

HICKORY TECH CORP  
Form 10-Q  
July 29, 2008  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR  
15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2008

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR  
15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
For the transition period from     to     .

Commission file number 0-13721

**HICKORY TECH CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Minnesota**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**41-1524393**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**221 East Hickory Street**  
**Mankato, Minnesota 56002-3248**

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(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

**(800) 326-5789**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has 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 Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).

Yes  No

The total number of shares of the Registrant's common stock outstanding as of July 25, 2008: 13,330,284

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Table of Contents**Item 1. Financial Statements****HICKORY TECH CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands except share and per share amounts)	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
<b>Operating revenue:</b>				
Telecom Sector	\$ 17,999	\$ 20,448	\$ 36,293	\$ 39,485
<b>Enventis Sector</b>				
Equipment revenue	12,709	17,869	22,877	29,303
Services revenue	9,037	7,285	16,475	13,741
Total Enventis Sector	21,746	25,154	39,352	43,044
Total operating revenue	39,745	45,602	75,645	82,529
<b>Costs and expenses:</b>				
Cost of sales, equipment, excluding depreciation and amortization	10,718	16,559	19,415	26,873
Cost of services, excluding depreciation and amortization	12,627	10,778	24,319	21,695
Selling, general and administrative expenses	5,463	5,891	11,147	11,727
Depreciation	4,757	4,432	9,426	8,936
Amortization of intangibles	289	289	578	578
Total costs and expenses	33,854	37,949	64,885	69,809
Operating income	5,891	7,653	10,760	12,720
<b>Other income and expense:</b>				
Interest and other income	15	47	42	131
Interest expense	(1,478)	(2,031)	(3,175)	(4,213)
Total other (expense)	(1,463)	(1,984)	(3,133)	(4,082)
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	4,428	5,669	7,627	8,638
Income tax provision	1,931	2,415	3,349	3,616
Income from continuing operations	2,497	3,254	4,278	5,022
<b>Discontinued operations:</b>				
Loss from operations of discontinued component		(13)		(15)
Income tax benefit		(5)		(6)
Loss on discontinued operations		(8)		(9)
Net income	\$ 2,497	\$ 3,246	\$ 4,278	\$ 5,013
Basic earnings per share - continuing operations:	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.38
Basic loss per share - discontinued operations:	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.38
Weighted average common shares outstanding	13,324,200	13,247,508	13,312,804	13,241,079
Diluted earnings per share - continuing operations:	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.38

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Diluted loss per share - discontinued operations:

	\$	<b>0.19</b>	\$	0.25	\$	<b>0.32</b>	\$	0.38
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Weighted average common and equivalent shares  
outstanding

<b>13,326,719</b>	13,247,508	<b>13,317,145</b>	13,241,079
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Dividends per share

\$	<b>0.12</b>	\$	0.12	\$	<b>0.24</b>	\$	0.24
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

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**HICKORY TECH CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands except share and per share amounts)	June 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 920	\$ 171
Receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$958 and \$1,184	32,187	28,357
Inventories	9,273	7,054
Income taxes receivable		1,013
Deferred income taxes, net	1,334	1,334
Prepaid expenses	1,640	1,713
Other	858	1,196
Total current assets	46,212	40,838
Investments	4,066	3,830
Property, plant and equipment	329,365	322,249
Less accumulated depreciation	177,725	169,318
Property, plant and equipment, net	151,640	152,931
Other assets:		
Goodwill	25,239	25,239
Intangible assets, net	1,405	1,983
Deferred costs and other	2,452	2,674
Total other assets	29,096	29,896
Total assets	\$ 231,014	\$ 227,495
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Extended term payable	\$ 13,041	\$ 14,443
Accounts payable	4,027	4,538
Accrued expenses	7,098	7,740
Accrued income taxes	364	
Advanced billings and deposits	5,226	5,158
Current maturities of long-term obligations	1,341	731
Total current liabilities:	31,097	32,610
Long-term liabilities:		
Debt obligations, net of current maturities	132,313	128,475
Financial derivative instruments	1,053	1,451
Accrued income taxes	7,930	7,747
Deferred income taxes	15,072	14,901
Deferred revenue	1,506	1,527
Accrued employee benefits and deferred compensation	8,925	8,852
Total long-term liabilities	166,799	162,953
Total liabilities	197,896	195,563
Commitments and contingencies (Note 8)		

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Shareholders' equity:			
Common stock, no par value, \$.10 stated value			
Shares authorized: 100,000,000			
Shares issued and outstanding: 13,330,284 in 2008 and 13,284,903 in 2007		<b>1,333</b>	1,329
Additional paid-in capital		<b>11,527</b>	11,031
Retained earnings		<b>21,724</b>	20,639
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss)		<b>(1,466)</b>	(1,067)
Total shareholders' equity		<b>33,118</b>	31,932
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	<b>231,014</b>	\$ 227,495

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

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**HICKORY TECH CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)	Six Months Ended June 30	
	2008	2007
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net income	\$ 4,278	\$ 5,013
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Loss from discontinued operations		9
Depreciation and amortization	10,004	9,514
Amortization of gain on sale of financial derivative instrument	(664)	(609)
Deferred income tax provision (benefit)		(40)
Accrued patronage refunds	(293)	75
Other	480	180
Changes in operating assets and liabilities net of effects of dispositions:		
Receivables	(3,674)	(7,254)
Prepays	73	268
Inventories	(2,219)	2,125
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,148)	(695)
Deferred revenue, billings, and deposits	47	(789)
Income taxes	1,557	2,871
Other	616	872
Net cash provided by operating activities	9,057	11,540
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(7,960)	(6,035)
Other	14	46
Net cash (used in) investing activities	(7,946)	(5,989)
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net change in extended term payables arrangement	(1,402)	4,230
Change in cash overdraft		(1,475)
Payments of capital lease obligations	(185)	(202)
Borrowings on credit facility	15,900	4,000
Repayments on credit facility	(11,600)	(10,650)
Proceeds from the sale of financial derivative instrument		1,936
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	118	119
Dividends paid	(3,193)	(3,174)
Net cash (used in) financing activities	(362)	(5,216)
<b>DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS:</b>		
Net cash (used in) operating activities		(9)
Net cash (used in) discontinued operations		(9)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	749	326
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	171	84
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	\$ 920	\$ 410
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 3,966	\$ 4,614



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Net cash paid for income taxes	\$	1,792	\$	756
Non-cash investing activities:				
Property, plant and equipment acquired with capital leases	\$	334	\$	455

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

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**HICKORY TECH CORPORATION**

**JUNE 30, 2008**

**PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Condensed Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)**

**Note 1. Basis of Presentation and Consolidation**

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of Hickory Tech Corporation (HickoryTech or the Company) have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) for interim financial information and with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Certain information and disclosures normally included in annual financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been omitted or condensed pursuant to such rules and regulations. In the opinion of the Company's management, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal and recurring accruals) considered necessary for the fair presentation of the Company's financial statements and present fairly the results of operations, financial position, and cash flows of the Company for the interim periods presented as required by Regulation S-X, Rule 10-01. These unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, together with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and related disclosures at the date of the financial statements and during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The results of operations for the interim periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year as a whole or any other interim period.

Our consolidated financial statements include HickoryTech Corporation and its subsidiaries in the following two business segments: the Telecom Sector and the Enventis Sector. All inter-company transactions have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements.

Cost of Sales - equipment (excluding depreciation and amortization)

Cost of sales for the Enventis Sector includes costs associated with the installation of products for customers. These costs are primarily for equipment and materials. Labor associated with installation work is not included in this category, but is included in cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization) described below.

