## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

[X] ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

Or

[ ] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission file number 1-15759

CLECO CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Louisiana (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

72-1445282 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

71360-5226

(Zip Code)

2030 Donahue Ferry Road, Pineville, Louisiana (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (318) 484-7400

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Name of each exchange on which registered

New York Stock Exchange

Common Stock, \$1.00 par value, and associated rights to purchase Preferred Stock

Title of each class

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

Title of each class 4.50% Cumulative Preferred Stock, \$100 Par Value

Commission file number 1-05663

CLECO POWER LLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Louisiana (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

72-0244480 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2030 Donahue Ferry Road, Pineville, Louisiana (Address of principal executive offices) 71360-5226 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (318) 484-7400

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class 6.52% Medium-Term Notes due 2009 Name of each exchange on which registered New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

#### Title of each class Membership Interests

Cleco Power LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation, meets the conditions set forth in General Instruction (I)(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-K and is therefore filing this Form 10-K with the reduced disclosure format.

Indicate by check mark if Cleco Corporation is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if Cleco Power LLC is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes "No x

Indicate by check mark if the Registrants are not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes " No x

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrants: (1) have filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrants were required to file such reports) and (2) have been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yesx No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of each of the Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. x

Indicate by check mark whether Cleco Corporation is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer " Non-accelerated filer " (Do not check if a Smaller reporting company "

Indicate by check mark whether Cleco Power LLC is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer " smaller reporting company) Accelerated filer " Non-accelerated filer x (Do not check if a Smaller reporting company "

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrants are shell companies (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act) Yes " No x

The aggregate market value of the Cleco Corporation voting stock held by non-affiliates was \$1,373,458,984 as of the last business day of Cleco Corporation's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, based on a price of \$23.33 per common share, the closing price of Cleco Corporation's common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange on such date. Cleco Corporation's Cumulative Preferred Stock is not listed on any national securities exchange, nor are prices for the Cumulative Preferred Stock quoted on any national automated quotation system; therefore, its market value is not readily determinable and is not included in the foregoing amount.

(Continuation of cover page)

As of February 2, 2009, there were 60,232,833 outstanding shares of Cleco Corporation's Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share. As of February 2, 2009, all of Cleco Power's Membership Interests were owned by Cleco Corporation.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of Cleco Corporation's definitive Proxy Statement relating to its Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 24, 2009, are incorporated by reference into Part III herein.

This combined Form 10-K is separately filed by Cleco Corporation and Cleco Power. Information in this filing relating to Cleco Power is filed by Cleco Corporation and separately by Cleco Power on its own behalf. Cleco Power makes no representation as to information relating to Cleco Corporation (except as it may relate to Cleco Power) or any other affiliate or subsidiary of Cleco Corporation.

This report should be read in its entirety as it pertains to each respective Registrant. The Notes to the Financial Statements for the Registrants and certain other sections of this report are combined.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

References in this filing, including all items in Parts I, II, III, and IV, to "Cleco" mean Cleco Corporation and its

subsidiaries, including Cleco Power, and references to "Cleco Power" mean Cleco Power LLC, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Additional abbreviations or acronyms used in this filing, including all items in Parts I, II, III, and IV are defined below:

ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM	<sup>1</sup> DEFINITION
401(k) Plan	Cleco Power 401(k) Savings and Investment Plan
Acadia	Acadia Power Partners, LLC and its combined-cycle, natural gas-fired power plant near Eunice, Louisiana, 50% owned by APH and 50% owned by Cajun. Prior to September 13, 2007, Acadia was 50% owned by APH and 50% owned by Calpine Acadia Holdings, LLC.
AFUDC	Allowance for Funds Used During Construction
AICPA	American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Amended EPC Contract	Amended and Restated EPC Contract between Cleco Power and Shaw, executed on May 12, 2006, for engineering, procurement, and construction of Rodemacher Unit 3, as amended by Amendment No. 1 thereto effective March 9, 2007, and Amendment No. 2 thereto dated as of July 2, 2008
APB	Accounting Principles Board
10	Consolidated Financial Statements, Poolings of Interest, Convertible Debt and Debt Issued with Stock Warrants Installment Method of Accounting
APB Opinion No. 18	The Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock
APB Opinion No. 21	
APB Opinion No. 25	Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees
APH	Acadia Power Holdings LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream
APH ARB	Acadia Power Holdings LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream Accounting Research Bulletin
	- · ·
ARB	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements Asset Retirement Obligation
ARB ARB No. 51	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements
ARB ARB No. 51 ARO	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements Asset Retirement Obligation Attala Transmission LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation. Prior to February 1,
ARB ARB No. 51 ARO Attala	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements Asset Retirement Obligation Attala Transmission LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation. Prior to February 1, 2007, Attala was a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream.
ARB ARB No. 51 ARO Attala Bear Energy Bear Stearns Companies Inc. Bidding	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements Asset Retirement Obligation Attala Transmission LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation. Prior to February 1, 2007, Attala was a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream. BE Louisiana LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of JPMorgan Chase & Co. The parent company of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. Bidding Procedures Order, in connection with the sale of CAH's interest in Acadia, approved by the Calpine Debtors Bankruptcy Court by order dated May 9, 2007
ARB ARB No. 51 ARO Attala Bear Energy Bear Stearns Companies Inc. Bidding Procedures Order CAA	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements Asset Retirement Obligation Attala Transmission LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation. Prior to February 1, 2007, Attala was a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream. BE Louisiana LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of JPMorgan Chase & Co. The parent company of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. Bidding Procedures Order, in connection with the sale of CAH's interest in Acadia, approved by the Calpine Debtors Bankruptcy Court by order dated May 9, 2007 Clean Air Act
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ARB ARB No. 51 ARO Attala Bear Energy Bear Stearns Companies Inc. Bidding Procedures Order CAA CAH CAH Assets Cajun	Accounting Research Bulletin Consolidated Financial Statements Asset Retirement Obligation Attala Transmission LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation. Prior to February 1, 2007, Attala was a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream. BE Louisiana LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of JPMorgan Chase & Co. The parent company of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. Bidding Procedures Order, in connection with the sale of CAH's interest in Acadia, approved by the Calpine Debtors Bankruptcy Court by order dated May 9, 2007 Clean Air Act Calpine Acadia Holdings, LLC CAH's interest in Acadia and certain related assets Cajun Gas Energy L.L.C., an affiliate of pooled investment funds managed by King Street Capital Management, L.P. Calpine Corporation
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Calpine Tolling Agreements	Capacity Sale and Tolling Agreements between Acadia and CES which were suspended in March 2006
CCN	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
CES	Calpine Energy Services, L.P.
	t Claims Settlement Agreement, dated April 23, 2007, by and among Calpine, CAH, CES, Acadia,
Agreement	and APH
CLE Intrastate	CLE Intrastate Pipeline Company LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream
Cleco Energy	Cleco Energy LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream
Cleco Innovations	
Cleco Katrina/Rita	Cleco Katrina/Rita Hurricane Recovery Funding LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Power
CO2	Carbon dioxide
Compliance Plan	The one-year plan included in the Stipulation and Consent Agreement (Docket No. IN07-28-00), effective June 12, 2007
Consent Agreement	Stipulation and Consent Agreement, dated as of July 25, 2003, between Cleco and the FERC Staff
DHLC	Dolet Hills Lignite Company, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of SWEPCO
Diversified Lands	Diversified Lands LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Innovations LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation
EITF	Emerging Issues Task Force of the FASB
EITF No. 06-11	Accounting for Income Tax Benefits of Dividends on Share-Based Payment Awards
EITF No. 07-1	Accounting for Collaborative Arrangements Related to the Development and Commercialization of Intellectual Property
EITF No. 07-3	Accounting for Nonrefundable Advance Payments for Goods or Services to Be Used in Future Research and Development Activities
EITF No. 08-5	Issuer's Accounting for Liabilities Measured at Fair Value with a Third Party Credit Enhancement
EITF No. 08-6	Equity Method Investment Accounting Considerations
EITF No. 94-1	Accounting for Tax Benefits Resulting from Investments in Affordable Housing Projects
Entergy	Entergy Corporation
Entergy Gulf States	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.
Entergy Louisiana	a Entergy Louisiana, Inc.
Entergy Mississippi	Entergy Mississippi, Inc.
Entergy Services	Entergy Services, Inc., as agent for Entergy Louisiana and Entergy Gulf States
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPC	Engineering, Procurement, and Construction
ERO	Electric Reliability Organization
3	

#### ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM DEFINITION

OR ACRONYM	
ESOP	Cleco Corporation Employee Stock Ownership Plan
ESPP	Cleco Corporation Employee Stock Purchase Plan
Evangeline	Cleco Evangeline LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream, and its combined-cycle, natural
	gas-fired power plant located in Evangeline Parish, Louisiana
Evangeline	Capacity Sale and Tolling Agreement between Evangeline and BE Louisiana LLC (as successor to
Tolling	Williams Power Company, Inc. (formerly known as Williams Energy Marketing & Trading
Agreement	Company)) which expires in 2020
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FIN	FASB Interpretation No.
FIN 39	Offsetting of Amounts Related to Certain Contracts – an interpretation of APB Opinion No. 10 and
	FASB Statement No. 105
FIN 45	Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees
	of Indebtedness to Others
FIN 46R	Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities – an Interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin No.
1111 4010	51 (revised December 2003)
FIN 47	Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations – an interpretation of FASB Statement No
1111 47	143
FIN 48	Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109
FSP	FASB Staff Position
FSP EITF No.	Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Shared Based Payment Transactions Are
03-6-1	Participating Securities
FSP No. FAS	rancipating Securities
132(R)-1	Employers' Disclosures about Postretirement Benefit Plan Assets
FSP No. FAS	Disclosures about Credit Derivatives and Certain Guarantees: An Amendment of FASB Statement
133-1 and FIN	No. 133 and FSB Interpretation No. 45; and Clarification of the Effective Date of FASB Statement
45-4	No. 161
FSP No. FAS	
	Disclosures by Public Entities (Enterprises) about Transfers of Financial Assets and Interests in
140-4 and FIN $46(\mathbf{P})$ 8	Variable Interest Entities
46(R)-8 FSP No. FAS	
	Determining the Useful Life of Intangible Assets
142-3	Application of EASD Statement No. 157 to EASD Statement No. 12 and Other Accounting
FSP No. FAS	Application of FASB Statement No. 157 to FASB Statement No. 13 and Other Accounting
157-1	Pronouncements That Address Fair Value Measurements for Purposes of Lease Classification or
FODN FAC	Measurement under Statement 13
FSP No. FAS	Effective date of FASB Statement No. 157
157-2	
FSP No. FAS	Determining the Fair Value of a Financial Asset When the Market for That Asset Is Not Active
157-3	-
	1 Amendment of FASB Interpretation No. 39
FSP SFAS No.	Accounting and Disclosure Requirements Related to the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement
106-2	and Modernization Act of 2003
GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States
GDP-IPD	Gross Domestic Product – Implicit Price Deflator
Generation	Cleco Generation Services LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream
Services	

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GO Zone	Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-135)
ICT	Independent Coordinator of Transmission
Interconnection	One of two Interconnection Agreement and Real Estate Agreements, one between Attala and
Agreement	Entergy Mississippi, and the other between Perryville and Entergy Louisiana
IRP	Integrated Resource Planning
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
kWh	Kilowatt-hour(s) as applicable
LDEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
LIBOR	London Inter-Bank Offer Rate
Lignite Mining	Delet Hills Mine Lignite Mining Agreement, deted as of May 21, 2001
Agreement	Dolet Hills Mine Lignite Mining Agreement, dated as of May 31, 2001
LPSC	Louisiana Public Service Commission
LTICP	Cleco Corporation Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan
Midstream	Cleco Midstream Resources LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation
MMBtu	Million British thermal units
Moody's	Moody's Investors Service
MW	Megawatt(s) as applicable
MWh	Megawatt-hour(s) as applicable
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
Not meaningful	A percentage comparison of these items is not statistically meaningful because the percentage
	difference is greater than 1,000%.
NOx	Nitrogen oxides
PCAOB	Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyls
PEH	Perryville Energy Holdings LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream.
Perryville	Perryville Energy Partners, L.L.C., a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation. Prior to February 1, 2007, Perryville was a wholly owned subsidiary of Perryville Energy Holdings LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Midstream.
Perryville and	
•	U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Louisiana, Alexandria Division
Power Purchase	
Agreement	Power Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 28, 2004, between Perryville and Entergy Services
PRP	Potentially responsible party
Registrant(s)	Cleco Corporation and Cleco Power
RFP	Request for Proposal
	A 600-MW solid-fuel generating unit under construction by Cleco Power at its existing
3	Rodemacher plant site in Boyce, Louisiana
RSP	Rate Stabilization Plan
RTO	Regional Transmission Organization
Sale Agreement	Purchase and Sale Agreement, dated as of January 28, 2004, between Perryville and Entergy Louisiana
4	

#### ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM

OR ACRONYM	
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission
SERP	Cleco Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan
SFAS	Statement of Financial Accounting Standards
SFAS No. 5	Accounting for Contingencies
SFAS No. 13	Accounting for Leases
SFAS No. 29	Determining Contingent Rentals
SFAS No. 71	Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation
SFAS No. 87	Employers' Accounting for Pensions
SFAS No. 94	Consolidation of All Majority Owned Subsidiaries
SFAS No. 95	Statement of Cash Flows
SFAS No. 106	Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions
SFAS No. 109	Accounting for Income Taxes
SFAS No. 123	Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation
SFAS No. 123(R)	Share-Based Payment
SFAS No. 131	Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information
SFAS No. 132(R)	Employers' Disclosures about Postretirement Benefit Plan Assets
SFAS No. 133	Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities
SFAS No. 140	Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities
SFAS No. 140	Disclosures about Transfers of Financial Assets and Interests in Variable Interest Entities
and FIN 46(R)	
SFAS No. 141(R)	Business Combinations
SFAS No. 142	Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets
SFAS No. 143	Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations
SFAS No. 149	Amendment of Statement 133 on Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities
SFAS No. 157	Fair Value Measurements
SFAS No. 158	Employers' Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans – an amendmen of FASB Statements No. 87, 88, 106, and 132(R)
SFAS No. 159	The Fair Value Option For Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities – Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115
SFAS No. 160	Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements—an amendment of ARB No. 51
SFAS No. 161	Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133
SFAS No. 162	The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
Shaw	Shaw Contractors, Inc., a subsidiary of The Shaw Group Inc.
SO2	Sulfur dioxide
SPP	Southwest Power Pool
Support Group	Cleco Support Group LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cleco Corporation
SWEPCO	Southwestern Electric Power Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Electric Power
	Company, Inc.
Teche	Teche Electric Cooperative, Inc.
VaR	Value-at-risk
Williams	Williams Power Company, Inc.

## CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K includes "forward-looking statements" about future events, circumstances, and results. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Annual Report are forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding the construction, timing and cost of Rodemacher Unit 3; timing and outcome of Cleco Power's proposed new rate plan; Bear Energy's performance under the Evangeline Tolling Agreement; future capital expenditures; projections; business strategies; goals; competitive strengths; market and industry developments; development and operation of facilities; future environmental regulations and remediation liabilities; and the anticipated outcome of various regulatory and legal proceedings. Although the Registrants believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, such forward-looking statements are based on numerous assumptions (some of which may prove to be incorrect) and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from the Registrants' expectations. In addition to any assumptions and other factors referred to specifically in connection with these forward-looking statements, the following list identifies some of the factors that could cause the Registrants' actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in any of the Registrants' forward-looking statements:

- § Factors affecting utility operations, such as unusual weather conditions or other natural phenomena; catastrophic weather-related damage (such as hurricanes and other storms); unscheduled generation outages; unanticipated maintenance or repairs; unanticipated changes to fuel costs, cost of and reliance on natural gas as a component of Cleco's generation fuel mix and their impact on competition and franchises, fuel supply costs or availability constraints due to higher demand, shortages, transportation problems or other developments; environmental incidents; environmental compliance costs; power transmission system constraints; or outcome of Cleco Power's proposed new rate plan filed with the LPSC in July 2008;
- § Cleco Corporation's holding company structure and its dependence on the earnings, dividends, or distributions from its subsidiaries to meet its debt obligations and pay dividends on its common stock;
- § Cleco Power's ability to construct, operate, and maintain, within its projected costs (including financing) and timeframe, Rodemacher Unit 3, in addition to any other self-build projects identified in future IRP and RFP processes;
- § Dependence of Cleco Power for energy from sources other than its facilities and the uncertainty of future long-term sources of such additional energy;
- § Nonperformance by and creditworthiness of counterparties under tolling, power purchase, and energy service agreements, or the restructuring of those agreements, including possible termination;
- § Regulatory factors such as changes in rate-setting policies, recovery of investments made under traditional regulation, recovery of storm restoration costs; the frequency and timing of rate increases or decreases, the results of periodic fuel audits, the results of IRP and RFP processes, the formation of RTOs and ICTs, and the compliance with ERO reliability standards for bulk power systems by Cleco Power, Acadia, and Evangeline;
- § Financial or regulatory accounting principles or policies imposed by FASB, the SEC, the PCAOB, FERC, the LPSC or similar entities with regulatory or accounting oversight;
- § Economic conditions, including the ability of customers to continue paying for high energy costs, related growth and/or down-sizing of businesses in Cleco's service area, monetary fluctuations, changes in commodity prices, and

inflation rates;

