Proceeds of the sale were used to fully refund the Corporation's outstanding Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2006. Pursuant to the terms of the 2021 Bond Indenture, proceeds from the sale in the amount of \$18,985,000 will be used to fund additional capital projects as appropriated by the Alaska State Legislature.



October 15, 2021

To the Board of Directors  
Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation  
Anchorage, Alaska

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation (the Corporation) for the year ended June 30, 2021 and have issued our report thereon dated, October 15, 2021. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

#### **Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit**

As communicated in our letter dated May 7, 2021, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes 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 entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Corporation solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

#### **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

#### **Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence**

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and other firms utilized in the engagement, if applicable, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

## **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

### *Significant Accounting Policies*

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Corporation is included in Note 2 to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during 2021. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### *Significant Accounting Estimates*

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments. No significant estimates were used in the current year.

### *Financial Statement Disclosures*

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the Corporation's financial statements relate to:

The disclosure in Note D to the financial statements over investment valuation, credit risk, and concentration risk.

## **Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

## **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. There were no corrected or uncorrected misstatements identified as a result of our audit procedures.

## **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.



### **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 15, 2021.

### **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

### **Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues**

In the normal course of our professional association with the Corporation we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, business conditions affecting the entity, and business plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Corporation's auditors.

### **Modification of the Auditor's Report**

We have made the following modification to our auditor's report:

As discussed in Note A to the financial statements, the Corporation's repayment of long-term debt is dependent on several factors, including the continued financial capability of participating cigarette manufactures to pay tobacco settlement revenues and future cigarette consumption. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

This information is intended solely for the use of Board of Directors and management of Northern Tobacco Securitization Corporation and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erik Sully LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Boise, Idaho