Cost of Services (excluding depreciation and amortization)

Cost of services includes all costs related to delivery of communication services and products for all sectors. These operating costs include all costs of performing services and providing related products including engineering, customer service, billing and collections, network monitoring, and transport costs.

Selling, General, and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses include direct and indirect selling expenses, advertising and all other general and administrative costs associated with the operations of the business.

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In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), *Business Combinations* ( SFAS No. 141(R) ), which establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquired company and the goodwill acquired. SFAS No. 141(R) also establishes disclosure requirements to enable the evaluation of the nature and financial effects of the business combination. SFAS No. 141(R) is effective as of the beginning of an entity's fiscal year that begins after December 15, 2008, and will be adopted by us in the first quarter of 2009. SFAS No. 141(R) is currently not expected to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, *Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements* an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51 ( SFAS No. 160 ). SFAS No. 160 will change the accounting and reporting for minority interests, which will be re-characterized as non-controlling interests and classified as a component of equity. This new consolidation method will significantly change the accounting for transactions with minority interest holders. SFAS No. 160 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008 and we will adopt it in the first quarter 2009. We do not expect adoption of SFAS No. 160 to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, *Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133 ( SFAS No. 161 ). SFAS No. 161 requires enhanced disclosures about an entity's derivative and hedging activities and is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. We are currently assessing the impact of SFAS No. 161 on our disclosures.

**Note 2. Earnings and Cash Dividends per Common Share**

Basic earnings per share (EPS) are computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the applicable period. Shares used in the EPS dilution calculation are based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period increased by potentially dilutive common shares. Potentially dilutive common shares include stock options and stock subscribed under the HickoryTech Corporation Amended and Restated Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP). Dilution is determined using the treasury stock method.

(Dollars in thousands, except share and per share amounts)	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Income from continuing operations	\$ 2,497	\$ 3,254	\$ 4,278	\$ 5,022
Loss from discontinued operations		(8)		(9)
Net Income	\$ 2,497	\$ 3,246	\$ 4,278	\$ 5,013
Weighted average shares outstanding	13,324,200	13,247,508	13,312,804	13,241,079
Stock options (dilutive only)	2,228		3,210	
Stock subscribed (ESPP)	291		1,131	
Total dilutive shares outstanding	13,326,719	13,247,508	13,317,145	13,241,079

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Earnings per share:

Basic - continuing operations	\$	0.19	\$	0.25	\$	0.32	\$	0.38
Basic - discontinued operations	\$		\$		\$		\$	
Diluted - continuing operations	\$	0.19	\$	0.25	\$	0.32	\$	0.38
Diluted - discontinued operations	\$		\$		\$		\$	

Options to purchase 436,200 shares and 486,050 shares for the three and six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted EPS, because their effect on diluted EPS would have been anti-dilutive.

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Cash dividends are based on the number of common shares outstanding at their respective record dates. Listed below is the number of shares outstanding as of the record date for the first and second quarters of 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Shares outstanding on record date	2008	2007
First quarter (Feb. 15)	13,292,419	13,207,970
Second quarter (May 15)	13,319,782	13,243,525

Dividends per share are based on the quarterly dividend per share as declared by the HickoryTech Board of Directors. HickoryTech paid dividends of \$.12 per share in the second quarter of 2008 and 2007.

During the first six months of 2008 and 2007, shareholders have elected to reinvest \$118,000 and \$119,000, respectively, of dividends into HickoryTech common stock pursuant to the HickoryTech Corporation Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

**Note 3. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)**

Comprehensive income includes changes in unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments qualifying and designated as cash flow hedges and recognized Net Periodic Benefit Cost related to our Post-Retirement Benefit Plans. Comprehensive income for the three months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$3,409,000 and \$3,337,000, respectively. Comprehensive income for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$3,879,000 and \$5,246,000, respectively.

In March 2007, we terminated our two outstanding interest-rate swap agreements with original maturities in June 2008, in exchange for \$1,936,000 in proceeds. Immediately following the termination of these two agreements, we executed a new interest-rate swap agreement, effectively locking in the interest rate on \$60,000,000 of variable-interest rate debt through March 2010. On March 28, 2008, we entered into a second interest-rate swap agreement, effectively locking in the interest rate on an additional \$40,000,000 of variable interest rate debt through February 2010.

The market value of the cumulative gain or (loss) on financial derivative instruments is reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in shareholders' equity and will be recognized in earnings over the term of the original swap agreement.

The following summary sets forth the components of accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss), net of tax:

(Dollars in thousands)	Unrecognized Net Actuarial Loss (1)	Unrecognized Prior Service Credit (1)	Unrecognized Transition Asset (1)	Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Derivatives	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)
December 31, 2007	\$ (954)	\$ 279	\$ (181)	\$ (211)	\$ (1,067)

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2008 Activity				(1,324)		(1,324)
Net Periodic						
Benefit Cost		12	(8)	9		13
March 31, 2008	\$	(942)	\$	271	\$	(172)
2008 Activity					899	899
Net Periodic						
Benefit Cost		12	(8)	9		13
June 30, 2008	\$	(930)	\$	263	\$	(163)
					(636)	(1,466)

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(1) Amounts pertain to our postretirement benefit plans.

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**Note 4. Acquisition, Disposition and Discontinued Operations**

Effective December 31, 2006, we sold all of the outstanding capital stock in Collins Communications Systems Co. ( Collins ) to Skyview Capital, LLC for an initial price of \$100,000, paid by delivery of a promissory note, plus up to \$1,650,000 of earn-out payments. Skyview Capital, LLC paid us \$100,000 in February 2007. The remaining selling price is due in contingent payments payable over the next three years if financial targets are reached by Skyview Capital, LLC. We have received no payments to-date related to this earn-out provision. The \$100,000 mentioned above has been included in the calculation of the net loss on sale mentioned below, while the contingent payments have not been included in the net loss. The agreement contains covenants against competition by the new owner in south-central Minnesota. We recorded a pre-tax loss on the sale of \$3,385,000 (\$2,040,000 net of income taxes). The Collins results of operations were formerly reported in the Enterprise Solutions Sector. The consolidated statements of operations for all periods presented have been restated to reflect the Collins operations as discontinued operations.

**Note 5. Inventories**

Inventory includes parts, materials and supplies stored in our warehouses to support basic levels of service and maintenance as well as scheduled capital projects and equipment awaiting configuration for customers. Inventory also includes parts and equipment shipped directly from vendors to customer locations while in transit and parts and equipment returned from customers which is being returned to vendors for credit, as well as maintenance contracts associated with customer sales which have not yet transferred to the customer. The inventory value in the Telecom Sector, comprised of materials, as of June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 was \$3,874,000 and \$3,312,000, respectively. The inventory value in the Enventis Sector, comprised of finished goods, as of June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 was \$5,399,000 and \$3,742,000, respectively.

Inventories are valued using the lower of cost (perpetual weighted average-cost or specific identification) or market method. We adjust our inventory carrying value for estimated obsolescence or unmarketable inventory to the estimated market value based upon assumptions about future demand and market conditions. As market and other conditions change, additional inventory write-downs may be recorded at the time acts that give rise to the lower value become known.

**Note 6. Intangible Assets**

We are required to test acquired goodwill for impairment on an annual basis based upon a fair value approach. Additionally, goodwill shall be tested for impairment between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of an entity below its carrying value. The carrying value of our goodwill is \$25,239,000 as of June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007.