- § The current global financial crisis and U.S. recession;
- § Credit ratings of Cleco Corporation, Cleco Power, and Evangeline;
- § Changing market conditions and a variety of other factors associated with physical energy, financial transactions, and energy service activities, including, but not limited to, price, basis, credit, liquidity, volatility, capacity, transmission, interest rates, and warranty risks;
  - § Acts of terrorism;
  - § Availability or cost of capital resulting from changes in Cleco's business or financial condition, interest rates or market perceptions of the electric utility industry and energy-related industries;
    - § Uncertain tax positions;
    - § Employee work force factors, including work stoppages and changes in key executives;
- § Legal, environmental, and regulatory delays and other obstacles associated with mergers, acquisitions, reorganizations, investments in joint ventures, or other capital projects, including Rodemacher Unit 3 and the joint project to upgrade the Acadiana Load Pocket transmission system;
- § Costs and other effects of legal and administrative proceedings, settlements, investigations, claims and other matters;
- § Changes in federal, state, or local laws, and changes in tax laws or rates, regulating policies or environmental laws and regulations; and
- § Ability of Cleco Power to recover, from its retail customers, the costs of compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

## CLECO CORPORATION CLECO POWER

For additional discussion of these factors and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the Registrants' forward-looking statements, please read Item 1A, "Risk Factors" and Part II, Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Cleco Power — Significant Factors Affecting Cleco Power" and "— Midstream — Significant Factors Affecting Midstream," in this Annual Report. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to the Registrants or persons acting on their behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the factors identified above.

The Registrants undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of changes in actual results, changes in assumptions, or other factors affecting such statements.

## PART I

#### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### GENERAL

Cleco Corporation was incorporated on October 30, 1998, under the laws of the State of Louisiana. Cleco Corporation is a public utility holding company which holds investments in several subsidiaries, including Cleco Power and Midstream, which are its operating business segments. Cleco Corporation, subject to certain limited exceptions, is exempt from regulation as a public utility holding company pursuant to provisions of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005.

Cleco Power's predecessor was incorporated on January 2, 1935, under the laws of the State of Louisiana. Cleco Power was organized on December 12, 2000. Cleco Power is an electric utility engaged principally in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity within Louisiana. Cleco Power is regulated by the LPSC and FERC, which determine the rates Cleco Power can charge its customers, as well as other regulators. Cleco Power serves approximately 276,000 customers in 107 communities in central and southeastern Louisiana. Cleco Power's operations are described below in the consolidated description of Cleco's business segments.

Midstream, organized effective September 1, 1998, under the laws of the State of Louisiana, is a merchant energy subsidiary that owns and operates a merchant power plant (Evangeline). Midstream also owns a 50 percent interest in a merchant power plant (Acadia) and operates the plant on behalf of its partner.

At December 31, 2008, Cleco employed 1,320 people. Cleco's mailing address is P.O. Box 5000, Pineville, Louisiana 71361-5000, and its telephone number is (318) 484-7400. Cleco's homepage on the Internet is located at http://www.cleco.com. Cleco Corporation's and Cleco Power's Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and other filings with the SEC are available, free of charge, through Cleco's website after those reports or filings are filed electronically with or furnished to the SEC. Cleco's filings also can be obtained at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, DC 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Cleco's corporate governance guidelines, code of business conduct, ethics and business standards, and the charters of its board of directors' audit, compensation, executive, finance, nominating/governance and qualified legal compliance committees are available on its website and available in print to any shareholder upon request. Information on Cleco's website or any other website is not incorporated by reference into this Report and does not constitute a part of this Report.

At December 31, 2008, Cleco Power employed 1,023 people. Cleco Power's mailing address is P.O. Box 5000, Pineville, Louisiana, 71361-5000, and its telephone number is (318) 484-7400.

Cleco Power meets the conditions specified in General Instructions I(1)(a) and (b) to Form 10-K and therefore is permitted to use the reduced disclosure format for wholly owned subsidiaries of reporting companies. Accordingly, Cleco Power has omitted from this Report the information called for by Item 4 (Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders) of Part I of Form 10-K; the following Part II items of Form 10-K: Item 6 (Selected Financial Data) and Item 7 (Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations); and the following Part III items of Form 10-K: Item 10 (Directors, Executive Officers, and Corporate Governance of the Registrants), Item 11 (Executive Compensation), Item 12 (Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters), and Item 13 (Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence).

#### **OPERATIONS**

# Cleco Power

# Segment Financial Information

Summary financial results of the Cleco Power segment for years 2008, 2007, and 2006 are presented below.

(THOUSANDS)	2008	2007	2006
Revenue			
Electric operations	\$ 1,032,970	\$ 988,193	\$ 959,393
Other operations	36,675	35,176	30,056
Electric customer credits	-	-	4,693
Affiliate revenue	29	42	49
Intercompany revenue	2,008	2,008	2,000
Operating revenue, net	\$ 1,071,682	\$ 1,025,419	\$ 996,191
Depreciation expense	\$ 76,420	\$ 78,522	\$ 73,360
Interest charges	\$ 47,283		