The components of other intangible assets are as follows:

As of June 30, 2008

As of December 31, 2007



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(Dollars in thousands)	Useful Lives	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
<b>Definite-Lived Intangible Assets</b>					
Customer relationships	1 - 8 years	\$ 4,229	\$ 2,932	\$ 4,229	\$ 2,456
Other intangibles	1 - 5 years	730	622	730	520
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 4,959</b>	<b>\$ 3,554</b>	<b>\$ 4,959</b>	<b>\$ 2,976</b>

As required by SFAS No. 142, we periodically reassess the carrying value, useful lives and classifications of identifiable assets. Amortization expense related to the definite-lived intangible assets was \$289,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Amortization expense related to the definite-lived intangible assets was \$578,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Total estimated amortization expense for the remaining six months of 2008 and the five years subsequent to 2008 is as follows: 2008 (July 1 December 31) \$549,000; 2009 - \$853,000; 2010 - \$3,000; none in 2011, 2012, and 2013.

Table of Contents**Note 7. Quarterly Sector Financial Summary**

(Dollars in thousands)	Telecom	Enventis	Corporate and Eliminations	Consolidated
<b><u>Three Months Ended June 30, 2008</u></b>				
Revenue from unaffiliated customers	\$ 17,999	\$ 21,746	\$	\$ 39,745
Intersegment revenue	161	128	(289)	
Total operating revenue	18,160	21,874	(289)	39,745
Depreciation and amortization	4,008	1,025	13	5,046
Operating income	3,006	2,838	47	5,891
Interest expense	21		1,457	1,478
Income taxes(benefit)	1,240	1,178	(487)	1,931
Income/(loss) from continuing operations	1,747	1,660	(910)	2,497
Identifiable assets	150,378	73,884	6,752	231,014
Property, plant and equipment, net	114,403	37,091	146	151,640
Capital expenditures	2,545	1,984	18	4,547

(Dollars in thousands)	Telecom	Enventis	Corporate and Eliminations	Consolidated
<b><u>Three Months Ended June 30, 2007</u></b>				
Revenue from unaffiliated customers	\$ 20,448	\$ 25,154	\$	\$ 45,602
Intersegment revenue	111	85	(196)	
Total operating revenue	20,559	25,239	(196)	45,602
Depreciation and amortization	3,789	927	5	4,721
Operating income/(loss)	6,239	1,649	(235)	7,653
Interest expense	18		2,013	2,031
Income taxes(benefit)	2,490	660	(735)	2,415
Income/(loss) from continuing operations	3,736	990	(1,472)	3,254
Identifiable assets	153,182	66,103	7,251	226,536
Property, plant and equipment, net	117,053	33,303	90	150,446
Capital expenditures	2,288	1,017		3,305

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(Dollars in thousands)	Telecom	Enventis	Corporate and Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>Six Months Ended June 30, 2008</b>				
Revenue from unaffiliated customers	\$ 36,293	\$ 39,352	\$	\$ 75,645
Intersegment revenue	291	266	(557)	
Total operating revenue	36,584	39,618	(557)	75,645
Depreciation and amortization	7,934	2,045	25	10,004
Operating income/(loss)	6,553	4,259	(52)	10,760
Interest expense	44		3,131	3,175
Income taxes(benefit)	2,696	1,765	(1,112)	3,349
Income/(loss) from continuing operations	3,815	2,494	(2,031)	4,278
Identifiable assets	150,378	73,884	6,752	231,014
Property, plant and equipment, net	114,403	37,091	146	151,640
Capital expenditures	4,965	2,977	18	7,960

(Dollars in thousands)	Telecom	Enventis	Corporate and Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>Six Months Ended June 30, 2007</b>				
Revenue from unaffiliated customers	\$ 39,485	\$ 43,044	\$	\$ 82,529
Intersegment revenue	218	147	(365)	
Total operating revenue	39,703	43,191	(365)	82,529
Depreciation and amortization	7,702	1,802	10	9,514
Operating income/(loss)	10,342	3,029	(651)	12,720
Interest expense	35		4,178	4,213
Income taxes(benefit)	4,147	1,218	(1,749)	3,616
Income/(loss) from continuing operations	6,175	1,812	(2,965)	5,022
Identifiable assets	153,182	66,103	7,251	226,536
Property, plant and equipment, net	117,053	33,303	90	150,446
Capital expenditures	3,934	2,101		6,035

**Note 8. Commitments and Contingencies**

We are involved in certain contractual disputes in the ordinary course of business. We do not believe the ultimate resolution of any of these existing matters will have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. We did not experience any changes to material contractual obligations in the first six months of 2008. Refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 for the discussion relating to commitments and contingencies.

**Note 9. Stock Compensation**

Refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 for a complete description of all stock-based compensation plans.



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Share-based compensation expense recognized for the three months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$8,000 and \$27,000, respectively. Share-based compensation expense recognized for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$22,000 and \$54,000, respectively. Share-based compensation expense recognized in our Consolidated Statement of Operations for the first six months of 2008 and 2007 included compensation expense for share-based payment awards granted prior to, but not yet completely vested as of June 30, 2008 and 2007. Historical data is used to estimate pre-vesting forfeitures and are estimated at the time of the grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates.

The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of the grant using a Black-Scholes option valuation model. We use a seven-year period to calculate the historical volatility of its stock price for use in the valuation model. The dividend yield rate is based on our current dividend payout pattern and current market price. The risk-free rate for options is based on a U.S. Treasury rate commensurate with the expected terms. The expected term of options granted is derived from historical experience and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding.

There were no stock option awards granted during the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Although we have authority to issue options under the Stock Award Plan no current compensation programs have options as a component.

As of June 30, 2008 there was \$8,000 of total unrecognized compensation costs related to non-vested stock options granted under the Company's Stock Award Plan. This expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of two years.

A summary of stock option activity is as follows:

	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at January 1, 2008	476,000	\$ 12.79
Granted		
Exercised		
Forfeited		
Expired	(4,800)	13.38
Outstanding at June 30, 2008	471,200	\$ 12.79
Exercisable at June 30, 2008	461,200	\$ 12.91

The following table provides certain information with respect to stock options outstanding at June 30, 2008:

Range of Exercise Prices	Stock Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life
\$6.00 - \$8.00	15,000	\$ 6.95	8.2 years
\$8.00 - \$12.00	177,200	10.26	5.0 years
\$12.00 - \$16.00	225,250	13.88	2.6 years
\$16.00 - \$21.00	53,750	18.18	2.7 years
	471,200	\$ 12.79	3.7 years

Aggregate Intrinsic Value	\$	24,800
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The following table provides certain information with respect to stock options exercisable at June 30, 2008:

Range of Exercise Prices	Stock Options Exercisable	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life
\$6.00 - \$8.00	5,000	\$ 6.95	8.2 years
\$8.00 - \$12.00	177,200	10.26	5.0 years
\$12.00 - \$16.00	225,250	13.88	2.6 years
\$16.00 - \$21.00	53,750	18.18	2.7 years
	461,200	\$ 12.91	3.6 years
Aggregate intrinsic value:		\$ 11,600	

**Note 10. Financial Derivative Instruments**

We use financial derivative instruments to manage our overall exposure to fluctuations in interest rates. We account for derivative instruments in accordance with SFAS No. 133, as amended by SFAS No. 149, which requires derivative instruments to be recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. Changes in fair value of derivative instruments must be recognized in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met, in which case the gains and losses are included in other comprehensive income rather than in earnings.

Effective January 1, 2008, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The adoption of SFAS 157 did not have a material impact on our financial condition and results of operations.

SFAS 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. SFAS 157 also describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 3 unobservable inputs in which there is little or no market data available, which require the reporting entity to develop its own assumptions.

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The fair value of our interest rate swap agreements were determined based on Level 2 inputs.

We utilize interest-rate swap agreements that qualify as cash-flow hedges to manage our exposure to interest rate fluctuations on a portion of our variable-interest rate debt. In March 2007, we terminated two outstanding interest-rate swap agreements, with original maturities of June 2008, in exchange for \$1,936,000 in proceeds. Proceeds of \$332,000 were recognized as an offset to interest expense in the second quarter of 2008 and 2007. Immediately following the termination of the two swap agreements discussed above, we executed a new interest-rate swap agreement, effectively locking in the interest rate on \$60,000,000 of variable-interest rate debt through March, 2010. On March 28, 2008, we entered into a second interest-rate swap agreement, effectively locking in the interest rate on an additional \$40,000,000 of variable-interest rate debt through February 2010.

The market value of the cumulative gain or (loss) on financial derivative instruments is reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in shareholders' equity and will be recognized in earnings over the term of the swap agreement. The fair value of our derivatives at June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 is a net liability of \$1,053,000 and \$1,451,000, respectively.



Table of Contents**Note 11. Employee Post-Retirement Benefits**

HickoryTech provides post-retirement health care and life insurance benefits for certain employees. HickoryTech accounts for these post-retirement benefits in accordance with SFAS No. 158, Employers Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans an amendment of FASB Statements No. 87, 88, 106 and 132(R). New employees hired on or after January 1, 2007 are not eligible for post-retirement health care and life insurance benefits.

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Components of net periodic benefit cost				
Service cost	\$ 63	\$ 71	\$ 126	\$ 142
Interest cost	122	114	244	228
Amortization of transition obligation	15	15	30	30
Amortization of prior service cost	(14)	(3)	(28)	(6)
Recognized net actuarial loss	20	18	40	36
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 206	\$ 215	\$ 412	\$ 430

	June 30, 2008	
Employer's contributions for current premiums:		
Contributions made for the six months ended June 30, 2008	\$ 128	
Expected contributions for remainder of 2008		128
Total estimated employer contributions for fiscal year 2008	\$ 256	

**Note 12. Income Taxes**

The effective income tax rate from continuing operations of approximately 43.6% for the second quarter of 2008 and 42.6% for the second quarter of 2007 exceeds the federal statutory rate primarily due to state income taxes and accrued interest expense on unrecognized tax benefits. The increase in the effective tax rate from 2008 compared to 2007 is primarily the result of interest accrued on uncertain tax positions according to FASB Interpretation No. 48 (FIN No. 48) Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes-an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109.

We adopted the provisions of FIN No. 48 on January 1, 2007. Among other things, FIN No. 48 provides guidance to address uncertainty in tax positions and clarifies the accounting for income taxes by prescribing a minimum recognition threshold that income tax positions must achieve before being recognized in the financial statements. As of June 30, 2008, we had unrecognized tax benefits totaling \$7,255,000 excluding interest. The amount of the unrecognized tax benefits, if recognized, that would affect the effective income tax rates of future periods is \$7,237,000. There have been no significant changes to these amounts during the six months ended June 30, 2008.

We recognize interest and penalties related to income tax matters as income tax expense. As of June 30, 2008, we have accrued \$675,000 (net of tax) for interest related to unrecognized tax benefits.

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We file consolidated income tax returns in the United States federal jurisdiction and combined or separate income tax returns in various state jurisdictions. In general, we are no longer subject to United States federal income tax examinations for the years prior to 2004 except to the extent of losses utilized in subsequent years.

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**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**



*Forward Looking Statements*

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 contains certain safe harbor provisions regarding forward-looking statements. This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q may include forward-looking statements. These statements may include, without limitation, statements with respect to anticipated future operating and financial performance, growth opportunities and growth rates, acquisition and divestiture opportunities, business strategies, business and competitive outlook, and other similar forecasts and statements of expectation. Words such as expects, anticipates, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, targets, projects, will, may, continues, and should, and similar expressions, are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause HickoryTech's actual results to differ materially from such statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, those contained in Item 1A of Part II, Risk Factors of this quarterly report on Form 10-Q and Item 1A, Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 which is incorporated herein by reference. The Cautionary Statement in Part 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K provides a comprehensive list of sources for risks and uncertainties, which may influence forward-looking statements and is incorporated herein by reference.

Because of these risks, uncertainties, and assumptions and the fact that any forward-looking statements made by HickoryTech and its management are based on estimates, projections, beliefs, and assumptions of management, they are not guarantees of future performance and you should not place undue reliance on them. In addition, forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. With the exception of the requirements set forth in the federal securities laws or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we do not undertake any obligations or update or review any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

*Critical Accounting Policies*

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We believe that the application of the accounting policies, which are important to our financial position and results of operations, requires significant judgments and estimates on the part of management. A description of the critical accounting policies that we adhere to is contained in the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

**Results of Operations**

Overview-Trends

We operate in two business segments: the Telecom Sector and the Enventis Sector. The Telecom Sector includes our historical rural telephone business operations, including three incumbent local exchange carriers ( ILECs ), a competitive local exchange carrier ( CLEC ) and National Independent Billing, Inc. ( NIBI ), which provides data processing services for the telecommunications industry.

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Our consolidated income from continuing operations decreased \$757,000 or 23.3% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and \$744,000 or 14.8% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease in both comparative periods was primarily due to a settlement with a large interexchange carrier which provided \$1,100,000 of non-recurring benefit to the 2007 comparative numbers. Excluding the non-recurring settlement that occurred in June 2007, our consolidated income from continuing operations increased \$343,000 or 15.9% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and \$356,000 or 9.1% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. Net income in the Enventis sector, which we believe provides a platform for long-term growth, increased \$670,000 or 67.7% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and \$682,000 or 37.6% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007.

Second quarter revenue of \$39,745,000 declined \$5,857,000 or 12.8% compared to the second quarter of 2007 and was \$75,645,000 or \$6,884,000 lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decline in revenue was impacted by two significant items occurring in the second quarter of 2007. The timing and execution of equipment sales within our Enventis Sector drove higher second quarter 2007 equipment revenue. Telecom Sector revenue was also higher due to non-recurring settlement revenue of \$1,890,000 from an interexchange carrier. Despite the decrease seen in revenue we continue to focus on strategic revenue streams.

The increase in strategic revenue streams in both the Enventis and Telecom Sectors are providing growth needed to offset the downward trends in Telecom local and network access revenue. The service revenue portion of the Enventis sector increased \$1,752,000 or 24.1% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and \$2,734,000 or 19.9% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The service element of the Enventis sector, with its recurring revenue and higher margin characteristics is a main focus for us.

Strategic broadband revenue in our Telecom sector continued to post double-digit increases. Broadband revenue increased \$510,000 or 22.7% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and \$937,000 or 21.2% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. We continue to experience increased competition from cable TV providers, CLECs, voice over internet protocol, wireless telephone, and other telephone competitors causing reduced customer counts and network access volume declines of \$1,277,000 in the Telecom Sector. Telecom Sector results have also been significantly impacted by disputes with USAC and a large interexchange carrier lowering 2008 year-to-date network access revenue by \$793,000 from disputes. Comparisons with 2007 revenue are affected by a \$1,890,000 settlement with an interexchange carrier received in June 2007. While we continue to work to offset declining Telecom Sector revenue with new services to our customers, we may not be able to match the profitability of services we lose with the same profitability in the new services we provide.

Our focus on debt reduction in 2007 along with our ability to lock in favorable interest rates in the first quarter of 2008 are the factors driving interest expense to be \$1,038,000 or 24.6% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. By locking in our long-term debt rates, we will experience lower interest expense for the year 2008 compared to 2007. Due to the expiration of amortization of previously recognized gains on interest rate hedge instruments, the quarterly interest expense will increase approximately \$330,000 per quarter beginning in the third quarter of 2008.

Table of Contents**Sector Results of Operations****Telecom Sector**

The following table provides a breakdown of the Telecom Sector operating results.

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Revenue before intersegment eliminations				
Revenue				
Local Service	\$ 4,086	\$ 4,227	\$ 8,217	\$ 8,675
Network Access	5,952	9,378	12,777	16,737
Long Distance	1,197	1,297	2,387	2,629
Data	1,903	1,715	3,751	3,391
Internet	1,189	1,130	2,267	2,256
Digital TV	858	536	1,602	1,025
Directory	1,004	899	2,004	1,784
Bill Processing	905	514	1,499	1,203
Intersegment	161	111	291	218
Other	905	752	1,789	1,785
Total Telecom Revenue	\$ 18,160	\$ 20,559	\$ 36,584	\$ 39,703
Total Telecom revenue before intersegment eliminations				
Unaffiliated customers	\$ 17,999	\$ 20,448	\$ 36,293	\$ 39,485
Intersegment	161	111	291	218
	18,160	20,559	36,584	39,703
Cost of services, excluding depreciation and amortization	7,845	7,158	15,492	15,013
Selling, general and administrative expenses	3,301	3,373	6,605	6,646
Depreciation and amortization	4,008	3,789	7,934	7,702
Operating Income	\$ 3,006	\$ 6,239	\$ 6,553	\$ 10,342
Net income	\$ 1,747	\$ 3,736	\$ 3,815	\$ 6,175
Capital expenditures	\$ 2,545	\$ 2,288	\$ 4,965	\$ 3,934
<u>Key metrics</u>				
Business access lines	27,023	27,306		
Residential access lines	35,872	39,716		
Total access lines	62,895	67,022		
Long distance customers	40,565	41,287		
Digital Subscriber Line customers	18,126	16,677		
Digital TV customers	7,353	5,194		

**Revenue**

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Telecom Sector operating revenue before intersegment eliminations was \$18,160,000, which is \$2,399,000 or 11.7% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$36,584,000, which is \$3,119,000 or 7.9% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease in both periods was primarily due to lower revenue in network access which includes the non-recurrence of a settlement with a large interexchange carrier that provided \$1,890,000 of revenue in June 2007.



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Local service revenue was \$4,086,000, which is \$141,000 or 3.3% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007. This is due to a \$193,000 decline in first line residential and business access line revenue. Our access lines declined 4,127 or 6.2% from June 30, 2007 to June 30, 2008. This decline was offset by an increase of \$70,000 in reciprocal compensation revenue due to a non-recurring adjustment made in 2007 increasing a revenue reserve to account for proposed contracts with wireless carriers.

Local Service revenue was \$8,217,000, which is \$458,000 or 5.3% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. First line residential and business access revenue declined by \$365,000 due to the access line loss mentioned above. Also contributing to lower revenue was a \$95,000 decrease in reciprocal compensation revenue received from wireless carriers under contract using minute-of-use pricing. Many of these contracts and their associated pricing were renegotiated in 2007. A higher degree of competition from cable TV providers, ILECs, and CLECs serving in our markets as well as wireless substitution, could continue to impact our local service revenue in future periods.

In May of 2008 we were served with a civil lawsuit by the City of St. Peter, Minn. regarding our contract payments to the municipality in support of our CLEC voice and data services. We do not agree with the contract interpretations made by the City of St. Peter, Minn. and are vigorously defending the suit. We cannot predict the outcome of such proceedings nor their impact, if any, on the Company.

Network access revenue was \$5,952,000, which is \$3,426,000 or 36.5% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$3,960,000 or 23.7% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. This is primarily due to the settlement of a switched access dispute with a large interexchange carrier, which resulted in a non-recurring increase in revenue of \$1,890,000 in the second quarter of 2007. Without this settlement, network access revenue would have been \$1,536,000 or 20.5% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and \$2,070,000 or 13.9% lower in the six months June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007.

A dispute with the Universal Service Administrative Company ( USAC ) stemming from its reversal of earlier interpretations of revenue distribution rules has impacted second quarter 2008 network access revenue. USAC claimed \$475,000 of previously distributed revenue for years prior to 2008, and has lowered 2008 revenue by \$66,000 in the first and second quarters. Year-to-date 2008 impact is \$607,000 of which \$541,000 is reflected in the second quarter of 2008. The expected impact of the USAC decision for future quarters is \$66,000 of lowered revenue per quarter. We are appealing the USAC interpretation as arbitrary and unprecedented, however USAC is largely unregulated and there is no likely forum for recovery of this lost revenue. Additionally, an ongoing dispute with a large interexchange carrier is resulting in bill non-payment and impacting second quarter network access revenue by a reduction of \$105,000. Previously, this carrier dispute reduced first quarter 2008 network access revenue by \$81,000. In May of 2008 we filed a lawsuit against the carrier to recover unpaid amounts billed in September 2007 to present. In July of 2008, the carrier filed a counterclaim against us. We intend to continue to pursue collection through litigation. It is not known when an outcome of that litigation will occur. Altogether, the disputes with USAC and the large interexchange carrier have lowered 2008 year-to-date network access revenue by \$793,000. The expected future quarterly impact of these two disputes is approximately \$160,000, until resolved.

Long distance revenue was \$1,197,000 which is \$100,000 or 7.7% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$2,387,000, which is \$242,000 or 9.2% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease in both periods was primarily due to a decrease of 722 or 1.8% in the customer base at June 30, 2008 compared to June 30, 2007 and large call-volume business customers undergoing economic slowdowns.

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Data revenue was \$1,903,000, which is \$188,000 or 11.0% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$3,751,000, which is \$360,000 or 10.6% higher the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in both periods was primarily due to an 8.7% increase in DSL customers between June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2007. Also contributing to the increase were strong sales of our Ethernet service product offset by a decrease in our private line local revenue.

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Digital TV revenue was \$858,000, which is \$322,000 or 60.1% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$1,602,000, which is \$577,000 or 56.3% higher in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in both periods was primarily the result of the offering of digital TV to three additional communities in 2007, which resulted in a 41.6% increase in digital TV customers at June 30, 2008 compared to June 30, 2007. Also contributing to the increase in digital TV revenue was an increase in rates charged to customers of approximately 5.0%, which went into effect in April 2007.

Directory revenue was \$1,004,000, which is \$105,000 or 11.7% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$2,004,000, which is \$220,000 or 12.3% higher in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was the result of increased sales of yellow-page advertising in our directory, which went into effect in the beginning of the third quarter of 2007.

NIBI bill processing revenue was \$905,000, which is \$391,000 or 76.1% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$1,499,000, which is \$296,000 or 24.6% higher in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. Contributing to the increase in revenue was a \$296,000 increase in the three month period and a \$342,000 increase in the six month period of project and integration services revenue associated with a new cellular service customer.

Other revenue, consisting primarily of sales of customer premise equipment (CPE), circuit private lines, maintenance, and adds, moves and changes was \$905,000, which is \$153,000 or 20.4% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was due to a higher volume of CPE sales of \$93,000 and higher add/move/change revenue of \$63,000.

**Cost of Services (excluding Depreciation and Amortization)**

Telecom Sector cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization) was \$7,845,000, which is \$687,000 or 9.6% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was primarily due to a \$297,000 increase in bad debt expense. Bad debt expense during the three months ended June 30, 2007 was abnormally low because of a reversal of \$325,000 of previously recorded expense when we settled the interexchange carrier dispute. Also contributing to the increase in cost of services was a \$199,000 increase in programming expenses incurred in connection with digital TV services, a \$108,000 increase in CPE material costs due to the increase in CPE revenue, and a \$72,000 increase in directory expense associated with the increase in directory revenue.

Telecom Sector cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization) was \$15,492,000, which is \$479,000 or 3.2% higher in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to the following items: 1) a \$360,000 increase in programming expenses incurred in connection with digital TV services, 2) a \$330,000 increase in bad debt expense due an abnormally low expense in 2007, which was due to a \$325,000 reversal of previously recorded expense when we settled the interexchange carrier dispute, and 3) a \$171,000 increase in directory expenses associated with the increase in directory revenue. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in wages and benefits of \$480,000 due to one-time severance payments made in 2007 and a decrease in co-location expenses of \$184,000 due primarily to a credit received from a vendor in 2008.

**Selling, General and Administrative Expenses**

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Telecom Sector selling, general and administrative expenses (excluding depreciation and amortization) were \$3,301,000, which is 72,000 or 2.1% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007. Telecom Sector selling, general and administrative expenses (excluding depreciation and amortization) were \$6,605,000, which is \$41,000 or .60% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The company is actively managing its overhead and administrative costs.

Table of Contents**Depreciation and Amortization**

Telecom Sector depreciation and amortization was \$4,008,000, which is \$219,000 or 5.8% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$7,934,000, which is \$232,000 or 3.0% higher in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. This increase was primarily due to an increase in fixed asset spending in 2007. Amortization was \$27,000 in the three months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 and was \$53,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

**Operating Income**

Telecom Sector operating income decreased \$3,233,000 or 51.8% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and decreased \$3,789,000 or 36.7% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. Excluding the non-recurring interexchange carrier settlement of \$1,890,000 our operating income decreased \$1,343,000 or 30.9% in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and decreased \$1,899,000 or 22.5% in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease in both periods was due to decreases in revenue and increases in cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization), increases in depreciation and amortization expenses offset by a decrease in selling, general, and administrative expenses, all of which are described above.

**Eventis Sector**

The following table provides a breakdown of the Eventis Sector operating results.

**EVENTIS SECTOR**

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Revenue before intersegment eliminations				
ENS equipment revenue	\$ 12,709	\$ 17,869	\$ 22,877	\$ 29,303
ENS services revenue	3,056	2,099	5,121	3,842
ETS services revenue	5,981	5,186	11,354	9,899
Intersegment	128	85	266	147
Total Eventis revenue	\$ 21,874	\$ 25,239	\$ 39,618	\$ 43,191
Total Eventis revenue before intersegment eliminations				
Unaffiliated customers	\$ 21,746	\$ 25,154	\$ 39,352	\$ 43,044
Intersegment	128	85	266	147
	21,874	25,239	39,618	43,191

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Cost of sales, equipment (excluding depreciation and amortization)	<b>10,718</b>	16,559	<b>19,415</b>	26,873
Cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization)	<b>4,880</b>	3,786	<b>9,159</b>	6,984
Selling, general and administrative expenses	<b>2,413</b>	2,318	<b>4,740</b>	4,503
Depreciation and amortization	<b>1,025</b>	927	<b>2,045</b>	1,802
Operating income	\$ <b>2,838</b>	\$ 1,649	\$ <b>4,259</b>	\$ 3,029
Net income	\$ <b>1,660</b>	\$ 990	\$ <b>2,494</b>	\$ 1,812
Capital expenditures	\$ <b>1,984</b>	\$ 1,017	\$ <b>2,977</b>	\$ 2,101

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HickoryTech Corporation acquired Enventis on December 30, 2005. We continue to manage and evaluate the Enventis operations in their entirety. The table below provides an illustration of the relative contributions and associated trends from each of the Enventis primary product lines. Certain allocations have been made, particularly in the area of selling, general and administrative expenses, in order to develop these tables.

**ENVENTIS PRODUCT LINE REPORTING**

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended June 30				Six Months Ended June 30			
	Network Services		Transport Services		Network Services		Transport Services	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
Revenue before intersegment eliminations:								
Equipment revenue	\$ 12,709	\$ 17,869	\$	\$	\$ 22,877	\$ 29,303	\$	\$
Service revenue	3,056	2,099	5,981	5,186	5,121	3,842	11,354	9,899
Intersegment			128	85			266	147
Total Enventis revenue	\$ 15,765	\$ 19,968	\$ 6,109	\$ 5,271	\$ 27,998	\$ 33,145	\$ 11,620	\$ 10,046
Cost of sales, equipment (excluding depreciation and amortization)	10,714	16,554	4	5	19,406	26,864	9	9
Cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization)	2,143	1,253	2,737	2,533	3,975	2,180	5,184	4,804
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,273	1,171	1,140	1,147	2,532	2,269	2,208	2,234
Depreciation and amortization	123	153	902	774	244	248	1,801	1,554
Operating income	\$ 1,512	\$ 837	\$ 1,326	\$ 812	\$ 1,841	\$ 1,584	\$ 2,418	\$ 1,445
Net income	\$ 885	\$ 502	\$ 775	\$ 488	\$ 1,078	\$ 947	\$ 1,416	\$ 865
Capital expenditures	\$ 156	\$ 112	\$ 1,828	\$ 905	\$ 289	\$ 80	\$ 2,688	\$ 2,021

**Revenue**

Enventis Sector operating revenue before intersegment eliminations was \$21,874,000 in the three months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$3,365,000 or 13.3% lower than revenue in the three months ended June 30, 2007. Similarly, Enventis operating revenue before intersegment eliminations was \$39,618,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$3,573,000 or 8.3% lower than revenue earned in the six months ended June 30, 2007. These fluctuations were heavily influenced by the timing and execution of equipment sales under large contracts.

Enterprise Network Services equipment revenue in the three months ended June 30, 2008 was \$12,709,000, which is \$5,160,000 or 28.9% lower than the three months ended June 30, 2007. Enterprise Network Services equipment revenue was \$22,877,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$6,426,000 or 22.0% lower than equipment revenue earned in the six months ended June 30, 2007. The most significant impact was due to recognizing \$6,500,000 of revenue related to a single large contract in the second quarter of 2007. Overall operating results from the Enventis Sector can be impacted by the timing of delivery and performance related to large equipment sales and installations. The relationship between revenue and costs associated with the various products and delivery elements of large contracts can also fluctuate depending on the product mix, vendor discounts, and rebates. These fluctuations can be especially dramatic in the Enterprise Network Services equipment revenue product line.





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The decline in equipment revenue recognition in the first two quarters of 2008 was partly offset by increases in services revenue in both the Enterprise Network Services and Enterprise Transport Services product lines. Enterprise Network Services revenue earned from services in the three months ended June 30, 2008 was \$3,056,000, which is \$957,000 or 45.6% higher than services revenue earned in the three months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to a \$767,000 increase in maintenance contract revenue and an increase of \$99,000 in support fees revenue related to technology support and monitoring of systems for our customers. Enterprise Network Services services revenue in the six months ended June 30, 2008 was \$5,121,000, which is \$1,279,000 or 33.3% higher than services revenue earned in the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to an increase in maintenance contract revenue of \$512,000, an increase in contract services revenue of \$293,000 associated with an increase in the design, configuration, and installation services related to voice and data equipment, and a \$240,000 increase in support fees revenue. The increase in services revenue reflects our business strategy of emphasizing this revenue stream due to its recurring nature as well as its higher and more stable margin characteristics. Maintenance contract sales carry a significant profitability factor. Enventis costs for maintenance contracts are netted against revenue rather than posted to Cost of Services based on our role as an agent in the transaction for Cisco.

Enterprise Transport Services revenue was \$5,981,000 in the three months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$795,000 or 15.3% higher than revenue earned in the three months ended June 30, 2007. Enterprise Transport Services revenue was \$11,354,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$1,455,000 or 14.7% higher than revenue earned in the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in both periods was primarily due to increases in fiber transport service revenue due to higher customer demand in the wholesale, business, and managed transport service areas.

**Cost of Sales – Equipment (excluding Depreciation and Amortization)**

Enventis Sector cost of sales (excluding depreciation and amortization) associated with equipment revenue was \$10,718,000 in the three months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$5,841,000 or 35.3% lower than cost of sales in the three months ended June 30, 2007. Cost of sales associated with equipment revenue was \$19,415,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$7,458,000 or 27.8% lower than cost of sales in the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease in both periods was primarily due to the lower equipment revenue experienced in the Enterprise Network Services product line. The relationship between cost of equipment sold to equipment sales revenue can fluctuate and is influenced by a number of factors including product mix, dealer discounts, and vendor incentive rebate programs. The relationship of cost as a percentage of sales revenue in the three and six month periods of 2008 compared to the same periods in 2007 is more favorable (lower) due primarily to the mix of products sold and Enventis leverage of vendor incentive programs. Labor associated with installation work is not included in this category, but is included in cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization) described below.

**Cost of Services (excluding Depreciation and Amortization)**

Enventis Sector cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization) was \$4,880,000 in the three months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$1,094,000 or 28.9% higher compared to cost of services in the three months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to the following items: 1) a \$595,000 increase in wages and benefits due to increased staffing levels, 2) a \$561,000 increase in contract labor costs related to external project support, and 3) a \$155,000 increase in circuit expenses, which supported the increase in off-net revenue. The increased staffing and contract labor costs reflect our investment in the growth of the managed service business as well as temporary staffing for high levels of project activity. These increases were partly offset by declines in consulting fees of \$247,000 due to lower usage of external project management consultants.

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Cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization) was \$9,159,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$2,175,000 or 31.1% higher compared to cost of services in the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to the following items: 1) a \$1,313,000 increase in wages and benefits due to increased staffing levels, 2) an \$830,000 increase in contract labor costs related to external project support, and 3) a \$288,000 increase in circuit expenses, which supported the increase in off-net revenue. The increased staffing and contract labor costs reflect our investment in the growth of the managed service business as well as temporary staffing for high levels of project activity. These increases were partly offset by declines in consulting fees of \$277,000 due to lower usage of external project management consultants.

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**Selling, General and Administrative Expenses**

Enventis Sector selling, general and administrative expenses were \$2,413,000 in the three months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$95,000 or 4.1% higher than selling, general, and administrative expenses in the three months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to a \$135,000 increase in commissions and an \$86,000 increase in corporate expenses, partly offset by a \$129,000 decrease in wages and benefits.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$4,740,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2008, which is \$237,000 or 5.3% higher than selling, general, and administrative expenses in the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was primarily due to a \$174,000 increase in commissions, \$166,000 increase in corporate expenses, and a \$144,000 increase in incentive compensation accruals, partly offset by a \$202,000 decrease in wages and benefits.

**Depreciation and Amortization**

Enventis Sector depreciation and amortization was \$1,025,000, which is \$98,000 or 10.6% higher in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007 and was \$2,045,000, which is \$243,000 or 13.5% higher in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase in both periods was primarily due to the increase in assets placed in service in 2007 and 2008 to support the growth in our Enventis Transport Services line of business. Enventis Sector amortization remained constant in 2008 and 2007, and is attributed to intangible assets related to the Enventis acquisition in 2005.

**Operating Income**

Enventis Sector operating income during the three months ended June 30, 2008 was \$1,189,000 or 72.1% greater than operating income for the three months ended June 30, 2007. Operating income for the six months ended June 30, 2008 was \$1,230,000 or 40.6% higher than operating income for the six months ended June 30, 2007. The increase was due to higher services revenue and lower cost of sales offsetting the decrease in equipment sales revenue and the increases in cost of services (excluding depreciation and amortization), selling, general, and administrative expenses, and depreciation expenses, all of which are described above. The increases in maintenance contract revenue discussed above especially affected this relationship, as revenue from these sales is recognized net of associated costs, directly impacting overall operating income. The increase in both periods was driven by the higher profit margin characteristics of the mix of product and services sold especially maintenance contracts and the favorable discounts and rebates offered by vendors.

**Interest Expense**

Consolidated interest expense was \$1,478,000 which is \$553,000 or 27.2% lower in the three months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the three months ended June 30, 2007. Interest expense was \$3,175,000, which is \$1,038,000 or 24.6% lower in the six months ended June 30, 2008 compared to the six months ended June 30, 2007. The decrease is a result of a lower average effective interest rate in the first six months of 2008. The outstanding balance of our debt obligations was \$133,654,000 at June 30, 2008 and \$129,206,000 at December 31, 2007.

Interest expense will increase approximately \$330,000 per quarter starting in the third quarter of 2008, subject to other normal influences such as debt principal amount and movement in interest rates on un-hedged or unfixed interest rate debt. Quarterly benefits of \$330,000 from interest-rate swap agreements sold at a gain in early 2007 become fully amortized in the second quarter of 2008 and no longer offset a portion of interest expense. The combined effects of lower interest rates, interest protection strategies, and lower debt principal indicate that our interest expense will be approximately \$1,300,000 lower for the year 2008 than 2007.

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**Income Taxes**

The effective income tax rate from continuing operations of approximately 43.6% for the second quarter of 2008 and 42.6% for the second quarter of 2007 exceeds the federal statutory rate primarily due to state income taxes and interest expense accrued on unrecognized tax benefits. The change in the effective tax rate from 2008 to 2007 is the result of interest accrued on uncertain tax positions according to FASB Interpretation No. 48 (FIN No. 48), Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes-an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

**Cash Flows**

Cash generated from operations was \$9,057,000 in the first six months of 2008 compared to \$11,540,000 in the first six months of 2007. Cash provided by operations in the first six months of 2008 and 2007 was primarily attributable to net income plus non-cash expenses for depreciation and amortization. Outstanding accounts receivable balances increased by \$3,674,000 and \$7,254,000 in the first six months of 2008 and 2007, respectively as a result of customer installations in progress evolving into the billing stage primarily in the Enventis Sector. In 2008, inventory in the Enventis Sector increased primarily due to customer activity levels at the end of the second quarter. Inventory for the Enventis Sector is a temporary staging point in the customized equipment ordering/installation cycle. The decrease in inventory of \$2,125,000 in the first six months of 2007 was primarily due to a decrease in inventory in the Enventis Sector which was a direct consequence of the increased billings to customers noted above.

Cash used in investing activities was driven by capital expenditures which increased \$1,925,000 during the first six months of 2008 compared to the first six months of 2007. We are making a concentrated effort to focus spending on revenue generating products, services, and key strategic initiatives. We anticipate the level of total capital spending in 2008 to be slightly higher than the level of capital spending seen in 2007.

Cash used in financing activities in the first six months of 2008 was \$362,000 compared to \$5,216,000 in the first six months of 2007. In 2007, a decrease in the overall credit facility of \$6,650,000 resulted from repayments of \$10,650,000, offset by borrowings of \$4,000,000. During the first six months of 2008, we experienced an increase in our long term debt position of \$4,300,000 which resulted from repayments of \$11,600,000 offset by borrowings of \$15,900,000. In 2008, we anticipate that our growth initiatives will cause minimal reductions in our current debt level by year end. In 2007, we terminated two outstanding interest-rate swap agreements which had original maturities of June 2008 resulting in proceeds of \$1,936,000.

**Working Capital**

Working capital (i.e. current assets minus current liabilities) was \$15,115,000 as of June 30, 2008, compared to working capital of \$8,228,000 as of December 31, 2007. The ratio of current assets to current liabilities was 1.5 as of June 30, 2008 and 1.3 as of December 31, 2007.

**Extended-Term Payable**

Enventis has a \$20,000,000 wholesale financing agreement with a financing company to fund inventory purchased from certain approved vendors. Advances under the financing arrangement are collateralized by the accounts receivable and inventory of Enventis and a guaranty of up to \$16,000,000 from HickoryTech Corporation. The financing agreement provides sixty-day interest-free payment terms for inventory purchases and can be terminated at any time by either party. The balance outstanding under the financing arrangement was \$13,041,000 at June 30, 2008 and \$14,443,000 at December 31, 2007. These balances are classified as current liabilities in the accompanying balance sheets and are not considered part of our debt financing.

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**Long-Term Obligations**

Our long-term obligations as of June 30, 2008 were \$132,313,000, excluding current maturities of \$1,025,000 on debt and \$316,000 on current maturities of capital leases. Long-term obligations as of December 31, 2007, were \$128,475,000 excluding current maturities of \$475,000 on debt and \$256,000 of capital leases. On December 30, 2005, we entered into a \$160,000,000 credit agreement with a syndicate of banks (subsequently reduced to a \$155,575,000 facility as of June 30, 2008 through normal quarterly amortization), which amended our previous credit facility. The credit facility is comprised of a \$30,000,000 revolving credit component that expires on December 30, 2011 and a \$130,000,000 term loan component (subsequently reduced to \$125,575,000 as of June 30, 2008 through normal quarterly amortization).

The term loan component is comprised of two components, which are defined as term loan B and term loan C. The outstanding principal balance of term loan B is \$106,075,000 as of June 30, 2008, and is held by commercial lenders. Under the terms of term loan B, we are required to make quarterly principal payments of \$275,000 from March 31, 2008 through December 31, 2011 with the remainder of the aggregate principal due in two payments on March 31, 2012 and June 30, 2012. Due to the aggressive pay down of debt in 2007, we are not required to make quarterly principal payments during the first three quarters of 2008. The outstanding principal balance of term loan C is \$19,500,000 as of June 30, 2008 and is held entirely by the Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative ( RTFC ). Under the terms of term loan C, we are required to make quarterly principal payments of \$50,000 on the aggregate principal amount from March 31, 2008 through December 31, 2012 with the remainder of the aggregate principal due in two payments on March 31, 2013 and June 30, 2013. Under the terms of the revolving credit facility, any outstanding principal is payable in full on December 30, 2011. The outstanding balance of the revolving credit facility is \$7,400,000 as of June 30, 2008.

Our debt requires us to comply, on a consolidated basis, with specified financial ratios and tests. These financial ratios and tests include maximum leverage ratio, minimum interest coverage ratio, and maximum capital expenditures. We were in full compliance with these ratios and tests as of June 30, 2008. Our obligations under the credit facility are secured by a first-priority lien on all property and assets, tangible and intangible of HickoryTech and its current subsidiaries, including, but not limited to accounts receivable, inventory, equipment and intellectual property; general intangibles, cash and proceeds of the foregoing. HickoryTech has also given a first-priority pledge of the capital stock of HickoryTech's current subsidiaries to secure the credit facility.

**Other**

We believe that cash flow from operations and current cash balances, are adequate to meet our anticipated operating, capital expenditures, and debt service requirements for the foreseeable future.

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**





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We do not have operations subject to risks of foreign currency fluctuations. We do, however, use derivative financial instruments to manage exposure to interest rate fluctuations. Our objectives for holding derivatives are to minimize interest rate risks using the most effective methods to eliminate or reduce the impact of these exposures. Variable rate debt instruments are subject to interest rate risk. In March 2007, we terminated two outstanding interest-rate swap agreements, with original maturities of June 2008, in exchange for \$1,936,000 in proceeds. Proceeds of \$664,000 and \$609,000 were recognized as an offset to interest expense during the first six months of 2008 and 2007, respectively. Immediately following the termination of the two agreements discussed above, we executed a new interest-rate swap agreement, effectively locking in the interest rate on \$60,000,000 of variable-rate debt through March of 2010. On March 28, 2008, we entered into a second interest-rate swap agreement, effectively locking in the interest rate on an additional \$40,000,000 of variable-interest rate debt through February 2010.

The cumulative gain or loss on current derivative instruments is reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in shareholders' equity and is recognized in earnings when the term of the protection agreement is concluded. Our earnings are affected by changes in interest rates as a portion of our long-term debt has variable interest rates based on LIBOR. If interest rates for the portion of our long-term debt based on variable rates had averaged 10% more for the quarter ended June 30, 2008, our interest expense would have increased \$16,000.

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**Item 4. Controls and Procedures**



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As of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (the Evaluation Date), we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, regarding the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded, as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report, that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act are recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in applicable rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, in a manner that allows timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during our most recently completed fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

### **Part II Other Information**

#### **Item 1. Legal Proceedings.**



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Other than routine litigation incidental to our business there are no pending material legal proceedings to which we are a party or to which any of our property is subject.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors.**





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There have not been any material changes to the risk factors previously disclosed in Item 1A, Risk Factors, of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007.

### **Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.**



None.

**Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.**



None.

**Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.**



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- a. The annual shareholders meeting was held on May 6, 2008. The only matter presented to the shareholders at the annual meeting was the reelection of four directors to terms expiring in 2011. Lyle T. Bosaker, Myrita T. Craig, and John W. Finke continued as directors after the meeting whose terms expire in 2009, and John H. Holdredge, Lyle G. Jacobson, and Starr J. Kirklin continued as directors after the meeting whose terms expire in 2010.
- b. The names of the directors elected at the annual meeting and the applicable votes were as follows:

<b>Director</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Withheld</b>
Robert D. Alton, Jr.	9,423,123	836,638
James W. Bracke	9,922,806	336,955
R. Wynn Kearney, Jr.	9,908,513	351,249
Dale E. Parker	9,912,701	347,060

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**Item 5. Other Information.**





None.

**Item 6. Exhibits Listing.**



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Exhibit 31.1 Certification pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 31.2 Certification pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Exchange Act, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 32.1 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 32.2 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

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Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Dated: July 29, 2008

HICKORY TECH CORPORATION

By: /s/ John W. Finke  
John W. Finke, President and Chief Executive  
Officer

By: /s/ David A. Christensen  
David A. Christensen, Senior Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer