## **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Confidential Draft Submission No. 1 Form S-1 REGISTRATION STATEMENT **UNDER** THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

7374 (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)

86-2759890 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

228 Park Ave S New York, New York 10003 (212) 967-5294

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Gregory A. Beard Chief Executive Officer 228 Park Ave S York, New York 10003 (212) 967-5294

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box:

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  $\square$ 

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  $\square$ 

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  $\square$ 

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer		Accelerated file	er 🗆
Non-accelerated filer	$\boxtimes$	Smaller reporting company	y 🗵
Emerging growth company	$\boxtimes$		•

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant

to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act. □

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)(2)	Amount of Registration Fee(3)
Class A common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	\$	\$

- Includes the aggregate offering price of shares of Class A common stock that may be purchased upon the exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock. Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

  To be paid in connection with the initial filling of the registration statement.

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until this registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities, and it is not soliciting an offer to buy, these securities in any state or jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

#### PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED

**Shares** 



## **Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc.**

Class A Common Stock

This is the initial public offering of Class A common stock of Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc., a Delaware corporation. We are offering shares of Class A common stock.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for our Class A common stock. We intend to apply to list our Class A common stock on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol " ." We anticipate that the initial public offering price will be between \$ and \$ per share of Class A common stock.

The underwriters have the option for a period of 30 days from the date of this prospectus to purchase up to a maximum of additional shares of Class A common stock from us at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount and commissions.

We are an "emerging growth company" and a "smaller reporting company" under applicable federal securities laws and will be subject to reduced reporting requirements. This prospectus complies with the requirements that apply to an issuer that is an emerging growth company. We have two classes of common stock: Class A common stock and Class V common stock. Upon consummation of this offering, investors in this offering, including any of our affiliates that may purchase shares in this offering, will hold % of the Class A common stock, representing % of the total voting stock outstanding. Legacy Owners will hold % of the total voting stock outstanding, including % of the Class V common stock, which votes together with the Class A common stock as a single class.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Investing in our Class A common stock involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 23 to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of our Class A common stock.

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Initial public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount and commissions(1)	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc.	\$	\$

<sup>1)</sup> See "Underwriting" for additional information regarding underwriting compensation.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares of Class A common stock to purchasers on or about The Depository Trust Company.

, 2021, through the book-entry facilities of

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, 2021

# **B. Riley Securities**

The date of this prospectus is , 2021.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
RISK FACTORS	23
CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	60
USE OF PROCEEDS	62
DIVIDEND POLICY	63
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	64
<u>DILUTION</u>	66
UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION	68
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS	72
<u>BUSINESS</u>	82
<u>MANAGEMENT</u>	98
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	102
CORPORATE REORGANIZATION	104
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS	107
PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS	113
DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK	114
SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE SALE	120
MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS	122
<u>CERTAIN ERISA CONSIDERATIONS</u>	126
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	128
LEGAL MATTERS	134
EXPERTS	134
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	134
INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	F-1

Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained in this prospectus and any free writing prospectus we have prepared. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. Offers to sell, and solicitations of offers to buy, shares of our Class A common stock are being made only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of our Class A common stock. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since the date of this prospectus.

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. See "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

## **Industry and Market Data**

The market data and certain other statistical information used throughout this prospectus are based on independent industry publications, publicly available information, business organizations, government publications and other published independent sources. Some data is also based on our good faith estimates. Although we believe these third-party sources are reliable as of their respective dates, neither we nor the underwriters have independently verified the accuracy or completeness of this information. Market share data is subject to change and may be limited by the availability of raw data, the voluntary nature of the data gathering process and other limitations in any statistical survey of market share data. Accordingly, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such market share data or any other such estimates. The industry in which we operate is subject to a high degree of uncertainty and risk due to a variety of factors, including those described in the section entitled "Risk Factors." These and other factors could cause results to differ materially from those expressed in these publications.

#### **Trademarks and Trade Names**

We rely on various trade names that we use in connection with the operation of our business. This prospectus may also contain trademarks, service marks and trade names of third parties, which are the property of their respective owners. Our use or display of third parties' trademarks, service marks, trade names or products in this prospectus is not intended to, and does not imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship by us. Solely for convenience, the trademarks, service marks and trade names referred to in this prospectus may appear without the <sup>®</sup>, TM or SM symbols, but such references are not intended to indicate, in any way, that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights or the right of the applicable licensor to these trademarks, service marks and trade names.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

#### **Organizational Structure**

On April 1, 2021, we effected a reorganization, which we describe in "Prospectus Summary – Corporate Reorganization" and "Corporate Reorganization" and refer to herein as the "Reorganization." Unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, all information in this prospectus reflects the consummation of the Reorganization and this offering. See "Corporate Reorganization" and a diagram depicting our organizational structure in "Prospectus Summary – Corporate Reorganization" for more information.

Except as otherwise indicated or required by the context, all references in this prospectus to the "Company," "we," "us" or "our" relate to Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc. ("Stronghold Inc.") and its consolidated subsidiaries following the Reorganization. References in this prospectus to "Q Power" refer to Q Power LLC, which prior to the Reorganization (i) was the sole regarded owner of Stronghold Digital Mining LLC (f/k/a Stronghold Power LLC) ("SDM") and (ii) indirectly held 70% of the limited partner interests and 100% of the general partner interests in Scrubgrass Reclamation Company, L.P. (f/k/a Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P.) ("Scrubgrass LP"). References in this prospectus to the "Legacy Owners" refer to the existing owners of Stronghold Inc., including, but not limited to, Q Power and the holders of Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock (each as defined herein) that we expect will convert into shares of Class A common stock in connection with this offering.

We are a holding company and the sole managing member of Stronghold Digital Mining Holdings LLC ("Stronghold LLC"), and our principal asset consists of units of Stronghold LLC.

#### Presentation of Financial and Other Information

SDM and Scrubgrass LP collectively are, and are generally referred to herein as, the accounting predecessor of the issuer, Stronghold Inc. Stronghold Inc. will be the audited financial reporting entity following the Reorganization.

The unaudited pro forma financial information of Stronghold Inc. presented in this prospectus has been derived by the application of pro forma adjustments to the historical consolidated financial statements of our accounting predecessor and its subsidiaries included elsewhere in this prospectus. These pro forma adjustments give effect to the Reorganization and the consummation of this offering as if they had occurred on January 1, 2020, in the case of the unaudited pro forma consolidated statement of operations data, and as of December 31, 2020, in the case of the unaudited pro forma consolidated balance sheet. See "Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Information" for a complete description of the adjustments and assumptions underlying the pro forma financial information included in this prospectus.

Certain monetary amounts, percentages and other figures included in this prospectus have been subject to rounding adjustments. Percentage amounts included in this prospectus have not in all cases been calculated on the basis of such rounded figures, but on the basis of such amounts prior to rounding. For this reason, percentage amounts in this prospectus may vary from those obtained by performing the same calculations using the figures in our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. Certain other amounts that appear in this prospectus may not sum due to rounding.

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary contains basic information about us and the offering. Because it is a summary, it does not contain all the information that you should consider before investing in our Class A common stock. You should read and carefully consider this entire prospectus before making an investment decision, especially the information presented under the heading "Risk Factors," "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

Except as otherwise indicated, all information contained in this prospectus assumes an initial public offering price of \$ per share of Class A common stock (the midpoint of the price range set forth on the front cover page of this prospectus) and that the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock, and excludes shares of Class A common stock reserved for issuance under our equity incentive plan. Please see "Principal Stockholders" for more information.

#### Overview

We are a vertically integrated crypto asset mining company currently focused on mining Bitcoin. We wholly-own and operate a low-cost, environmentally-beneficial coal refuse power generation facility that we have upgraded in Scrubgrass Township, Pennsylvania (the "Scrubgrass Plant"), and it is classified under Pennsylvania law as a Tier II alternative energy source (equivalent to a large-scale hydropower plant). We are committed to generating our energy and managing our assets sustainably, and we believe that we are one of the first vertically integrated crypto asset mining companies with a focus on environmentally-beneficial operations. Simply put, we employ 21st century crypto mining techniques to remediate the impacts of 19th and 20th century coal mining in some of the most environmentally neglected regions of the United States.

In addition to being environmentally-beneficial and sustainable, owning our own source of power helps us to produce Bitcoin at one of the lowest prices among our publicly traded peers. We also believe that owning our own power source makes us a more attractive partner to crypto asset mining equipment purveyors. For example, we have been able to enter into partnerships with crypto asset industry participants and share miners because we offered competitive power rates in a mutually beneficial arrangement. Other miner manufacturers or suppliers may be more willing to work with us because our vertical integration, strong financial position, and industrial scale make us a dependable partner. We have entered into a non-binding letter of intent to purchase two additional coal refuse power generation facilities, and we intend to leverage these competitive advantages to continue to grow our business through the opportunistic acquisition of power generating assets and miners.

We currently operate approximately 3,000 crypto asset mining computers (known as "miners") with hash rate capacity of approximately 100 petahash ("PH/s"). Since April 1, 2021, we have entered into definitive agreements with multiple suppliers to purchase over 27,300 additional miners with a total hash capacity equal to over 2,600 PH/s. Of these miners, 92% are scheduled to be delivered in 2021, with the first batch scheduled for delivery in August 2021, and the remaining 8% throughout 2022. With part of the proceeds of this offering, we intend to procure an additional 27,900 miners, which we anticipate will bring our total hash rate capacity to approximately 3,000 PH/s by December 2021 and to over 5,300 PH/s by December 2022. We intend to house our miners at the Scrubgrass Plant and the two coal refuse power generation facilities currently under letter of intent that we intend to purchase.

Our founders have long experience in finance and in operating energy assets. Greg Beard, our Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, previously served as Senior Partner and Head of Natural Resources at Apollo Global Management Inc. Bill Spence, our Co-Chairman, has 40 years of energy-related experience and was a pioneer in the operation of and fuel sourcing for coal refuse plants.

#### **Our Competitive Strengths**

- Environmentally beneficial, coal refuse-powered electricity generation classified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Tier II alternative energy source. Our Scrubgrass Plant and the two additional plants currently under letter of intent, the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant, are powered by coal refuse. Coal refuse is a waste product historically generated by coal mining in Pennsylvania and neighboring states, and coal refuse is a significant contributor to air and water pollution in these geographies. Because our power generation facility technology produces energy and byproducts used in land-reclamation activities from this waste, power generation facilities fueled by coal refuse are classified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as Tier II alternative energy sources, equivalent to large-scale hydropower plants. In contrast, most of our competitors with integrated power assets rely on traditional fuels, such as coal or natural gas. Given the power-intensive nature of crypto asset mining and the implications for the environment and sustainability, we believe that our access to inexpensive, environmentally-beneficial power represents a meaningful and durable competitive advantage. In addition, we believe that buyers of the Bitcoin we mine could ascribe value due to the environmentally-beneficial manner in which they were mined.
- Vertically integrated crypto asset mining and power generation operations, driving among the lowest costs of crypto asset production in our industry. We operate vertically integrated power generation and crypto asset mining operations. Our miners are located on the same premises as our Scrubgrass Plant to maximize efficiency and to minimize cost. The Scrubgrass Plant's recognition as a Tier II Renewable Energy plant also allows us to earn renewable energy credits ("RECs") under Pennsylvania law, and coal refuse is inexpensive and in abundant supply near our operations. As a result, we believe that our Bitcoin production cost of approximately \$2,500 is among the lowest in our industry. As we acquire additional power generation facilities, including the potential acquisitions of the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant, currently under letter of intent, we will focus on environmentally-beneficial power generation assets that offer similarly attractive crypto asset mining economics.
- Strong track record of acquiring and operating power assets. Our management team has a distinguished track record of sourcing, financing, and operating power assets. Greg Beard, our Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, previously served as Senior Partner and Head of Natural Resources at Apollo Global Management Inc. and as a Founding Member and Managing Director at Riverstone Holdings LLC, two leading private equity firms. During his private equity tenure, Mr. Beard sourced and led 23 energy investments, representing \$8.8 billion in proceeds. Bill Spence, our Co-Chairman, has 40 years of energy-related experience. Mr. Spence is the former owner and operator of Coal Valley/Dark Diamond, a coal refuse power generation facility, from 1993 to 2007. Mr. Spence was also the former independent operator of our Scrubgrass Plant prior to our formation.
- Superior access to Bitcoin miners with multiple miner procurement channels, including direct relationships with equipment manufacturers and partnerships with data center operators and other intermediaries. We benefit from strong relationships with multiple providers of Bitcoin miners. We recently entered into an agreement with a leading manufacturer of Bitcoin miners to purchase 15,000 miners with aggregate hash rate of approximately 1,500 PH/s for delivery in the fourth quarter of 2021. In addition, through our partnership with a leading global manager of Bitcoin mining operations, we have executed a purchase agreement to acquire 9,900 MicroBT miners with phased delivery expected to begin in August 2021 and have agreed to purchase terms for the acquisition of approximately 4,950 additional MicroBT miners. Finally, we have been highly opportunistic in entering into hardware purchase agreements with miner brokers. We believe that our access to capital, including prior private financings, as well as the proceeds from this initial public offering, in conjunction with our vertically-integrated power generation, makes us an attractive partner for Bitcoin equipment manufacturers and other market leaders alike.

### **Our Growth Strategies**

- Acquire additional environmentally-beneficial power generation assets, including closing on two coal refuse power generation facilities currently under letter of intent. We have entered into a letter of intent to purchase two coal refuse plants, the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. We have substantially completed our due diligence of Panther Creek, and we believe that we will execute definitive purchase documents within the next two months for the Panther Creek Plant. We also anticipate a favorable outcome of our ongoing due diligence of the Third Plant. Powered by the Scrubgrass Plant and these initial two plant acquisitions, we have developed a plan to build out aggregate mining capacity to 204 megawatts ("MW") by the end of 2022. We believe that our expected expansion to three environmentally-beneficial power generation facilities dedicated to Bitcoin mining is repeatable and scalable. With the extensive experience and relationships that our leadership team has in the industry, we have an acquisition pipeline of additional environmentally-beneficial power assets, and we believe that the acquisition of additional power generation facilities will enable us to drive further growth in crypto asset mining.
- Continue to opportunistically source new miners through our multiple procurement channels to accelerate our business plan and increase our mining capacity. As previously outlined, we have recently executed purchase orders for the acquisition of miners from a manufacturer, a Bitcoin mining and data center operator (for MicroBT miners), and multiple miner brokers (for Canaan and Bitmain miners). While many of our competitors have struggled to obtain mining equipment due to historically strong demand and pre-sold supply, we believe that these recent confirmed purchase orders demonstrate our ability to leverage the breadth of our relationships to quickly expand our mining capacity. By operating the Scrubgrass Plant at capacity and through the anticipated build-outs of Panther Creek and Third Plant, we are forecasting expansion in our crypto asset mining operations to 58,250 total miners, representing 5,400 PH/s, by the end of 2022. We expect to benefit from these strong relationships to purchase additional miners on favorable economic terms as we continue to expand our power generation capacity through the acquisition of additional plants.
- Drive operational excellence and structure alignment with key industry partners, including equipment manufacturers, power generation facility owners and the broader crypto currency and investment ecosystem. We are committed to building the leading vertically integrated crypto asset mining and environmentally-beneficial power generation platform. To achieve this objective, we have developed a network of technology and service providers, and we are emphasizing long-term partnerships and equity alignment. For example, we believe that we negotiated favorable economic and delivery terms for the purchase of miners by providing an equity incentive to the sellers of the miners, subject to meeting specified performance obligations. Similarly, our anticipated partnership with our Bitcoin mining and data center operator provides for sharing of the economic rights to Bitcoin produced by the partnership, motivating our partner to manage mining operations to achieve maximum efficiency. By aligning interests, we believe that we are driving operational excellence, thereby enabling further expansion and accelerating our growth.

# **Environmentally-Beneficial Operations**

The Scrubgrass Plant, our first power generation facility, is located on a 650-acre site in Scrubgrass Township, Venango County, Pennsylvania, and is classified under Pennsylvania law as a Tier II alternative energy source. The Scrubgrass Plant currently has the capacity to produce approximately 85 MW of electricity utilizing circulating fluidized bed ("CFB") technology. Using this CFB technology, the Scrubgrass Plant converts highly polluting coal refuse, a legacy waste from decades of coal mining currently found in sites throughout Pennsylvania and neighboring states, into power and also yields beneficial use ash, a by-product of the combustion process that can be used as fertilizer and filler in other reclamation projects.

The operation of our power generation facility with coal refuse allows the reclamation of large geographic areas that have been ravaged by the presence of coal refuse, the environmentally harmful byproduct of Pennsylvania's legacy coal-mining operations. Coal mining began in earnest in Pennsylvania in the later part of the 19th century to help meet the nation's growing demand for steel, and continued through the 20th century as Pennsylvania and other coal producing states mined the fuel needed to power the industrial revolution in the United States and fight two World Wars. While the placement of coal refuse became more strictly regulated with the passage of the federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (the "SMCRA"), the decades of operations prior to the SMCRA's adoption produced large piles of refuse near now-abandoned coal mining operations. The Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation ("BAMR") of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("PADEP") estimates that today there are 840 coal refuse sites, covering over 8,500 acres, filled by over 220 million of tons of coal refuse in legacy piles located throughout the state. We estimate that, based on the number of coal refuse sites we are currently reclaiming in close proximity to the Scrubgrass Plant, there is at least 30 years' worth of fuel available for that plant alone. We expect the additional plants that we intend to acquire will also have access to a multi-year supply of coal refuse.

In 2015, Pennsylvania estimated that the cost to remediate the abandoned mine lands ("AML") and acid mine drainage ("AMD") sites in Pennsylvania exceeded \$16.1 billion, of which coal refuse represented a \$2 billion burden. Coal refuse piles produce significant, adverse local and regional environmental consequences, including the harmful leaching of acidity, iron and iron oxide, aluminum, manganese, and sulfate residues into waterways resulting in significant AMD. This leachate creates both surface water and groundwater contamination and produces streams, ponds and lakes that can be devoid of aquatic life. AMD is the largest source of water pollution in these Pennsylvania communities and afflicts watersheds downstream from the coal refuse piles, while also reducing potable water supplies.

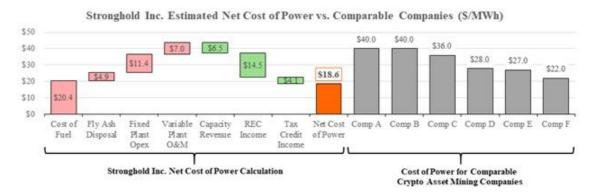
The coal refuse piles cover large areas of otherwise productive land and pose negative consequences for air quality in the surrounding communities. Uncontrolled fugitive dust from these piles creates particulate matter pollution and can act as a wind-borne pathogen, posing significant risks to human health. The piles themselves can also ignite. Wildfires, lightning strikes and campfires on the surface can quickly turn into bigger issues such as underground mine fires. Unattended piles can also spontaneously combust through an oxidation process that generates heat and consequently ignites the combustible components of piles. Burning piles, especially underground fires in the absence of oxygen, produce a variety of adverse uncontrolled ambient impacts, including smoke, particulate, and the release of poisonous and noxious gases – often at ground level. These gases, including carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, ammonia, sulfur trioxide, and oxides of nitrogen and a variety of volatile organic compounds – are all potentially harmful to human, animal and vegetative life. According to PADEP, as of December 14, 2020, there were 92 coal refuse piles burning in Pennsylvania, and over the past decades hundreds of others have burned. PADEP has estimated that 6.6 million tons of coal refuse burn each year in unintended, uncontrolled fires, releasing 9 million tons of carbon dioxide and numerous other air pollutants. When fires occur, the budgets of these environmentally and often economically challenged communities are hardest hit, and it may take years to extinguish the fire.

The CFB technology employed by the Scrubgrass Plant and other coal refuse reclamation facilities was developed to burn coal refuse and similar low-BTU substances by combining the waste with limestone injection for acid gas control in specialized CFB boilers and injecting streams of hot air. These units are also equipped with fabric filter systems to control filterable particulate matter ("FPM") emissions. The coal refuse-fired units control emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, air toxins, FPM and total particulate matter. These units are some of the lowest emitters of mercury and FPM in the nation. The solid materials are consumed in the combustion process and the by-products are steam, which powers electricity generators, and beneficial use ash, an inert non-acidic substance that can be used in remediation and reclamation activities. The removal, remediation and reclamation of the polluting piles contributes to upwards of 85% of the operating costs of one of these specialized power generation facilities. This business model results in the most efficient method to comprehensively remove the hazardous materials from the environment and remediate the polluting impacts.

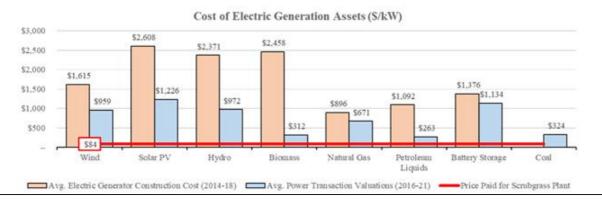
Our ownership of the Scrubgrass Plant combined with the environmental benefits which accrue to the region allow us to mine Bitcoin at what we believe to be some of the lowest costs in the industry while making a transformational contribution to the environment.

#### Low-Cost Power Generation

Given that the price of electricity has a significant impact on the ultimate economics and profitability of crypto asset mining, we believe long-term value is enabled primarily by the reduction of power costs and securing environmentally-beneficial power generation assets. Our miners are powered by the electricity produced by our own assets. Through our ownership of the Scrubgrass Plant and other sources of income (including power purchase agreements with third party miners and, in certain circumstances, the sale of beneficial use ash), we are able to achieve low capital cost, resulting in an estimated cost to mine of approximately \$2,500 per Bitcoin equivalent. Due in part to our low variable cost, we expect to be able to generate power for approximately \$19 per megawatt-hour ("MWh") at our Scrubgrass Plant at full capacity. This contributes to our value creation strategy, which is based on four concepts: (i) securing and operating low-cost, environmentally-beneficial energy assets, (ii) protecting operational profitability and efficiently managing risk across different pricing environments, (iii) optimizing returns over invested capital through strategic and innovative sourcing of power and mining equipment (including through partnerships with suppliers) and (iv) potentially extending the economic life of our equipment through the use of low cost of power. The chart below shows an estimate for the fourth quarter of 2021 of the components of our net cost of power and a comparison to our peers' cost of power.



Due to the specialized nature of coal refuse power generation facilities that utilize CFB technology, we estimate the replacement cost for an electricity generation facility utilizing this technology that operates on the scale of our Scrubgrass Plant would be approximately \$500 million. We estimate that the cost to build or buy a renewable energy power generation asset that operates on the scale of our Scrubgrass Plant would be approximately \$85 million. However, due to their part in the reclamation process, we believe coal refuse plants play a more environmentally-beneficial role than renewable sources of energy. The price that we and our predecessor paid for the Scrubgrass Plant was approximately \$7 million, which represents a significant discount to our estimated cost to build or buy a similar power generation asset. The chart below shows the average cost to build or buy power generation assets in the United States compared to the price we paid for the Scrubgrass Plant (excluding transactions of greenfield renewables assets).



As part of our strategy of securing environmentally-beneficial power generation assets for crypto asset mining, we have entered into a non-binding letter of intent to purchase (i) the Panther Creek Energy Facility (the "Panther Creek Plant"), a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility that utilizes CFB technology (similar to the Scrubgrass Plant) with 94 MW of electricity generation capacity located near Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania, and (ii) another coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 134 MW of electricity generation capacity located in Pennsylvania (the "Third Plant"). These facilities are each waste removal and environmental remediation businesses that generate and sell electricity to pay for the environmental reclamation work that they perform. We intend to opportunistically acquire such electricity generation assets to power our increasing crypto asset mining operations in an environmentally-conscious manner.

Pennsylvania has deemed the reclamation of coal refuse sites as an environmental priority, and since the early 1990s an unofficial public-private-partnership has developed between the coal refuse reclamation to energy industry and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In 2016, Pennsylvania adopted a performance-based tax credit targeting coal refuse removal by alternative electricity generation facilities utilizing CFB technology, such as the Scrubgrass Plant, Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. To qualify for the tax credit, 75% of the fuel used by these facilities must be comprised of qualified coal refuse, plant design must include circulating fluidized bed technology, utilizing limestone injection and a fabric filter for particulate emissions control, ash produced by the facilities must be put to beneficial use as defined by PADEP, and, finally, at least 50% of that beneficial use ash must be used to reclaim coal mining affected sites.

Due to the environmental benefit produced by our facilities, we also qualify for Tier II RECs in Pennsylvania. These RECs are currently valued at approximately \$14.50 per MWh on a forward-looking basis, based on the price as of May 5, 2021. Particularly challenging and often remote piles also require partnerships with federal, state, and local environmental groups in order to accomplish the remediation and reclamation goals of a project. These projects include the use of federal grants combined with millions of private dollars invested by the coal refuse reclamation to energy project companies. Our coal refuse reclamation to energy facility has frequently partnered with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, BAMR and local environmental groups to remediate these piles. The Scrubgrass Plant has partnered with state agencies since the mid-1990s to identify and reclaim waste sites and have removed over 16 million tons from the environment since start of operations.

While crypto asset mining continues to consume a massive amount of energy worldwide, often generated from traditional and more environmentally-harmful sources, we are able to conduct our activities in a manner that benefits both the environment and our profitability.

## **Mining Operations**

We believe that through our innovative strategic initiatives and existing commercial relationships, we will continue to efficiently secure high-quality equipment necessary to maximize our operational advantages. Using our access to and control of environmentally beneficial and low-cost power as leverage, our focus is on sourcing the latest crypto asset mining technology and engaging in transactions to align our interests with those of other key industry stakeholders, including equipment manufacturers and high-performance computing infrastructure managers. We are actively adding to our existing fleet of approximately 3,000 miners currently deployed at the Scrubgrass Plant with hash rate capacity of approximately 100 PH/s, through the execution of three definitive agreements since April 1, 2021 with multiple suppliers to purchase over 27,300 miners with a total hash capacity equal to over 2,600 PH/s. Approximately 92% of these miners are scheduled to be delivered in 2021, with the first batch scheduled for delivery in August 2021, and the remaining 8% throughout 2022. The first 16,000 miners are expected to be housed in our data centers at the Scrubgrass Plant with the remainder deployed at future power generation facilities, including, potentially, the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant, starting later this year. Our location in the cooler Northeastern United States and access to cheap power allows us to cool our miners at lower cost than if we were located in warmer regions and also affords us the flexibility to buy power off the grid when the cost of such power is cheaper than our cost of production, resulting in our ability to maximize crypto asset mining operations through low variable costs and cost per MW. Our current focus is on mining Bitcoin, which we may convert to USD to the extent necessary to fund our development.

We believe that buyers of the Bitcoin we mine may ascribe value to the environmentally-beneficial manner in which it was mined in the United States. Furthermore, while our focus is currently on Bitcoin, we may utilize our miners for other crypto assets depending on market conditions, including the relative values of such other crypto assets, and other factors. We intend to operate with flexibility and a goal of maximizing value from our operations. To this end, our business strategy continues to be acquiring power generating assets that allow us to generate electricity at competitive rates in an environmentally-beneficial fashion, securing miners with the latest technology to utilize such power generation capabilities, and re-investing proceeds from our crypto asset mining operations in acquiring additional power generating assets and miners.

## **Crypto Assets and Crypto Asset Mining**

Cryptocurrencies, including Bitcoin, are crypto assets designed to work as fast, secure and decentralized mediums of exchange. Digital assets exist on a blockchain which is a network of computers that together store the history of transactions and validate new transactions without the need for a trusted, central intermediary. Using a blockchain, value can be sent from one account to another in a matter of minutes and with full certainty without requiring the involvement of a bank or financial institution. Each computer on the network stores a copy of all the past transactions and the balance of every account.

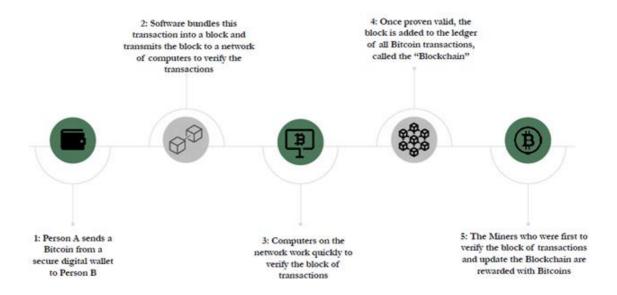
Each account is identified by a "public key," the address to which funds are sent to and from. To access the account, however, a "private key" is needed. This private key is closely guarded by the holders of crypto assets, as anyone who possesses the private key for an account can access that account and transfer value. As a result of the relationship between public keys and private keys, every transaction ever done on the blockchain is available for public viewing in perpetuity, but the owners of the accounts may be anonymous.

The Bitcoin network infrastructure is collectively maintained by a decentralized, public user base who are either volunteers or are rewarded with Bitcoin. As the network is decentralized, it does not rely on either governmental authorities or financial institutions to create, transmit or determine the value of the coins and instead value is determined by supply and demand.

Most blockchains, including Bitcoin, validate transactions via a process called "proof of work," which requires that computers compete to solve a complex cryptographic puzzle. Solving this puzzle essentially requires random guesswork and computers generate millions of guesses to arrive at the correct answer, which is referred to as "mining." The computer that solves the puzzle is rewarded with the crypto asset. Recognizing that over time the computing power devoted to mining can increase or decrease, every 10 minutes the Bitcoin network re-calibrates the difficulty of the puzzle to keep a 10 minute delay between each time the puzzle is solved. This delay is known as the "block time."

We plan to mine Bitcoin by using our miners to solve this complex cryptographic puzzle. In return for solving a block, we receive a Bitcoin or other crypto asset reward, depending on the blockchain, which we hold for our account and attempt to sell opportunistically on the market or directly to purchasers to generate a profit. Miners measure their capability in terms of processing power, which is known as in the industry as "hashing" power. Hashing power is measured in terms of the number of hashing algorithms solved (or "hashes") per second, which is the miner's "hash rate." Generally speaking, miners with greater hashing power relative to other miners attempting

to solve a block have a higher chance of solving the block and receiving a crypto asset award. See below for an illustration of how Bitcoin mining works.



Since the inception of the Bitcoin network, more and more miners have entered the market competing for the limited number of blocks that are regularly added to the Bitcoin blockchain. The resulting tremendous increase in network hash rate has resulted in increasing levels of "difficulty" being implemented by the Bitcoin network over time. As a result, an individual miner's chances of adding a new block to the blockchain in a given period of time has decreased, creating volatility in a miner's revenue stream. To address this challenge, Bitcoin mining operators began to combine their mining resources into "mining pools" to better compete and reduce volatility in Bitcoin mining revenue. Combining mining devices in a mining pool allows for faster output and better odds of finding a block at the group level, rather than the individual level. As part of our mining operations, we contribute our hash rate to certain pools, subject to their terms of service. Participation in such pools is generally terminable at any time by either party and our risk is limited, as we are able to switch pools at any time or simply not participate in any pools and mine independently. As a participant in such pools, in exchange for providing computing power, we receive a share of the theoretical global mining rewards based on our percent contribution to the Bitcoin mining network, less fees payable to the pool.

## **Recent Developments**

## Acquisitions

On April 1, 2021, Q Power entered into an Acquisition and Contribution Agreement with Aspen for the acquisition of Aspen's 30% limited partnership interest in Scrubgrass LP. Q Power subsequently assigned its interests in the Acquisition and Contribution Agreement to us. The consideration for the Aspen Interest was \$2.0 million in cash and 200,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock of Stronghold Inc. The acquisition of Aspen's limited partnership interest in Scrubgrass LP, and subsequent contribution of such interest to Stronghold LLC pursuant to the Reorganization, had the net effect of indirectly consolidating all of the equity interests of Scrubgrass LP at Stronghold LLC.

On March 3, 2021, SDM entered into a non-binding letter of intent with Olympus Power, LLC ("Olympus") for the purchase of (i) the Aspen Interest, (ii) the Panther Creek Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 94 MW of electricity generation capacity located near Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania and (iii) the Third Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 134 MW of electricity generation capacity located in Pennsylvania.

We completed the acquisition of the Aspen Interest on April 1, 2021. We continue to evaluate the acquisition of both the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. The consideration for the Panther Creek Plant is anticipated to be approximately \$3.0 million in cash and \$10,000,000 of common units of Stronghold LLC ("Stronghold LLC Units"). The consideration for the Third Plant is expected to be approximately \$3.0 million in cash and \$6,250,000 of Stronghold LLC Units. We plan to store newly acquired miners at each of these facilities and use power generated by these plants to power crypto asset mining operations in an environmentally conscious manner.

#### **Private Placements**

On April 1, 2021, we entered into a Series A Preferred Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Series A Stock Purchase Agreement") pursuant to which we issued and sold 3,400,000 shares of Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock (the "Series A Preferred Stock") in a private offering at a price of \$25.00 per share to various accredited investors in reliance upon exemptions from registration pursuant to Regulation D under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), for aggregate consideration of \$85.0 million (the "Series A Private Placement").

Upon the closing of the Series A Private Placement, we entered into a registration rights agreement (the "Registration Rights Agreement") with the investors in the Series A Private Placement, pursuant to which, among other things, the Company agreed to prepare and file a registration statement covering the resale of all Registrable Securities (as defined in the Registration Rights Agreement) not already covered by an existing and effective registration statement or prior to the 120th day following the closing of the Series A Private Placement. See "Description of Capital Stock—Registration Rights Agreement" for additional information.

Further, pursuant to the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement, Stronghold Inc., the investors in the Series A Private Placement and certain beneficial owners of common stock of Stronghold Inc. (the "Key Holders") entered into a Right of First Refusal and Co-Sale Agreement (the "ROFR Agreement"). Under the ROFR Agreement, the Key Holders agreed to grant a right of first refusal to Stronghold Inc. to purchase all or any portion of capital stock of Stronghold Inc, held by a Key Holder or issued to a Key Holder after the date of the ROFR Agreement, not including any shares of Series A Preferred Stock or common stock issued or issuable upon conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock. The Key Holders also granted a secondary refusal right to the investors in the Series A Private Placement to purchase all or any eligible capital stock not purchased by Stronghold Inc. pursuant to their right of first refusal. The ROFR Agreement also provides certain co-sale rights to investors in the Series A Private Placement to participate in any sale or similar transfer of any shares of common stock owned by a Key Holder or issued to a Key Holder after the Series A Private Placement, on the terms and conditions specified in a written notice from a Key Holder. The investors, however, are not obligated to participate in such sales or similar transfers. The co-sale and rights of first refusal under the ROFR Agreement will terminate upon the consummation of this offering.

On April 26, 2021, we commenced an offering (the "Series B Private Placement" and, together with the Series A Private Placement, the "Private Placements") for shares of our Series B Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock (the "Series B Preferred Stock" and, together with the Series A Preferred Stock, the "Preferred Stock"). The terms of the Series B Preferred Stock are substantially similar to the Series A Preferred Stock, except for differences in the stated value of such shares in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company or certain deemed liquidation events. We currently expect to raise approximately \$20.0 million from the Series B Private Placement, which is anticipated to close on or around May 14, 2021. In connection with the Series B Private Placement, we expect to enter into a stock purchase agreement, registration rights agreement and right of first refusal and co-sale agreement substantially similar to those entered into in connection with the Series A Private Placement.

## Reorganization

On April 1, 2021, we effected the Reorganization. See "—Corporate Reorganization" and "Corporate Reorganization" for more information.

## **Corporate Reorganization**

Stronghold Digital Mining Inc. was incorporated as a Delaware corporation on March 19, 2021. On April 1, 2021, contemporaneously with the Series A Private Placement (as defined herein), we underwent a corporate

reorganization pursuant to that certain Master Transaction Agreement dated as of April 1, 2021, by and among the Company, Q Power, SDM, , EIF Scrubgrass, LLC ("EIF Scrubgrass"), Falcon Power LLC ("Falcon"), Scrubgrass Power LLC ("Scrubgrass Power"), Scrubgrass LP, Gregory A. Beard and William Spence (the "Master Transaction Agreement"), which we refer to herein as the "Reorganization."

Our organizational structure following the Reorganization is commonly referred to as an umbrella partnership-C corporation (or "Up-C") structure. Pursuant to this structure, following this offering Stronghold Inc. will hold a number of Stronghold LLC Units equal to the number of shares of Class A common stock issued and outstanding, and holders of Stronghold LLC Units (each, a "Stronghold Unit Holder") (other than Stronghold Inc.) will hold a number of Stronghold LLC Units equal to the number of shares of Class V common stock issued and outstanding.

Immediately prior to the Reorganization, Q Power directly held all of the equity interests in SDM, and indirectly held 70% of the limited partner interests, and all of the general partner interests, in Scrubgrass LP, through wholly-owned subsidiaries EIF Scrubgrass, Falcon and Falcon's wholly-owned subsidiary Scrubgrass Power. Aspen Scrubgrass Participant, LLC ("Aspen"), a subsidiary of Olympus, held the remaining 30% of the limited partner interests in Scrubgrass LP. Scrubgrass LP is a Delaware limited partnership originally formed on December 1, 1990 under the name of Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. SDM is a Delaware limited liability company originally formed on February 12, 2020 under the name Stronghold Power LLC.

Contemporaneously with the Reorganization, Stronghold Inc. acquired all of Aspen's limited partner interest in Scrubgrass LP (the "Aspen Interest") in exchange for 200,000 newly issued shares of Series A Preferred Stock in Stronghold Inc. and a portion of the proceeds from the Series A Private Placement. Pursuant to the Reorganization, Q Power contributed all of its ownership interests in EIF Scrubgrass, Falcon and SDM to Stronghold LLC in exchange for 9,400,000 Stronghold LLC Units, Stronghold Inc. contributed cash (using the remaining proceeds from the Series A Private Placement, net of fees, expenses and amounts paid to Aspen), 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock in Stronghold Inc. and the Aspen Interest to Stronghold LLC in exchange for 3,600,000 preferred units of Stronghold LLC, and Stronghold LLC immediately thereafter distributed the 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock to Q Power. In addition, on April 1, 2021, Stronghold Inc. acquired 5,000 Stronghold LLC Units held by Q Power (along with an equal number of shares of Class V common stock) in exchange for 5,000 newly issued shares of Class A common stock.

As a result of the Reorganization, the acquisition of the Aspen Interest and the acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units by Stronghold Inc. discussed above, (i) Q Power acquired and retained 9,395,000 Stronghold LLC Units, 5,000 shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc., and 9,395,000 shares of Class V common stock of Stronghold Inc., effectively giving Q Power approximately 72% of the voting power of Stronghold Inc. and approximately 72% of the economic interest in Stronghold LLC, (ii) Stronghold Inc. acquired 3,600,000 preferred units of Stronghold LLC and 5,000 Stronghold LLC Units, effectively giving Stronghold Inc. approximately 28% of the economic interest in Stronghold LLC, (iii) Stronghold Inc. became the sole managing member of Stronghold LLC and is responsible for all operational, management and administrative decisions relating to Stronghold LLC's business and will consolidate financial results of Stronghold LLC and its subsidiaries, (iv) Stronghold Inc. became a holding company whose only material asset consists of membership interests in Stronghold LLC, and (v) Stronghold LLC directly or indirectly owns all of the outstanding equity interests in the subsidiaries through which we operate our assets, including Scrubgrass LP and SDM.

See the sections entitled "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement" and "Corporate Reorganization" for additional information on our organizational structure, including the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the Preferred Stock (as defined herein), on (i) the date that a registration statement registering the shares of Class A common stock issuable upon the conversion of the Preferred Stock is declared effective by the SEC or (ii) the date on which a "Significant Transaction Event" occurs, as defined in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, such shares of Preferred Stock will automatically convert into shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc. on a one-to-one basis, subject to certain adjustments as set forth in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Correspondingly, pursuant to the Stronghold LLC Agreement, preferred units in Stronghold LLC automatically convert into Stronghold LLC Units on a one-to-one basis under like circumstances (subject to corresponding adjustments). All of the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock will convert

into shares of Class A common stock in connection with this offering (the "Preferred Stock Conversion") and, correspondingly, all of the preferred units in Stronghold LLC will convert into Stronghold LLC Units.

After giving effect to the offering contemplated by this prospectus and the Preferred Stock Conversion, Stronghold Inc. will own an approximate % interest in Stronghold LLC (or % if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full), and the Stronghold Unit Holders will own an approximate % interest in Stronghold LLC (or % if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full) and all of the Class V common stock. Please see "Principal Stockholders."

Each share of Class V common stock has no economic rights but entitles its holder to one vote on all matters to be voted on by stockholders generally. Holders of Class A common stock and Class V common stock vote together as a single class on all matters presented to our stockholders for their vote or approval, except as otherwise required by applicable law or by our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Stronghold Inc. does not intend to list Class V common stock on any exchange.

Under the Second Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Stronghold LLC, as amended from time to time (the "Stronghold LLC Agreement"), each Stronghold Unit Holder, other than Stronghold Inc., subject to certain limitations, has the right (the "Redemption Right") to cause Stronghold LLC to acquire all or a portion of its Stronghold LLC Units for, at Stronghold LLC's election, (i) shares of our Class A common stock at a redemption ratio of one share of Class A common stock for each Stronghold LLC Unit redeemed, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions or (ii) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the Stronghold LLC Agreement. Alternatively, upon the exercise of the Redemption Right, Stronghold Inc. (instead of Stronghold LLC) has the right (the "Call Right"), for administrative convenience, to acquire each tendered Stronghold LLC Unit directly from the redeeming Stronghold Unit Holder for, at its election, (x) one share of Class A common stock, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions, or (y) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. In addition, Stronghold Inc. has the right to require (i) upon the acquisition by Stronghold Inc. of substantially all of the Stronghold LLC Units, certain minority unitholders or (ii) upon a change of control of Stronghold Inc., each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), to exercise its Redemption Right with respect to some or all of such unitholder's Stronghold LLC Units. In connection with any redemption of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or the Call Right, the corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock will be cancelled. See "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—

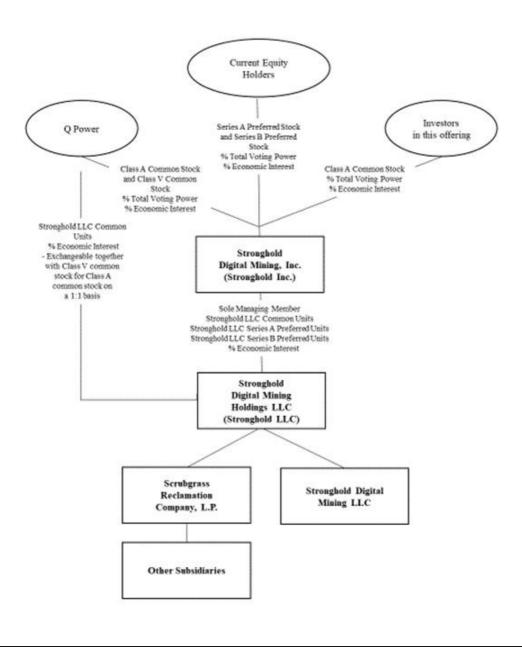
Stronghold Inc.'s acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right is expected to result in adjustments to the tax basis of the tangible and intangible assets of Stronghold LLC, and such adjustments will be allocated to Stronghold Inc. These adjustments would not have been available to Stronghold Inc. absent its acquisition or deemed acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units and are expected to reduce the amount of cash tax that Stronghold Inc. would otherwise be required to pay in the future.

In connection with the Reorganization, Stronghold Inc. entered into a Tax Receivable Agreement with Q Power and an agent named by Q Power (the "Tax Receivable Agreement"). The Tax Receivable Agreement generally provides for the payment by Stronghold Inc. to Q Power (or its permitted assignees) of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income and franchise tax (computed using the estimated impact of state and local taxes) that Stronghold Inc. actually realizes (or is deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of (i) certain increases in tax basis that occur as a result of its acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of all or a portion of Stronghold Unit Holders' Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right and (ii) imputed interest deemed to be paid by Stronghold Inc. as a result of, and additional tax basis arising from, any payments Stronghold Inc. makes under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Payments will generally be made under the Tax Receivable Agreement as Stronghold Inc. realizes actual cash tax savings from the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement. However, if Stronghold Inc. experiences a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which includes certain mergers, asset sales and other forms of business combinations) or the Tax Receivable Agreement terminates early (at Stronghold Inc.'s election or as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s breach), Stronghold Inc. would be required to make an immediate payment equal to the present value of the anticipated future payments to be made by it under the Tax

Receivable Agreement (determined by applying a discount rate equal to one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points) and such early termination payment is expected to be substantial and may exceed the future tax benefits realized by Stronghold Inc. Stronghold Inc. will be dependent on Stronghold LLC to make distributions to Stronghold Inc. in an amount sufficient to cover Stronghold Inc.'s obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

The following diagram indicates our simplified ownership structure immediately following this offering and the transactions related thereto (assuming that the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is not exercised):



#### **Our Legacy Owners**

Upon completion of this offering (and taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion), the existing owners of Stronghold Inc., including, but not limited to, Q Power and the holders of Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock (the "Legacy Owners") will initially own shares of Class A common stock, representing approximately % of the voting power of the Company (or % if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full), and shares of Class V common stock, representing approximately % of the voting power of the Company (or % if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full). For more information on our Reorganization and the ownership of our common stock by our principal stockholders, see "— Corporate Reorganization" and "Corporate Reorganization."

## **Summary Risk Factors**

Investing in our Class A common stock involves risks. You should read carefully the section of this prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 23 for an explanation of these risks before investing in our Class A common stock. In particular, the following considerations may offset our competitive strengths or have a negative effect on our strategy or operating activities, which could cause a decrease in the price of our Class A common stock and a loss of all or part of your investment.

- We have a hybrid business model which is highly dependent on the price of Bitcoin. A decline in the price of Bitcoin could result in significant losses.
- If we fail to effectively manage our growth or to raise additional capital needed to grow our business, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be harmed.
- We have an evolving business model which is subject to various uncertainties.
- The loss of any of our management team could adversely affect our business.
- We may be unable to successfully enter into definitive purchase agreements for or close on the additional plants or miners described herein, or any other potential acquisitions.
- We are dependent on third-party brokers to source some of our miners.
- If crypto assets are determined to be investment securities, we may inadvertently violate the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and incur large losses and potentially be required to register as an investment company.
- Regulatory changes or actions may alter the nature of an investment in us or restrict the use of Bitcoin in a manner that adversely affects our business, prospects or operations.
- The open-source structure of the certain crypto asset network protocol, including Bitcoin, means that the contributors to the protocol are generally not directly compensated for their contributions in maintaining and developing the protocol. A failure to properly monitor and upgrade the protocol could damage that network and an investment in us.
- The further development and acceptance of crypto asset networks and other crypto assets are subject to a variety of factors that are difficult to evaluate.
- We may not be able to compete with other companies, some of whom have greater resources and experience.
- The development and acceptance of competing blockchain platforms or technologies may cause consumers to use alternative distributed ledgers or other alternatives.

- The loss or destruction of private keys required to access any crypto assets held in custody for our own account may be irreversible.
- The nature of our business requires the application of complex financial accounting rules, and there is limited guidance from accounting standard setting bodies. If financial accounting standards undergo significant changes, our operating results could be adversely affected.
- The Bitcoin reward for successfully uncovering a block will halve several times in the future and Bitcoin value may not adjust to compensate us for the reduction in the rewards we receive from our mining efforts.
- Our future success will depend upon the value of Bitcoin; the value of Bitcoin may be subject to pricing risk and has historically been subject to wide swings.
- · Cryptocurrencies, including those maintained by or for us, may be exposed to cybersecurity threats and hacks.
- If the Bitcoin reward for solving blocks and transaction fees is not sufficiently high, we may not have an adequate incentive to continue mining and may cease mining operations.
- The limited rights of legal recourse against us, and our lack of insurance protection expose us and our shareholders to the risk of loss of our crypto assets for which no person is liable.
- Natural or manmade events may cause our power production to fall below our expectations.
- We may not be able to operate the power generation facility as planned.
- Land reclamation requirements may be burdensome and expensive.
- Changes in tax credits related to coal refuse power generation could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and future development efforts.
- Competition in power markets may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, cash flows and the market value of our assets.
- Because our power-generating reclamation facility is a member of PJM Interconnection ("PJM"), a regional transmission organization, we may be required to supply power to the grid at a time that is not optimal to our operations.
- Our business is subject to substantial energy regulation, and we are required to obtain, and to comply with, government permits and approvals.
- Operation of power generation facilities involves significant risks and hazards.
- We are a holding company whose sole material asset is our equity interests in Stronghold LLC.
- If we experience any material weaknesses in the future or otherwise fail to develop or maintain an effective system of internal controls in the future, we may not be able to accurately report our financial condition or results of operations, which may adversely affect investor confidence in us and, as a result, the value of our Class A common stock.
- The Legacy Owners will own a significant amount of our voting stock, and their interests may conflict with those of our other stockholders.
- In certain cases, payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement may be accelerated and/or significantly exceed the actual benefits, if any, Stronghold Inc. realizes.
- Investors in this offering will experience immediate and substantial dilution of \$ per share.

- We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our Class A common stock.
- Future sales of our Class A common stock in the public market could reduce our stock price, and any additional capital raised by us through the sale of equity or convertible securities may dilute your ownership in us.
- We may issue preferred stock whose terms could adversely affect the voting power or value of our Class A common stock.

See "Risk Factors" immediately following this prospectus summary for a more thorough discussion of these and other risks and uncertainties we face.

#### **Emerging Growth Company and Smaller Reporting Company Status**

As a company with less than \$1.07 billion in revenue during our last fiscal year, we qualify as an "emerging growth company" as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (the "JOBS Act"). An emerging growth company may take advantage of specified reduced reporting and other requirements that are otherwise applicable generally to public companies. These provisions include:

- We are not required to engage an auditor to report on our internal controls over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act");
- We are not required to comply with any requirement that may be adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "PCAOB") regarding mandatory audit firm rotation or a supplement to the auditor's report providing additional information about the audit and the financial statements (i.e., an auditor discussion and analysis);
- We are not required to submit certain executive compensation matters to stockholder advisory votes, such as "say-on-pay," "say-on-frequency" and "say-on-golden parachutes"; and
- We are not required to disclose certain executive compensation related items such as the correlation between executive compensation and performance and comparisons of the chief executive officer's compensation to median employee compensation.

We may take advantage of these provisions until the last day of our fiscal year following the fifth anniversary of the completion of this offering or such earlier time that we are no longer an emerging growth company. We would cease to be an emerging growth company upon the earliest of: (i) the last day of the first fiscal year in which our annual gross revenues are \$1.07 billion or more; (ii) the date on which we have, during the previous three-year period, issued more than \$1.0 billion in non-convertible debt securities; or (iii) the date on which we are deemed to be a "large accelerated filer," which will occur as of the end of any fiscal year in which we (x) have an aggregate market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates of \$700 million or more as of the last business day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter, (y) have been required to file annual and quarterly reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), for a period of at least 12 months and (z) have filed at least one annual report pursuant to the Exchange Act.

We have elected to take advantage of the reduced disclosure obligations listed above in this prospectus, and may elect to take advantage of other reduced reporting requirements in future filings. In particular, we have elected to adopt the reduced disclosure with respect to our executive compensation disclosure. As a result of this election, the information that we provide stockholders may be different than you might get from other public companies.

The JOBS Act permits an emerging growth company like us to take advantage of an extended transition period to comply with new or revised accounting standards applicable to public companies. We have elected to use this extended transition period and, as a result, we will adopt new or revised accounting standards on the relevant dates on which adoption of such standards is required for private companies. Our election to use the transition periods permitted by this election may make it difficult to compare our financial statements to those of non-emerging growth companies and other emerging growth companies that have opted out of the extended transition periods permitted under the JOBS Act and that will comply with new or revised financial accounting standards. If we were to

subsequently elect instead to comply with public company effective dates, such election would be irrevocable pursuant to the JOBS Act.

For additional descriptions of the qualifications and other requirements applicable to emerging growth companies and certain elections that we have made due to our status as an emerging growth company, see "Risk Factors—Risks Related to this Offering and Our Class A Common Stock—For as long as we are an emerging growth company, we will not be required to comply with certain reporting requirements, including those relating to accounting standards and disclosure about our executive compensation, that apply to other public companies."

Additionally, we are a "smaller reporting company" as defined in Item 10(f)(1) of Regulation S-K. Smaller reporting companies may take advantage of certain reduced disclosure obligations, including, among other things, providing only two years of audited financial statements. We will remain a smaller reporting company until the last day of the fiscal year in which (1) the market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates exceeds \$250 million as of the end of that fiscal year's second fiscal quarter and (2) our annual revenues exceeded \$100 million during such completed fiscal year and the market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of the end of that fiscal year's second fiscal quarter.

#### **Our Offices**

Our principal executive offices are located at 228 Park Ave S, New York, New York 10003, and our telephone number at that address is (212) 967-5294. Our website address is www.strongholddigitalmining.com. Information contained on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus.

#### The Offering

Issuer

Stronghold Digital Mining Inc.

Class A common stock offered by us

shares.

Option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock

The underwriters have the option to purchase up to an aggregate of additional shares of Class A common stock from us at the initial public offering price, less the underwriting discount and commissions. The underwriters can exercise this option at any time within 30 days from the date of this prospectus.

Class A common stock to be outstanding immediately after completion of this offering

shares (or shares if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full), taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion.

Class V common stock to be outstanding immediately after completion of this offering

shares, all of which will be owned by the Stronghold Unit Holders. Class V shares do not have economic rights. In connection with any redemption of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or our Call Right, the corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock will be cancelled.

Voting power of Class A common stock after giving effect to this offering

(or % if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock is exercised in full), taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion.

Voting power of Class V common stock after giving effect to this offering

(or if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock is exercised in full), taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion.

Voting rights

Each share of our Class A common stock entitles its holder to one vote on all matters to be voted on by stockholders generally. Each share of our Class V common stock entitles its holder to one vote on all matters to be voted on by stockholders generally. Holders of our Class A common stock and Class V common stock vote together as a single class on all matters presented to our stockholders for their vote or approval, except as otherwise required by applicable law or by our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. See "Description of Capital Stock."

Use of proceeds

We expect to receive approximately \$\) million of net proceeds from the sale of Class A common stock offered by us after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us (or approximately \$\) of net proceeds if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock is exercised in full).

We intend to contribute the net proceeds of this offering received by us to Stronghold LLC in exchange for Stronghold LLC Units. Stronghold LLC will use the net proceeds for general corporate purposes, including for acquisitions of miners and power generating assets. Please see "Use of Proceeds."

## **Dividend policy**

**Redemption rights of Stronghold Unit Holders** 

We currently anticipate that we will retain all future earnings, if any, to finance the growth and development of our business. We do not intend to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

Under the Stronghold LLC Agreement, each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), subject to certain limitations, has the right, pursuant to the Redemption Right, to cause Stronghold LLC to acquire all or a portion of its Stronghold LLC Units for, at Stronghold LLC's election, (i) shares of our Class A common stock at a redemption ratio of one share of Class A common stock for each Stronghold LLC Unit redeemed, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions or (ii) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. Alternatively, upon the exercise of the Redemption Right, Stronghold Inc. (instead of Stronghold LLC) has the right, pursuant to the Call Right, to acquire each tendered Stronghold LLC Unit directly from the redeeming Stronghold Unit Holder for, at its election, (x) one share of Class A common stock, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions, or (y) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. In addition, Stronghold Inc. has the right to require (i) upon the acquisition by Stronghold Inc. of substantially all of the Stronghold LLC Units, certain minority unitholders or (ii) upon a change of control of Stronghold Inc., each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), in each case, to exercise its Redemption Right with respect to some or all of such unitholder's Stronghold LLC Units. In connection with any redemption of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or the Call Right, the corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock will be cancelled. See "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Stronghold LLC Agreement."

**Tax Receivable Agreement** 

Stronghold Inc. has entered into the Tax Receivable Agreement, which provides for the payment by Stronghold Inc. to Q Power (or its permitted assignees) of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income tax and franchise tax (computed using the estimated impact of state and local taxes) that Stronghold Inc. actually realizes (or is deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of certain tax basis increases and certain tax benefits attributable to imputed interest. Stronghold Inc. will retain the remaining net cash savings, if any. See "Risk Factors—Risks Related to this Offering and Our Class A Common Stock" and "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement."

Proposed listing symbol

We intend to apply to list our Class A common stock on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol " ."

## **Risk factors**

You should carefully read and consider the information beginning on page 23 of this prospectus set forth under the heading "Risk Factors" and all other information set forth in this

prospectus before deciding to invest in our Class A common stock.

Directed share program

The underwriters have reserved for sale at the initial public offering price up to % of the shares of Class A common stock being offered by this prospectus for sale to our employees, executive officers, directors and related persons who have expressed an interest in purchasing common stock in this offering. We do not know if these persons will choose to purchase all or any portion of these reserved shares, but any purchases they make will reduce the number of shares available to the general public. Please see "Underwriting."

### Summary Historical and Pro Forma Consolidated Financial and Operating Data

Stronghold Inc. was incorporated on March 19, 2021. The following table presents the summary historical and certain pro forma financial data and other data for our accounting predecessor and its subsidiaries. The historical results presented below are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for any future period, and should be read together with "Use of Proceeds," "Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Information," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," "Corporate Reorganization" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

The summary historical financial data as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 was derived from the audited historical financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus.

The summary unaudited pro forma consolidated statement of operations data for the year ended December 31, 2020 presents our consolidated results of operations after giving effect to (i) the Series A Private Placement and the Reorganization, as described under "Corporate Reorganization," as if such transactions occurred on January 1, 2020, (ii) this offering, (iii) the use of the estimated net proceeds to us from this offering, as described under "Use of Proceeds," (iv) the Preferred Stock Conversion, and (v) a provision for corporate income taxes on the income attributable to Stronghold Inc. at an effective rate of % for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, inclusive of all U.S. federal, state and local income taxes (collectively, the "pro forma adjustments"). The unaudited pro forma consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2020 gives effect to the pro forma adjustments, including this offering, as if the same had occurred on December 31, 2020. The pro forma adjustments are based on available information and upon assumptions that our management believes are reasonable in order to reflect their impact, on a pro forma basis, on the historical financial information of our accounting predecessor. The summary unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information is included for informational purposes only and does not purport to reflect the results of operations or financial position of Stronghold Inc. that would have occurred had Stronghold Inc. been in existence or operated as a public company or otherwise during the periods presented. The unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information should not be relied upon as being indicative of our results of operations or financial position had the described transactions occurred on the dates assumed. The unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information also does not project our results of operations or financial position for any future period or date.

				Pro Forma Stronghold
	Accounting	Accounting Predecessor		Inc.(1)
				Year Ended December 31,
	Years Endo	d Decem		2020
	2020		2019	(unaudited)
Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:	_	_	_	(
Operating Revenues	\$	\$	\$	
Energy		8,397	7,047,237	
Capacity		6,457	3,832,457	
Crypto asset hosting		2,413 9,456	33,337	
Crypto asset mining Other		*	136,299	
		1,661		
Total operating revenues  Operating Expenses	4,11	8,384	11,049,330	
Fuel	42	5,126	8,435,990	
Operations and maintenance		5,120 5,833	5,637,118	
General and administrative		9,525	3,072,285	
		9,525 8,630	3,072,285 483,658	
Depreciation and amortization				
Total operating expenses		9,114	17,629,051	
Operating loss	(2,440	,730)	(6,579,921)	
Other Income (Expense)		0.000	4.455	
Interest income		2,982	4,177	
Interest expense		,480)	(192,961)	
Gain on extinguishment of EIDL advance		0,000	(4.54.0)	
Realized gain (loss) on sale of digital currencies	3	1,810	(1,516)	
Commission on sale of ash	1.20	<del></del>	590,832	
Derivative contracts, net		7,131	2,244,810	
Waste coal credit		8,210	2,011,044	
Renewable energy credits		5,493	105,532	
Other		<u>5,590</u>	(33,640)	
Total other income/ (expense)		5,736	4,728,278	
Pretax income (loss)	(144	,994)	(1,851,443)	
Pro forma income taxes				
Net income (loss)		,994)	(1,851,443)	
Less: Net income attributable to non-controlling interest	(147	,546)	(564,980)	
Net income (loss) attributable to Stronghold LLC and Stronghold				
Inc.		2,552	(1,286,463)	
Pro Forma Per Share Data(2)	·			
Pro forma net income (loss) per share				
Basic				
Diluted				
Pro forma weighted average shares outstanding				
Basic				
Diluted				
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows Data:				
Cash flows (used in) provided by operating activities	58	7,223	755,182	
Cash flows (used in) provided by investing activities	(1,827		17,982	
Cash flows (used in) provided by financing activities	1,40	9,607	(826,242)	
Other Financial Data:				
Adjusted EBITDA(3)	61	6,134	(1,179,001)	
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data (at end of period):				
Total assets		2,316	7,950,960	
Long-term debt		7,371	1,356,197	
Total liabilities	13,40		10,731,916	
Total members' equity/stockholders' equity (deficit)	(4,047	,101)	(2,780,956)	

Pro forma figures give effect to the transactions, including this offering, described under "Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Information." Please see "Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Information" for a detailed presentation of the unaudited pro forma information, including a description of the transactions and assumptions underlying the pro forma adjustments.

- (2) Pro forma net income (loss), pro forma net income (loss) per share and pro forma weighted average shares outstanding reflect the estimated number of shares of Class A common stock we expect to have outstanding, taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion and this offering, and after the Reorganization. The pro forma data does not assume the exchange of any Stronghold LLC Units (and the corresponding cancellation of the outstanding shares of Class V common stock) for Class A common stock and any related adjustments to pro forma net income (loss) or pro forma net income (loss) per share. The pro forma data includes additional pro forma income tax expense of \$ million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 associated with the income tax effects of the Reorganization described under "—Corporate Reorganization." Stronghold Inc. is a corporation and is subject to U.S. federal income tax. Our accounting predecessor was not subject to U.S. federal income tax at an entity level. As a result, the consolidated and combined net income in our historical financial statements does not reflect the tax expense we would have incurred if we were subject to U.S. federal income tax at an entity level during such periods.
- (3) Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure. For the definition of Adjusted EBITDA and a reconciliation to our most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, please read "—Non-GAAP Financial Measure."

#### **Non-GAAP Financial Measure**

## Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of net income as determined by GAAP. Adjusted EBITDA is a supplemental non-GAAP financial measure that is used by management and external users of our consolidated financial statements, such as industry analysts, investors, lenders and rating agencies. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, further adjusted by the removal of one-time transaction costs.

Our board of directors and management team use Adjusted EBITDA to assess our financial performance because it allows them to compare our operating performance on a consistent basis across periods by removing the effects of our capital structure (such as varying levels of interest expense), asset base (such as depreciation and amortization) and other items (such as one-time transaction costs) that impact the comparability of financial results from period to period. We present Adjusted EBITDA because we believe it provides useful information regarding the factors and trends affecting our business in addition to measures calculated under GAAP. Adjusted EBITDA is not a financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP. We believe that the presentation of this non-GAAP financial measure will provide useful information to investors and analysts in assessing our financial performance and results of operations across reporting periods by excluding items we do not believe are indicative of our core operating performance. Net income (loss) is the GAAP measure most directly comparable to Adjusted EBITDA. Our non-GAAP financial measure should not be considered as an alternative to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. You are encouraged to evaluate each of these adjustments and the reasons we consider them appropriate for supplemental analysis. In evaluating Adjusted EBITDA, you should be aware that in the future we may incur expenses that are the same as or similar to some of the adjustments in such presentation. Our presentation of Adjusted EBITDA should not be construed as an inference that our future results will be unaffected by unusual or non-recurring items. There can be no assurance that we will not modify the presentation of Adjusted EBITDA in the future, and any such modification may be material. Adjusted EBITDA has important limitations as an analytical tool and you should not consider Adjusted EBITDA in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Because Adjusted EBITDA may be defined differently by other companies in our industry, our definition of this non-GAAP financial measure may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies, thereby diminishing its utility.

The following table presents a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to the GAAP financial measure of net income (loss) for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

	Tears Ended December 51,		
	2020	2019	
	(in thousands)		
Net income (loss)	(145.0)	(1,851.4)	
Interest	202.5	188.8	
Income taxes	_	_	
Depreciation and amortization	558.6	483.7	
One-time transaction costs	<del>_</del>	_	
Adjusted EBITDA	616.1	(1,178.9)	
· ·		-	

Vears Ended December 31

#### RISK FACTORS

Investing in our Class A common stock involves risks. You should carefully consider the information in this prospectus, including the matters addressed under "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and the following risks before making an investment decision. Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks or uncertainties. The trading price of our Class A common stock could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

## **Risks Related to Our Business**

### We have a hybrid business model which is highly dependent on the price of Bitcoin. A decline in the price of Bitcoin could result in significant losses.

We have a hybrid business model. We are an independent power generation company that maintains the flexibility to both sell power to PJM, a regional transmission organization that coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in all or part of 13 states and the District of Columbia, at higher prices and draw on PJM at lower prices. During 2018 and 2019, we began providing Bitcoin mining services to third parties and also began operating our own Bitcoin mining equipment to generate Bitcoin which we then exchange for U.S. Dollars. Our current strategy will continue to expose us to the numerous risks and volatility associated within this sector. Although, based on the current trend in Bitcoin pricing, we do not expect to incur losses from operations for the near-term, if the dollar value of Bitcoin decreases to levels sustained in 2017, we could incur future losses and these losses could be significant as we incur costs and expenses associated with recent investments and potential future acquisitions, as well as legal and administrative related expenses. We are closely monitoring our cash balances, cash needs and expense levels. Our mining operations are costly and our expenses may increase in the future. This expense increase may not be offset by a corresponding increase in revenue. Our expenses may be greater than we anticipate, and our investments to make our business more efficient may not succeed and may outpace monetization efforts. Increases in our costs without a corresponding increase in our revenue would increase our losses and could seriously harm our business and financial performance.

### If we fail to effectively manage our growth, our business, financial condition and results of operations would be harmed.

We are a development stage company with a small management team and are subject to the strains of ongoing development and growth, which will place significant demands on our management and our operational and financial infrastructure. Although we may not grow as we expect, if we fail to manage our growth effectively or to develop and expand our managerial, operational and financial resources and systems, our business and financial results would be materially harmed.

We may not be able to manage growth effectively, which could damage our reputation, limit our growth and negatively affect our operating results. Further, we cannot provide any assurance that we will successfully identify all emerging trends and growth opportunities in this business sector and we may lose out on those opportunities. Such circumstances could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations.

## We have an evolving business model which is subject to various uncertainties.

We operate a coal refuse power generation facility and crypto asset mining operation in Pennsylvania and are seeking to acquire additional power generation facilities in and around Pennsylvania. As crypto assets and blockchain technologies become more widely available, we expect the services and products associated with them to evolve. Future regulations may require us to change our business in order to comply fully with federal and state laws regulating power generation, crypto asset (including Bitcoin) mining, or provision of Bitcoin and crypto asset mining services to third parties. In order to stay current with the industry, our business model may need to evolve as well. From time to time, we may modify aspects of our business model relating to our strategy. We cannot offer any assurance that these or any other modifications will be successful or will not result in harm to our business.

#### We may be unable to raise additional capital needed to grow our business.

We may operate at a loss as we continue to establish our business model, or if Bitcoin prices decline. In addition, we expect to need to raise additional capital to expand our operations, pursue our growth strategies and to respond to competitive pressures or unanticipated working capital requirements. We may not be able to obtain additional debt or equity financing on favorable terms, if at all, which could impair our growth and adversely affect our existing operations. If we raise additional equity financing, our stockholders may experience significant dilution of their ownership interests, and the per share value of our Class A common stock could decline. Furthermore, if we engage in additional debt financing, the holders of debt likely would have priority over the holders of our Class A common stock on order of payment preference. We may be required to accept terms that restrict our ability to incur additional indebtedness, take other actions including terms that require us to maintain specified liquidity or other ratios that could otherwise not be in the interests of our stockholders.

# Our loss of any of our management team, our inability to execute an effective succession plan, or our inability to attract and retain qualified personnel, could adversely affect our business.

Our success and future growth will depend to a significant degree on the skills and services of our management team, including Gregory A. Beard, William Spence, Ricardo Larroudé and Richard J. Shaffer. We will need to continue to grow our management team in order to alleviate pressure on our existing team and in order to continue to develop our business. If our management team, including any new hires that we may make, fails to work together effectively and to execute our plans and strategies on a timely basis, our business could be harmed. Furthermore, if we fail to execute an effective contingency or succession plan with the loss of any member of management team, the loss of such management personnel may significantly disrupt our business.

The loss of key members of management team could inhibit our growth prospects. Our future success also depends in large part on our ability to attract, retain and motivate key management and operating personnel. As we continue to develop and expand our operations, we may require personnel with different skills and experiences, and who have a sound understanding of our business and the Bitcoin industry. The market for highly qualified personnel in this industry is very competitive and we may be unable to attract such personnel. If we are unable to attract such personnel, our business could be harmed.

# We may be unable to successfully enter into definitive purchase agreements for or close on the additional plants or miners described herein, or any other potential acquisition, on the terms described or at all.

There is no assurance that we will enter into a definitive purchase agreement for the additional plants or miners described herein, or any other potential acquisition. We could determine through a market analysis, a review of historical and projected financial statements of the company or other due diligence that the target assets do not meet our investment standards. We also may be unable to come to an agreement. Additionally, there is no assurance that we will successfully close an acquisition once a purchase agreement has been signed, or that we will realize the expected benefits from any potential acquisition.

Additionally, on March 3, 2021, we entered into a non-binding letter of intent with Olympus for the purchase of the Panther Creek Plant, a coal refuse plant with 94 MW of electricity generation capacity located near Nesquehoning, and the Third Plant, a coal refuse plant with 134 MW of electricity generation capacity located in Pennsylvania. There can be no assurances that we will enter into a definitive agreement with Olympus relating to the acquisition of the Panther Creek Plant or the Third Plant. Furthermore, should we enter into a definitive agreement with Olympus, we anticipate that the consummation of any potential transaction will be subject to a number of conditions, and there can be no assurances that such conditions will be satisfied or waived or that any potential transaction will be completed in a timely manner or at all.

We are dependent on third-party brokers to source some of our miners, and failure to properly manage these relationships, or the failure of these brokers to perform as expected, could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations.

We currently rely on third-party brokers to source some of our miners. We have no assurance that business interruptions will not occur as a result of the failure by these brokers to perform as expected, including the failure to locate acceptable or sufficient miners for our purchase. Many of the competitors in our industry have also been

purchasing mining equipment at scale, which has caused a world-wide shortage of mining equipment and extended the corresponding delivery schedules for new miner purchases. We cannot ensure that our brokers will continue to perform services to our satisfaction or on commercially reasonable terms. The recent increased demand for miners has also limited the supply of miners that brokers may source for us. Our brokers may also decline our orders to fulfill those of our competitors, putting us at competitive harm. There are no assurances that any miner manufacturers will be able to keep pace with the surge in demand for mining equipment. If our brokers are not able to provide the agreed services at the level of quality and quantity we require or become unable to handle the volume of miners we seek, we may not be able to replace such broker in a timely manner. Any delays, interruption or increased costs could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations.

We cannot predict the outcome of the legal proceedings with respect to our current and past business activities. An adverse determination could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are involved in legal proceedings, claims and litigation arising out of our business operations, including disputes with suppliers of raw materials to our power generation facility, with truckers on whom we rely for the delivery of coal refuse and other raw materials, labor and employment disputes, and other commercial disputes. We cannot predict the ultimate outcome of these matters, nor can we reasonably estimate the costs or liabilities that could potentially result from a negative outcome in each case.

#### COVID-19 or any pandemic, epidemic or outbreak of an infectious disease in the United States or elsewhere may adversely affect our business.

The COVID-19 virus has had unpredictable and unprecedented impacts in the United States and around the world. The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a "pandemic," or a worldwide spread of a new disease. Many countries around the world have imposed quarantines and restrictions on travel and mass gatherings to slow the spread of the virus. In the United States, federal, state and local governments have enacted restrictions on travel, gatherings, and workplaces, with exceptions made for essential workers and businesses. We are still assessing the effect on our business from COVID-19 and any actions implemented by the federal, state and local governments. We may experience disruptions to our business operations resulting from quarantines, self-isolations, or other movement and restrictions on the ability of our employees to perform their jobs. If we are unable to effectively service our miners, our ability to mine Bitcoin will be adversely affected as miners go offline, which would have an adverse effect on our business and the results of our operations.

China has also limited the shipment of products in and out of its borders, which could negatively impact our ability to receive mining equipment from China-based suppliers. Third-party manufacturers, suppliers, sub-contractors and customers have been and will continue to be disrupted by worker absenteeism, quarantines, restrictions on employees' ability to work, office and factory closures, disruptions to ports and other shipping infrastructure, border closures, or other travel or health-related restrictions. Depending on the magnitude of such effects on our supply chain, shipments of parts for our existing miners, as well as any new miners we purchase, may be delayed. As our miners require repair or become obsolete and require replacement, our ability to obtain adequate replacements or repair parts from their manufacturer may therefore be hampered. Supply chain disruptions could therefore negatively impact our operations. If not resolved quickly, the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic could have a material adverse effect on our business.

## **Regulatory Related Risks**

If we were deemed to be an investment company under the Investment Company Act, applicable restrictions could make it impractical for us to continue our business as contemplated and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Under Sections 3(a)(1)(A) and (C) of the Investment Company Act, a company generally will be deemed to be an "investment company" for purposes of the Investment Company Act if (i) it is, or holds itself out as being, engaged primarily, or proposes to engage primarily, in the business of investing, reinvesting or trading in securities or (ii) it engages, or proposes to engage, in the business of investing, reinvesting, owning, holding or trading in securities and it owns or proposes to acquire investment securities having a value exceeding 40% of the value of its total assets (exclusive of U.S. government securities and cash items) on an unconsolidated basis. We do not believe

that we are an "investment company," as such term is defined in either of those sections of the Investment Company Act.

As the sole managing member of Stronghold LLC, we will control and operate Stronghold LLC. On that basis, we believe that our interest in Stronghold LLC is not an "investment security" as that term is used in the Investment Company Act. However, if we were to cease participation in the management of Stronghold LLC, our interest in Stronghold LLC could be deemed an "investment security" for purposes of the Investment Company Act. We and Stronghold LLC intend to conduct our operations so that we will not be deemed an investment company.

Additionally, we believe that we are not engaged in the business of investing, reinvesting, or trading in securities, and we do not hold ourselves out as being engaged in those activities. As a result of our investments and our crypto asset mining activities, it is possible that the investment securities we hold in the future could exceed 40% of our total assets, exclusive of cash items and, accordingly, we could determine that we have become an inadvertent investment company. To date the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") staff have treated Bitcoin as a commodity, but it is possible that the SEC may deem Bitcoins and other crypto assets an investment security in the future, although we do not believe any of the Bitcoin we own, acquire or mine are securities. An inadvertent investment company can avoid being classified as an investment company if it can rely on one of the exclusions under the Investment Company Act, allows an inadvertent investment company a grace period of one year from the earlier of (a) the date on which an issuer owns securities and/or cash having a value exceeding 50% of the issuer's total assets on either a consolidated or unconsolidated basis and (b) the date on which an issuer owns or proposes to acquire investment securities having a value exceeding 40% of the value of such issuer's total assets (exclusive of government securities and cash items) on an unconsolidated basis. As of December 31, 2020, we do not believe we are an inadvertent investment company. If we do become an inadvertent investment company in the future, we may take actions to cause the investment securities held by us to be less than 40% of our total assets, which may include acquiring assets with our cash and Bitcoin on hand or liquidating our investment securities or Bitcoin could result in losses.

As the Rule 3a-2 exception is available to a company no more than once every three years, and assuming no other exclusion were available to us, we would have to keep within the 40% limit for at least three years after we cease being an inadvertent investment company. This may limit our ability to make certain investments or enter into joint ventures that could otherwise have a positive impact on our earnings. In any event, we do not intend to become an investment company engaged in the business of investing and trading securities.

Classification as an investment company under the Investment Company Act requires registration with the SEC. If an investment company fails to register, it would have to stop doing almost all business, and its contracts would become voidable. Registration is time consuming and restrictive and would require a restructuring of our operations, and we would be very constrained in the kind of business we could do as a registered investment company. Further, we would become subject to substantial regulation concerning management, operations, transactions with affiliated persons and portfolio composition, and would need to file reports under the Investment Company Act regime. The cost of such compliance would result in the Company incurring substantial additional expenses, and the failure to register if required would have a materially adverse impact to conduct our operations. Furthermore, our classification as an investment company could adversely affect our ability to engage in future combinations, acquisitions or other transactions on a tax-free basis.

We are subject to a highly-evolving regulatory landscape and any adverse changes to, or our failure to comply with, any laws and regulations could adversely affect our business, prospects or operations.

Our business is subject to extensive laws, rules, regulations, policies and legal and regulatory guidance, including those governing securities, commodities, crypto asset custody, exchange and transfer, data governance, data protection, cybersecurity and tax. Many of these legal and regulatory regimes were adopted prior to the advent of the Internet, mobile technologies, crypto assets and related technologies. As a result, they do not contemplate or address unique issues associated with the cryptoeconomy, are subject to significant uncertainty, and vary widely across U.S. federal, state and local and international jurisdictions. These legal and regulatory regimes, including the laws, rules and regulations thereunder, evolve frequently and may be modified, interpreted and applied in an inconsistent manner from one jurisdiction to another, and may conflict with one another. Moreover, the complexity

and evolving nature of our business and the significant uncertainty surrounding the regulation of the cryptoeconomy requires us to exercise our judgement as to whether certain laws, rules and regulations apply to us, and it is possible that governmental bodies and regulators may disagree with our conclusions. To the extent we have not complied with such laws, rules and regulations, we could be subject to significant fines and other regulatory consequences, which could adversely affect our business, prospects or operations. As Bitcoin has grown in popularity and in market size, the Federal Reserve Board, U.S. Congress and certain U.S. agencies (e.g., the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the SEC, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN") and the Federal Bureau of Investigation) have begun to examine the operations of the Bitcoin network, Bitcoin users and the Bitcoin exchange market.

Ongoing and future regulatory actions may impact our ability to continue to operate, and such actions could affect our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations.

The cryptoeconomy is novel and has little to no access to policymakers or lobbying organizations, which may harm our ability to effectively react to proposed legislation and regulation of crypto assets or crypto asset platforms adverse to our business.

As crypto assets have grown in both popularity and market size, various U.S. federal, state, and local and foreign governmental organizations, consumer agencies and public advocacy groups have been examining the operations of crypto networks, users and platforms, with a focus on how crypto assets can be used to launder the proceeds of illegal activities, fund criminal or terrorist enterprises, and the safety and soundness of platforms and other service providers that hold crypto assets for users. Many of these entities have called for heightened regulatory oversight, and have issued consumer advisories describing the risks posed by crypto assets to users and investors. For instance, in July 2019, then-U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin stated that he had "very serious concerns" about crypto assets. Outside the United States, several jurisdictions have banned so-called initial coin offerings, such as China and South Korea, while Canada, Singapore, Hong Kong, have opined that token offerings may constitute securities offerings subject to local securities regulations. In July 2019, the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority proposed rules to address harm to retail customers arising from the sale of derivatives and exchange-traded notes that reference certain types of crypto assets, contending that they are "ill-suited" to retail investors due to extreme volatility, valuation challenges and association with financial crimes.

The cryptoeconomy is novel and has little to no access to policymakers and lobbying organizations in many jurisdictions. Competitors from other, more established industries, including traditional financial services, may have greater access to lobbyists or governmental officials, and regulators that are concerned about the potential for crypto assets for illicit usage may effect statutory and regulatory changes with minimal or discounted inputs from the cryptoeconomy. As a result, new laws and regulations may be proposed and adopted in the United States and internationally, or existing laws and regulations may be interpreted in new ways, that harm the cryptoeconomy or crypto asset platforms, which could adversely impact our business.

Bitcoin's status as a "security," a "commodity" or a "financial instrument" in any relevant jurisdiction is subject to a high degree of uncertainty and if we are unable to properly characterize a crypto asset, we may be subject to regulatory scrutiny, investigations, fines, and other penalties, which may adversely affect our business, operating results, and financial condition.

The SEC and its staff have taken the position that certain crypto assets fall within the definition of a "security" under the U.S. federal securities laws. To date, the SEC staff have treated Bitcoin as a commodity. The legal test for determining whether any given crypto asset is a security is a highly complex, fact-driven analysis that evolves over time, and the outcome is difficult to predict. The SEC generally does not provide advance guidance or confirmation on the status of any particular crypto asset as a security. Furthermore, the SEC's views in this area have evolved over time and it is difficult to predict the direction or timing of any continuing evolution. It is also possible that a change in the governing administration or the appointment of new SEC commissioners could substantially impact the views of the SEC and its staff. Public statements by senior officials at the SEC indicate that the SEC does not intend to take the position that Bitcoin or Ether are securities (in their current form). Bitcoin and Ether are the only crypto assets as to which senior officials at the SEC have publicly expressed such a view. Moreover, such statements are not official policy statements by the SEC and reflect only the speakers' views, which are not binding on the SEC or any other crypto recourt and cannot be generalized to any other crypto asset. With respect to all other crypto

assets, there is currently no certainty under the applicable legal test that such assets are not securities, notwithstanding the conclusions we may draw based on our risk-based assessment regarding the likelihood that a particular crypto asset could be deemed a "security" under applicable laws. Similarly, though the SEC's Strategic Hub for Innovation and Financial Technology published a framework for analyzing whether any given crypto asset is a security in April 2019, this framework is also not a rule, regulation or statement of the SEC and is not binding on the SEC.

Several foreign jurisdictions have taken a broad-based approach to classifying crypto assets as "securities," while other foreign jurisdictions, such as Switzerland, Malta, and Singapore, have adopted a narrower approach. As a result, certain crypto assets may be deemed to be a "security" under the laws of some jurisdictions but not others. Various foreign jurisdictions may, in the future, adopt additional laws, regulations, or directives that affect the characterization of crypto assets as "securities." If Bitcoin or any other supported crypto asset is deemed to be a security under any U.S. federal, state, or foreign jurisdiction, or in a proceeding in a court of law or otherwise, it may have adverse consequences for such supported crypto asset. For instance, all transactions in such supported crypto asset would have to be registered with the SEC or other foreign authority, or conducted in accordance with an exemption from registration, which could severely limit its liquidity, usability and transactability. Moreover, the networks on which such supported crypto assets are utilized may be required to be regulated as securities intermediaries, and subject to applicable rules, which could effectively render the network impracticable for its existing purposes. Further, it could draw negative publicity and a decline in the general acceptance of the crypto asset. Also, it may make it difficult for such supported crypto asset to be traded, cleared, and custodied as compared to other crypto assets that are not considered to be securities.

Our business is subject to substantial energy regulation and may be adversely affected by legislative or regulatory changes, as well as liability under, or any future inability to comply with, existing or future energy regulations or requirements. We are required to obtain, and to comply with, government permits and approvals.

Our business is subject to extensive U.S. federal, state and local laws. Compliance with, or changes to, the requirements under these legal and regulatory regimes may cause us to incur significant additional costs or adversely impact our ability to compete on favorable terms with competitors. Failure to comply with such requirements could result in the shutdown of a non-complying facility, the imposition of liens, fines, and/or civil or criminal liability and/or costly litigations before the agencies and/or in state of federal court.

The regulatory environment has undergone significant changes in the last several years due to state and federal policies affecting wholesale competition and the creation of incentives for the addition of large amounts of new renewable generation and, in some cases, transmission. These changes are ongoing, and we cannot predict the future design of the wholesale power markets or the ultimate effect that the changing regulatory environment will have on our business. In addition, in some of these markets, interested parties have proposed material market design changes, including the elimination of a single clearing price mechanism, as well as proposals to reinstate the vertically-integrated monopoly model of utility ownership or to require divestiture by generating companies to reduce their market share. If competitive restructuring of the electric power markets is reversed, discontinued, delayed or materially altered, our business prospects and financial results could be negatively impacted. In addition, since 2010, there have been a number of reforms to the regulation of the derivatives markets, both in the United States and internationally. These regulations, and any further changes thereto, or adoption of additional regulations, including any regulations relating to position limits on futures and other derivatives or margin for derivatives, could negatively impact our ability to hedge its portfolio in an efficient, cost-effective manner by, among other things, potentially decreasing liquidity in the forward commodity and derivatives markets or limiting our ability to utilize non-cash collateral for derivatives transactions.

We are subject to environmental laws and regulations that could increase our costs of doing business and adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our operations are subject to stringent federal, state and local laws and regulations governing air and water quality, hazardous and solid waste disposal and other environmental matters. See "Business – Environmental Matters" for more discussion on these matters. One or more of these developments could adversely impact our operations, increase our environmental compliance costs and potentially reduce the extent of our business, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our operations are subject to a number of risks arising out of the threat of climate change, which could result in increased operating and capital costs for us and reduce the extent of our business.

The threat of climate change continues to attract considerable attention in the United States and foreign countries and, as a result, our operations are subject to regulatory, political, litigation and financial risks associated with the use of fossil fuels, including coal refuse, and emission of greenhouse gases ("GHGs"). See "Business – Environmental Matters" for more discussion on the risks associated with attention to the threat of climate change and restriction of GHG emissions. New or amended legislation, executive actions, regulations or other regulatory initiatives that impose more stringent standards on us with respect to our GHG emissions could result in increased compliance costs or costs of consuming fossil fuels, including coal refuse. Additionally, political, financial and litigation risks may result in us restricting, delaying or canceling the extent of our business activities, incurring liability for infrastructure damages as a result of climatic changes, or impairing the ability to continue to operate in an economic manner. Fuel conservation measures, alternative fuel requirements and increasing consumer demand for alternative energy sources (such as wind, solar, geothermal and tidal) could also reduce demand for coal refuse-fired power generation facility activities. The occurrence of one or more of these developments could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Our cost of compliance with existing and new environmental laws could have a material adverse effect on us.

We are subject to extensive environmental regulation by governmental authorities, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, and state environmental agencies and/or attorneys general. We may incur significant additional costs beyond those currently contemplated to comply with these regulatory requirements. If we fail to comply with these regulatory requirements, we could be forced to reduce or discontinue operations or become subject to administrative, civil or criminal liabilities and fines. Existing environmental regulations could be revised or reinterpreted, new laws and regulations could be adopted or become applicable to us or our facilities, and future changes in environmental laws and regulations could occur, including potential regulatory and enforcement developments related to air emissions, all of which could result in significant additional costs beyond those currently contemplated to comply with existing requirements. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on us.

The EPA has recently finalized or proposed several regulatory actions establishing new requirements for control of certain emissions from sources, including electricity generation facilities. In the future, the EPA may also propose and finalize additional regulatory actions that may adversely affect our existing generation facility or our ability to cost-effectively develop new generation facilities. There is no assurance that the currently installed emissions control equipment at our generation facility will satisfy the requirements under any future EPA or state environmental regulations. Future federal and/or state regulatory actions could require us to install significant additional control equipment, resulting in potentially material costs of compliance for our generation units, including capital expenditures, higher operating and fuel costs and potential production curtailments. These costs could have a material adverse effect on us.

We may not be able to obtain or maintain all required environmental regulatory approvals. If there is a delay in obtaining any required environmental regulatory approvals, if we fail to obtain, maintain or comply with any such approval or if an approval is retroactively disallowed or adversely modified, the operation of our generation facility could be stopped, disrupted, curtailed or modified or become subject to additional costs. Any such stoppage, disruption, curtailment, modification or additional costs could have a material adverse effect on us.

In addition, we may be responsible for any on-site liabilities associated with the environmental condition of facilities that we have acquired, leased, developed or sold, regardless of when the liabilities arose and whether they are now known or unknown. In connection with certain acquisitions and sales of assets, we may obtain, or be required to provide, indemnification against certain environmental liabilities. Another party could, depending on the circumstances, assert an environmental claim against us or fail to meet its indemnification obligations to us.

We could be materially and adversely affected if current regulations are implemented or if new federal or state legislation or regulations are adopted to address global climate change, or if we are subject to lawsuits for alleged damage to persons or property resulting from greenhouse gas emissions.

There is attention and interest nationally and internationally about global climate change and how GHG emissions, such as CO2, contribute to global climate change. Over the last several years, the U.S. Congress and state

and federal authorities have considered and debated several proposals intended to address climate change using different approaches, including a cap on carbon emissions with emitters allowed to trade unused emission allowances (cap-and-trade), a tax on carbon or GHG emissions, incentives for the development of low-carbon technology and federal renewable portfolio standards. A number of federal court cases have been filed in recent years asserting damage claims related to GHG emissions, and the results in those proceedings could establish adverse precedent that might apply to companies (including us) that produce GHG emissions. We could be materially and adversely affected if new federal and/or state legislation or regulations are adopted to address global climate change or if we are subject to lawsuits for alleged damage to persons or property resulting from GHG emissions.

## The availability and cost of emission allowances could adversely impact our costs of operations.

We are required to maintain, through either allocations or purchases, sufficient emission allowances for SO2, CO2 and NOX to support our operations in the ordinary course of operating our power generation facilities. These allowances are used to meet the obligations imposed on us by various applicable environmental laws. If our operational needs require more than our allocated allowances, we may be forced to purchase such allowances on the open market, which could be costly. If we are unable to maintain sufficient emission allowances to match our operational needs, we may have to curtail our operations so as not to exceed our available emission allowances or install costly new emission controls. As we use the emission allowances that we have purchased on the open market, costs associated with such purchases will be recognized as operating expense. If such allowances are available for purchase, but only at significantly higher prices, the purchase of such allowances could materially increase our costs of operations in the affected markets.

# Our future results may be impacted by changing customer expectations and demands including heightened emphasis on environmental, social and governance concerns.

Our business outcomes are influenced by the expectations of our customers and stakeholders. Those expectations are based on the core fundamentals of reliability and affordability but are also increasingly focused on our ability to meet rapidly changing demands for new and varied products, services and offerings. Additionally, the risks of global climate change continues to shape our customers' sustainability goals and energy needs. Failure to meet those expectations or to adequately address the risks and external pressures from regulators, investors and other stakeholders may impact favorable outcomes in future rate cases and our results of operations.

## **Crypto Asset Mining Related Risks**

The open-source structure of the certain crypto asset network protocol, including Bitcoin, means that the contributors to the protocol are generally not directly compensated for their contributions in maintaining and developing the protocol. A failure to properly monitor and upgrade the protocol could damage that network and an investment in us.

The Bitcoin network, for example, operates based on an open-source protocol maintained by contributors, largely on the Bitcoin Core project on GitHub. As an open source project, Bitcoin is not represented by an official organization or authority. As the Bitcoin network protocol is not sold and its use does not generate revenues for contributors, contributors are generally not compensated for maintaining and updating the Bitcoin network protocol. Although the MIT Media Lab's Digital Currency Initiative funds the current maintainer Wladimir J. van der Laan, among others, this type of financial incentive is not typical. The lack of guaranteed financial incentive for contributors to maintain or develop the Bitcoin network and the lack of guaranteed resources to adequately address emerging issues with the Bitcoin network may reduce incentives to address the issues adequately or in a timely manner. Changes to a crypto asset network which we are mining on may adversely affect an investment in us.

The further development and acceptance of crypto asset networks and other crypto assets, which represent a new and rapidly changing industry, are subject to a variety of factors that are difficult to evaluate. The slowing or stopping of the development or acceptance of crypto asset systems may adversely affect an investment in us.

Crypto assets built on blockchain technology were only introduced in 2008 and remain in the early stages of development. The use of crypto assets to, among other things, buy and sell goods and services and complete transactions, is part of a new and rapidly evolving industry that employs crypto assets, including Bitcoin, based upon

a computer-generated mathematical and/or cryptographic protocol. The further growth and development of any crypto assets and their underlying networks and other cryptographic and algorithmic protocols governing the creation, transfer and usage of crypto assets represent a new and evolving paradigm that is subject to a variety of factors that are difficult to evaluate, including:

- continued worldwide growth in the adoption and use of crypto assets as a medium to exchange;
- governmental and quasi-governmental regulation of Bitcoin and its use, or restrictions on or regulation of access to and operation of the Bitcoin network or similar crypto asset systems;
- changes in consumer demographics and public tastes and preferences;
- the maintenance and development of the open-source software protocol of the network, including software updates and changes to network protocols that could introduce bugs or security risks;
- the increased consolidation of contributors to the Bitcoin blockchain through mining pools;
- the availability and popularity of other forms or methods of buying and selling goods and services, including new means of using fiat currencies;
- the use of the networks supporting crypto assets for developing smart contracts and distributed applications;
- general economic conditions and the regulatory environment relating to crypto assets; and
- negative consumer sentiment and perception of Bitcoin specifically and crypto assets generally.

The outcome of these factors could have negative effects on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our business strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations as well as potentially negative effect on the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account, which would harm investors in our securities.

Our reliance on a third-party mining pool service provider for our mining revenue payouts may have a negative impact on our operations such as a result of cyber-attacks against the mining pool operator and/or our limited recourse against the mining pool operator with respect to rewards paid to us.

We receive crypto asset mining rewards from our mining activity through a third-party mining pool operator. Mining pools allow miners to combine their processing power, increasing their chances of solving a block and getting paid by the network. The rewards are distributed by the pool operator, proportionally to our contribution to the pool's overall mining power, used to generate each block. Should the pool operator's system suffer downtime due to a cyber-attack, software malfunction or other similar issues, it will negatively impact our ability to mine and receive revenue. Furthermore, we are dependent on the accuracy of the mining pool operator's record keeping to accurately record the total processing power provided to the pool for a given Bitcoin mining application in order to assess the proportion of that total processing power we provided.

While we have internal methods of tracking both our power provided and the total used by the pool, the mining pool operator uses its own recordkeeping to determine our proportion of a given reward. We have little means of recourse against the mining pool operator if we determine the proportion of the reward paid out to us by the mining pool operator is incorrect, other than leaving the pool. If we are unable to consistently obtain accurate proportionate rewards from our mining pool operators, we may experience reduced reward for our efforts, which would have an adverse effect on our business and operations.

Banks and financial institutions vary in the services they provide to businesses that engage in Bitcoin-related activities or that accept Bitcoin as payment.

Although a number of significant U.S. banks and investment institutions, such as Goldman Sachs, Citi Group, J. P. Morgan and BlackRock, allow customers to carry and invest in Bitcoin and other crypto assets, the acceptance

and use by banks of crypto assets, including Bitcoin, varies. Additionally, a number of companies and individuals or businesses associated with crypto assets may have had and may continue to have their existing banking services discontinued with financial institutions in response to government action, particularly in China, where regulatory response to crypto assets has been to exclude their use for ordinary consumer transactions. However, in 2020, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the U.S. Treasury Department announced that national banks and federal savings associations may provide crypto asset custody services for customers. While we expect Bitcoin to continue to gain greater acceptance by banks and investment institutions, we cannot accurately predict the level and scope of services that these institutions will offer to businesses engaging in Bitcoin or other crypto asset related activities.

The usefulness of Bitcoin, the only crypto asset we currently mine, as a payment system and the public perception of Bitcoin could be damaged if banks or financial institutions were to close the accounts of businesses engaging in Bitcoin and/or other crypto asset-related activities. This could occur as a result of compliance risk, cost, government regulation or public pressure. The risk applies to securities firms, clearance and settlement firms, national stock and derivatives on commodities exchanges, the over-the-counter market, and the Depository Trust Company, which, if any of such entities adopts or implements similar policies, rules or regulations, could negatively affect our relationships with financial institutions and impede our ability to convert Bitcoin to fiat currencies. Such factors could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and harm investors.

#### We may face risks of Internet disruptions, which could have an adverse effect on the price of Bitcoin.

A disruption of the Internet may affect the use of Bitcoin and other crypto assets and subsequently the value of our Class A common stock. Generally, Bitcoin and our business of mining Bitcoin is dependent upon the Internet. A significant disruption in Internet connectivity could disrupt a currency's network operations until the disruption is resolved and have an adverse effect on the price of Bitcoin and our ability to mine Bitcoin.

### The impact of geopolitical and economic events on the supply and demand for crypto assets, including Bitcoin, is uncertain.

Geopolitical crises may motivate large-scale purchases of Bitcoin and other crypto assets, which could increase the price of Bitcoin and other crypto assets rapidly. This may increase the likelihood of a subsequent price decrease as crisis-driven purchasing behavior dissipates, adversely affecting the value of our inventory following such downward adjustment. Such risks are similar to the risks of purchasing commodities in general uncertain times, such as the risk of purchasing, holding or selling gold. Alternatively, as an emerging asset class with limited acceptance as a payment system or commodity, global crises and general economic downturn may discourage investment in Bitcoin as investors focus their investment on less volatile asset classes as a means of hedging their investment risk.

As an alternative to fiat currencies that are backed by central governments, Bitcoin, which is relatively new, is subject to supply and demand forces. How such supply and demand will be impacted by geopolitical events is largely uncertain but could be harmful to us and investors in our Class A common stock. Political or economic crises may motivate large-scale acquisitions or sales of Bitcoin either globally or locally. Such events could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account.

# Governmental actions may have a materially adverse effect on the crypto asset mining industry as a whole, which would have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

China is the world's largest producer of Bitcoin and the large majority of the world's crypto asset mining power (some observers estimate that China produces as high as 80% of the world's crypto asset mining power). China has already made transacting in crypto assets illegal for Chinese citizens in mainland China, and additional restrictions may follow. However, thus far, China has permitted Bitcoin mining on a national scale, but provincial governments have taken action to restrict and even ban Bitcoin mining within their province. For example, actions were taken in March 2021 by the governmental authorities for the Chinese province of Inner Mongolia, which represents roughly 8% of the world's total mining power, to ban Bitcoin mining in the province due to the industry's intense electrical

power demands and its negative environmental impacts (both in terms of the waste produced by mining the rare earth metals used to manufacture miners and the production of electrical power used in Bitcoin mining). While we have yet to see whether these miners will be able to relocate to another location in China to continue mining, we cannot quantify the effects of this regulatory action on our industry as a whole. If further regulation follows, it is possible that our industry may not be able to cope with the sudden and extreme loss of mining power.

Additionally, on May 3, 2021, a bill was presented to the New York Senate's Environmental Conservation Committee that, if passed, would establish a three-year moratorium on the operation of cryptocurrency mining centers pending an environmental impact study on the greenhouse gas emissions caused by the Bitcoin mining industry in the State of New York. Because we are unable to influence or predict future regulatory actions taken by governments in China, the United States or elsewhere, we may have little opportunity or ability to respond to rapidly evolving regulatory positions which may have a materially adverse effect on our industry and, therefore, our business and results of operations. If further extreme regulatory action is taken by various governmental entities, our business may suffer and investors in our securities may lose part or all of their investment.

## We may not be able to compete with other companies, some of whom have greater resources and experience.

We may not be able to compete successfully against present or future competitors. We do not have the resources to compete with larger providers of similar services at this time. The crypto asset industry has attracted various high-profile and well-established operators, some of which have substantially greater liquidity and financial resources than we do. With the limited resources we have available, we may experience great difficulties in expanding and improving our network of computers to remain competitive. Competition from existing and future competitors, particularly those that have access to competitively priced energy, could result in our inability to secure acquisitions and partnerships that we may need to expand our business in the future. This competition from other entities with greater resources, experience and reputations may result in our failure to maintain or expand our business, as we may never be able to successfully execute our business plan. If we are unable to expand and remain competitive, our business could be negatively affected which would have an adverse effect on the trading price of our Class A common stock, which would harm investors in our Company.

#### The properties included in our mining network may experience damages, including damages that are not covered by insurance.

Our current mining operation in Venango County in Western Pennsylvania is, and any future mining operations we establish will be, subject to a variety of risks relating to physical condition and operation, including:

- the presence of construction or repair defects or other structural or building damage;
- any noncompliance with or liabilities under applicable environmental, health or safety regulations or requirements or building permit requirements;
- any damage resulting from natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, floods and windstorms; and
- claims by employees and others for injuries sustained at our properties.

For example, our mining operations could be rendered inoperable, temporarily or permanently, as a result of a fire or other natural disaster or by a terrorist or other attack on the facilities where are miners are located. The security and other measures we take to protect against these risks may not be sufficient. Our property insurance covers both plant and mining equipment, and includes business interruption for both power plant and mining operations, subject to certain deductibles. Therefore, our insurance may not be adequate to cover the losses we suffer as a result of any of these events. In the event of an uninsured loss, including a loss in excess of insured limits, at any of the mines in our network, such mines may not be adequately repaired in a timely manner or at all and we may lose some or all of the future revenues anticipated to be derived from such mines. The potential impact on our business is currently magnified because we are only operating from a single location.

#### Acceptance and/or widespread use of Bitcoin and other crypto assets is uncertain.

Currently, there is a relatively limited use of any crypto assets, with Bitcoin being the most utilized, in the retail and commercial marketplace, thus contributing to price volatility that could adversely affect an investment in our Class A common stock. Banks and other established financial institutions may refuse to process funds for Bitcoin transactions, process wire transfers to or from Bitcoin exchanges, Bitcoin-related companies or service providers, or maintain accounts for persons or entities transacting in Bitcoin. Conversely, a significant portion of Bitcoin demand is generated by investors seeking a long-term store of value or speculators seeking to profit from the short- or long-term holding of the asset. Price volatility undermines Bitcoin's role as a medium of exchange, as retailers are much less likely to accept it as a form of payment. Market capitalization for Bitcoin as a medium of exchange and payment method may always be low.

The relative lack of acceptance of Bitcoin in the retail and commercial marketplace, or a reduction of such use, limits the ability of end users to use them to pay for goods and services. Such lack of acceptance or decline in acceptances could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account.

The characteristics of crypto assets have been, and may in the future continue to be, exploited to facilitate illegal activity such as fraud, money laundering, tax evasion and ransomware scams; if any of our customers do so or are alleged to have done so, it could adversely affect us.

Digital currencies and the digital currency industry are relatively new and, in many cases, lightly regulated or largely unregulated. Some types of digital currency have characteristics, such as the speed with which digital currency transactions can be conducted, the ability to conduct transactions without the involvement of regulated intermediaries, the ability to engage in transactions across multiple jurisdictions, the irreversible nature of certain digital currency transactions and encryption technology that anonymizes these transactions, that make digital currency particularly susceptible to use in illegal activity such as fraud, money laundering, tax evasion and ransomware scams. Two prominent examples of marketplaces that accepted digital currency payments for illegal activities include Silk Road, an online marketplace on the dark web that, among other things, facilitated the sale of illegal drugs and forged legal documents using digital currencies and AlphaBay, another darknet market that utilized digital currencies to hide the locations of its servers and identities of its users. Both of these marketplaces were investigated and closed by U.S. law enforcement authorities. U.S. regulators, including the SEC, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and Federal Trade Commission, as well as non-U.S. regulators, have taken legal action against persons alleged to be engaged in Ponzi schemes and other fraudulent schemes involving digital currencies. In addition, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has noted the increasing use of digital currency in various ransomware scams.

While we believe that our risk management and compliance framework, which includes thorough reviews we conduct as part of our due diligence process (either in connection with onboarding new customers or monitoring existing customers), is reasonably designed to detect any such illicit activities conducted by our potential or existing customers (or, in the case of digital currency exchanges, their customers), we cannot ensure that we will be able to detect any such illegal activity in all instances. Because the speed, irreversibility and anonymity of certain digital currency transactions make them more difficult to track, fraudulent transactions may be more likely to occur. We or our potential banking counterparties may be specifically targeted by individuals seeking to conduct fraudulent transfers, and it may be difficult or impossible for us to detect and avoid such transactions in certain circumstances. If one of our customers (or in the case of digital currency exchanges, their customers) were to engage in or be accused of engaging in illegal activities using digital currency, we could be subject to various fines and sanctions, including limitations on our activities, which could also cause reputational damage and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The decentralized nature of crypto asset systems may lead to slow or inadequate responses to crises, which may negatively affect our business.

The decentralized nature of the governance of crypto asset systems may lead to ineffective decision making that slows development or prevents a network from overcoming emergent obstacles. Governance of many crypto asset systems is by voluntary consensus and open competition with no clear leadership structure or authority. To the

extent lack of clarity in corporate governance of the Bitcoin system leads to ineffective decision making that slows development and growth of Bitcoin, the value of our securities may be adversely affected.

It may be illegal now, or in the future, to acquire, own, hold, sell or use Bitcoin, Ether, or other crypto assets, participate in blockchains or utilize similar crypto assets in one or more countries, the ruling of which would adversely affect us.

Although currently crypto assets generally are not regulated or are lightly regulated in most countries, one or more countries such as China and Russia, which have taken harsh regulatory action in the past, may take regulatory actions in the future that could severely restrict the right to acquire, own, hold, sell or use these crypto assets or to exchange for fiat currency. In many nations, particularly in China and Russia, it is illegal to accept payment in Bitcoin and other crypto assets for consumer transactions and banking institutions are barred from accepting deposits of Bitcoin. Such restrictions may adversely affect us as the large-scale use of Bitcoin as a means of exchange is presently confined to certain regions globally. Such circumstances could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account, and harm investors.

## There is a lack of liquid markets, and possible manipulation of blockchain/ crypto assets.

Cryptocurrencies that are represented and trade on a ledger-based platform may not necessarily benefit from viable trading markets. Stock exchanges have listing requirements and vet issuers; requiring them to be subjected to rigorous listing standards and rules, and monitor investors transacting on such platform for fraud and other improprieties. These conditions may not necessarily be replicated on a distributed ledger platform, depending on the platform's controls and other policies. The laxer a distributed ledger platform is about vetting issuers of crypto asset assets or users that transact on the platform, the higher the potential risk for fraud or the manipulation of the ledger due to a control event. These factors may decrease liquidity or volume or may otherwise increase volatility of investment securities or other assets trading on a ledger-based system, which may adversely affect us. Such circumstances could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account, and harm investors.

Crypto assets may have concentrated ownership and large sales or distributions by holders of such crypto assets could have an adverse effect on the market price of such crypto asset.

As of December 31, 2020, the largest 100 Bitcoin wallets held approximately 14% of the Bitcoins in circulation. Moreover, it is possible that other persons or entities control multiple wallets that collectively hold a significant number of Bitcoins, even if they individually only hold a small amount, and it is possible that some of these wallets are controlled by the same person or entity. Similar or more concentrated levels of concentrated ownership may exist for other crypto assets as well. As a result of this concentration of ownership, large sales or distributions by such holders could have an adverse effect on the market price of Bitcoin and other crypto assets.

## Our operations, investment strategies and profitability may be adversely affected by competition from other methods of investing in Bitcoin.

We compete with other users and/or companies that are mining Bitcoin and other potential financial vehicles, including securities backed by or linked to Bitcoin through entities similar to us. Market and financial conditions, and other conditions beyond our control, may make it more attractive to invest in other financial vehicles, or to invest in Bitcoin directly, which could limit the market for our shares and reduce their liquidity. The emergence of other financial vehicles and exchange-traded funds have been scrutinized by regulators and such scrutiny and the negative impressions or conclusions resulting from such scrutiny could be applicable to us and impact our ability to successfully pursue our strategy or operate at all, or to establish or maintain a public market for our securities. Such circumstances could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account, and harm investors.

The development and acceptance of competing blockchain platforms or technologies may cause consumers to use alternative distributed ledgers or other alternatives.

The development and acceptance of competing blockchain platforms or technologies may cause consumers to use alternative distributed ledgers or an alternative to distributed ledgers altogether. Our business utilizes presently existent digital ledgers and blockchains and we could face difficulty adapting to emergent digital ledgers, blockchains, or alternatives thereto. This may adversely affect us and our exposure to various blockchain technologies and prevent us from realizing the anticipated profits from our investments. Such circumstances could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account, and harm investors.

The loss or destruction of private keys required to access any crypto assets held in custody for our own account may be irreversible. If we are unable to access our private keys or if we experience a hack or other data loss relating to our ability to access any crypto assets, it could cause regulatory scrutiny, reputational harm, and other losses.

Crypto assets are generally controllable only by the possessor of the unique private key relating to the digital wallet in which the crypto assets are held. While blockchain protocols typically require public addresses to be published when used in a transaction, private keys must be safeguarded and kept private in order to prevent a third party from accessing the crypto assets held in such a wallet. To the extent that any of the private keys relating to our hot wallet or cold storage containing crypto assets held for our own account or for our customers is lost, destroyed, or otherwise compromised or unavailable, and no backup of the private key is accessible, we will be unable to access the crypto assets held in the related wallet. Further, we cannot provide assurance that our wallet will not be hacked or compromised. Digital assets and blockchain technologies have been, and may in the future be, subject to security breaches, hacking, or other malicious activities. Any loss of private keys relating to, or hack or other compromise of, digital wallets used to store our customers' crypto assets could adversely affect our ability to access or sell our crypto assets, and subject us to significant financial losses. As such, any loss of private keys due to a hack, employee or service provider misconduct or error, or other compromise by third parties could hurt our brand and reputation, result in significant losses, and adversely impact our business. The total value of crypto assets in our possession and control is significantly greater than the total value of insurance coverage that would compensate us in the event of theft or other loss of funds.

#### Cryptocurrencies including Bitcoin face significant scaling obstacles that can lead to high fees or slow transaction settlement times.

Cryptocurrencies face significant scaling obstacles that can lead to high fees or slow transaction settlement times, and attempts to increase the volume of transactions may not be effective. Scaling crypto assets is essential to the widespread acceptance of crypto assets as a means of payment, which widespread acceptance is necessary to the continued growth and development of our business. Many crypto asset networks, including the Bitcoin network, face significant scaling challenges. For example, crypto assets are limited with respect to how many transactions can occur per second. Participants in the crypto asset ecosystem debate potential approaches to increasing the average number of transactions per second that the network can handle and have implemented mechanisms or are researching ways to increase scale, such as increasing the allowable sizes of blocks, and therefore the number of transactions per block, and sharding (a horizontal partition of data in a database or search engine), which would not require every single transaction to be included in every single miner's or validator's block. However, there is no guarantee that any of the mechanisms in place or being explored for increasing the scale of settlement of crypto assets and, specifically, Bitcoin transactions will be effective, or how long they will take to become effective, which could adversely affect an investment in our securities.

## The price of Bitcoin may be affected by the sale of Bitcoin by other vehicles investing in Bitcoin or tracking Bitcoin markets.

The global market for Bitcoin is characterized by supply constraints that differ from those present in the markets for commodities or other assets such as gold and silver. The mathematical protocols under which Bitcoin is mined permit the creation of a limited, predetermined amount of currency, while others have no limit established on total supply. To the extent that other vehicles investing in Bitcoin or tracking Bitcoin markets form and come to

represent a significant proportion of the demand for Bitcoin, large redemptions of the securities of those vehicles and the subsequent sale of Bitcoin by such vehicles could negatively affect Bitcoin prices and therefore affect the value of the Bitcoin inventory we hold. Such events could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account.

The nature of our business requires the application of complex financial accounting rules, and there is limited guidance from accounting standard setting bodies. If financial accounting standards undergo significant changes, our operating results could be adversely affected.

The accounting rules and regulations that we must comply with are complex and subject to interpretation by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), the SEC, and various bodies formed to promulgate and interpret appropriate accounting principles. A change in these principles or interpretations could have a significant effect on our reported financial results, and may even affect the reporting of transactions completed before the announcement or effectiveness of a change. Recent actions and public comments from the FASB and the SEC have focused on the integrity of financial reporting and internal controls. In addition, many companies' accounting policies are being subject to heightened scrutiny by regulators and the public. Further, there has been limited precedents for the financial accounting of crypto assets and related valuation and revenue recognition, and no official guidance has been provided by the FASB or the SEC. As such, there remains significant uncertainty on how companies can account for crypto asset transactions, crypto assets, and related revenue. Uncertainties in or changes to in regulatory or financial accounting standards could result in the need to changing our accounting methods and restate our financial statements and impair our ability to provide timely and accurate financial information, which could adversely affect our financial statements, result in a loss of investor confidence, and more generally impact our business, operating results, and financial condition.

There are risks related to technological obsolescence, the vulnerability of the global supply chain to Bitcoin hardware disruption, and difficulty in obtaining new hardware which may have a negative effect on our business.

Our mining operations can only be successful and ultimately profitable if the costs of mining Bitcoin, including hardware and electricity costs, associated with mining Bitcoin are lower than the price of a Bitcoin. As our mining facility operates, our miners experience ordinary wear and tear and general hardware breakdown, and may also face more significant malfunctions caused by a number of extraneous factors beyond our control. The physical degradation of our miners will require us to, over time, replace those miners which are no longer functional. Additionally, as the technology evolves, we may be required to acquire newer models of miners to remain competitive in the market. Reports have been released which indicate that players in the mining equipment business adjust the prices of miners according to Bitcoin mining revenues, so the cost of new machines is unpredictable but could be extremely high. As a result, at times, we may obtain miners and other hardware from third parties at premium prices, to the extent they are available. In order to keep pace with technological advances and competition from other mining companies, it will be necessary to purchase new miners, which will eventually need to be repaired or replaced along with other equipment from time to time to stay competitive. This upgrading process requires substantial capital investment, and we may face challenges in doing so on a timely and cost-effective basis. Also, because we expect to depreciate all new miners, our reported operating results will be negatively affected.

The global supply chain for Bitcoin miners is presently constrained due to unprecedented demand coupled with a global semiconductor shortage, with a significant portion of available miners being acquired by companies with substantial resources. Prices for both new and older models of miners have been on the rise and these supply constraints are expected to continue for the foreseeable future. China, a major supplier of Bitcoin miners, has seen a production slowdown as a result of COVID-19. Should similar outbreaks or other disruptions to the China-based global supply chain for Bitcoin hardware occur, we may not be able to obtain adequate replacement parts for our existing miners or to obtain additional miners on a timely basis, if at all, or we may only be able to acquire miners at premium prices. Such events could have a material adverse effect on our ability to pursue our strategy, which could have a material adverse effect on our business and the value of our securities.

#### We may not adequately respond to price fluctuations and rapidly changing technology, which may negatively affect our business.

Competitive conditions within the Bitcoin industry require that we use sophisticated technology in the operation of our business. The industry for blockchain technology is characterized by rapid technological changes, new product introductions, enhancements and evolving industry standards. New technologies, techniques or products could emerge that might offer better performance than the software and other technologies we currently utilize, and we may have to manage transitions to these new technologies to remain competitive. We may not be successful, generally or relative to our competitors in the Bitcoin industry, in timely implementing new technology into our systems, or doing so in a cost-effective manner. During the course of implementing any such new technology into our operations, we may experience system interruptions and failures during such implementation. Furthermore, there can be no assurances that we will recognize, in a timely manner or at all, the benefits that we may expect as a result of our implementing new technology into our operations. As a result, our business and operations may suffer, and there may be adverse effects on the value of our securities.

# The Bitcoin reward for successfully uncovering a block will halve several times in the future and Bitcoin value may not adjust to compensate us for the reduction in the rewards we receive from our mining efforts.

Halving is a process incorporated into many proof-of-work consensus algorithms that reduces the coin reward paid to miners over time according to a pre-determined schedule. This reduction in reward spreads out the release of crypto assets over a long period of time resulting in an ever smaller number of coins being mined, reducing the risk of coin-based inflation. At a predetermined block, the mining reward is cut in half, hence the term "halving." For Bitcoin, the reward was initially set at 50 Bitcoin currency rewards per block and this was cut in half to 25 on November 28, 2012 at block 210,000, then again to 12.5 on July 9, 2016 at block 420,000. The most recent halving for Bitcoin happened on May 11, 2020 at block 630,000 and the reward reduced to 6.25. The next halving will likely occur in 2024. This process will reoccur until the total amount of Bitcoin currency rewards issued reaches 21 million, which is expected around 2140. While Bitcoin price has had a history of price fluctuations around the halving of its rewards, there is no guarantee that the price change will be favorable or would compensate for the reduction in mining reward. If a corresponding and proportionate increase in the trading price of Bitcoin or a proportionate decrease in mining difficulty does not follow these anticipated halving events, the revenue we earn from our Bitcoin mining operations would see a corresponding decrease, which would have a material adverse effect on our business and operations.

# Our future success will depend upon the value of Bitcoin and other crypto assets; the value of Bitcoin may be subject to pricing risk and has historically been subject to wide swings.

Our operating results will depend on the value of Bitcoin because it is the only crypto asset we currently mine. Specifically, our revenues from our Bitcoin mining operations are based on two factors: (1) the number of Bitcoin rewards we successfully mine and (2) the value of Bitcoin. In addition, our operating results are directly impacted by changes in the value of Bitcoin, because under the value measurement model, both realized and unrealized changes will be reflected in our statement of operations (i.e., we will be marking Bitcoin to fair value each quarter). This means that our operating results will be subject to swings based upon increases or decreases in the value of Bitcoin. Further, our current miners are principally utilized for mining Bitcoin and do not generally mine other crypto assets, such as Ether, that are not mined utilizing the "SHA-256 algorithm." If other crypto assets were to achieve acceptance at the expense of Bitcoin causing the value of Bitcoin to decline, or if Bitcoin were to switch its proof of work encryption algorithm from SHA-256 to another algorithm for which our miners are not specialized, or the value of Bitcoin were to decline for other reasons, particularly if such decline were significant or over an extended period of time, our operating results would be adversely affected, and there could be a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations, and harm investors.

The market price of Bitcoin, which has historically been volatile and is impacted by a variety of factors (including those discussed herein), is determined primarily using data from various exchanges, over-the-counter markets and derivative platforms. Furthermore, such prices may be subject to factors such as those that impact commodities, more so than business activities, which could be subjected to additional influence from fraudulent or illegitimate actors, real or perceived scarcity, and political, economic, regulatory or other conditions. Pricing may be the result of, and may continue to result in, speculation regarding future appreciation in the value of Bitcoin, or

our share price, inflating and making their market prices more volatile or creating "bubble" type risks for both Bitcoin and shares of our securities.

Demand for Ether and Bitcoin is driven, in part, by their status as the two most prominent and secure crypto assets. It is possible that crypto assets other than Ether and Bitcoin could have features that make them more desirable to a material portion of the crypto asset user base, resulting in a reduction in demand for Ether and Bitcoin, which could have a negative impact on the price of Ether and Bitcoin and adversely affect an investment in us.

Bitcoin and Ether, as assets, hold "first-to-market" advantages over other crypto assets. This first-to-market advantage is driven in large part by having the largest user bases and, more importantly, the largest combined mining power in use to secure their respective blockchains and transaction verification systems. Having a large mining network results in greater user confidence regarding the security and long-term stability of a crypto asset's network and its blockchain; as a result, the advantage of more users and miners makes a crypto asset more secure, which makes it more attractive to new users and miners, resulting in a network effect that strengthens the first-to-market advantage.

Despite the marked first-mover advantage of the Bitcoin network over other crypto asset networks, it is possible that another crypto asset could become materially popular due to either a perceived or exposed shortcoming of the Bitcoin network protocol that is not immediately addressed by the Bitcoin contributor community or a perceived advantage of an altcoin that includes features not incorporated into Bitcoin. If a crypto asset obtains significant market share (either in market capitalization, mining power or use as a payment technology), this could reduce Bitcoin's market share as well as other crypto assets we may become involved in and have a negative impact on the demand for, and price of, such crypto assets and could adversely affect an investment in us. It is possible that we mine alternative crypto assets in the future, but we will not have as much experience to date in comparison to our experience mining Bitcoin, which may put us at a competitive disadvantage.

We may not be able to realize the benefits of forks. Forks in a crypto asset network may occur in the future which may affect the value of Bitcoin held by us.

To the extent that a significant majority of users and miners on a crypto asset network install software that changes the crypto asset network or properties of a crypto asset, including the irreversibility of transactions and limitations on the mining of new crypto asset, the crypto asset network would be subject to new protocols and software. However, if less than a significant majority of users and miners on the crypto asset network consent to the proposed modification, and the modification is not compatible with the software prior to its modification, the consequence would be what is known as a "fork" of the network, with one prong running the pre-modified software and the other running the modified software. The effect of such a fork would be the existence of two versions of the crypto asset running in parallel, yet lacking interchangeability and necessitating exchange-type transaction to convert currencies between the two forks. Additionally, it may be unclear following a fork which fork represents the original asset and which is the new asset. Different metrics adopted by industry participants to determine which is the original asset include: referring to the wishes of the core developers of a crypto asset, blockchains with the greatest amount of hashing power contributed by miners or validators; or blockchains with the longest chain. A fork in the Bitcoin network could adversely affect an investment in our securities or our ability to operate.

We may not be able to realize the economic benefit of a fork, either immediately or ever, which could adversely affect an investment in our securities. If we hold Bitcoin at the time of a hard fork into two crypto assets, industry standards would dictate that we would be expected to hold an equivalent amount of the old and new assets following the fork. However, we may not be able, or it may not be practical, to secure or realize the economic benefit of the new asset for various reasons. For instance, we may determine that there is no safe or practical way to custody the new asset, that trying to do so may pose an unacceptable risk to our holdings in the old asset, or that the costs of taking possession and/or maintaining ownership of the new crypto asset exceed the benefits of owning the new crypto asset. Additionally, laws, regulation or other factors may prevent us from benefitting from the new asset even if there is a safe and practical way to custody and secure the new asset.

There is a possibility of Bitcoin mining algorithms transitioning to proof of stake validation and other mining related risks, which could make us less competitive and ultimately adversely affect our business and the value of our stock.

Proof of stake is an alternative method for validating Bitcoin transactions. Should Bitcoin's algorithm shift from a proof of work validation method to a proof of stake method, mining would require less energy and may render any company that maintains advantages in the current climate (for example, from lower priced electricity, processing, real estate, or hosting) less competitive. We, as a result of our efforts to optimize and improve the efficiency of our Bitcoin mining operations, may be exposed to the risk in the future of losing the benefit of our capital investments and the competitive advantage we hope to gain form this as a result, and may be negatively impacted if a switch to proof of stake validation were to occur. Such events could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account.

If a malicious actor or botnet obtains control in excess of 50% of the processing power active on any crypto asset network, including the Bitcoin network, it is possible that such actor or botnet could manipulate the blockchain in a manner that adversely affects an investment in us.

If a malicious actor or botnet (a volunteer or hacked collection of computers controlled by networked software coordinating the actions of the computers) obtains a majority of the processing power dedicated to mining on any crypto asset network, including the Bitcoin network, it may be able to alter the blockchain by constructing alternate blocks if it is able to solve for such blocks faster than the remainder of the miners on the blockchain can add valid blocks. In such alternate blocks, the malicious actor or botnet could control, exclude or modify the ordering of transactions, though it could not generate new crypto assets or transactions using such control. Using alternate blocks, the malicious actor could "double-spend" its own crypto assets (i.e., spend the same crypto assets in more than one transaction) and prevent the confirmation of other users' transactions for so long as it maintains control. To the extent that such malicious actor or botnet does not yield its majority control of the processing power or the crypto asset community does not reject the fraudulent blocks as malicious, reversing any changes made to the blockchain may not be possible. Such changes could adversely affect an investment in us.

For example, in late May and early June 2014, a mining pool known as GHash.io approached and, during a 24- to 48-hour period in early June may have exceeded, the threshold of 50% of the processing power on the Bitcoin network. To the extent that GHash.io did exceed 50% of the processing power on the network, reports indicate that such threshold was surpassed for only a short period, and there are no reports of any malicious activity or control of the blockchain performed by GHash.io. Furthermore, the processing power in the mining pool appears to have been redirected to other pools on a voluntary basis by participants in the GHash.io pool, as had been done in prior instances when a mining pool exceeded 40% of the processing power on the Bitcoin network.

The approach towards and possible crossing of the 50% threshold indicate a greater risk that a single mining pool could exert authority over the validation of crypto asset transactions. To the extent that the crypto assets ecosystems do not act to ensure greater decentralization of crypto asset mining processing power, the feasibility of a malicious actor obtaining in excess of 50% of the processing power on any crypto asset network (e.g., through control of a large mining pool or through hacking such a mining pool) will increase, which may adversely impact an investment in us.

## Cryptocurrencies, including those maintained by or for us, may be exposed to cybersecurity threats and hacks.

As with any computer code generally, flaws in crypto asset codes, including Bitcoin codes, may be exposed by malicious actors. Several errors and defects have been found previously, including those that disabled some functionality for users and exposed users' information. Exploitations of flaws in the source code that allow malicious actors to take or create money have previously occurred. Despite our efforts and processes to prevent breaches, our devices, as well as our miners, computer systems and those of third parties that we use in our operations, are vulnerable to cyber security risks, including cyber-attacks such as viruses and worms, phishing attacks, denial-of-service attacks, physical or electronic break-ins, employee theft or misuse, and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering with our miners and computer systems or those of third parties that we use in our operations. Such events could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue as a going concern or to

pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account.

If the award of Bitcoin reward for solving blocks and transaction fees, is not sufficiently high, we may not have an adequate incentive to continue mining and may cease mining operations, which will likely lead to our failure to achieve profitability.

As the number of Bitcoins awarded for solving a block in a blockchain decreases, our ability to achieve profitability worsens. Decreased use and demand for Bitcoin rewards may adversely affect our incentive to expend processing power to solve blocks. If the award of Bitcoin rewards for solving blocks and transaction fees are not sufficiently high, we may not have an adequate incentive to continue mining and may cease our mining operations. Miners ceasing operations would reduce the collective processing power on the network, which would adversely affect the confirmation process for transactions (i.e., temporarily decreasing the speed at which blocks are added to a blockchain until the next scheduled adjustment in difficulty for block solutions) and make the Bitcoin network more vulnerable to a malicious actor or botnet obtaining control in excess of 50 percent of the processing power active on a blockchain, potentially permitting such actor or botnet to manipulate a blockchain in a manner that adversely affects our activities. A reduction in confidence in the confirmation process or processing power of the network could result and be irreversible. Such events could have a material adverse effect on our ability to continue to pursue our strategy at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects or operations and potentially the value of any Bitcoin we mine or otherwise acquire or hold for our own account.

## Transactional fees may decrease demand for Bitcoin and prevent expansion that could adversely impact an investment in us.

As the number of Bitcoins currency rewards awarded for solving a block in a blockchain decreases, the incentive for miners to continue to contribute to the Bitcoin network may transition from a set reward to transaction fees. In order to incentivize miners to continue to contribute to the Bitcoin network, the Bitcoin network may either formally or informally transition from a set reward to transaction fees earned upon solving a block. This transition could be accomplished by miners independently electing to record in the blocks they solve only those transactions that include payment of a transaction fee. If transaction fees paid for Bitcoin transactions become too high, the marketplace may be reluctant to accept Bitcoin as a means of payment and existing users may be motivated to switch from Bitcoin to another crypto asset or to fiat currency. Either the requirement from miners of higher transaction fees in exchange for recording transactions in a blockchain or a software upgrade that automatically charges fees for all transactions may decrease demand for Bitcoin and prevent the expansion of the Bitcoin network to retail merchants and commercial businesses, resulting in a reduction in the price of Bitcoin that could adversely impact an investment in our securities. Decreased use and demand for Bitcoins or Ether that we have accumulated may adversely affect their value and may adversely impact an investment in us.

Because the number of Bitcoin awarded for solving a block in the Bitcoin network blockchain continually decreases, miners must invest in increasing processing power to maintain their yield of Bitcoins, which might make Bitcoin mining uneconomical for us.

The award of new Bitcoin for solving blocks continually declines, so that Bitcoin miners must invest in increasing processing power in order to maintain or increase their yield of Bitcoin. If the pricing of Bitcoin were to decline significantly, there can be no assurance that we would be able to recover our investment in the computer hardware and processing power required to upgrade our mining operations. There can, moreover, be no assurance that we will have the resources to upgrade our processing power in order to maintain the continuing profitability of our mining operations. Also, the developers of the Bitcoin network or other programmers could propose amendments to the network's protocols and software that, if accepted, might require us to modify our Bitcoin operations, and increase our investment in Bitcoin, in order to maintain profitability. There can be no assurance, however, that we will be able to do so.

#### Bitcoin mining is capital intensive.

Remaining competitive in the Bitcoin mining industry requires significant capital expenditure on new chips and other hardware necessary to increase processing power as the Bitcoin network difficulty increases. If we are unable

to fund our capital expenditures, either through our revenue stream or through other sources of capital, we may be unable to remain competitive and experience a deterioration in our result of operations and financial condition.

# Our crypto assets may be subject to loss, damage, theft or restriction on access.

There is a risk that part or all of our crypto assets could be lost, stolen or destroyed. We believe that our crypto assets will be an appealing target to hackers or malware distributors seeking to destroy, damage or steal our crypto assets. We cannot guarantee that we will prevent loss, damage or theft, whether caused intentionally, accidentally or by act of God. Access to our crypto assets could also be restricted by natural events (such as an earthquake or flood) or human actions (such as a terrorist attack). Any of these events may adversely affect the Company's operations and, consequently, an investment in us.

The limited rights of legal recourse against us, and our lack of insurance protection expose us and our shareholders to the risk of loss of our crypto assets for which no person is liable.

The crypto assets held by us are not insured. Therefore, a loss may be suffered with respect to our crypto assets which is not covered by insurance and for which no person is liable in damages which could adversely affect our operations and, consequently, an investment in us.

#### Digital assets held by us are not subject to FDIC or SIPC protections.

We do not hold our crypto assets with a banking institution or a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") or the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC") and, therefore, our crypto assets are not subject to the protections enjoyed by depositors with FDIC or SIPC member institutions.

## Intellectual property rights claims may adversely affect the operation of some or all crypto asset networks.

Third parties may assert intellectual property claims relating to the holding and transfer of crypto assets and their source code. Regardless of the merit of any intellectual property or other legal action, any threatened action that reduces confidence in some or all crypto asset networks' long-term viability or the ability of end-users to hold and transfer crypto assets may adversely affect an investment in us. Additionally, a meritorious intellectual property claim could prevent us and other end-users from accessing some or all crypto asset networks or holding or transferring their crypto assets. As a result, an intellectual property claim against us or other large crypto asset network participants could adversely affect an investment in us.

#### **Power Generation Related Risks**

Our financial performance, as relating to both our power sales and Bitcoin mining operations, may be impacted by price fluctuations in the wholesale power market, as well as fluctuations in coal markets and other market factors that are beyond our control.

Our revenues, cost of doing business, results of operations and operating cash flows generally may be impacted by price fluctuations in the wholesale power market and other market factors beyond our control. Market prices for power, capacity, ancillary services, natural gas, coal and oil are unpredictable and tend to fluctuate substantially. Unlike most other commodities, electric power can only be stored on a very limited basis and generally must be produced concurrently with its use. As a result, power prices are subject to significant volatility due to supply and demand imbalances, especially in the day-ahead and spot markets. Long- and short-term power prices may also fluctuate substantially due to other factors outside of our control, including:

- changes in generation capacity in our markets, including the addition of new supplies of power as a result of the development of new plants, expansion of existing plants, the continued operation of uneconomic power plants due to state subsidies, or additional transmission capacity;
- environmental regulations and legislation;
- · electric supply disruptions, including plant outages and transmission disruptions;
- changes in power transmission infrastructure;

- fuel transportation capacity constraints or inefficiencies;
- · changes in law, including judicial decisions;
- weather conditions, including extreme weather conditions and seasonal fluctuations, including the effects of climate change;
- changes in commodity prices and the supply of commodities, including but not limited to natural gas, coal and oil;
- changes in the demand for power or in patterns of power usage, including the potential development of demand-side management tools and practices, distributed generation, and more efficient end-use technologies;
- · development of new fuels, new technologies and new forms of competition for the production of power;
- fuel price volatility;
- economic and political conditions;
- · supply and demand for energy commodities;
- availability of competitively priced alternative energy sources, which are preferred by some customers over electricity produced from coal and customer-usage of energy-efficient equipment that reduces energy demand;
- ability to procure satisfactory levels of inventory, such as coal refuse; and
- changes in capacity prices and capacity markets.

Such factors and the associated fluctuations in power and prices could affect wholesale power generation profitability and cost of power for crypto asset mining activities.

Maintenance, expansion and refurbishment of power generation facilities involve significant risks that could result in unplanned power outages or reduced output and could have a material adverse effect on our Bitcoin mining and power sales revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. We are subject to liability risks relating to our competitive power generation business operations.

Our current power generation facility and plants that we may acquire in the future require periodic maintenance and repair. Any unexpected failure, including failure associated with breakdowns, forced outages or any unanticipated capital expenditures could result in reduced profitability.

We cannot be certain of the level of capital expenditures that will be required due to changing environmental and safety laws (including changes in the interpretation or enforcement thereof), needed facility repairs and unexpected events (such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks). The unexpected requirement of large capital expenditures could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity and financial condition. If we significantly modify a unit, we may be required to install the best available control technology or to achieve the lowest achievable emission rates as such terms are defined under the new source review provisions of the federal Clean Air Act, as amended from time to time ("CAA"), which would likely result in substantial additional capital expenditures.

The conduct of our physical and commercial operations subjects us to many risks, including risks of potential physical injury, property damage or other financial liability, caused to or by employees, customers, contractors, vendors, contractual or financial counterparties and other third parties.

#### Natural or manmade events may cause our power production to fall below our expectations.

Our electricity generation depends upon our ability to maintain the working order of our coal refuse power generation facility. A natural or manmade disaster, severe weather such as snow and ice storms, or accident could impede our ability to access the coal refuse that is necessary for our plant to operate, damage our transmission line preventing us from distributing power to the PJM grid and our miners or require us to shut down our plant or related equipment and facilities. To the extent we experience a prolonged interruption at our plant or a transmission outage due to natural or manmade events, our electricity generation levels could materially decrease. We may also incur significant repair and clean-up costs associated with these events. The effect of the failure of our plant to operate as planned as described above could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

# We may not be able to operate the power generation facility as planned, which may increase our expenses and decrease our revenues and have an adverse effect on our financial performance.

Our operation of the power generation facility, information technology systems and other assets and conduct of other activities subjects us to a variety of risks, including the breakdown or failure of equipment, accidents, security breaches, viruses or outages affecting information technology systems, labor disputes, obsolescence, delivery/transportation problems and disruptions of fuel supply and performance below expected levels. These events may impact our ability to conduct our businesses efficiently and lead to increased costs, expenses or losses. Planned and unplanned outages at our power generation facilities may require us to purchase power at then-current market prices to satisfy our commitments or, in the alternative, pay penalties and damages for failure to satisfy them. Having to purchase power at then-market rates could also have a negative impact on the cost structure of our crypto asset mining operations.

Although we maintain customary insurance coverage for certain of these risks, no assurance can be given that such insurance coverage will be sufficient to compensate us fully in the event losses occur.

# Changes in tax credits related to coal refuse power generation could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and future development efforts.

Our profitability depends, in part, on the continued availability of state renewable energy tax credits offered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through programs such as the one established under The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act of 2004 or the Coal Refuse Energy and Reclamation Tax Credit Program established by Act 84 of July 13, 2016. This tax credit program could be changed or eliminated as a result of state budget considerations or otherwise. Reduction or elimination of such credits could materially and adversely harm our business, financial condition, results of operations and future development efforts.

## Land reclamation requirements may be burdensome and expensive.

We operate in partnership with PADEP and local environmental authorities to reclaim coal refuse piles. Reclamation may include requirements to control dispersion of potentially deleterious effluents, treat ground and surface water to drinking water standards and reasonably re-establish predisturbance land forms and vegetation. In order to carry out reclamation obligations, we must allocate financial resources that might otherwise be spent on implementing our business plan. We have established reserves for our reclamation obligations, but these reserves may not be adequate. If the costs associated with our reclamation work are higher than we anticipate, our financial position could be adversely affected.

## Fluctuations in fuel costs could affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We rely on third party carriers for delivery of the coal refuse used at our plant. The price and supply of fuel is unpredictable and fluctuates based on events beyond our control, including among others, geopolitical developments, supply and demand for oil and gas, actions by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and other oil and gas producers, war and unrest in oil producing countries and regional production patterns. Because fuel is needed to deliver coal refuse to our facility, any future increases in shipping rates could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Competition in power markets may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, cash flows and the market value of our assets.

We have numerous competitors in all aspects of our business, and additional competitors may enter the industry. New parties may offer wholesale electricity bundled with other products or at prices that are below our rates.

Other companies with which we compete may have greater liquidity, greater access to credit and other financial resources, lower cost structures, more effective risk management policies and procedures, greater ability to incur losses or greater flexibility in the timing of their sale of generation capacity and ancillary services than we do. Competitors may also have better access to subsidies or other out-of-market payments that put us at a competitive disadvantage.

Our competitors may be able to respond more quickly to new laws or regulations or emerging technologies, or to devote greater resources to marketing of wholesale power than we can. In addition, current and potential competitors may make strategic acquisitions or establish cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among current and new competitors may emerge and rapidly gain significant market share. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors, and any failure to do so would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

## Changes in technology may negatively impact the value of our power generation facility.

Research and development activities are ongoing in the industry to provide alternative and more efficient technologies to produce power. There are alternate technologies to supply electricity, most notably fuel cells, micro turbines, batteries, windmills and photovoltaic (solar) cells, the development of which has been expanded due to global climate change concerns. Research and development activities are ongoing to seek improvements in alternate technologies. It is possible that advances will reduce the cost of alternative generation to a level that is equal to or below that of certain central station production. Also, as new technologies are developed and become available, the quantity and pattern of electricity usage (the "demand") by customers could decline, with a corresponding decline in revenues derived by generators. These alternative energy sources could result in a decline to the dispatch and capacity factors of our plants. As a result of all of these factors, the value of our generation facilities could be significantly reduced.

Our results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected if energy market participants continue to construct additional generation facilities (i.e., new-build) or expand or enhance existing generation facilities despite relatively low power prices and such additional generation capacity results in a reduction in wholesale power prices.

Given the overall attractiveness of certain of the markets in which we operate, and certain tax benefits associated with renewable energy, among other matters, energy market participants have continued to construct new generation facilities (i.e., new-build) or invest in enhancements or expansions of existing generation facilities despite relatively low wholesale power prices. If this market dynamic continues, and/or if our crypto asset mining competitors begin to build or acquire their own power plants to fuel their crypto asset mining operations, our results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected if such additional generation capacity results in a cheaper supply of electricity to our crypto asset mining competitors.

We sell capacity, energy, and ancillary services to the wholesale power grid managed by PJM. Our business may be affected by state interference in the competitive wholesale marketplace.

We sell capacity, energy, and ancillary services to the wholesale power grid managed by PJM. The competitive wholesale marketplace may be impacted by out-of-market subsidies provided by states or state entities, including bailouts of uneconomic nuclear plants, imports of power from Canada, renewable mandates or subsidies, mandates to sell power below its cost of acquisition and associated costs, as well as out-of-market payments to new or existing generators. These out-of-market subsidies to existing or new generation undermine the competitive wholesale marketplace, which can lead to premature retirement of existing facilities, including those owned by us. If these measures continue, capacity and energy prices may be suppressed, and we may not be successful in our efforts to insulate the competitive market from this interference. Our wholesale power revenue may be materially impacted by

rules or regulations that allow regulated utilities to participate in competitive wholesale markets or to own and operate rate-regulated facilities that provide capacity, energy and ancillary services that could be provided by competitive market participants.

Because our coal refuse power generation facility is a member of PJM, a regional transmission organization, we may be required to supply power to the grid at a time that is not optimal to our operations.

As a member of PJM, we are subject to the operations of PJM, and our coal refuse power generation facility is under dispatch control of PJM. PJM balances its participants' power requirements with the power resources available to supply those requirements. Based on this evaluation of supply and demand, PJM schedules and dispatches available generating facilities throughout its region in a manner intended to meet the demand for energy in the most reliable and cost-effective manner. Thus we may be required to supply power to PJM, diverting capacity away from our mining operations, at a time that is not economical for our business strategy. To the extent we are required to supply power to PJM for a sustained period of time, we could experience unplanned and extended outages of our mining operations, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

#### We are required to obtain, and to comply with, government permits and approvals.

We are required to obtain, and to comply with, numerous permits and licenses from federal, state and local governmental agencies. The process of obtaining and renewing necessary permits and licenses can be lengthy and complex and can sometimes result in the establishment of conditions that make the project or activity for which the permit or license was sought unprofitable or otherwise unattractive. In addition, such permits or licenses may be subject to denial, revocation or modification under various circumstances. Failure to obtain or comply with the conditions of permits or licenses, or failure to comply with applicable laws or regulations, may result in the delay or temporary suspension of our operations and electricity sales or the curtailment of our delivery of electricity to our customers and may subject us to penalties and other sanctions. Although various regulators routinely renew existing permits and licenses, renewal of our existing permits or licenses could be denied or jeopardized by various factors, including (i) failure to provide adequate financial assurance for closure, (ii) failure to comply with environmental, health and safety laws and regulations or permit conditions, (iii) local community, political or other opposition and (iv) executive, legislative or regulatory action.

Our inability to procure and comply with the permits and licenses required for our operations, or the cost to us of such procurement or compliance, could have a material adverse effect on us. In addition, new environmental legislation or regulations, if enacted, or changed interpretations of existing laws, may cause activities at our facilities to need to be changed to avoid violating applicable laws and regulations or elicit claims that historical activities at our facilities violated applicable laws and regulations. In addition to the possible imposition of fines in the case of any such violations, we may be required to undertake significant capital investments and obtain additional operating permits or licenses, which could have a material adverse effect on us.

Operation of power generation facilities involves significant risks and hazards customary to the power industry that could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations, and we may not have adequate insurance to cover these risks and hazards. Our employees, contractors, customers and the general public may be exposed to a risk of injury due to the nature of our operations.

Power generation involves hazardous activities, including acquiring, transporting and unloading fuel, operating large pieces of equipment and delivering electricity to transmission and distribution systems, including the transmission lines that run from our power generation facility to our Bitcoin mining operations. In addition to natural risks such as earthquake, flood, lightning, hurricane and wind, other human-made hazards, such as nuclear accidents, dam failure, gas or other explosions, mine area collapses, fire, structural collapse, machinery failure and other dangerous incidents are inherent risks in our operations. These and other hazards can cause significant personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to and destruction of property, plant, equipment, and transmission lines, contamination of, or damage to, the environment and suspension of operations. Further, our employees and contractors work in, and customers and the general public may be exposed to, potentially dangerous environments at or near our operations. As a result, employees, contractors, customers and the general public are at risk for serious injury, including loss of life.

The occurrence of any one of these events may result in us being named as a defendant in lawsuits asserting claims for substantial damages, including for environmental cleanup costs, personal injury and property damage and fines and/or penalties. We maintain an amount of insurance protection that we consider adequate, but we cannot provide any assurance that our insurance will be sufficient or effective under all circumstances and against all hazards or liabilities to which we may be subject and, even if we do have insurance coverage for a particular circumstance, we may be subject to a large deductible and maximum cap. A successful claim for which we are not fully insured could hurt our financial results and materially harm our financial condition. Further, due to rising insurance costs and changes in the insurance markets, we cannot provide any assurance that our insurance coverage will continue to be available at all or at rates or on terms similar to those presently available. Any losses not covered by insurance could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

## Adverse economic conditions could adversely affect our wholesale power business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Adverse economic conditions and declines in wholesale energy prices, partially resulting from adverse economic conditions, may impact the results of our operations. The breadth and depth of negative economic conditions may have a wide-ranging impact on the U.S. business environment, including our wholesale power businesses. In addition, adverse economic conditions also reduce the demand for energy commodities. Reduced demand from negative economic conditions continues to impact the key domestic wholesale energy markets we serve. The combination of lower demand for power and increased supply of natural gas has put downward price pressure on wholesale energy markets in general, further impacting our energy marketing results. In general, economic and commodity market conditions will continue to impact our unhedged future energy margins, liquidity, earnings growth and overall financial condition. In addition, adverse economic conditions, declines in wholesale energy prices, reduced demand for power and other factors may negatively impact the value of our securities and impact forecasted cash flows, which may require us to evaluate its goodwill and other long-lived assets for impairment. Any such impairment could have a material impact on our financial statements.

#### Our use of hedging instruments could impact our liquidity.

We use various hedging instruments, including forwards, futures, financial transmission rights, and options, to manage our power market price risks. These hedging instruments generally include collateral requirements that require us to deposit funds or post letters of credit with counterparties when a counterparty's credit exposure to us is in excess of agreed upon credit limits. When commodity prices decrease to levels below the levels where we have hedged future costs, we may be required to use a material portion of our cash or liquidity facilities to cover these collateral requirements. Additionally, existing or new regulations related to the use of hedging instruments may impact our access to and use of hedging instruments.

## Financial, Tax and Accounting-Related Risks

## Future developments regarding the treatment of crypto assets for U.S. federal income and foreign tax purposes could adversely impact our business.

Due to the new and evolving nature of crypto assets and the absence of comprehensive legal guidance with respect to crypto asset products and transactions, many significant aspects of the U.S. federal income and foreign tax treatment of transactions involving crypto assets, such as Bitcoin and Ether, are uncertain, and it is unclear what guidance may be issued in the future on the treatment of crypto asset transactions, including mining, for U.S. federal income and foreign tax purposes. Current IRS guidance indicates that crypto assets such as Ether and Bitcoin should be treated and taxed as property, and that transactions involving the payment of Ether or Bitcoin for goods and services should be treated as barter transactions. While this treatment creates a potential tax reporting requirement for circumstances in which a Bitcoin passes from one person to another, usually by means of Bitcoin transactions (including off-blockchain transactions), it preserves the right to apply capital gains (as opposed to ordinary income) treatment to those transactions generally.

There can be no assurance that the IRS or other foreign tax authority will not alter its existing position with respect to crypto assets in the future or that a court would uphold the treatment of Bitcoin or Ether as property, rather than currency. Any such alteration of existing IRS and foreign tax authority positions or additional guidance regarding crypto asset products and transactions could result in adverse tax consequences for holders of digital

assets and could have an adverse effect on the value of crypto assets and the broader crypto assets markets. Future technological and operational developments that may arise with respect to crypto assets may increase the uncertainty of the treatment of crypto assets for U.S. federal income and foreign tax purposes. The uncertainty regarding the tax treatment of crypto asset transactions, as well as the potential promulgation of new U.S. federal income, state or foreign tax laws or guidance relating to crypto asset transactions, or changes to existing laws or guidance, could adversely impact the price of Bitcoin, Ether or other crypto assets, our business and the trading price of our Class A common stock.

Changes to applicable U.S. tax laws and regulations or exposure to additional income tax liabilities could affect our and Stronghold LLC's business and future profitability.

We have no material assets other than our equity interests in Stronghold LLC, which holds, directly or indirectly, all of the operating assets of our business. Stronghold LLC generally is not subject to U.S. federal income tax, but may be subject to certain U.S. state and local and non-U.S. taxes. We are a U.S. corporation that is subject to U.S. corporate income tax on our worldwide operations, including our share of income of Stronghold LLC. Moreover, our operations and customers are located in the United States, and as a result, we and Stronghold LLC are subject to various U.S. federal, state and local taxes. New U.S. laws and policy relating to taxes may have an adverse effect on us and our business and future profitability. Further, existing U.S. tax laws, statutes, rules, regulations or ordinances could be interpreted, changed, modified or applied adversely to us or Stronghold LLC.

For example, on December 22, 2017, legislation sometimes known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "TCJA"), was signed into law making significant changes to the Code, and certain provisions of the TCJA may adversely affect us or Stronghold LLC. In particular, sweeping changes were made to the U.S. taxation of foreign operations. Changes include, but are not limited to, a permanent reduction to the corporate income tax rate, limiting interest deductions, a reduction to the maximum deduction allowed for net operating losses generated in tax years after December 31, 2017, the elimination of carrybacks of net operating losses, adopting elements of a territorial tax system, assessing a repatriation tax or "toll-charge" on undistributed earnings and profits of U.S.-owned foreign corporations, and introducing certain anti-base erosion provisions, including a new minimum tax on global intangible low-taxed income and base erosion and anti-abuse tax. The TCJA could be subject to potential amendments and technical corrections, and is subject to interpretations and implementing regulations by the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"), any of which could mitigate or increase certain adverse effects of the legislation.

In addition to the impact of the TCJA on our U.S. federal income taxes, the TCJA may adversely affect the taxation of us or Stronghold LLC in other jurisdictions, including with respect to state income taxes as state legislatures may not have had sufficient time to respond to the TCJA. Accordingly, there is uncertainty as to how the laws will apply in various state jurisdictions. Additionally, other foreign governing bodies may enact changes to their tax laws in reaction to the TCJA that could result in changes to our global tax profile and materially adversely affect our business and future profitability.

President Joe Biden has set forth several tax proposals that would, if enacted, make significant changes to U.S. tax laws (including provisions enacted pursuant to the TCJA). Such proposals include, but are not limited to, (i) an increase in the U.S. income tax rate applicable to corporations (including us) from 21% to 28%, (ii) an increase in the maximum U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to individuals, (iii) a minimum book income tax on certain large corporations, (iv) the modification or replacement of the minimum tax on global intangible low-taxed income and base erosion and anti-abuse tax and (v) an increase in the U.S. federal income tax rate for long-term capital gain for certain taxpayers with income in excess of a threshold amount. Congress may consider, and could include, some or all of these proposals in connection with tax reform to be undertaken by the current administration. It is unclear whether these or similar changes will be enacted and, if enacted, how soon any such changes could take effect. The passage of any legislation as a result of these proposals and other similar changes in U.S. federal income tax laws could adversely affect our or Stronghold LLC's business and future profitability.

In the event our business expands internationally or domestically, including to jurisdictions in which tax laws may not be favorable, our and Stronghold LLC's obligations may change or fluctuate, become significantly more

complex or become subject to greater risk of examination by taxing authorities, any of which could adversely affect our or Stronghold LLC's after-tax profitability and financial results.

In the event our operating business expands domestically or internationally, our and Stronghold LLC's effective tax rates may fluctuate widely in the future. Future effective tax rates could be affected by operating losses in jurisdictions where no tax benefit can be recorded under U.S. GAAP, changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities, or changes in tax laws. Additionally, we may be subject to tax on more than one-hundred percent of our income and Stronghold LLC may be subject to tax on more than one-hundred percent of its income as a result of such income being subject to tax in multiple state, local or non-U.S. jurisdictions. Factors that could materially adversely affect our and Stronghold LLC's future effective tax rates include, but are not limited to: (a) changes in tax laws or the regulatory environment, (b) changes in accounting and tax standards or practices, (c) changes in the composition of operating income by tax jurisdiction and (d) pre-tax operating results of our business.

Additionally, we and Stronghold LLC may be subject to significant income, withholding and other tax obligations in the United States and may become subject to taxation in numerous additional state, local and non-U.S. jurisdictions with respect to income, operations and subsidiaries related to those jurisdictions. Our and Stronghold LLC's after-tax profitability and financial results could be subject to volatility or be affected by numerous factors, including (a) the availability of tax deductions, credits, exemptions, refunds and other benefits to reduce tax liabilities, (b) changes in the valuation of deferred tax assets and liabilities, if any, (c) the expected timing and amount of the release of any tax valuation allowances, (d) the tax treatment of stock-based compensation, (e) changes in the relative amount of earnings subject to tax in the various jurisdictions, (f) the potential business expansion into, or otherwise becoming subject to tax in, additional jurisdictions, (g) changes to existing intercompany structure (and any costs related thereto) and business operations, (h) the extent of intercompany transactions and the extent to which taxing authorities in relevant jurisdictions respect those intercompany transactions and (i) the ability to structure business operations in an efficient and competitive manner. Outcomes from audits or examinations by taxing authorities could have an adverse effect on our or Stronghold LLC's after-tax profitability and financial condition. Additionally, the IRS and several foreign tax authorities have increasingly focused attention on intercompany transfer pricing with respect to sales of products and services and the use of intangibles. Tax authorities could disagree with our or Stronghold LLC's intercompany charges, cross-jurisdictional transfer pricing or other matters and assess additional taxes. If we or Stronghold LLC, as applicable, do not prevail in any such disagreements, our profitability may be adversely affected.

Our or Stronghold LLC's after-tax profitability and financial results may also be adversely affected by changes in relevant tax laws and tax rates, treaties, regulations, administrative practices and principles, judicial decisions and interpretations thereof, in each case, possibly with retroactive effect.

#### Risks Relating to Us and our Organizational Structure

Q Power owns the majority of our voting stock and will have the right to appoint a majority of our board members, and its interests may conflict with those of other stockholders.

Q Power owns the majority of our voting stock and will initially appoint the majority of our board of directors. As a result, subject to certain approval rights of holders of our preferred stock included in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, Q Power will be able to substantially influence matters requiring our stockholder or board approval, including the election of directors, approval of any potential acquisition of us, changes to our organizational documents and significant corporate transactions, and certain decisions we make as the managing member of Stronghold LLC. This concentration of ownership makes it unlikely that any other holder or group of holders of our common stock or any holder or group of holders of our preferred stock will be able to affect the way we and Stronghold LLC are managed or the direction of our business. The interests of Q Power with respect to matters potentially or actually involving or affecting us, such as future acquisitions, financings and other corporate opportunities and attempts to acquire us, may conflict with the interests of our other stockholders.

For example, Q Power may have different tax positions from us, especially in light of the Tax Receivable Agreement, that could influence its decisions regarding whether and when to support the disposition of assets, the incurrence or refinancing of new or existing indebtedness, the timing or amount of distributions by Stronghold LLC, or the termination of the Tax Receivable Agreement and acceleration of our obligations thereunder. In addition, the determination of future tax reporting positions, the structuring of future transactions and the handling of any

challenge by any taxing authority to our tax reporting positions may take into consideration tax or other considerations of Q Power, including the effect of such positions on our obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement and with respect to the amount of tax distributions, which may differ from the considerations of us or other stockholders. These decisions could adversely affect our liquidity or financial condition.

We are a holding company whose sole material asset is our equity interests in Stronghold LLC; accordingly, we will be dependent upon distributions from Stronghold LLC to pay taxes, make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement and cover our corporate and other overhead expenses.

We are a holding company and we have no material assets other than our equity interests in Stronghold LLC and no independent means of generating revenue or cash flow. To the extent Stronghold LLC has available cash and subject to the terms of any current or future debt instruments, the Stronghold LLC Agreement requires Stronghold LLC to make *pro rata* cash distributions to holders of Stronghold LLC Units, in an amount sufficient to allow us to pay our taxes and to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement. We generally expect Stronghold LLC to fund such distributions out of available cash, and if payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement are accelerated, we generally expect to fund such accelerated payment out of the proceeds of the change of control transaction giving rise to such acceleration. When Stronghold LLC makes regular distributions, the holders of Stronghold LLC Units are entitled to receive proportionate distributions based on their interests in Stronghold LLC at the time of such distribution. In addition, the Stronghold LLC Agreement requires Stronghold LLC to make non-*pro rata* payments to us to reimburse us for our corporate and other overhead expenses, which payments are not treated as distributions under the Stronghold LLC Agreement. To the extent that we need funds and Stronghold LLC or its subsidiaries do not have sufficient funds, or are restricted from making such distributions or payments under applicable law or regulation or under the terms of any current or future financing arrangements, or are otherwise unable to provide such funds, our liquidity and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

Moreover, because we will have no independent means of generating revenue, our ability to make tax payments and payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement is dependent on the ability of Stronghold LLC to make distributions to us in an amount sufficient to cover our tax obligations and obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement. This ability, in turn, may depend on the ability of Stronghold LLC's subsidiaries to make distributions to it. The ability of Stronghold LLC, its subsidiaries and other entities in which it directly or indirectly holds an equity interest to make such distributions will be subject to, among other things, (i) the applicable provisions of Delaware law (or other applicable jurisdiction) that may limit the amount of funds available for distribution and (ii) restrictions in relevant debt instruments issued by Stronghold LLC or its subsidiaries and other entities in which it directly or indirectly holds an equity interest. To the extent that we are unable to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement for any reason, such payments will be deferred and will accrue interest until paid.

We are required to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement for certain tax benefits that we may claim, and the amounts of such payments could be significant.

We entered into a Tax Receivable Agreement on April 1, 2021 with Q Power and an agent named by Q Power. This agreement generally provides for the payment by us to Q Power (or its permitted assignees) of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income tax and franchise tax (computed using simplifying assumptions to address the impact of state and local taxes) that we actually realize (or are deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of certain increases in tax basis available to us as a result of this or prior offerings, the acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right and payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement, and certain benefits attributable to imputed interest. We will retain the remaining net cash savings, if any.

The term of the Tax Receivable Agreement commenced on April 1, 2021 and will continue until all tax benefits that are subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement have been utilized or expired, and all required payments are made, unless we exercise our right to terminate the Tax Receivable Agreement (or the Tax Receivable Agreement is terminated due to other circumstances, including our breach of a material obligation thereunder or certain mergers or other changes of control), in which case we will make the termination payment specified in the Tax Receivable Agreement. In addition, payments we make under the Tax Receivable Agreement will be increased by any interest accrued from the due date (without extensions) of the corresponding tax return.

The payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement are our obligations and not obligations of Stronghold LLC, and we expect that the payments we will be required to make under the Tax Receivable Agreement will be substantial. Estimating the amount and timing of our realization of tax benefits subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement is by its nature imprecise. The actual increases in tax basis covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement, as well as the amount and timing of our ability to use any deductions (or decreases in gain or increases in loss) arising from such increases in tax basis, are dependent upon future events, including but not limited to the timing of redemptions of Stronghold LLC Units, the value of our common stock at the time of each redemption, the extent to which such redemptions are taxable transactions, the amount of the redeeming member's tax basis in its Stronghold LLC Units at the time of the relevant redemption, the depreciation and amortization periods that apply to the increase in tax basis, the amount, character, and timing of taxable income we generate in the future, the timing and amount of any earlier payments that we may have made under the Tax Receivable Agreement, the U.S. federal income tax rate then applicable, and the portion of our payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement that constitute imputed interest or give rise to depreciable or amortizable tax basis. Accordingly, estimating the amount and timing of payments that may become due under the Tax Receivable Agreement is also by its nature imprecise. For purposes of the Tax Receivable Agreement, net cash savings in tax generally are calculated by comparing our actual tax liability (determined by using the actual applicable U.S. federal income tax rate and an assumed combined state and local income tax rate) to the amount we would have been required to pay had we not been able to utilize any of the tax benefits subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement. Thus, the amount and timing of any payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement are also dependent upon significant future events, including those noted above in respect of estimating the amount and timing of our realization of tax benefits. Any distributions made by Stronghold LLC to us to enable us to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement, as well as any corresponding pro rata distributions made to the other holders of Stronghold LLC Units, could have an adverse impact on our liquidity.

Payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement are not conditioned upon a holder of rights under the Tax Receivable Agreement having an ownership interest in us or Stronghold LLC. In addition, certain rights of the holders of Stronghold LLC Units (including the right to receive payments) under the Tax Receivable Agreement are transferable in connection with transfers permitted under the Stronghold LLC Agreement of the corresponding Stronghold LLC Units or after the corresponding Stronghold LLC Units have been acquired pursuant to the Redemption Right or Call Right. For additional information regarding the Tax Receivable Agreement, see "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement."

In certain cases, payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement may be accelerated and/or significantly exceed the actual benefits, if any, we realize in respect of the tax attributes subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement.

If we experience a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which includes certain mergers, asset sales and other forms of business combinations, but generally would not include an initial public offering or combination with a special purpose acquisition company (a "SPAC")) or the Tax Receivable Agreement terminates early (at our election or as a result of our breach), we would be required to make an immediate payment equal to the present value of the anticipated future payments to be made by us under the Tax Receivable Agreement (determined by applying a discount rate equal to one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points) and such early termination payment is expected to be substantial and may exceed the future tax benefits realized by Stronghold Inc. The calculation of anticipated future payments will be based upon certain assumptions and deemed events set forth in the Tax Receivable Agreement, including (i) that we have sufficient taxable income on a current basis to fully utilize the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement, and (ii) that any Stronghold LLC Units (other than those held by us) outstanding on the termination date or change of control date, as applicable, are deemed to be redeemed on such date. Any early termination payment may be made significantly in advance of, and may materially exceed, the actual realization, if any, of the future tax benefits to which the early termination payment relates.

If we experience a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement) or the Tax Receivable Agreement otherwise terminates early (at our election or as a result of our breach), our obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement could have a substantial negative impact on our liquidity and could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing certain mergers, asset sales, or other forms of business combinations or changes of control. If our obligation to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement is accelerated as a result of a change of control, we generally expect the accelerated payments due under the Tax Receivable Agreement to be

funded out of the proceeds of the change of control transaction giving rise to such acceleration. However, we may be required to fund such payment from other sources, and as a result, any early termination of the Tax Receivable Agreement could have a substantial negative impact on our liquidity. We do not currently expect to cause an acceleration due to our breach, and we do not currently expect that we will elect to terminate the Tax Receivable Agreement early, except in cases where the early termination payment would not be material. There can be no assurance that we will be able to meet our obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Please read "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement."

If our payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement are accelerated upon certain mergers, other forms of business combinations or other changes of control, the consideration payable to holders of our common stock could be substantially reduced.

If we experience a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which includes certain mergers, asset sales and other forms of business combinations, but generally would not include an initial public offering or a combination with a SPAC), then our obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement would be based upon certain assumptions and deemed events set forth in the Tax Receivable Agreement, and in such situations, payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement may be significantly in advance of, and may materially exceed, the actual realization, if any, of the future tax benefits to which the payment relates. As a result of our payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement, holders of our common stock could receive substantially less consideration in connection with a change of control transaction than they would receive in the absence of such obligation. Further, our payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement are not conditioned upon holders of Stronghold LLC Units having a continued interest in us or Stronghold LLC. Accordingly, the interests of the holders of Stronghold LLC Units may conflict with those of the holders of our common stock.

#### We will not be reimbursed for any payments made under the Tax Receivable Agreement in the event that any tax benefits are subsequently disallowed.

Payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement will be based on the tax reporting positions that we will determine, and the IRS or another tax authority may challenge all or part of the tax basis increases upon which payment under the Tax Receivable Agreement are based, as well as other related tax positions we take, and a court could sustain such challenge. The holders of Stronghold LLC Units will not reimburse us for any payments previously made under the Tax Receivable Agreement if any tax benefits that have given rise to payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement are subsequently disallowed, except that excess payments made to any holder of Stronghold LLC Units will be netted against future payments that would otherwise be made to such holder of Stronghold LLC Units, if any, after our determination of such excess (which determination may be made a number of years following the initial payment and after future payments have been made). As a result, in such circumstances, we could make payments that are much greater than our actual cash tax savings, if any, and may not be able to recoup those payments, which could materially adversely affect our liquidity.

If Stronghold LLC were to become a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, we and Stronghold LLC might be subject to potentially significant tax inefficiencies, and we would not be able to recover payments previously made by us under the Tax Receivable Agreement even if the corresponding tax benefits were subsequently determined to have been unavailable due to such status.

We intend to operate such that Stronghold LLC does not become a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. A "publicly traded partnership" is a partnership the interests of which are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof. Under certain circumstances, redemptions of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right (or the Call Right) or other transfers of Stronghold LLC Units could cause Stronghold LLC to be treated as a publicly traded partnership. Applicable U.S. Treasury regulations provide for certain safe harbors from treatment as a publicly traded partnership, and we intend to operate such that redemptions or other transfers of Stronghold LLC Units qualify for one or more such safe harbors. For example, we intend to limit the number of holders of Stronghold LLC Units, and the Stronghold LLC Agreement provides for limitations on the ability of holders of Stronghold LLC Units to transfer their Stronghold LLC Units and provides us, as the managing member of Stronghold LLC, with the right to impose restrictions (in addition to those already in place) on the ability of holders of Stronghold LLC Units to redeem their Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right (or Call Right) to

the extent we believe it is necessary to ensure that Stronghold LLC will continue to be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

If Stronghold LLC were to become a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, significant tax inefficiencies might result for us and Stronghold LLC, including as a result of our inability to file a consolidated U.S. federal income tax return with Stronghold LLC. In such case, we might not be able to realize tax benefits covered under the Tax Receivable Agreement, and we would not be able to recover any payments we previously made under the Tax Receivable Agreement, even if the corresponding tax benefits (including any claimed increase in the tax basis of Stronghold LLC's assets) were subsequently determined to have been unavailable.

Unanticipated changes in effective tax rates or adverse outcomes resulting from examination of our income or other tax returns could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

We may be subject to taxes by the U.S. federal, state, and local tax authorities and our future effective tax rates could be subject to volatility or adversely affected by a number of factors, including:

- changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities;
- expected timing and amount of the release of any tax valuation allowances;
- · tax effects of stock-based compensation; or
- changes in tax laws, regulations or interpretations thereof.

In addition, we may be subject to audits of our income, sales and other transaction taxes by U.S. federal, state, and local taxing authorities. Outcomes from these audits could have an adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

## Risks Related to this Offering and Our Class A Common Stock

The requirements of being a public company, including compliance with the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, and the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, may strain our resources, increase our costs and distract management, and we may be unable to comply with these requirements in a timely or cost-effective manner.

As a public company, we will need to comply with new laws, regulations and requirements, certain corporate governance provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, related regulations of the SEC and the requirements of The Nasdaq Stock Market (the "Nasdaq"), with which we are not required to comply as a private company. Complying with these statutes, regulations and requirements will occupy a significant amount of time of our board of directors and management and will significantly increase our costs and expenses. We will need to:

- institute a more comprehensive compliance function;
- comply with rules promulgated by Nasdaq;
- prepare and distribute periodic public reports in compliance with our obligations under the federal securities laws;
- accurately implement and interpret GAAP;
- establish new internal policies, such as those relating to insider trading; and
- involve and retain to a greater degree outside counsel and accountants in the above activities.

Upon becoming a public company, we will be required to comply with the SEC's rules implementing Sections 302 and 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which will require management to certify financial and other information in our quarterly and annual reports and provide an annual management report on the effectiveness of internal controls

over financial reporting. Although we will be required to disclose changes made in our internal controls and procedures on a quarterly basis, we will not be required to make our first annual assessment of our internal controls over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 until the year following our first annual report required to be filed with the SEC. Additionally, we are not required to have our independent registered public accounting firm attest to the effectiveness of our internal controls until our first annual report subsequent to our ceasing to be an "emerging growth company" within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the Securities Act. Accordingly, we may not be required to have our independent registered public accounting firm attest to the effectiveness of our internal controls until as late as our annual report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2026. Once it is required to do so, our independent registered public accounting firm may issue a report that is adverse in the event it is not satisfied with the level at which our controls are documented, designed, operated or reviewed. Compliance with these requirements may strain our resources, increase our costs and distract management, and we may be unable to comply with these requirements in a timely or cost-effective manner.

In addition, we expect that being a public company subject to these rules and regulations may make it more difficult and more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance and we may be required to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the same or similar coverage. As a result, it may be more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve on our board of directors or as executive officers. We are currently evaluating these rules, and we cannot predict or estimate the amount of additional costs we may incur or the timing of such costs.

If we experience any material weaknesses in the future or otherwise fail to develop or maintain an effective system of internal controls in the future, we may not be able to accurately report our financial condition or results of operations, which may adversely affect investor confidence in us and, as a result, the value of our Class A common stock.

Effective internal controls are necessary for us to provide reliable financial reports, prevent fraud and operate successfully as a public company. If we cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, our reputation and operating results would be harmed. As a result of being a public company, we will be required, under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, to furnish a report by management on, among other things, the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting beginning in the year following our first annual report required to be filed with the SEC. This assessment will need to include disclosure of any material weaknesses identified by our management in our internal control over financial reporting. We will take steps to improve control processes as appropriate, validate through testing that controls are functioning as documented, and implement a continuous reporting and improvement process for our internal control over financial reporting. If we identify one or more material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting during the evaluation and testing process, we may be unable to conclude that our internal controls are effective.

Additionally, when we cease to be an "emerging growth company" under the federal securities laws, our independent registered public accounting firm may be required to express an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal controls. If we are unable to confirm that our internal control over financial reporting is effective, or if our independent registered public accounting firm is unable to express an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of our internal controls, we could lose investor confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports, which could cause the price of our Class A common stock to decline.

The initial public offering price of our Class A common stock may not be indicative of the market price of our Class A common stock after this offering. In addition, an active, liquid and orderly trading market for our Class A common stock may not develop or be maintained, and our stock price may be volatile.

Prior to this offering, our Class A common stock was not traded on any market. An active, liquid and orderly trading market for our Class A common stock may not develop or be maintained after this offering. Active, liquid and orderly trading markets usually result in less price volatility and more efficiency in carrying out investors' purchase and sale orders. The market price of our Class A common stock could vary significantly as a result of a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control. In the event of a drop in the market price of our Class A common stock, you could lose a substantial part or all of your investment in our Class A common stock. The initial public offering price will be negotiated between us and representatives of the underwriters, based on numerous factors which we discuss in "Underwriting," and may not be indicative of the market price of our Class A common

stock after this offering. Consequently, you may not be able to sell shares of our Class A common stock at prices equal to or greater than the price paid by you in this offering.

The following factors could affect our stock price:

- quarterly variations in our financial and operating results;
- the public reaction to our press releases, our other public announcements and our filings with the SEC;
- strategic actions by our competitors;
- changes in revenue or earnings estimates, or changes in recommendations or withdrawal of research coverage, by equity research analysts;
- failure to obtain additional plants or miners;
- the failure of our operating results to meet the expectations of equity research analysts and investors;
- the failure of research analysts to cover our Class A common stock;
- sales of our Class A common stock by us or other stockholders, or the perception that such sales may occur;
- changes in accounting principles, policies, guidance, interpretations or standards;
- additions or departures of key management personnel;
- general market conditions, including fluctuations in commodity prices or price of Bitcoins and other crypto assets;
- regulatory changes or actions may alter the nature of an investment in us or our business;
- domestic and international economic, legal and regulatory factors unrelated to our performance; and
- the realization of any risks described under this "Risk Factors" section.

The stock markets in general have experienced extreme volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our Class A common stock. Securities class action litigation has often been instituted against companies following periods of volatility in the overall market and in the market price of a company's securities. Such litigation, if instituted against us, could result in very substantial costs, divert our management's attention and resources and materially harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

#### The Legacy Owners will own a significant amount of our voting stock, and their interests may conflict with those of our other stockholders.

Upon completion of this offering and taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion, the Legacy Owners will own approximately % of our voting stock (or approximately % if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full), assuming no purchases by any of our affiliates in our directed share program. As a result, the Legacy Owners may be able to influence matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors, approval of any potential acquisition of us, changes to our organizational documents and significant corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership makes it unlikely that any other holder or group of holders of our Class A common stock will be able to affect the way we are managed or the direction of our business. The interests of the Legacy Owners with respect to matters potentially or actually involving or affecting us, such as future acquisitions, financings and other corporate opportunities and attempts to acquire us, may conflict with the interests of our other stockholders.

For example, certain of the Legacy Owners may have different tax positions from us, especially in light of the Tax Receivable Agreement, that could influence their decisions regarding whether and when to support the disposition of assets, the incurrence or refinancing of new or existing indebtedness, or the termination of the Tax Receivable Agreement and acceleration of our obligations thereunder. In addition, the determination of future tax reporting positions, the structuring of future transactions and the handling of any challenge by any taxing authority to our tax reporting positions may take into consideration the Legacy Owners' tax or other considerations which may differ from the considerations of us or our other stockholders. Please read "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement."

Certain of our executive officers and directors have significant duties with, and spend significant time serving, entities that may compete with us in seeking business opportunities and, accordingly, may have conflicts of interest in allocating time or pursuing business opportunities.

Certain of our executive officers and directors, who are responsible for managing the direction of our operations, hold positions of responsibility with other entities (including affiliated entities). These executive officers and directors may become aware of business opportunities that may be appropriate for presentation to us as well as to the other entities with which they are or may become affiliated. Due to these existing and potential future affiliations, they may present potential business opportunities to other entities prior to presenting them to us, which could cause additional conflicts of interest. They may also decide that certain opportunities are more appropriate for other entities with which they are affiliated, and as a result, they may elect not to present those opportunities to us. These conflicts may not be resolved in our favor. For additional discussion of our management's business affiliations and the potential conflicts of interest of which our stockholders should be aware, see "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions."

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws, as well as Delaware law, contain provisions that could discourage acquisition bids or merger proposals, which may adversely affect the market price of our Class A common stock and could deprive our investors of the opportunity to receive a premium for their shares.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes our board of directors to issue preferred stock without stockholder approval in one or more series, designate the number of shares constituting any series, and fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions thereof, including dividend rights, voting rights, rights and terms of redemption, redemption price or prices and liquidation preferences of such series. If our board of directors elects to issue preferred stock, it could be more difficult for a third party to acquire us. In addition, some provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us, even if the change of control would be beneficial to our stockholders. These provisions include:

- providing that all vacancies, including newly created directorships, may, except as otherwise required by law or, if applicable, the rights of holders of a series of preferred stock, only be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum;
- permitting special meetings of our stockholders to be called only by our Chief Executive Officer, the chairman (or any co-chairman) of our board of directors, the President or by a majority of the board of directors, or by a majority of the executive committee (if any), called by the chairman (or any co-chairman) of our board of directors, by our Chief Executive Officer, the President or the Secretary upon written request, in each case with written notice stating the purposes of such meeting, delivered to such office and signed by the holder(s) of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the issued and outstanding stock entitled to vote at such meeting;
- prohibiting cumulative voting in the election of directors;
- providing that the board of directors is expressly authorized to adopt, or to alter or repeal our bylaws.

In addition, certain change of control events have the effect of accelerating the payment due under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which could be substantial and accordingly serve as a disincentive to a potential acquirer of our company. Please see "—Risks Relating to Us and our Organizational Structure—In certain cases, payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement may be accelerated and/or significantly exceed the actual benefits, if any, we realize in respect of the tax attributes subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement."

#### Investors in this offering will experience immediate and substantial dilution of \$ per share.

Based on the initial public offering price of \$ per share (the midpoint of the range set forth on the cover of this prospectus), purchasers of our Class A common stock in this offering will experience an immediate and substantial dilution of \$ per share in the as adjusted net tangible book value per share of Class A common stock from the initial public offering price, and our pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value as of December 31, 2020 after giving effect to this offering would be \$ per share. If the initial public offering price were to increase or decrease by \$1.00 per share, then dilution in pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering would equal \$ or \$ , respectively. This dilution is due to, among other things, earlier investors having paid less than the initial public offering price when they purchased their shares. See "Dilution."

We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our Class A common stock. Consequently, your only opportunity to achieve a return on your investment is if the price of our Class A common stock appreciates.

We do not plan to declare cash dividends on shares of our Class A common stock in the foreseeable future. Any future credit agreements or financing arrangements may also contain restrictions on our ability to pay cash dividends. Consequently, your only opportunity, while such dividend restrictions remain in place, to achieve a return on your investment in us may be to sell your Class A common stock at a price greater than you paid for it. There is no guarantee that the price of our Class A common stock that will prevail in the market will ever exceed the price that you pay in this offering.

Future sales of our Class A common stock in the public market, or the perception that such sales may occur, could reduce our stock price, and any additional capital raised by us through the sale of equity or convertible securities may dilute your ownership in us.

We may sell additional shares of Class A common stock in subsequent public offerings. We may also issue additional shares of Class A common stock or convertible securities. After the completion of this offering and taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion, we will have outstanding shares of Class A common stock (or shares of Class A common stock if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full). This number includes shares of Class A common stock that may be issued as part of the Preferred Stock Conversion, shares that we are selling in this offering, and shares that we may sell in this offering if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is fully exercised, which may be resold immediately in the public market. Following the completion of this offering, and assuming full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares, the Legacy Owners will own shares of our Class A common stock and shares of our Class V common stock, or approximately of our total voting stock outstanding.

In connection with this offering, we intend to file a registration statement with the SEC on Form S-8 providing for the registration of shares of our Class A common stock issued or reserved for issuance under our long term incentive plan. Subject to the satisfaction of vesting conditions, the expiration of lock-up agreements and the requirements of Rule 144, shares registered under the registration statement on Form S-8 may be made available for resale immediately in the public market without restriction.

We cannot predict the size of future issuances of our Class A common stock or securities convertible into Class A common stock or the effect, if any, that future issuances and sales of shares of our Class A common stock will have on the market price of our Class A common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of our Class A common stock (including shares issued in connection with an acquisition), or the perception that such sales could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices of our Class A common stock.

The underwriters of this offering may waive or release parties to the lock-up agreements entered into in connection with this offering, which could adversely affect the price of our Class A common stock.

We, all of our directors that will own equity in us following the completion of this offering, all of our executive officers and certain of the Legacy Owners have entered or will enter into lock-up agreements pursuant to which we and they will be subject to certain restrictions with respect to the sale or other disposition of our Class A common stock for a period of 180 days following the date of this prospectus. The underwriters, at any time and without

notice, may release all or any portion of the Class A common stock subject to the foregoing lock-up agreements. See "Underwriting" for more information on these agreements. If the restrictions under the lock-up agreements are waived, then the Class A common stock, subject to compliance with the Securities Act or exceptions therefrom, will be available for sale into the public markets, which could cause the market price of our Class A common stock to decline and impair our ability to raise capital.

## We may issue preferred stock whose terms could adversely affect the voting power or value of our Class A common stock.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes us to issue, without the approval of our stockholders, one or more classes or series of preferred stock having such designations, preferences, limitations and relative rights, including preferences over our Class A common stock respecting dividends and distributions, as our board of directors may determine. The terms of one or more classes or series of preferred stock could adversely impact the voting power or value of our Class A common stock. For example, we might grant holders of preferred stock the right to elect some number of our directors in all events or on the happening of specified events or the right to veto specified transactions. Similarly, the repurchase or redemption rights or liquidation preferences we might assign to holders of preferred stock could affect the residual value of the Class A common stock.

For as long as we are an emerging growth company, we will not be required to comply with certain reporting requirements, including those relating to accounting standards and disclosure about our executive compensation, that apply to other public companies.

We are classified as an "emerging growth company" under the JOBS Act. For as long as we are an emerging growth company, which may be up to five full fiscal years, unlike other public companies, we will not be required to, among other things: (i) provide an auditor's attestation report on management's assessment of the effectiveness of our system of internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; (ii) comply with any new requirements adopted by the PCAOB requiring mandatory audit firm rotation or a supplement to the auditor's report in which the auditor would be required to provide additional information about the audit and the financial statements of the issuer; (iii) provide certain disclosures regarding executive compensation required of larger public companies; or (iv) hold nonbinding advisory votes on executive compensation. We will remain an emerging growth company for up to five years, although we will lose that status sooner if we have more than \$1.07 billion of revenues in a fiscal year, have more than \$700.0 million in market value of our Class A common stock held by non-affiliates, or issue more than \$1.0 billion of non-convertible debt over a three-year period.

To the extent that we rely on any of the exemptions available to emerging growth companies, you will receive less information about our executive compensation and internal control over financial reporting than issuers that are not emerging growth companies. Additionally, we intend to take advantage of the extended transition periods for the adoption of new or revised financial accounting standards under the JOBS Act until we are no longer an emerging growth company. Our election to use the transition periods permitted by this election may make it difficult to compare our financial statements to those of non-emerging growth companies and other emerging growth companies that have opted out of the extended transition periods permitted under the JOBS Act and who will comply with new or revised financial accounting standards.

Additionally, we are a "smaller reporting company" as defined in Item 10(f)(1) of Regulation S-K. Smaller reporting companies may take advantage of certain reduced disclosure obligations, including, among other things, providing only two years of audited financial statements. We will remain a smaller reporting company until the last day of the fiscal year in which (1) the market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates equals or exceeds \$250 million as of the end of that fiscal year's second fiscal quarter, and (2) our annual revenues exceeded \$100 million during such completed fiscal year and the market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of the end of that fiscal year's second fiscal quarter. To the extent we take advantage of such reduced disclosure obligations, it may also make comparison of our financial statements with other public companies difficult or impossible

If some investors find our Class A common stock to be less attractive as a result, there may be a less active trading market for our Class A common stock and our stock price may be more volatile.

If securities or industry analysts do not publish research or reports about our business, if they adversely change their recommendations regarding our Class A common stock or if our operating results do not meet their expectations, our stock price could decline.

The trading market for our Class A common stock will be influenced by the research and reports that industry or securities analysts publish about us or our business. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to publish reports on us regularly, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline. Moreover, if one or more of the analysts who cover our company downgrades our Class A common stock or if our operating results do not meet their expectations, our stock price could decline.

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The information in this prospectus includes "forward-looking statements." All statements, other than statements of historical fact included in this prospectus, regarding our strategy, future operations, financial position, estimated revenues and losses, projected costs, prospects, plans and objectives of management are forward-looking statements. When used in this prospectus, the words "could," "believe," "anticipate," "intend," "estimate," "expect," "project" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain such identifying words. These forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and assumptions about future events and are based on currently available information as to the outcome and timing of future events. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements described under the heading "Risk Factors," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Business" included in this prospectus. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current belief, based on currently available information, as to the outcome and timing of future events.

Forward-looking statements may include statements about:

- the hybrid nature of our business model, which is highly dependent on the price of Bitcoin;
- our dependence on the level of demand and financial performance of the crypto asset industry;
- our ability to manage growth, business, financial results and results of operations;
- uncertainty regarding our evolving business model;
- · our ability to raise capital to fund business growth;
- our ability to retain management and key personnel;
- our ability to enter into purchase agreements and acquisitions;
- our ability to maintain our relationships with our third party brokers and our dependence on their performance;
- public health crises, epidemics, and pandemics such as the COVID-19 pandemic;
- our ability to procure crypto asset mining equipment from foreign-based suppliers;
- developments and changes in laws and regulations, including increased regulation of the crypto asset industry through legislative action and revised rules and standards applied by The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network under the authority of the U.S. Bank Secrecy Act and the Investment Company Act;
- the future acceptance and/or widespread use of, and demand for, Bitcoin and other crypto assets;
- our ability to respond to price fluctuations and rapidly changing technology;
- our ability to operate our coal refuse power generation facilities as planned;
- our ability to avail ourselves of tax credits for the clean-up of coal refuse piles; and
- legislative or regulatory changes, and liability under, or any future inability to comply with, existing or future energy regulations or requirements.

We caution you that these forward-looking statements are subject to all of the risks and uncertainties, most of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond our control. These risks include, but are not limited to, decline in demand for our products and services, the seasonality and volatility of the crypto asset industry, our acquisition strategies, the inability to comply with developments and changes in regulation, cash flow and access to

capital, maintenance of third party relationships, the COVID-19 pandemic and the other risks described under "Risk Factors" in this prospectus.

Should one or more of the risks or uncertainties described in this prospectus occur, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results and plans could differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements, expressed or implied, included in this prospectus are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. This cautionary statement should also be considered in connection with any subsequent written or oral forward-looking statements that we or persons acting on our behalf may issue.

Any forward-looking statement that we make in this prospectus speaks only as of the date of such statement. Except as otherwise required by applicable law, we disclaim any duty to update any forward-looking statements, all of which are expressly qualified by the statements in this section, to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$\frac{1}{2}\$ million, assuming an initial public offering price of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per share (based on the midpoint of the price range set forth on the cover of this prospectus) and after deducting estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses of approximately \$\frac{1}{2}\$ million, in the aggregate. If the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares of Class A common stock, we expect to receive approximately \$\frac{1}{2}\$ million of net proceeds.

We intend to contribute all of the net proceeds from this offering to Stronghold LLC in exchange for Stronghold LLC Units. Stronghold LLC will use such contribution amount for general corporate purposes, including acquisitions of miners and power generating assets and to pay the expenses of this offering.

A \$1.00 increase or decrease in the assumed initial public offering price of \$ per share would cause the net proceeds from this offering, after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses received by us to increase or decrease, respectively, by approximately \$ million, assuming the number of shares offered by us as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus remains the same. An increase or decrease of shares offered by us at an assumed offering price of \$ per share would cause the net proceeds from this offering after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses received by us to increase or decrease, respectively, by approximately \$ million. Any increase or decrease in proceeds due to a change in the initial public offering price or number of shares issued would increase or decrease, respectively, the amount of net proceeds contributed to Stronghold LLC to be used by it for acquisitions and general corporate purposes.

If the proceeds increase due to a higher initial public offering price or due to the issuance of additional shares by us, we would contribute the additional net proceeds received by us to Stronghold LLC in exchange for Stronghold LLC Units. Stronghold LLC intends to use the additional net proceeds for general corporate purposes. If the proceeds decrease due to a lower initial public offering price or a decrease in the number of shares issued by us, then we would decrease the amount of net proceeds contributed to Stronghold LLC and Stronghold LLC would reduce by a corresponding amount the net proceeds directed for general corporate purposes.

## DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never paid any cash dividends on our Class A common stock. Holders of our Class V common stock are not entitled to participate in any dividends declared by our board of directors. Our future dividend policy is within the discretion of our board of directors and will depend upon then-existing conditions, including our results of operations, financial condition, leverage or other financial ratios, capital requirements, investment opportunities, statutory restrictions on our ability to pay dividends and other factors our board of directors may deem relevant. Our ability to pay cash dividends may also be restricted by the terms of any future credit agreement or any future debt or preferred equity securities that we or our subsidiaries may issue.

#### **CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents and capitalization as of December 31, 2020:

- of our accounting predecessor and its subsidiaries on an actual basis;
- of Stronghold Inc. on an as adjusted basis after giving effect to the Reorganization and the Private Placements; and
- of Stronghold Inc. on an as further adjusted basis after giving effect to (i) the sale of shares of our Class A common stock in this offering at the initial offering price of \$ per share (the midpoint of the range set forth on the cover of this prospectus), after deducting the estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, (ii) the application of the net proceeds from this offering as set forth under "Use of Proceeds," and (iii) the Preferred Stock Conversion.

You should read the following table in conjunction with "Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Information," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," "Corporate Reorganization," "Use of Proceeds" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

	As of December 31, 2020			
	Accounting Predecessors Actual(1)	Stronghold Inc. As Adjusted	Stronghold Inc. As Further Adjusted(2)	
Cash and cash equivalents	303,187	76,803,187(3)(4)	(5)	
Current Liabilities:				
Current portion of long-term debt	449,447	449,447		
Related-party notes	2,024,250	2,024,250		
Due to related parties	698,338	698,338		
Long-Term liabilities				
Long-term debt	482,443	482,443		
Economic Injury Disaster Loan	150,000	150,000		
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	638,800	638,800		
Total debt	4,443,278	4,443,278		
Mezzanine Equity Series A redeemable convertible preferred stock at redemption value, \$.0001 par value; 3,600,000 shares issued (as adjusted) Series B redeemable convertible preferred stock at redemption value,		90,000,000		
\$.0001 par value; shares issued (as adjusted)				
Stockholders' / Partners' Capital (Deficit): General Partners	(2.710.217)			
	(2,710,317)	<del>-</del>		
Limited Partners  Common Stock - Class A, \$.0001 par value; 238,000,000 shares authorized and 11,600,000 shares issued (as adjusted); shares authorized and shares issued (as further adjusted)	(1,336,784)	_		
Common Stock - Class V, \$.0001 par value; 12,000,000 shares authorized and 9,400,000 shares issued (as adjusted and as further adjusted) Additional paid-in capital	_	940		
Retained earnings (deficit)	0	(16,194,016)		
Non-controlling interests (6)		(1,354,025)		
Total equity Total capitalization	(4,047,101) (4,047,101)	72,452,899 72,452,899		

<sup>(1)</sup> Stronghold Inc. was incorporated on March 19, 2021. The data in this table has been derived from the historical consolidated financial statements included in this prospectus which pertain to the assets, liabilities and expenses of our accounting predecessor.

A \$1.00 increase or decrease in the assumed initial public offering price of \$ per share would increase or decrease total equity and total capitalization by approximately \$ million, assuming that the number of shares offered by us, as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus, remains the same after deducting the estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We may also increase or decrease the number of shares we are offering. An increase or decrease of shares offered by us at an assumed offering price of \$ per share

would increase or decrease total equity and total capitalization by approximately \$ commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

- million after deducting the estimated underwriting discounts and
- (3) Reflects \$85 million in proceeds from the Series A Private Placement net of approximately \$6.0 million in expenses.
- (4) Reflects \$2.5 million paid in expenses in connection with the completion of the Reorganization.
- (5) Reflects \$ million in proceeds from this offering net of approximately \$ million in expenses.
- (6) On a pro forma basis, includes the membership interests not owned by us, which represents % of Stronghold LLC's outstanding units. Q Power will hold a % non-controlling interest in Stronghold LLC. Stronghold Inc. will hold % of the economic interests in Stronghold LLC and Q Power will hold % of the economic interests in Stronghold LLC.

## **DILUTION**

Purchasers of the Class A common stock in this offering will experience immediate and substantial dilution in the net tangit of the Class A common stock for accounting purposes. Our net tangible book value as of December 31, 2020, after giving pro for transactions described under "Corporate Reorganization," was approximately \$\frac{1}{2}\$ million, or \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per share of Class forma net tangible book value per share is determined by dividing our pro forma tangible net worth (tangible assets less total liab of outstanding shares of Class A common stock that will be outstanding immediately prior to the closing of this offering but giving Reorganization and the Preferred Stock Conversion. After giving effect to the sale of the shares in this offering, at the assumed in of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per share, the midpoint of the price range set forth on the cover page of this prospectus, and further assuming the reproceeds of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ million (after deducting estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expension proceeds as described in "Use of Proceeds"), our as adjusted pro forma net tangible book value as of December 31, 2020 we approximately \$\frac{1}{2}\$ million, or \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per share. This represents an immediate decrease in the net tangible book value to the Legacy Owners and an immediate dilution (i.e., the difference between the offering price and the as adjusted pro forma net this offering) to new investors purchasing shares in this offering of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ per share. The following table illustrates the per shares investors purchasing shares in this offering (assuming that 100% of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exchanged for Class A of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exchanged for Class A of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exchanged for Class A of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exchanged for Class A of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exchanged for Class A of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exchanged for Class A of the Stronghold LLC Units have been exch	ma effect to the ss A common stock. Pro illities) by the total number ag effect to the itial public offering price eceipt of the estimated net ses and the application of ould have been of \$ per share tangible book value afternare dilution to new
Assumed initial public offering price per share	\$
Pro forma net tangible book value per share as of December 31, 2020 (before this offering and after	
giving effect to our Reorganization and the Preferred Stock Conversion) \$	
Less a decrease per share attributable to new investors in this offering	
As adjusted pro forma net tangible book value per share after giving further effect to this offering	
Dilution in pro forma reduced net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering(1)	\$

(1) If the initial public offering price were to increase or decrease by \$1.00 per share, then dilution in pro forma reduced net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering would equal \$ or \$, respectively.

The following table summarizes, on an as adjusted pro forma basis as of December 31, 2020, the total number of shares of Class A common stock owned by the Legacy Owners (taking into account the Preferred Stock Conversion and assuming that 100% of the Stronghold LLC Units held by the Legacy Owners have been exchanged for Class A common stock (and the corresponding shares of Class V common stock have been cancelled)) and to be owned by new investors, the total consideration paid, and the average price per share paid by the Legacy Owners and to be paid by new investors in this offering at \$ , calculated before deduction of estimated underwriting discounts and commissions.

	Shares Acquired		Total Consideration		Average Price
	Number	Percent	Amount	Percent	Per Share
				(in thousands)	
Legacy Owners		%	\$	%	\$
New investors in this offering		%	\$	%	\$
Total		%	\$	%	\$

The data in the table excludes

shares of Class A common stock initially reserved for issuance under our long-term incentive plan.

Each \$1.00 increase (decrease) in the assumed initial public offering price of \$ per share of Class A common stock would increase (decrease) the total consideration paid by new investors in this offering and the total consideration paid by all holders of Class A common stock by \$ million, assuming the number of shares of Class A common stock offered by us remains the same, after deducting the estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

If the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full, the number of shares of Class A common stock being offered in this offering will be increased to , or approximately % of the total number of shares of Class A common stock.

#### UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following unaudited pro forma consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2020 present our consolidated results of operations after giving effect to (i) the Private Placements and the Reorganization, as described under "Corporate Reorganization," as if such transactions occurred on January 1, 2020, (ii) this offering, (iii) the use of the estimated net proceeds to us from this offering, as described under "Use of Proceeds," (iv) the Preferred Stock Conversion, and (v) a provision for corporate income taxes on the income attributable to Stronghold Inc. at an effective rate of % for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, inclusive of all U.S. federal, state and local income taxes (collectively, the "pro forma adjustments"). The unaudited pro forma consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2020 gives effect to the pro forma adjustments, including this offering, as if the same had occurred on December 31, 2020.

We have derived the unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information for the year ended December 31, 2020 from the audited historical financial statements of our accounting predecessor and its subsidiaries included elsewhere in this prospectus. The unaudited pro forma financial information should be read in conjunction with the historical financial statements.

The pro forma adjustments are based on currently available information and certain estimates and assumptions. Therefore, the actual adjustments may differ from the pro forma adjustments. However, management believes that the assumptions provide a reasonable basis for presenting the significant effects of the transactions described herein and that the pro forma adjustments give appropriate effect to those assumptions and are properly applied in the unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements. The assumptions underlying the pro forma adjustments are described in the accompanying notes, which should be read in conjunction with these unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements.

As a public company, we will be implementing additional procedures and processes for the purpose of addressing the standards and requirements applicable to public companies. We expect to incur additional annual expenses related to these steps and, among other things, additional directors' and officers' liability insurance, director fees, reporting requirements of the SEC, transfer agent fees, costs associated with hiring additional accounting, legal and administrative personnel, increased auditing and legal fees and similar expenses. We have not included any pro forma adjustments relating to these costs.

The unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information and related notes are presented for illustrative purposes only. The pro forma adjustments are based upon available information and methodologies that are factually supportable and directly related to the described transactions, including this offering. The historical financial information has been adjusted in the unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial statements to give effect to pro forma events that are related and/or directly attributable to the transactions, are factually supportable and, in the case of the statements of operations, are expected to have a continuing impact on our operating results. The unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information includes various estimates which are subject to material change and may not be indicative of what our operations or financial position would have been had the described transactions, including this offering, taken place on the dates indicated, or that may be expected to occur in the future. In addition, future results may vary significantly from the results reflected in the unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements and should not be relied on as an indication of our results after the consummation of this offering and other transactions contemplated herein. The pro forma financial information is qualified in its entirety by reference to, and should be read in conjunction with, "Basis of Presentation," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

# Stronghold Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2020

		Accounting Predecessors	Series Reorgar			As Adjusted	Initial Public Offering		As Further Adjusted
CURRENT ASSETS									
Cash	\$	303,187 \$		76,500,000(a)(b)	\$	76,803,187	\$ —	(c) \$	_
Digital currencies		228,087				228,087		\$	
Accounts receivable		65,900				65,900			
Due from related party		302,975				302,975			
Inventory		396,892				396,892			
Derivative contracts, net		_				_			
Other current assets		65,831				65,831		_	
Total Current Assets		1,362,872		76,500,000		77,862,872			
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, NET		7,814,199				7,814,199			
ROAD BOND		185,245				185,245			
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	9,362,316 \$		76,500,000	\$	85,862,316	\$ —	\$	
CURRENT LIABILITIES								_	
Current portion of long-term debt	\$	449,447			\$	449,447		\$	
Related-party notes	4	2,024,250			Ψ	2,024,250		4	
Accounts payable		8,479,183				8,479,183			
Due to related parties		698,338				698,338			
Accrued liabilities		828				828			
Total Current Liabilities		11,652,046				11,652,046		_	
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		11,002,010			_	11,002,010		_	
Asset retirement obligation		446,128				446,128			
Contract liabilities		40,000				40,000			
Economic Injury Disaster Loan		150,000				150,000			
Paycheck Protection Program Loan		638,800				638,800			
Long-term debt		482,443				482,443			
Total Long-Term Liabilities		1,757,371				1,757,371		_	
Total Liabilities		13,409,417				13,409,417		_	
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES									
EQUITY									
Mezzanine Equity									
Series A redeemable convertible preferred stock at redemption value, \$.0001 par									
value; 3,600,000 shares issued (as adjusted)		_		90,000,000(a)(b)		90,000,000		(c)	
Series B redeemable convertible preferred stock at redemption value, \$.0001 par									
value; shares issued (as adjusted)								_	
Total Mezzanine Equity		_		90,000,000		90,000,000			
PARTNERS' CAPITAL (DEFICIT)									
General partners		(2,710,317)		2,710,317(b)		_			
Limited partners		(1,336,784)		1,336,784(b)				_	
Total Partners' Deficit		(4,047,101)		4,047,101		_			
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)									
Retained earnings (deficit)		_	(1	16,194,016)(a)(b)	\$	(16,194,016)			
Common Stock - Class A, \$.0001 par value; 238,000,000 shares authorized and									
11,600,000 shares issued (as adjusted); shares authorized and shares issued (as further adjusted)					\$			(c)	
Common Stock - Class V, \$.0001 par value; 12,000,000 shares authorized and					Ψ	_		(c)	
9,400,000 shares issued (as adjusted and as further adjusted)				940(b)		940			
Additional Paid in Capital		<u> </u>		J <del>-1</del> 0(0)		J+0		(c)	
Equity (Deficit) attributable to non-controlling interest holders				(1,354,025)(d)		(1,354,025)		(c) _	
Total Shareholders' Equity / (Deficit)				(1,554,025)(u) 17,547,101)	_	(17,547,101)		-	
Total equity (Deficit)		(4,047,101)		76,500,000		72,452,899			
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL	\$	9,362,316 \$		76,500,000	\$	85,862,316	\$	\$	
TOTAL BUILDING AND PARTIENS CALLIAL	Ψ	€ 102,500 پ		, 0,300,000	Ψ	03,002,310	Ψ —	φ	

## **Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Balance Sheet**

- (a) Reflects \$85 million in proceeds from the Series A Private Placement net of approximately \$6.0 million in expenses.
- (b) Reflects \$2.5 million paid in expenses in connection with the completion of the Reorganization.
- (c) Reflects \$ million in proceeds from this offering net of approximately \$ million in expenses.
- (d) Reflects reclassification of equity to the non-controlling interest holders after completion of the Reorganization.

# Stronghold Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Statements of Income For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

		accounting redecessors	Series A and Reorganization		As Adjusted		Initial Public Offering	As Further Adjusted
OPERATING REVENUES								
Energy	\$	518,397		\$	518,397			
Capacity		2,816,457			2,816,457			
Crypto asset hosting		252,413			252,413			
Crypto asset mining		339,456			339,456			
Other		191,661		_	191,661			
Total operating revenues		4,118,384			4,118,384			
OPERATING EXPENSES								
Fuel		425,126			425,126			
Operations and maintenance		3,305,833			3,305,833			
General and administrative		2,269,525			2,269,525			
Depreciation and amortization		558,630		_	558,630			
Total operating expenses		6,559,114			6,559,114			
OPERATING LOSS		(2,440,730)			(2,440,730)			
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)								
Interest income		2,982			2,982			
Interest expense		(205,480)			(205,480)			
Gain on extinguishment of EIDL advance		10,000			10,000			
Realized gain (loss) on sale of digital currencies		31,810			31,810			
Commission on sale of ash		_			_			
Derivative contracts, net		1,207,131			1,207,131			
Waste coal credit		1,188,210			1,188,210			
Renewable energy		35,493			35,493			
Other		25,590	(a) (2,500,000) (b)		(2,474,410)			
Total other income		2,295,736	(2,500,000)	_	(204,264)	_	_	
Total other meonic		2,233,730	(2,300,000)		(204,204)			
INCOME TAX EXPENSE								
Benefit for income taxes					764,403 (c)			
Less: Net loss attributable to non-controlling interest			(1,800,000) (b)	. –	(1,354,025) (b)			
NET LOSS	\$	(144,994)	\$ (700,000)	\$	(526,565)	\$	_	\$ —
Pro forma weighted average shares of Class A	_				<del></del>			·
common unit/stock outstanding:								
Basic		0					11,600,000	
Dilutive		0					11,600,000	
Pro forma earnings per share of Class A common stock:								•
Basic	\$	_						\$ —
Dilutive	\$	_						\$ —

# Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Statements of Operations

- (a) Reflects \$2.5 million paid in expenses in connection with the completion of the Reorganization.
- (b) Reflects the 72% economic and voting interest held by non-controlling interest holders following the Reorganization.
- (c) Reflects \$0.8 million tax benefit calculated as \$2.6 million pretax loss, multiplied by a combined federal and state income tax rate of 28.9%.

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with "Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data," "Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Information" and our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes appearing elsewhere in this prospectus. The following discussion contains "forward-looking statements" that reflect our future plans, estimates, beliefs and expected performance. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of a variety of risks and uncertainties, including those described in this prospectus under "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors." We assume no obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements.

### Overview

We are a vertically integrated crypto asset mining company currently focused on mining Bitcoin. We wholly-own and operate the Scrubgrass Plant, a low-cost, environmentally-beneficial coal refuse power generation facility that we have upgraded in Scrubgrass Township, Pennsylvania, and it is classified under Pennsylvania law as a Tier II alternative energy source (equivalent to a large-scale hydropower plant). We are committed to generating our energy and managing our assets sustainably, and we believe that we are one of the first vertically integrated crypto asset mining companies with a focus on environmentally-beneficial operations. In addition to being environmentally-beneficial and sustainable, owning our own source of power helps us to produce Bitcoin at one of the lowest prices among our publicly traded peers. We also believe that owning our own power source makes us a more attractive partner to crypto asset mining equipment purveyors. We have entered into a non-binding letter of intent to purchase two additional coal refuse power generation facilities, and we intend to leverage these competitive advantages to continue to grow our business through the opportunistic acquisition of power generating assets and miners.

#### **Trends and Other Factors Impacting Our Performance**

### COVID-19

The COVID-19 global pandemic has resulted and is likely to continue to result in significant national and global economic disruption, which may adversely affect our business. Based on our current assessments, however, we do not expect any material impact on long-term development, operations, or liquidity due to the spread of COVID-19. However, the Company is actively monitoring this situation and the possible effects on its financial condition, liquidity, operations, suppliers, and industry.

## **Recent Developments**

### Acquisitions

On April 1, 2021, Q Power entered into an Acquisition and Contribution Agreement with Aspen for the acquisition of Aspen's 30% limited partnership interest in Scrubgrass LP. Q Power subsequently assigned its interests in the Acquisition and Contribution Agreement to us. The consideration for the Aspen Interest was \$2.0 million in cash and 200,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock of Stronghold Inc. The acquisition of Aspen's limited partnership interest in Scrubgrass LP, and subsequent contribution of such interest to Stronghold LLC pursuant to the Reorganization, had the net effect of indirectly consolidating all of the equity interests of Scrubgrass LP at Stronghold LLC.

On March 3, 2021, SDM entered into a non-binding letter of intent with Olympus for the purchase of (i) the Aspen Interest, (ii) the Panther Creek Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 94 MW of electricity generation capacity located near Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania and (iii) the Third Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 134 MW of electricity generation capacity located in Pennsylvania. We completed the acquisition of the Aspen Interest on April 1, 2021. We continue to evaluate the acquisition of both the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. The consideration for the Panther Creek Plant is anticipated to be approximately \$3.0 million in cash and \$10,000,000 of Stronghold LLC Units. The consideration for the Third Plant is expected to be approximately \$3.0 million in cash and \$6,250,000 of Stronghold LLC Units. We plan to store newly acquired

miners at each of these facilities and use power generated by these plants to power crypto asset mining operations in an environmentally conscious manner.

### Series A Private Placement

On April 1, 2021, we entered into the Stock Purchase Agreement with certain investors to sell 3,400,000 shares of Series A Preferred of Stronghold Inc. for aggregate consideration of approximately \$85.0 million.

Pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, Stronghold Inc. entered into the Registration Rights Agreement with of the investors in the Series A Private Placement, pursuant to which, among other things, the Company agreed to prepare and file a registration statement covering the resale of all Registrable Securities not already covered by an existing and effective registration statement or prior to the 120th day following the closing of the Series A Private Placement. See "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions— Registration Rights Agreement" for additional information.

Further, pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, Stronghold Inc., the investors in the Series A Private Placement and Key Holders entered into the ROFR Agreement. Under the ROFR Agreement, the Key Holders agreed to grant a right of first refusal to purchase all or any portion of capital stock of Stronghold Inc, held by a Key Holder or issued to a Key Holder after the date of the ROFR Agreement, not including any shares of preferred or common stock issued or issuable upon conversion of the Series A Preferred. The Key Holders also granted a secondary refusal right to the investors in the Series A Private Placement to purchase all or any eligible capital stock not purchased by Stronghold Inc. pursuant to their right of first refusal.

## Reorganization

On April 1, 2021, we effected the Reorganization. See "—Corporate Reorganization" and "Corporate Reorganization" for more information.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Significant Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, contingent assets and liabilities, each as of the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the periods presented. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates their estimates and assumptions, and the effects of any such revisions are reflected in the financial statements in the period in which they are determined to be necessary. Actual outcomes could differ materially from those estimates in a manner that could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements. Set forth below are the policies and estimates that we have identified as critical to our business operations and understanding our results of operations, based on the high degree of judgment or complexity in their application.

### **Digital Currencies**

Digital currencies are included in current assets in the combined balance sheet. Digital currencies are recorded at cost less any impairment.

An intangible asset with an indefinite useful life is not amortized but assessed for impairment annually, or more frequently, when events or changes in circumstances occur indicating that it is more likely than not that the indefinite-lived asset is impaired. Impairment exists when the carrying amount exceeds its fair value. In testing for impairment, the Company has the option to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that an impairment exists. If it is determined that it is not more likely than not that an impairment exists, a quantitative impairment test is not necessary. If the Company concludes otherwise, it is required to perform a quantitative impairment test. To the extent an impairment loss is recognized, the loss establishes the new cost basis of the asset. Subsequent reversal of impairment losses is not permitted. The Company accounts for its gains or losses in accordance with the first in, first out (FIFO) method of accounting.

### **Post-Offering Taxation and Public Company Costs**

Stronghold LLC is and has been organized as a pass through entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes and is therefore not subject to entity-level U.S. federal income taxes. Stronghold Inc. was incorporated as a Delaware corporation on March 19, 2021 and therefore is subject to U.S. federal income taxes and additional state and local taxes with respect to its allocable share of any taxable income of Stronghold LLC and is taxed at the prevailing corporate tax rates. In addition to tax expenses, Stronghold Inc. also incurs expenses related to its operations, plus payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which are expected to be significant. To the extent Stronghold LLC has available cash and subject to the terms of any current or future debt instruments, the Stronghold LLC Agreement requires Stronghold LLC to make pro rata cash distributions to Stronghold Unit Holders, including Stronghold Inc., in an amount sufficient to allow Stronghold Inc. to pay its taxes and to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement. In addition, the Stronghold LLC Agreement requires Stronghold LLC to make non-pro rata payments to Stronghold Inc. to reimburse it for its corporate and other overhead expenses, which payments are not treated as distributions under the Stronghold LLC Agreement. See "—Tax Receivable Agreement" and "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement."

In addition, we expect to incur incremental, non-recurring costs related to our transition to a publicly traded corporation, including the costs of this initial public offering and the costs associated with the initial implementation of our internal control reviews and testing pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act"). We also expect to incur additional significant and recurring expenses as a publicly traded corporation, including costs associated with compliance under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), annual and quarterly reports to common stockholders, registrar and transfer agent fees, national stock exchange fees, audit fees, incremental director and officer liability insurance costs and director and officer compensation. Our financial statements following this offering will reflect the impact of these expenses.

#### Factors Affecting Comparability of Our Future Results of Operations to Our Historical Results of Operations

Our historical financial results discussed below may not be comparable to our future financial results for the reasons described below.

Stronghold Inc. is subject to U.S. federal, state and local income taxes as a corporation. Our accounting predecessor was treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and as such, was generally not subject to U.S. federal income tax at the entity level. Rather, the tax liability with respect to its taxable income was passed through to its members. Accordingly, the financial data attributable to our predecessor contains no provision for U.S. federal income taxes or income taxes in any state or locality. We estimate that Stronghold Inc. will be subject to U.S. federal, state and local taxes at a blended statutory rate of % of pre-tax earnings or losses.

As we further implement controls, processes and infrastructure applicable to companies with publicly traded equity securities, it is likely that we will incur additional selling, general and administrative expenses relative to historical periods. Our future results will depend on our ability to efficiently manage our combined operations and execute our business strategy.

As we continue to acquire miners and utilize our power generating assets to power such miners, we anticipate that a great proportion of our revenue and expenses will relate to crypto asset mining.

## **Results of Operations**

## Year Ended December 31, 2020, Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Year Ended December 31,								
	 2020	0		2019					
Description	Amount	% of Total	_	Amount	% of Total		\$ Change	% Change	
OPERATING REVENUES									
Energy	\$ 518,397	12.6%	\$	7,047,237	63.8%	\$	6,528,840	92.6%	
Capacity	2,816,457	68.4%		3,832,457	34.7%		1,016,000	26.5%	
Crypto asset hosting	252,413	6.1%		_	_		252,413	100%	
Crypto asset mining	339,456	8.2%		33,337	0.3%		306,119	918.3%	
Other	 191,661	4.7%		136,299	1.2%		55,362	40.6%	
Total operating revenues OPERATING EXPENSES	4,118,384	100.0%		11,049,330	100.0%	\$	6,930,946	62.7%	
Fuel	425,126	6.5%		8,435,990	47.9%		8,010,864	95.0%	
Operations and maintenance	3,305,833	50.4%		5,637,118	32.0%		2,351,005	41.4%	
General and administrative	2,269,525	34.6%		3,072,885	17.4%		802,760	26.1%	
Depreciation and amortization	558,630	8.5%		483,658	2.7%		74,972	15.5%	
Total operating expenses	 6,559,114	100.0%		17,629,051	100%		11,069,937	62.8%	
OPERATING LOSS	(2,440,730)			(6,579,721)			4,138,991		
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)									
Interest income	2,982	0.1%		4,177	0.1%		1,195	28.6%	
Interest expense	(205,480)	(9.0)%		(192,961)	(4.1)%		(12,519)	(6.5)%	
Gain on extinguishment of EIDL advance	10,000	0.4%		_	_		10,000	100%	
Realized gain (loss) on sale of digital									
currencies	31,810	1.4%		(1,516)	(0.03)%		33,326	2198.3%	
Commission on sale of ash	_	_		590,832	12.8%		590,832	100%	
Derivative contracts, net	1,207,131	52.6%		2,244,810	48.5%		1,037,679	46.2%	
Waste coal credit	1,188,210	51.8%		2,011,044	43.4%		822,834	40.9%	
Renewable energy credit	35,493	1.5%		105,532	2.2%		70,069	66.4%	
Other	 25,590	1.1%		(33,640)	(0.7)%		59,230	176.1%	
Total other income	 2,295,736	100%		4,728,278	100%		2,432,542	51.4%	
NET LOSS	\$ (144,994)		\$	(1,851,443)			1,706,449	92.2%	

Denotes that % change is such that it is not useful.

### Revenue

Overall, revenue decreased by \$6.9 million, or 62.7%, to approximately \$4.1 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$11.0 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019.

## **Energy Generation**

Revenue generated from energy generation decreased by \$6.5 million, or 94.6%, to approximately \$0.5 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$7.0 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily the result of producing less power due to low Local Marginal Pricing ("LMP") for our area.

# Capacity

Revenue generated from capacity decreased by \$1.0 million, or 26.5%, to approximately \$2.8 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$3.8 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily the result of the lower pricing per kWh of capacity for the plant.

## Cryptocurrency Hosting

Revenue generated from cryptocurrency hosting increased by \$0.3 million, or 100%, to approximately \$0.3 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from zero for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. This

increase was due to the commencement of generated power sales to a crypto asset mining customer for which we are providing hosting services.

### Cryptocurrency Mining

Revenue generated from crypto asset mining increased by \$306.1 thousand, or 918.3%, to approximately \$339.5 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$33.3 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily the result of the purchase of additional miners and commencement of crypto asset mining operations in 2020.

#### Other Revenues

Other Revenues increased by \$55.4 thousand or 40.6%, to approximately \$191.2 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$136.3 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. Other revenue for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was from the sale of beneficial use ash by-product. Other revenue for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 derived from the sale of trailers to a cryptocurrency hosting customer.

## **Operating Expenses**

Operating expenses decreased by \$11.1 million, or 62.8%, to approximately \$6.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$17.7 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. This decrease was primarily due to lower usage of the power generation facility.

#### Fuel

Fuel expense decreased by \$8.0 million, or 95.0%, to approximately \$0.4 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$8.4 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily attributable to lower capacity usage of the power generation facility. As less power is produced, the fuel used to operate the plant decreases.

#### Operations and maintenance

Operations and maintenance expenses decreased by \$2.3 million, or 41.4%, to approximately \$3.3 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$5.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily attributable to decreased power production in 2020 compared to 2019, which resulted in less maintenance required to keep the plant operating efficiently.

### General and administrative

General and administrative expenses decreased by \$0.8 million, or 26.1%, to approximately \$2.3 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 from \$3.1 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily attributable to the reduction in plant operation, resulting in an analysis of expenses that were no longer critical in 2020. Cuts were made in areas of general and administrative expenses as a result of the analysis by operational management.

## Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$75.0 thousand, or 15.5%, to \$558.6 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$483.7 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily attributable to the purchase of more infrastructure assets and miners in 2020, resulting in a higher depreciable base in 2020 compared to 2019.

## Other Income (Expense)

## Interest Income

Interest income decreased \$1.2 thousand, or 28.6%, to \$3.0 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$4.2 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily

attributable to a reduction in the interest received from the bond securing the Authorization to Mine from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the North Camp Run Mine.

## Interest Expense

Interest expense increased \$12.5 thousand, or (6.5)%, to \$(205.5) thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$(193.0) thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 and was primarily attributable to new equipment financing that commenced mid-year 2019, resulting in only a partial year of interest expense on financed equipment in 2019 as compared to a full year of interest expense on financed equipment in 2020.

### Gain on extinguishment of EIDL advance

The increase in gain on extinguishment of EIDL advance of \$10.0 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to none for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was due to the commencement of the EIDL program in 2020.

## Realized gain (loss) on sale of digital currencies

The increase in realized gain on sale of digital currencies of \$33.3 thousand, or 2198.3%, to \$31.8 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to (1.5) thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was primarily attributable to market value changes in the price of cryptocurrency during the respective periods.

## Commission on sale of beneficial use ash

The decrease in income from commission on sale of beneficial use ash of \$590.8 thousand, or 100%, to none for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$590.8 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was primarily attributable to less energy produced at the power generation facility, which in turn generated less ash. Additionally, our primary beneficial ash customer in 2019 ceased to operate in 2020.

#### Derivative contracts, net

The decrease in other income from derivative contracts of \$1.0 million, or 46.2%, to \$1.2 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to income of \$2.2 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was primarily attributable to lower hedging of plant production due to lower power production output.

## Waste coal credit

The decrease in income from waste coal credits, which we receive due to the coal refuse utilized at our power generation facility, of \$0.8 million, or 40.9%, to \$1.1 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$2.0 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was primarily attributable to lack of plant production in 2020, which resulted in decreased waste coal credits generation.

## Renewable energy credit

The decrease in income from renewable energy credits of \$70.0 thousand, or 66.4%, to \$35.5 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$105.5 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was primarily attributable to lack of plant production in 2020, which resulted in decreased renewable energy credits.

# Other

The increase in income from other of \$59.2 thousand, or 176.1%, to \$25.6 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$(33.6) thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was primarily attributable to refund and discounts received in 2020 not received in 2019 and a loss on fixed assets write-off in 2019 that did not occur in 2020.

### **Comparison of Non-GAAP Financial Measure**

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of net income as determined by GAAP. Adjusted EBITDA is a supplemental non-GAAP financial measure that is used by management and external users of our consolidated financial statements, such as industry analysts, investors, lenders and rating agencies. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, further adjusted by the removal of one-time transaction costs.

Our board of directors and management team use Adjusted EBITDA to assess our financial performance because it allows them to compare our operating performance on a consistent basis across periods by removing the effects of our capital structure (such as varying levels of interest expense), asset base (such as depreciation and amortization) and other items (such as one-time transaction costs) that impact the comparability of financial results from period to period. We present Adjusted EBITDA because we believe it provides useful information regarding the factors and trends affecting our business in addition to measures calculated under GAAP. Adjusted EBITDA is not a financial measure presented in accordance with GAAP. We believe that the presentation of this non-GAAP financial measure will provide useful information to investors and analysts in assessing our financial performance and results of operations across reporting periods by excluding items we do not believe are indicative of our core operating performance. Net income (loss) is the GAAP measure most directly comparable to Adjusted EBITDA. Our non-GAAP financial measure should not be considered as an alternative to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. You are encouraged to evaluate each of these adjustments and the reasons we consider them appropriate for supplemental analysis. In evaluating Adjusted EBITDA, you should be aware that in the future we may incur expenses that are the same as or similar to some of the adjustments in such presentation. Our presentation of Adjusted EBITDA should not be construed as an inference that our future results will be unaffected by unusual or non-recurring items. There can be no assurance that we will not modify the presentation of Adjusted EBITDA in the future, and any such modification may be material. Adjusted EBITDA has important limitations as an analytical tool and you should not consider Adjusted EBITDA in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Because Adjusted EBITDA may be defined differently by other companies in our industry, our definition of this non-GAAP financial measure may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies, thereby diminishing its utility.

The following table presents a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to the GAAP financial measure of net income (loss) for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Years Ended December 31,

	2020	2019
	(in thousa	nds)
Net income (loss)	(145.0)	(1,851.4)
Interest	202.5	188.8
Income taxes	_	_
Depreciation and amortization	558.6	483.7
One-time transaction costs	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Adjusted EBITDA	616.1	(1,178.9)

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

### Overview

Stronghold Inc. is a holding company with no operations and is the sole managing member of Stronghold LLC. Our principal asset consists of units of Stronghold LLC. Our earnings and cash flows and ability to meet any debt obligations will depend on the cash flows resulting from the operations of our operating subsidiaries, and the payment of distributions by such subsidiaries.

Our cash needs are primarily for growth through acquisitions and working capital to support equipment financing and the purchase of additional miners.

Cash needs for operations have historically been financed with cash generated from operations.

#### Cash Flows

## Analysis of Cash Flow Changes Between the Years Ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

The following table summarizes our cash flows for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,					
Description	2020		2019		Change	
	(\$ in thousands)					
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 587.2	2 \$	755.2	\$	(168.0)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(1,827.8	3)	18.0		(1,845.8)	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,409.6	5	(826.2)		2,235.8	
Net change in cash	\$ 169.0	\$	(53.0)	\$	222.0	

*Operating Activities*. Net cash used in operating activities was \$587.2 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$755.2 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The \$168.0 thousand decrease in cash used in operating activities was primarily attributable to an increase in crypto assets, a use of cash, of (339.5) thousand offset by a decrease in accounts receivable of \$70.6 thousand and a decrease in inventory of 132.6 thousand, both sources of cash.

*Investing Activities.* Net cash used in investing activities was \$(1,827.8) thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$18.0 thousand provided by investing activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The \$(1,845.8) thousand decrease in net cash used in investing activities was primarily attributable to the purchase of additional property, plant and equipment of (1,986.4) thousand offset by 158.6 thousand from the proceeds from sale of crypto assets.

Financing Activities. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$1,409.6 thousand for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$(826.2) thousand used in financing activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. The \$2,235.8 thousand increase in cash provided by financing activities was primarily attributable to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 proceeds from a loan under the Paycheck Protection Plan of \$638.8 thousand, proceeds from EIDL loan of \$150.0 thousand, and proceeds from related-party notes payable of \$2,024.3 thousand. This was offset by \$(1,183.2) thousand of distributions paid in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$(576.2) thousand of distributions paid in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019.

### **Debt Agreements**

We have entered into various debt agreements used to purchase equipment to operate our business. As of December 31, 2020, the amount owed under the debt agreements totaled \$931.9 thousand with repayment terms extending through December 31, 2023. Of the total amount outstanding of \$931.9 thousand, \$449.4 thousand was classified as current portion of long-term debt and will be repaid as of December 31, 2021. The remaining portion of long-term debt is \$482.4 thousand. As of December 31, 2020, the monthly repayment amounts, including interest, totaled \$38.1 thousand. For additional information, see Note 5 – Long-Term Debt to our Combined Financial Statements.

Stronghold LLC is party to three promissory notes, which include: (i) the promissory note dated as of December 31, 2020, by and between Stronghold LLC and Scrubgrass L.P. (the "Scrubgrass Note"), providing for a loan in the amount of \$150,000 bearing an interest rate of 8.0% per annum and a maturity date of December 31, 2021, (ii) the promissory note dated as of December 31, 2020 by and between Stronghold LLC and William B. Spence (the "Spence Note"), providing for a loan in the amount of \$524,250 bearing an interest rate of 8.0% per annum and a maturity date of December 31, 2021 and (iii) the promissory note dated as of December 31, 2020 by and between Stronghold LLC and Gregory A. Beard (the "Beard Note"), providing for a loan in the amount of \$1,500,000 bearing an interest rate of 8.0% per annum and a maturity date of December 31, 2021. The maturity date for all three notes may be accelerated upon certain instances and may generally be prepaid without premium or penalty. There are certain restrictions on prepayment of each of the promissory notes and the interest rate for each may adjusted upon the occurrence of certain events.

### **Contractual Obligations**

The table below provides estimates of the timing of future payments that we are contractually obligated to make based on agreements in place at December 31, 2020.

		Payments Due by Period (in thousands)								
	Less than			More than	an					
	1 year	1 – 3 years	4 – 5 years	5 years	Total					
			(in thousands)							
Various equipment loans	449.4	482.4	_		931.9					
PPP loan	638.8	_	_	_	638.8					
EIDL loan	_	6.0	6.6	137.4	150.0					
Total	1,088.2	488.4	6.6	137.4	1,720.7					

## **Tax Receivable Agreement**

The Tax Receivable Agreement generally provides for the payment by Stronghold Inc. to certain of the Stronghold Unit Holders of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income tax and franchise tax (computed using the estimated impact of state and local taxes) that Stronghold Inc. actually realizes (or is deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of (i) certain increases in tax basis that occur as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of all or a portion of such holder's Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right and (ii) imputed interest deemed to be paid by Stronghold Inc. as a result of, and additional tax basis arising from, any payments Stronghold Inc. makes under the Tax Receivable Agreement. Stronghold Inc. will retain the remaining net cash savings, if any. The Tax Receivable Agreement generally provides for payments to be made as Stronghold Inc. realizes actual cash tax savings from the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement. However, the Tax Receivable Agreement provides that if Stronghold Inc. elects to terminate the Tax Receivable Agreement early (or it is terminated early due to Stronghold Inc.'s failure to honor a material obligation thereunder or due to certain mergers, asset sales, other forms of business combinations or other changes of control), Stronghold Inc. is required to make an immediate payment equal to the present value of the anticipated future payments to be made by it under the Tax Receivable Agreement (based upon certain assumptions and deemed events set forth in the Tax Receivable Agreement), and such payment is expected to be substantial and may exceed the future tax benefits realized by Stronghold Inc.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

As an "emerging growth company ("EGC"), the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act ("JOBS Act") allows us to delay adoption of new or revised accounting pronouncements applicable to public companies until such pronouncements are made applicable to private companies. We have elected to use this extended transition period under the JOBS Act. The adoption dates discussed below reflect this election.

As of January 1, 2019, we adopted ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). Topic 606 supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in FASB ASC 605, Revenue Recognition, and requires the recognition of revenue when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. We adopted Topic 606 under the modified retrospective approach whereby the cumulative effect of adopting the new guidance was recognized on the date of initial application. The adoption of ASC 606 did not result in a change to the accounting for revenue, as such, no cumulative effect adjustment was recorded.

In February 2016, FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases ("Topic 842"), which supersedes ASC Topic 840, Leases. Topic 842 requires lessees to recognize a lease liability and a lease asset for all leases, including operating leases, with a term greater than 12 months on its balance sheet. The update also expands the required quantitative and qualitative disclosures surrounding leases. Topic 842 will be applied using a modified retrospective transition approach for leases existing at, or entered into after, the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented in the financial statements. In November 2019, FASB deferred the effective date for implementation of Topic 842 by one year and, in June 2020, FASB deferred the effective date by an additional year. The guidance under Topic 842 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2021 and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after

December 15, 2022. Earlier adoption is permitted. We are in the process of developing our new accounting policies and determining the potential aggregate impact this guidance is likely to have on its combined financial statements as of its adoption date.

## **Internal Controls and Procedures**

We are not currently required to comply with the SEC's rules implementing Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, and are therefore not required to make a formal assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting for that purpose. Upon becoming a public company, we will be required to comply with the SEC's rules implementing Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which will require our management to certify financial and other information in our quarterly and annual reports and provide an annual management report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. We will be required to make our first assessment of our internal control over financial reporting and to comply with the management certification requirements of Section 404 in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year following our first annual report that is filed with the SEC (subject to any change in applicable SEC rules).

Further, our independent registered public accounting firm is not yet required to formally attest to the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting, and will not be required to do so for as long as we are an "emerging growth company" pursuant to the provisions of the JOBS Act. See "Prospectus Summary—Emerging Growth Company Status."

## **Off Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We have no material off balance sheet arrangements.

#### BUSINESS

#### Overview

We are a vertically integrated crypto asset mining company currently focused on mining Bitcoin. We wholly-own and operate the Scrubgrass Plant, a low-cost, environmentally-beneficial coal refuse power generation facility that we have upgraded in Scrubgrass Township, Pennsylvania, and it is classified under Pennsylvania law as a Tier II alternative energy source (equivalent to a large-scale hydropower plant). We are committed to generating our energy and managing our assets sustainably, and we believe that we are one of the first vertically integrated crypto asset mining companies with a focus on environmentally-beneficial operations. Simply put, we employ 21st century crypto mining techniques to remediate the impacts of 19th and 20th century coal mining in some of the most environmentally neglected regions of the United States.

In addition to being environmentally-beneficial and sustainable, owning our own source of power helps us to produce Bitcoin at one of the lowest prices among our publicly traded peers. We also believe that owning our own power source makes us a more attractive partner to crypto asset mining equipment purveyors. For example, we have been able to enter into partnerships with crypto asset industry participants and share miners because we offered competitive power rates in a mutually beneficial arrangement. Other miner manufacturers or suppliers may be more willing to work with us because our vertical integration, strong financial position, and industrial scale make us a dependable partner. We have entered into a non-binding letter of intent to purchase two additional coal refuse power generation facilities, and we intend to leverage these competitive advantages to continue to grow our business through the opportunistic acquisition of power generating assets and miners.

We currently operate approximately 3,000 crypto asset miners with hash rate capacity of approximately 100 PH/s. Since April 1, 2021, we have entered into definitive agreements with multiple suppliers to purchase over 27,300 additional miners with a total hash capacity equal to over 2,600 PH/s. Of these miners, 92% are scheduled to be delivered in 2021, with the first batch scheduled for delivery in August 2021, and the remaining 8% throughout 2022. With part of the proceeds of this offering, we intend to procure an additional 27,900 miners, which we anticipate will bring our total hash rate capacity to approximately 3,000 PH/s by December 2021 and to over 5,300 PH/s by December 2022. We intend to house our miners at the Scrubgrass Plant and the two coal refuse power generation facilities currently under letter of intent that we intend to purchase.

Our founders have long experience in finance and in operating energy assets. Greg Beard, our Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, previously served as Senior Partner and Head of Natural Resources at Apollo Global Management Inc. Bill Spence, our Co-Chairman, has 40 years of energy-related experience and was a pioneer in the operation of and fuel sourcing for coal refuse plants.

## **Our Competitive Strengths**

- Environmentally beneficial, coal refuse-powered electricity generation classified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Tier II alternative energy source. Our Scrubgrass Plant and the two additional plants currently under letter of intent, the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant, are powered by coal refuse. Coal refuse is a waste product historically generated by coal mining in Pennsylvania and neighboring states, and coal refuse is a significant contributor to air and water pollution in these geographies. Because our power generation facility technology produces energy and byproducts used in land-reclamation activities from this waste, power generation facilities fueled by coal refuse are classified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as Tier II alternative energy sources, equivalent to large-scale hydropower plants. In contrast, most of our competitors with integrated power assets rely on traditional fuels, such as coal or natural gas. Given the power-intensive nature of crypto asset mining and the implications for the environment and sustainability, we believe that our access to inexpensive, environmentally-beneficial power represents a meaningful and durable competitive advantage. In addition, we believe that buyers of the Bitcoin we mine could ascribe value due to the environmentally-beneficial manner in which they were mined.
- Vertically integrated crypto asset mining and power generation operations, driving among the lowest costs of crypto asset production in our industry. We operate vertically integrated power generation and crypto asset mining operations. Our miners are located on the same premises as our Scrubgrass Plant to maximize

efficiency and to minimize cost. The Scrubgrass Plant's recognition as a Tier II Renewable Energy plant also allows us to earn RECs under Pennsylvania law, and coal refuse is inexpensive and in abundant supply near our operations. As a result, we believe that our Bitcoin production cost of approximately \$2,500 is among the lowest in our industry. As we acquire additional power generation facilities, including the potential acquisitions of the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant, currently under letter of intent, we will focus on environmentally-beneficial power generation assets that offer similarly attractive crypto asset mining economics.

- Strong track record of acquiring and operating power assets. Our management team has a distinguished track record of sourcing, financing, and operating power assets. Greg Beard, our Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, previously served as Senior Partner and Head of Natural Resources at Apollo Global Management Inc. and as a Founding Member and Managing Director at Riverstone Holdings LLC, two leading private equity firms. During his private equity tenure, Mr. Beard sourced and led 23 energy investments, representing \$8.8 billion in proceeds. Bill Spence, our Co-Chairman, has 40 years of energy-related experience. Mr. Spence is the former owner and operator of Coal Valley/Dark Diamond, a coal refuse power generation facility, from 1993 to 2007. Mr. Spence was also the former independent operator of our Scrubgrass Plant prior to our formation.
- Superior access to Bitcoin miners with multiple miner procurement channels, including direct relationships with equipment manufacturers and partnerships with data center operators and other intermediaries. We benefit from strong relationships with multiple providers of Bitcoin miners. We recently entered into an agreement with a leading manufacturer of Bitcoin miners to purchase 15,000 miners with aggregate hash rate of approximately 1,500 PH/s for delivery in the fourth quarter of 2021. In addition, through our partnership with a leading global manager of Bitcoin mining operations, we have executed a purchase agreement to acquire 9,900 MicroBT miners with phased delivery expected to begin in August 2021 and have agreed to purchase terms for the acquisition of approximately 4,950 additional MicroBT miners. Finally, we have been highly opportunistic in entering into hardware purchase agreements with miner brokers. We believe that our access to capital, including prior private financings, as well as the proceeds from this initial public offering, in conjunction with our vertically-integrated power generation, makes us an attractive partner for Bitcoin equipment manufacturers and other market leaders alike.

## **Our Growth Strategies**

- Acquire additional environmentally-beneficial power generation assets, including closing on two coal refuse power generation facilities currently under letter of intent. We have entered into a letter of intent to purchase two coal refuse plants, the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. We have substantially completed our due diligence of Panther Creek, and we believe that we will execute definitive purchase documents within the next two months for the Panther Creek Plant. We also anticipate a favorable outcome of our ongoing due diligence of the Third Plant. Powered by the Scrubgrass Plant and these initial two plant acquisitions, we have developed a plan to build out aggregate mining capacity to 204 MW by the end of 2022. We believe that our expected expansion to three environmentally-beneficial power generation facilities dedicated to Bitcoin mining is repeatable and scalable. With the extensive experience and relationships that our leadership team has in the industry, we have an acquisition pipeline of additional environmentally-beneficial power assets, and we believe that the acquisition of additional power generation facilities will enable us to drive further growth in crypto asset mining.
- Continue to opportunistically source new miners through our multiple procurement channels to accelerate our business plan and increase our mining capacity. As previously outlined, we have recently executed purchase orders for the acquisition of miners from a manufacturer, a Bitcoin mining and data center operator (for MicroBT miners), and multiple miner brokers (for Canaan and Bitmain miners). While many of our competitors have struggled to obtain mining equipment due to historically strong demand and pre-sold supply, we believe that these recent confirmed purchase orders demonstrate our ability to leverage the breadth of our relationships to quickly expand our mining capacity. By operating the Scrubgrass Plant at capacity and through the anticipated build-outs of Panther Creek and Third Plant, we are forecasting expansion in our crypto asset mining operations to 58,250 total miners, representing 5,400 PH/s, by the end of 2022. We expect to benefit from these strong relationships to purchase additional miners on favorable

economic terms as we continue to expand our power generation capacity through the acquisition of additional plants.

• Drive operational excellence and structure alignment with key industry partners, including equipment manufacturers, power generation facility owners and the broader crypto currency and investment ecosystem. We are committed to building the leading vertically integrated crypto asset mining and environmentally-beneficial power generation platform. To achieve this objective, we have developed a network of technology and service providers, and we are emphasizing long-term partnerships and equity alignment. For example, we believe that we negotiated favorable economic and delivery terms for the purchase of miners by providing an equity incentive to the sellers of the miners, subject to meeting specified performance obligations. Similarly, our anticipated partnership with our Bitcoin mining and data center operator provides for sharing of the economic rights to Bitcoin produced by the partnership, motivating our partner to manage mining operations to achieve maximum efficiency. By aligning interests, we believe that we are driving operational excellence, thereby enabling further expansion and accelerating our growth.

# **Environmentally-Beneficial Operations**

The Scrubgrass Plant, our first power generation facility, is located on a 650-acre site in Scrubgrass Township, Venango County, Pennsylvania, and is classified under Pennsylvania law as a Tier II alternative energy source. The Scrubgrass Plant currently has the capacity to produce approximately 85 MW of electricity utilizing CFB technology. Using this CFB technology, the Scrubgrass Plant converts highly polluting coal refuse, a legacy waste from decades of coal mining currently found in sites throughout Pennsylvania and neighboring states, into power and also yields beneficial use ash, a by-product of the combustion process that can be used as fertilizer and filler in other reclamation projects.

The operation of our power generation facility with coal refuse allows the reclamation of large geographic areas that have been ravaged by the presence of coal refuse, the environmentally harmful byproduct of Pennsylvania's legacy coal-mining operations. Coal mining began in earnest in Pennsylvania in the later part of the 19th century to help meet the nation's growing demand for steel, and continued through the 20th century as Pennsylvania and other coal producing states mined the fuel needed to power the industrial revolution in the United States and fight two World Wars. While the placement of coal refuse became more strictly regulated with the passage of the SMCRA, the decades of operations prior to the SMCRA's adoption produced large piles of refuse near now-abandoned coal mining operations. BAMR estimates that today there are 840 coal refuse sites, covering over 8,500 acres, filled by over 220 million of tons of coal refuse in legacy piles located throughout the state. We estimate that, based on the number of coal refuse sites we are currently reclaiming in close proximity to the Scrubgrass Plant, there is at least 30 years' worth of fuel available for that plant alone. We expect the additional plants that we intend to acquire will also have access to a multi-year supply of coal refuse.

In 2015, Pennsylvania estimated that the cost to remediate AML and AMD sites in Pennsylvania exceeded \$16.1 billion, of which coal refuse represented a \$2 billion burden. Coal refuse piles produce significant, adverse local and regional environmental consequences, including the harmful leaching of acidity, iron and iron oxide, aluminum, manganese, and sulfate residues into waterways resulting in significant AMD. This leachate creates both surface water and groundwater contamination and produces streams, ponds and lakes that can be devoid of aquatic life. AMD is the largest source of water pollution in these Pennsylvania communities and afflicts watersheds downstream from the coal refuse piles, while also reducing potable water supplies.

The coal refuse piles cover large areas of otherwise productive land and pose negative consequences for air quality in the surrounding communities. Uncontrolled fugitive dust from these piles creates particulate matter pollution and can act as a wind-borne pathogen, posing significant risks to human health. The piles themselves can also ignite. Wildfires, lightning strikes and campfires on the surface can quickly turn into bigger issues such as underground mine fires. Unattended piles can also spontaneously combust through an oxidation process that generates heat and consequently ignites the combustible components of piles. Burning piles, especially underground fires in the absence of oxygen, produce a variety of adverse uncontrolled ambient impacts, including smoke, particulate, and the release of poisonous and noxious gases – often at ground level. These gases, including carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, ammonia, sulfur trioxide, and oxides of nitrogen and a variety of volatile organic compounds – are all potentially harmful to human, animal and vegetative life. According

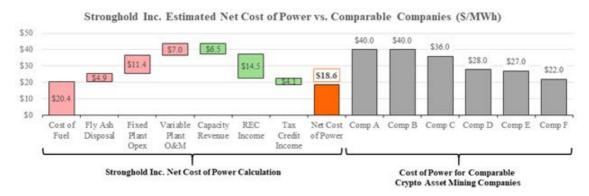
to the PADEP, as of December 14, 2020, there were 92 coal refuse piles burning in Pennsylvania, and over the past decades hundreds of others have burned. PADEP has estimated that 6.6 million tons of coal refuse burn each year in unintended, uncontrolled fires, releasing 9 million tons of carbon dioxide and numerous other air pollutants. When fires occur, the budgets of these environmentally and often economically challenged communities are hardest hit, and it may take years to extinguish the fire.

The CFB technology employed by the Scrubgrass Plant and other coal refuse reclamation facilities was developed to burn coal refuse and similar low-BTU substances by combining the waste with limestone injection for acid gas control in specialized CFB boilers and injecting streams of hot air. These units are also equipped with fabric filter systems to control FPM emissions. The coal refuse-fired units control emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, air toxins, FPM and total particulate matter. These units are some of the lowest emitters of mercury and FPM in the nation. The solid materials are consumed in the combustion process and the by-products are steam, which powers electricity generators, and beneficial use ash, an inert non-acidic substance that can be used in remediation and reclamation activities. The removal, remediation and reclamation of the polluting piles contributes to upwards of 85% of the operating costs of one of these specialized power generation facilities. This business model results in the most efficient method to comprehensively remove the hazardous materials from the environment and remediate the polluting impacts.

Our ownership of the Scrubgrass Plant combined with the environmental benefits which accrue to the region allow us to mine Bitcoin at what we believe to be some of the lowest costs in the industry while making a transformational contribution to the environment.

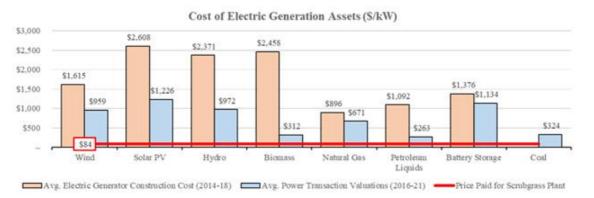
#### **Low-Cost Power Generation**

Given that the price of electricity has a significant impact on the ultimate economics and profitability of crypto asset mining, we believe long-term value is enabled primarily by the reduction of power costs and securing environmentally-beneficial power generation assets. Our miners are powered by the electricity produced by our own assets. Through our ownership of the Scrubgrass Plant and other sources of income (including power purchase agreements with third party miners and, in certain circumstances, the sale of beneficial use ash), we are able to achieve low capital cost, resulting in an estimated cost to mine of approximately \$2,500 per Bitcoin equivalent. Due in part to our low variable cost, we expect to be able to generate power for approximately \$19 per MWh at our Scrubgrass Plant at full capacity. This contributes to our value creation strategy, which is based on four concepts: (i) securing and operating low-cost, environmentally-beneficial energy assets, (ii) protecting operational profitability and efficiently managing risk across different pricing environments, (iii) optimizing returns over invested capital through strategic and innovative sourcing of power and mining equipment (including through partnerships with suppliers) and (iv) potentially extending the economic life of our equipment through the use of low cost of power. The chart below shows an estimate for the fourth quarter of 2021 of the components of our net cost of power and a comparison to our peers' cost of power.



Due to the specialized nature of coal refuse power generation facilities that utilize CFB technology, we estimate the replacement cost for an electricity generation facility utilizing this technology that operates on the scale of our Scrubgrass Plant would be approximately \$500 million. We estimate that the cost to build or buy a renewable energy

power generation asset that operates on the scale of our Scrubgrass Plant would be approximately \$85 million. However, due to their part in the reclamation process, we believe coal refuse plants play a more environmentally-beneficial role than renewable sources of energy. The price that we and our predecessor paid for the Scrubgrass Plant was approximately \$7 million, which represents a significant discount to our estimated cost to build or buy a similar power generation asset. The chart below shows the average cost to build or buy power generation assets in the United States compared to the price we paid for the Scrubgrass Plant (excluding transactions of greenfield renewables assets).



As part of our strategy of securing environmentally-beneficial power generation assets for crypto asset mining, we have entered into a non-binding letter of intent to purchase (i) the Panther Creek Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility that utilizes CFB technology (similar to the Scrubgrass Plant) with 94 MW of electricity generation capacity located near Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania, and (ii) the Third Plant, another coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 134 MW of electricity generation capacity located in Pennsylvania. These facilities are each waste removal and environmental remediation businesses that generate and sell electricity to pay for the environmental reclamation work that they perform. We intend to opportunistically acquire such electricity generation assets to power our increasing crypto asset mining operations in an environmentally-conscious manner.

Pennsylvania has deemed the reclamation of coal refuse sites as an environmental priority, and since the early 1990s an unofficial public-private-partnership has developed between the coal refuse reclamation to energy industry and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In 2016, Pennsylvania adopted a performance based tax credit targeting coal refuse removal by alternative electricity generation facilities utilizing CFB technology, such as the Scrubgrass Plant, Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. To qualify for the tax credit, 75% of the fuel used by these facilities must be comprised of qualified coal refuse, plant design must include circulating fluidized bed technology, utilizing limestone injection and a fabric filter for particulate emissions control, ash produced by the facilities must be put to beneficial use as defined by PADEP, and, finally, at least 50% of that beneficial use ash must be used to reclaim coal mining affected sites.

Due to the environmental benefit produced by our facilities, we also qualify for Tier II RECs in Pennsylvania. These RECs are currently valued at approximately \$14.50 per MWh on a forward-looking basis, based on the price as of May 5, 2021. Particularly challenging and often remote piles also require partnerships with federal, state, and local environmental groups in order to accomplish the remediation and reclamation goals of a project. These projects include the use of federal grants combined with millions of private dollars invested by the coal refuse reclamation to energy project companies. Our coal refuse reclamation to energy facility has frequently partnered with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, BAMR and local environmental groups to remediate these piles. The Scrubgrass Plant has partnered with state agencies since the mid-1990s to identify and reclaim waste sites and have removed over 16 million tons from the environment since start of operations.

While crypto asset mining continues to consume a massive amount of energy worldwide, often generated from traditional and more environmentally-harmful sources, we are able to conduct our activities in a manner that benefits both the environment and our profitability.

#### **Mining Operations**

We believe that through our innovative strategic initiatives and existing commercial relationships, we will continue to efficiently secure high-quality equipment necessary to maximize our operational advantages. Using our access to and control of environmentally beneficial and low-cost power as leverage, our focus is on sourcing the latest crypto asset mining technology and engaging in transactions to align our interests with those of other key industry stakeholders, including equipment manufacturers and high-performance computing infrastructure managers. We are actively adding to our existing fleet of approximately 3,000 miners currently deployed at the Scrubgrass Plant with hash rate capacity of approximately 100 PH/s, through the execution of three definitive agreements since April 1, 2021 with multiple suppliers to purchase over 27,300 miners with a total hash capacity equal to over 2,600 PH/s. Approximately 92% of these miners are scheduled to be delivered in 2021, with the first batch scheduled for delivery in August 2021, and the remaining 8% throughout 2022. The first 16,000 miners are expected to be housed in our data centers at the Scrubgrass Plant with the remainder deployed at future power generation facilities, including, potentially, the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant, starting later this year. Our location in the cooler Northeastern United States and access to cheap power allows us to cool our miners at lower cost than if we were located in warmer regions and also affords us the flexibility to buy power off the grid when the cost of such power is cheaper than our cost of production, resulting in our ability to maximize crypto asset mining operations through low variable costs and cost per MW. Our current focus is on mining Bitcoin, which we may convert to USD to the extent necessary to fund our development.

We believe that buyers of the Bitcoin we mine may ascribe value to the environmentally-beneficial manner in which it was mined in the United States. Furthermore, while our focus is currently on Bitcoin, we may utilize our miners for other crypto assets depending on market conditions, including the relative values of such other crypto assets, and other factors. We intend to operate with flexibility and a goal of maximizing value from our operations. To this end, our business strategy continues to be acquiring power generating assets that allow us to generate electricity at competitive rates in an environmentally-beneficial fashion, securing miners with the latest technology to utilize such power generation capabilities, and re-investing proceeds from our crypto asset mining operations in acquiring additional power generating assets and miners.

## **Crypto Assets and Crypto Asset Mining**

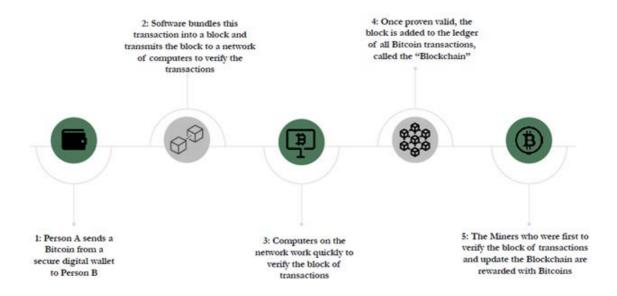
Cryptocurrencies, including Bitcoin, are crypto assets designed to work as fast, secure and decentralized mediums of exchange. Digital assets exist on a blockchain which is a network of computers that together store the history of transactions and validate new transactions without the need for a trusted, central intermediary. Using a blockchain, value can be sent from one account to another in a matter of minutes and with full certainty without requiring the involvement of a bank or financial institution. Each computer on the network stores a copy of all the past transactions and the balance of every account.

Each account is identified by a "public key," the address to which funds are sent to and from. To access the account, however, a "private key" is needed. This private key is closely guarded by the holders of crypto assets, as anyone who possesses the private key for an account can access that account and transfer value. As a result of the relationship between public keys and private keys, every transaction ever done on the blockchain is available for public viewing in perpetuity, but the owners of the accounts may be anonymous.

The Bitcoin network infrastructure is collectively maintained by a decentralized, public user base who are either volunteers or are rewarded with Bitcoin. As the network is decentralized, it does not rely on either governmental authorities or financial institutions to create, transmit or determine the value of the coins and instead value is determined by supply and demand.

Most blockchains, including Bitcoin, validate transactions via a process called "proof of work," which requires that computers compete to solve a complex cryptographic puzzle. Solving this puzzle essentially requires random guesswork and computers generate millions of guesses to arrive at the correct answer, which is referred to as "mining." The computer that solves the puzzle is rewarded with the crypto asset. Recognizing that over time the computing power devoted to mining can increase or decrease, every 10 minutes the Bitcoin network re-calibrates the difficulty of the puzzle to keep a 10 minute delay between each time the puzzle is solved. This delay is known as the "block time."

We plan to mine Bitcoin by using our miners to solve this complex cryptographic puzzle. In return for solving a block, we receive a Bitcoin or other crypto asset reward, depending on the blockchain, which we hold for our account and attempt to sell opportunistically on the market or directly to purchasers to generate a profit. Miners measure their capability in terms of processing power, which is known as in the industry as "hashing" power. Hashing power is measured in terms of the number of hashing algorithms solved (or "hashes") per second, which is the miner's "hash rate." Generally speaking, miners with greater hashing power relative to other miners attempting to solve a block have a higher chance of solving the block and receiving a crypto asset award. See below for an illustration of how Bitcoin mining works.



Since the inception of the Bitcoin network, more and more miners have entered the market competing for the limited number of blocks that are regularly added to the Bitcoin blockchain. The resulting tremendous increase in network hash rate has resulted in increasing levels of "difficulty" being implemented by the Bitcoin network over time. As a result, an individual miner's chances of adding a new block to the blockchain in a given period of time has decreased, creating volatility in a miner's revenue stream. To address this challenge, Bitcoin mining operators began to combine their mining resources into "mining pools" to better compete and reduce volatility in Bitcoin mining revenue. Combining mining devices in a mining pool allows for faster output and better odds of finding a block at the group level, rather than the individual level. As part of our mining operations, we contribute our hash rate to certain pools, subject to their terms of service. Participation in such pools is generally terminable at any time by either party and our risk is limited, as we are able to switch pools at any time or simply not participate in any pools and mine independently. As a participant in such pools, in exchange for providing computing power, we receive a share of the theoretical global mining rewards based on our percent contribution to the Bitcoin mining network, less fees payable to the pool.

### **Customers**

We are not dependent on any one customer or group of customers, and no individual customer, or together with its affiliates, contributed on an aggregate basis 10% or more to our revenues.

# **Government Regulation**

## Crypto Assets

Government regulation of blockchain and crypto assets is being actively considered by the United States federal government via a number of agencies and regulatory bodies, as well as similar entities in other countries. State

government regulations also may apply to our activities and other activities in which we participate or may participate in the future. Other regulatory bodies which are governmental or semi-governmental have shown an interest in regulating or investigating companies engaged in the blockchain or crypto asset business.

Businesses that are engaged in the transmission and custody of Bitcoin and other crypto assets, including brokers and custodians, can be subject to U.S. Treasury Department regulations as money services businesses as well as state money transmitter licensing requirements. Bitcoin and other crypto assets are subject to anti-fraud regulations under federal and state commodity laws, and crypto asset derivative instruments are substantively regulated by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Certain jurisdictions, including, among others, New York and a number of countries outside the United States, have developed regulatory requirements specifically for crypto assets and companies that transact in them.

Regulations may substantially change in the future and it is presently not possible to know how regulations will apply to our business, or when they will be effective. As the regulatory and legal environment evolves, we may become subject to new laws, further regulation by the SEC and other agencies, which may affect our mining and other activities. For instance, various bills have also been proposed in Congress related to our business, which may be adopted and have an impact on us. For additional discussion regarding our belief about the potential risks existing and future regulations pose to our business, see the Section entitled "Risk Factors" herein.

In addition, since transactions in Bitcoin provide a reasonable degree of pseudo anonymity, they are susceptible to misuse for criminal activities, such as money laundering. This misuse, or the perception of such misuse (even if untrue), could lead to greater regulatory oversight of Bitcoin platforms, and there is the possibility that law enforcement agencies could close Bitcoin platforms or other Bitcoin-related infrastructure with little or no notice and prevent users from accessing or retrieving Bitcoin held via such platforms or infrastructure. For example, in her January 2021 nomination hearing before the Senate Finance Committee, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen noted that crypto assets have the potential to improve the efficiency of the financial system but that they can be used to finance terrorism, facilitate money laundering, and support malign activities that threaten U.S. national security interests and the integrity of the U.S. and international financial systems. Accordingly, Secretary Yellen expressed her view that federal regulators needed to look closely at how to encourage the use of crypto assets for legitimate activities while curtailing their use for malign and illegal activities. Furthermore, in December 2020, FinCEN, a unit of the Treasury Department focused on money laundering, proposed a new set of rules for crypto asset-based exchanges aimed at reducing the use of crypto assets for money laundering. These proposed rules would require filing reports with FinCEN regarding crypto asset transactions in excess of \$10,000 and also impose record-keeping requirements for crypto asset transactions in excess of \$3,000 involving users that manage their own private keys. In January 2021, the Biden Administration issued a memorandum freezing federal rulemaking, including these proposed FinCEN rules, to provide additional time for the Biden Administration to review the rulemaking that had been proposed by the Trump Administration. As a result, it remains unclear whether these proposed rules will take

### **Environmental Matters**

Our operations are subject to stringent federal, state and local laws and regulations with regard to air and water quality, hazardous and solid waste management and disposal and other environmental matters. Numerous governmental entities, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and analogous state agencies, have the power to enforce compliance with these laws and regulations and the permits issued under them, often requiring difficult and costly actions. The more significant of these existing environmental laws and regulations include the following U.S. legal standards, as amended from time to time:

- the Clean Air Act ("CAA"), which imposes standards (including existing and new national ambient air quality standards ("NAAQS") for
  ground-level ozone and particulate matter) that restrict the emission of air pollutants from many sources, imposes various pre-construction,
  operational, monitoring, permitting and reporting requirements, and that the EPA has relied upon as authority for adopting climate change
  regulatory initiatives relating to GHG emissions;
- the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), which regulates discharges of pollutants from facilities to state and federal waters and establishes the extent to which waterways are subject to federal jurisdiction and rulemaking as protected waters of the United States:

- the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 ("CERCLA"), which imposes liability on generators, transporters, disposers and arrangers of hazardous substances at sites where hazardous substance releases have occurred or are threatening to occur:
- the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), which governs the generation, treatment, storage, transport and disposal of hazardous and nonhazardous solid waste, classifies coal combustion residuals ("CCRs") as nonhazardous wastes, and establishes standards for landfill and surface impoundment placement, design, operation and closure, groundwater monitoring, corrective action, and post-closure care;
- the National Environmental Policy Act, which requires federal agencies to evaluate major agency actions (including their permitting and licensing decisions for siting approvals and other matters) having the potential to impact the environment and that may require the preparation of environmental assessments and more detailed environmental impact statements that may be made available for public review and comment; and
- the Toxic Substances Control Act, which gives EPA the authority to require reporting, recordkeeping and testing requirements, and to place restrictions relating to chemical substances and/or mixtures, including polychlorinated biphenyls.

Additionally, there exist state laws and regulations, including State Implementation Plans ("SIPs"), as well as local ordinances where we operate, that also have similar environmental laws and regulations governing many of these same types of activities. Under these federal and state legal requirements, owners or operators of air emission sources are responsible for obtaining permits and for annual compliance and reporting tasks. Any failure by us to comply with these federal or state laws, regulations and regulatory initiatives or controls may result in the assessment of sanctions, including administrative, civil, and criminal penalties; the imposition of investigatory, remedial, and corrective action obligations or the incurrence of capital expenditures; the occurrence of restrictions, delays or cancellations in the permitting, development or expansion of projects; and the issuance of injunctions restricting or prohibiting some or all of our activities in a particular area. Historically, our environmental compliance costs have not had a material adverse impact on our financial condition and results of operations; however, there can be no assurance that such costs will not be material in the future.

Over time, the trend in environmental laws and regulations is typically to place more restrictions and limitations on activities that may adversely affect the environment. If existing legislative or regulatory requirements or enforcement policies change or new legislative, regulatory or enforcement initiatives are developed and implemented in the future, we may be required to make significant, unanticipated capital and operating expenditures. Examples of environmental laws or regulatory initiatives that impact our ability to operate through the firing of coal refuse include the following:

### Firing of Coal Refuse

In April 2020, the EPA published a final rule establishing a new subcategory in the Mercury and Air Toxic Standards ("MATS") applicable to a narrow set of power generation facilities that fire certain types of coal refuse, sometimes also referred to as "culm," "gob" or "boney," that are found in the locality of inactive or abandoned mining operations. Coal refuse, is the material left over from coal mining, usually as tailings piles or spoil tips. The subcategory specifically applies to a limited set of existing electric utility steam generating units in Pennsylvania and West Virginia firing eastern bituminous coal refuse, which includes the Scrubgrass Plant, and is only for emissions of acid gas hazardous air pollutants. To qualify for the new subcategory, these existing electric utility steam generating units must have had construction of their units commenced on or before May 3, 2011 and have a net summer capacity of no greater than 150 MW that is designed to burn, and that is burning, 75% or more (by heat input) eastern bituminous coal refuse on a 12-month rolling average basis. In establishing this new subcategory, the EPA recognized that there are differences in the acid gas HAP emissions from electric utility steam generating units firing eastern bituminous coal refuse and those firing other types of coal refuse, such as anthracite coal refuse. Without the continued existence of this subcategory under MATS, it may prove challenging for one or more of those power generation facilities covered under this subcategory to continue to operate in an economic manner.

In January 2021, President Joe Biden entered office and the EPA is now under the direction of the Biden Administration. In the event that the EPA under the Biden Administration were to reconsider the continued

existence of the new subcategory, or if Pennsylvania, under applicable state law, were to implement more rigid standards in the future that limited the utility of this MATS subcategory, we and the other power generation facility operators covered under the current new subcategory could experience material adverse impacts to our business and results of operations.

### Coal Combustion Residuals

In 2015, EPA published a final rule to regulate the disposal of CCR from electric utilities as solid waste. The federal regulation classifies CCR as "nonhazardous waste" and allows for beneficial use of CCR with some restrictions. The regulation applies to all new and existing landfills, new and existing surface impoundments receiving CCR and existing surface impoundments located at stations generating electricity (regardless of fuel source), which were no longer receiving CCR but contained liquids as of the effective date of the rule. The rule establishes requirements regarding landfill design, structural integrity design and assessment criteria for surface impoundments, groundwater monitoring, protection and remedial procedures and other operational and reporting procedures to ensure the safe disposal and management of CCR.

In July 2018, EPA published a final rule amending the 2015 CCR rule, referred to as "Phase 1, Part 1", that revises certain closure deadlines and groundwater protection standards in the 2015 CCR rule, but does not change the primary requirements for groundwater monitoring, corrective action, inspections and maintenance, and closure. In October 2018, a coalition of environmental groups filed a petition for review in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ("D.C. Circuit Court") challenging EPA's Phase 1, Part 1 revisions to the CCR rule. In March 2019, the D.C. Circuit Court issued an order in the Phase 1, Part 1 litigation granting EPA's motion to remand the rule without vacatur. To date, EPA has finalized two notice-and-comment rulemakings to implement the court's decision on remand. The "Part A" rule, which was promulgated in August 2020, establishes an April 11, 2021 deadline to cease placement of CCR and non-CCR waste streams into unlined ash basins and initiate closure, and the "Part B" rule, which was promulgated in November 2020, establishes procedures to allow facilities to request approval to operate an existing CCR surface impoundment with an alternate liner. A future rulemaking is expected to address legacy impoundments. In addition to the requirements of the federal CCR rule, CCR landfills and surface impoundments will continue to be regulated by the states, including Pennsylvania.

# National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Under the CAA, the EPA sets NAAQS for six principal pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment, including ground-level ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide, some of which may result from coal combustion. Areas meeting the NAAQS are designated "attainment areas" while those that do not meet the NAAQS are considered "nonattainment areas." Each state must develop a plan to bring nonattainment areas into compliance with the NAAQS, which may include imposing operating limits on individual plants.

The EPA is required to review NAAQS at five-year intervals. For example, in 2015, the EPA issued a final rule under the CAA, making the NAAQS for ground-level ozone more stringent. Since that time, the EPA has issued area designations with respect to ground-level ozone and final requirements that apply to state, local, and tribal air agencies for implementing the 2015 NAAQS for ground-level ozone and, more recently, in December 2020, the EPA published notice of a final action that, upon conducting a periodic review of the ozone standard in accord with CAA requirements, elected to retain the 2015 ozone NAAQS without revision on a going-forward basis. However, this December 2020 final action is subject to legal challenge and the NAAQS may be subject to further reconsideration and possible revision.

State implementation of the revised NAAQS could, among other things, require modification of SIPs to detail how a state will attain or maintain its attainment status. As part of this process, it is possible that the EPA or an analogous state agency may require reductions of emissions from our power generation facility to reach attainment status for ground-level ozone, fine particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide or sulfur dioxide as well as result in longer permitting timelines. Our costs to comply with such matters could be material.

### Cross-State Air Pollution

During 2011, the EPA published a final rule known as the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule ("CSAPR"), which requires 28 states in the eastern half of the United States, including Pennsylvania, to reduce power plant emissions

that cross state lines and contribute to ground-level ozone and fine particle pollution in other states. A cap and trade system is used to reduce the target pollutants—sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. Our operations are subject to the CSAPR and comply through operation of existing controls and purchases of allowances on the open market, as needed.

In 2016, the EPA published a final rule to update the CSAPR to address the 2008 ozone NAAQS. Under this 2016 final rule, the EPA found that 22 states, including Pennsylvania, affect the ability of downwind states to attain and maintain the 2008 ground-level ozone NAAQS and, accordingly, issued federal implementation plans that both updated existing CSAPR nitrogen oxide ozone season emission budgets for electric generating units within those states and implemented those budgets through modifications to the CSAPR nitrogen oxide ozone season allowance trading program. Implementation started in the 2017 ozone season (May through September 2017). Affected facilities began to receive fewer ozone season nitric oxide allowances in 2017, resulting in the need to purchase additional allowances. Additionally, in September 2019, the D.C. Circuit Court remanded a portion of the 2016 final rule to the EPA. In October 2020, the EPA issued a proposed rule addressing 21 states' (including Pennsylvania's) outstanding obligations with respect of the 2008 ozone NAAQS. The proposed rule could result in affected facilities receiving fewer ozone season nitrogen allowances as soon as the 2021 ozone season. While our CSAPR compliance costs to date have been immaterial, the future availability of and cost to purchase allowances to meet the emission reduction requirements is uncertain at this time, but it could be material if our facility will need to purchase additional allowances based on reduced allocations.

### Regional Haze

The EPA's "Regional Haze Rule" is intended to reduce haze and protect visibility in designated federal areas, and sets guidelines for determining the best available retrofit technology ("BART") at affected plants and how to demonstrate "reasonable progress" toward attaining natural visibility conditions by the end of 2064. The Regional Haze Rule requires states to consider five factors when establishing BART for sources, including the availability of emission controls, the cost of the controls, and the effect of reducing emission on visibility in Class I areas (including wilderness areas, national parks, and similar areas). The statute would require compliance within five years after the EPA approves the relevant SIP or issues a federal implementation plan, although individual states may impose more stringent compliance schedules. In 2017, the EPA published a final rule affirming the continued validity of the EPA's previous determination allowing states to rely on the CSAPR to satisfy BART requirements.

The second phase of the Regional Haze Rule began in 2019. States must submit regional haze plans for this second implementation period in 2021 to demonstrate reasonable progress towards reducing visibility impairment in Class I areas. States may need to require additional emissions controls for visibility impairing pollutants, including on BART sources, during the second implementation period. We currently cannot predict the impact of this second implementation period, if any, on our operations.

## Climate Change

In the United States, no comprehensive climate change legislation has been implemented at the federal level but President Biden has pursued executive actions, is expected to pursue additional executive actions, and may pursue new climate change legislation or other regulatory initiatives to promote his regulatory agenda and limit GHG emissions. Moreover, with the U.S. Supreme Court finding that GHG emissions constitute a pollutant under the CAA, the EPA adopted rules in 2011 that, among other things, regulate GHG emissions from certain stationary sources, including a preconstruction permitting program for certain new construction or major modifications that may trigger more stringent GHG requirements upon modification of such sources, the costs of which may be material. Additionally, in 2015, the EPA issued a final rule establishing new source performance standards ("NSPS") for carbon dioxide emissions from newly constructed coal-fueled electric generating plants, which reflects the partial capture and storage of those emissions from the plants. The EPA also promulgated NSPS applicable to modified and reconstructed electric generating units, which will serve as a floor future stringent standard determinations for such units. The NSPS could have an impact on our operations to the extent we plan to construct and/or modify or reconstruct electric generating units. In December 2018, the EPA published proposed revisions to the final NSPS for new, modified, and reconstructed coal-fired electric utility steam generating units proposing that the best system of emissions reduction for these units is highly efficient generation that would be equivalent to supercritical steam conditions for larger units and sub-critical steam conditions for smaller units, and not partial

carbon capture and sequestration, as was finalized in the 2015 NSPS. Challenges to the GHG NSPS are being held in abeyance at this time.

More recently, in July 2019, the EPA adopted the final Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Electric Utility Generating Units, known as the Affordable Clean Energy ("ACE") Rule. The 2019 ACE Rule established carbon dioxide emission rules for existing power plants under CAA Section 111(d) and replaced the EPA's more burdensome 2015 Clean Power Plan Rule. In accordance with the ACE Rule, the EPA determined that heat rate improvement measures are the best system of emissions reductions for existing coal-fired electric generating units. However, in January 2021, the D.C. Circuit Court vacated and remanded to the EPA the ACE Rule. As a result, there exists the possibility for further regulatory action by the Biden Administration on power plant GHG emissions, which action could result in the imposition of more stringent and costly actions on power plant operators.

At the international level, there exists the United Nations-sponsored "Paris Agreement," which is a non-binding agreement for nations to limit their greenhouse gas emissions through individually-determined reduction goals every five years after 2020. While the United States withdrew from the Paris Agreement under the Trump Administration on January 20, 2021, President Biden issued an executive order recommitting the United States to the Paris Agreement, effective February 19, 2021, and calling for the federal government to begin formulating the United States' nationally determined emissions reduction goal under the agreement. With the United States recommitting to the Paris Agreement, executive orders may be issued or federal legislation or regulatory initiatives may be adopted to achieve the agreement's goals, which could require us to incur increased, potentially significant, costs to comply with such requirements.

Litigation risks may also increase, as it is possible that states, municipalities and other parties, including proponents of renewable energy that are opposed to the burning of fossil fuels, including coal, seek to further restrict GHG emissions regardless of federal legislative and regulatory initiatives on the matter. Moreover, financial risks could increase, as stockholders and bondholders currently invested in fossil fuel energy companies concerned about the potential effects of climate change may elect in the future to shift some or all of their investments into non-fossil fuel energy related sectors. Institutional investors who provide financing to fossil fuel energy companies also have become more attentive to sustainability issues and some of them may elect not to provide funding for fossil fuel energy companies. Limitation of investments in and financings for fossil fuel energy could result in reduced access to capital, higher costs of capital and the restriction, delay, or cancellation of development and production activities.

While we cannot predict the outcome of legislative or regulatory initiatives related to climate change, we anticipate that initiatives to reduce GHG emissions will continue to develop. The adoption of state or federal legislation or regulatory programs to reduce GHG emissions could require us to incur increased operating costs, such as costs to purchase and operate emissions monitoring and control systems, to acquire emissions allowances, or comply with new regulatory or reporting requirements. Additionally, litigation, and financial risks may result in restrictions or cancellations in development and expansion activities or increases in the cost of consuming hydrocarbons and thereby reducing demand for fossil fuels, including coal. Moreover, the increased competitiveness of alternative energy sources (such as wind, solar, geothermal and tidal) could reduce demand for fossil fuels. Also, there is the possibility that financial institutions will be required to adopt policies that limit funding for fossil fuel energy companies as President Biden recently signed an executive order calling for the development of a climate finance plan and federal agencies under the Biden Administration are pursuing activities to address climate-related risks in the financial sector. Finally, increasing concentrations of GHG in the Earth's atmosphere may produce climate changes that have significant physical effects, such as increased frequency and severity of storms, droughts, floods, rising sea levels and other climatic events. Consequently, one or more of these developments could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

### Remediation Activities

We conduct business on properties that have been used for coal-fired power generation facility operations for many years. The properties we own or operate were acquired from third parties whose actions with respect to the management and disposal or release of coal, wastes or other hazardous substances at or from such properties were not under our control prior to acquiring them. Additionally, we are responsible under applicable federal and state rules for the disposal of CCR in operating landfills and surface impoundments and closure of such units associated with our operations, including location restrictions, design and operating criteria, groundwater monitoring,

corrective action and closure requirements, and post-closure care. Under environmental laws and regulations such as CERCLA and RCRA or analogous state laws, we could incur strict joint and several liability due to damages to natural resources or for remediating CCR, coal, wastes or other hazardous substances disposed of or released, including by prior owners or operators. Moreover, an accidental release of materials into the environment during the course of our operations may cause us to incur significant costs and liabilities. We also could incur costs related to the clean-up of third-party sites to which we sent regulated substances for disposal and for damages to natural resources or other claims related to releases of regulated substances at or from such third-party sites.

## Cooling Water Intake

Our operations are subject to a variety of rules governing water use and discharge including, in particular, the CWA Section 316(b) rule issued by the EPA that seeks to protect fish and other aquatic organisms by requiring existing steam electric generating facilities to utilize the best technology available ("BTA") for cooling water intake structures. In 2014, the EPA published its final standards based on CWA Section 316(b) that require certain subject facilities to choose among seven BTA options to reduce fish impingement. In addition, certain facilities must conduct studies to assist permitting authorities to determine whether and what site-specific controls, if any, are required to reduce entrainment of aquatic organisms. It is possible that this decision-making process, which includes permitting and public input, could result in the need to install closed-cycle cooling systems (closed-cycle cooling towers), or other technology. Finally, the standards require that new units added to an existing facility to increase generation capacity are required to reduce both impingement and entrainment.

### **Intellectual Property**

We actively use specific hardware and software for our crypto asset mining operation. In certain cases, source code and other software assets may be subject to an open source license, as much technology development underway in this sector is open source. For these works, we intend to adhere to the terms of any license agreements that may be in place.

We do not currently own, and do not have any current plans to seek, any patents in connection with our existing and planned blockchain and crypto asset related operations. We do expect to rely upon trade secrets, trademarks, service marks, trade names, copyrights and other intellectual property rights and expect to license the use of intellectual property rights owned and controlled by others. In addition, we have developed and may further develop certain proprietary software applications for purposes of our crypto asset mining operation.

## Competition

In crypto asset mining, companies, individuals and groups generate units of crypto assets through mining. Miners can range from individual enthusiasts to professional mining operations with dedicated data centers. Miners may organize themselves in mining pools. The Company competes or may in the future compete with other companies that focus all or a portion of their activities on owning or operating crypto asset exchanges, developing programming for the blockchain, and mining activities. At present, the information concerning the activities of these enterprises is not readily available as the vast majority of the participants in this sector do not publish information publicly or the information may be unreliable. Published sources of information include "bitcoin.org" and "blockchain.info"; however, the reliability of that information and its continued availability cannot be assured.

Several public companies (traded in the U.S. and internationally), such as the following, may be considered to compete with us, although we believe there is no company, including the following, which engages in the same scope of activities as we do.

- Overstock.com Inc.
- Bitcoin Investment Trust
- Blockchain Industries, Inc. (formerly Omni Global Technologies, Inc.)
- Bitfarms Technologies Ltd. (formerly Blockchain Mining Ltd)

- DMG Blockchain Solutions Inc.
- Digihost International, Inc.
- Hive Blockchain Technologies Inc.
- Hut 8 Mining Corp.
- HashChain Technology, Inc.
- MGT Capital Investments, Inc.
- DPW Holdings, Inc.
- Layer1 Technologies, LLC
- Northern Data AG
- Riot Blockchain
- Marathon Patent Corporation

While there is limited available information regarding our non-public competitors, we believe that our recent acquisition and deployment of miners (as discussed further above) positions us well among the publicly traded companies involved in the crypto asset mining industry. The crypto asset industry is a highly competitive and evolving industry and new competitors and/or emerging technologies could enter the market and affect our competitiveness in the future.

## **Accounting for Digital Currencies**

The lack of U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (U.S. GAAP) instruction regarding the proper accounting treatment of digital currency assets has created uncertainty regarding the reporting and proper asset classification of digital currency holdings. Management intends to exercise its business judgment in determining appropriate accounting treatment for the recognition of revenue from mining of digital currencies. Management, in conjunction with its outside public accountants and its auditors, has examined various factors surrounding the substance of the Company's operations and the available guidance published for public company accounting practices in the FASB Accounting Standards Codification.

Digital currencies are included in current assets in the combined balance sheet. Digital currencies are recorded at cost less any impairment. An intangible asset with an indefinite useful life is not amortized but assessed for impairment annually, or more frequently, when events or changes in circumstances occur indicating that it is more likely than not that the indefinite-lived asset is impaired. Impairment exists when the carrying amount exceeds its fair value. In testing for impairment, the Company has the option to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that an impairment exists. If it is determined that it is not more likely than not that an impairment exists, a quantitative impairment test is not necessary. If the Company, concludes otherwise, it is required to perform a quantitative impairment test. To the extent an impairment loss is recognized, the loss establishes the new cost basis of the asset. Subsequent reversal of impairment losses is not permitted. The Company accounts for its gains or losses in accordance with the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method of accounting.

## **Human Capital Resources**

As of May 1, 2021, we had 31 employees. We are not a party to any collective bargaining agreements. We consider our relations with our employees to be excellent.

### **Facilities**

Our corporate headquarters are located at 228 Park Ave S, New York, New York 10003. Additionally, we own or lease the following facilities and plants:

Property Location Owned/Leased

Owned

Scrubgrass Plant Venango County, Pennsylvania

We believe that our facilities are adequate for our current operations.

## **Legal Proceedings**

Due to the nature of our business, we are, from time to time, involved in other routine litigation or subject to disputes or claims related to our business activities, including workers' compensation claims and employment related disputes. In the opinion of our management, none of the pending litigation, disputes or claims against us, if decided adversely, will have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

### **Recent Developments**

#### **Acquisitions**

On April 1, 2021, Q Power entered into an Acquisition and Contribution Agreement with Aspen for the acquisition of Aspen's 30% limited partnership interest in Scrubgrass LP. Q Power subsequently assigned its interests in the Acquisition and Contribution Agreement to us. The consideration for the Aspen Interest was \$2.0 million in cash and 200,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock in Stronghold Inc. The acquisition of Aspen's limited partnership interest in Scrubgrass LP, and subsequent contribution of such interest to Stronghold LLC pursuant to the Reorganization, had the net effect of indirectly consolidating all of the equity interests of Scrubgrass LP at Stronghold LLC.

On March 3, 2021, SDM entered into a non-binding letter of intent with Olympus for the purchase of (i) the Scrubgrass Plant, (ii) the Panther Creek Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 94 MW of electricity generation capacity located near Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania and (iii) the Third Plant, a coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facility with 134 MW of electricity generation capacity located in Pennsylvania. We completed the acquisition of the Aspen Interest on April 1, 2021. We continue to evaluate the acquisition of both the Panther Creek Plant and the Third Plant. The consideration for the Panther Creek Plant is anticipated to be approximately \$3.0 million in cash and \$10,000,000 of Stronghold LLC Units. The consideration for the Third Plant is expected to be approximately \$3.0 million in cash and \$6,250,000 of Stronghold LLC Units. We plan to store newly acquired miners at each of these facilities and use power generated by these plants to power mining operations in an environmentally conscious manner.

### **Private Placements**

On April 1, 2021, we entered into the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement with certain investors to sell 3,400,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock of Stronghold Inc. in a private offering at a price of \$25.00 per share to various accredited investors in reliance upon exemptions from registration pursuant to Regulation D under the Securities Act for aggregate consideration of approximately \$85.0 million.

Upon the closing of the Series A Private Placement, we entered into the Registration Rights Agreement with the investors in the Series A Private Placement, pursuant to which, among other things, the Company agreed to prepare and file a registration statement covering the resale of all Registrable Securities not already covered by an existing and effective registration statement or prior to the 120th day following the closing of the Series A Private Placement. See "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions— Registration Rights Agreement" for additional information.

Further, pursuant to the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement, Stronghold Inc., the investors in the Series A Private Placement and Key Holders entered into the ROFR Agreement. Under the ROFR Agreement, the Key Holders agreed to grant a right of first refusal to Stronghold Inc. to purchase all or any portion of capital stock of Stronghold Inc, held by a Key Holder or issued to a Key Holder after the date of the ROFR Agreement, not including any shares of Series A Preferred Stock or common stock issued or issuable upon conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock. The Key Holders also granted a secondary refusal right to the investors in the Series A Private Placement to purchase all or any eligible capital stock not purchased by Stronghold Inc. pursuant to their right of first refusal. The ROFR Agreement also provides certain co-sale rights to investors in the Series A Private

Placement to participate in any sale or similar transfer of any shares of common stock owned by a Key Holder or issued to a Key Holder after the Series A Private Placement, on the terms and conditions specified in a written notice from a Key Holder. The investors, however, are not obligated to participate in such sales or similar transfers. The co-sale and rights of first refusal under the ROFR Agreement will terminate upon the consummation of this offering.

On April 26, 2021, we commenced the Series B Private Placement for shares of our Series B Preferred Stock. We currently expect to raise approximately \$20.0 million from the Series B Private Placement, which is anticipated to close on or around May 14, 2021. The terms of the Series B Preferred Stock are substantially similar to the Series A Preferred Stock, except for differences in the stated value of such shares in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company or certain deemed liquidation events. In connection with the Series B Private Placement, we expect to enter into a stock purchase agreement, registration rights agreement and right of first refusal and co-sale agreement substantially similar to those entered into in connection with the Series A Private Placement.

### Reorganization

On April 1, 2021, we effected the Reorganization. See "Prospectus Summary—Corporate Reorganization" and "Corporate Reorganization" for more information.

#### MANAGEMENT

#### **Directors and Executive Officers**

Set forth below are the names, ages as of April 1, 2021, positions and descriptions of the business experience of our executive officers, directors and director nominees.

Name	Age	Position with Stronghold Inc.
Gregory A. Beard	49	Chief Executive Officer, President and Co-Chairman of the Board
William B. Spence	63	Co-Chairman of the Board
Ricardo R. A. Larroudé	42	Chief Financial Officer
Richard J. Shaffer	45	Senior Vice President- Asset Manager
		Director Nominee
		Director Nominee

### **Current Director and Executive Officers**

Gregory A. Beard has served our Chief Executive Officer, President and Co-Chairman of our board of directors since March 2021. Mr. Beard was the Global Head of Natural Resources, Senior Partner, member of the Management Committee and Senior Advisor at Apollo Global Management from 2010 to 2020. In such roles, Mr. Beard oversaw Apollo's investment activities in the energy, metals and mining and agriculture sectors. Prior to his time at Apollo, Mr. Beard was a senior Managing Director at Riverstone Holdings, an energy, power and infrastructure-focused private equity firm. He began his career as a financial analyst at Goldman Sachs, where he played an active role in energy-sector principal investment activities. The funds where Mr. Beard held these senior leadership positions have invested billions of dollars in natural resources related investments. During his career, Mr. Beard sourced and managed some of the most profitable deals in the energy private equity sector. Mr. Beard is a founding and managing member of Q Power together with its subsidiary Stronghold Digital Mining and currently serves on the board of directors of Scrubgrass LP, Double Eagle Energy Holdings III, Skeena Resources Ltd., Andros Capital Partners LLC, and Parallaxes Capital. He also serves on the board of directors of The Conservation Fund, a non-profit focused on land conservation. Mr. Beard received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois at Urbana. We believe Mr. Beard's extensive background in the energy industry makes him well qualified to serve on our board of directors.

William B. Spence has served as Co-Chairman of our board of directors since March 2021. Mr. Spence has been digitally mining crypto assets since 2018 and has over 40 years of energy-related experience. Mr. Spence has been involved with coal refuse reclamation since 1993. He began his career as an engineer with Mobil Oil Corporation in Denver, Colorado. Mr. Spence became a project manager with Dr Otto Gold Engineering in Cologne, West Germany before moving to Keplinger and Associates in Houston, Texas. From there, Mr. Spence served as a Vice President with Coral Petroleum/Oil & Gas. In 1993, Mr. Spence founded Dark Diamond and later Coal Valley Resources, where he successfully mined and reclaimed millions of tons of coal refuse along with revegetating thousands of acres of land throughout Western Pennsylvania. In 2007, Mr. Spence became the Chief Executive Officer of Targe Energy, a position he held until he resigned due to health reasons in 2017. Mr. Spence is a proud cancer survivor. Mr. Spence is a founding and managing member of Q Power together with its subsidiary Stronghold Digital Mining and serves on the board of Scrubgrass Reclamation Company, L.P. Mr. Spence is a graduate of West Virginia University with a B.S. Degree in Mining Engineering. We believe Mr. Spence's background in coal refuse, and the energy industry generally, and his experience with mining crypto assets makes him well qualified to serve on our board of directors.

**Ricardo R. A. Larroudé** has served as our Chief Financial Officer since March 2021. Prior to that, in 2020, Mr. Larroudé was the General Manager of APFM Emerging Businesses division (a healthcare marketing company owned by General Atlantic and Silverlake), where he managed all non-core and international existing businesses and was responsible for the launch and acquisitions of new ventures. He joined APFM from Anheuser-Busch Inbev (a 3G Capital co-controlled company) where he lead the company's global financial risk management operations (including capital structure, forex and commodity management) and other merger and acquisition related responsibilities from 2017 to 2020. Prior to being a senior operating executive, from 2010 to 2017, Mr. Larroudé served at Apollo Global Management where he primarily focused on energy, metals and mining and agriculture

related investments. During his private equity career, Mr. Larroudé was responsible for executing multiple investments, managing portfolio companies, starting new businesses, evaluating and executing rollup opportunities and managing investment exits. He began his career as an Investment Banking Analyst at Lehman Brothers' Global Communications and Media Group in 2003. Mr. Larroudé received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Fundação Getulio Vargas in São Paulo, Brazil.

Richard J. Shaffer has served as our Senior Vice President – Asset Manager since March 2021. Prior to that, Mr. Shaffer served as General Manager of the Scrubgrass Plant since March 2016. Mr. Shaffer has management responsibilities that include safety and environmental compliance, plant operations and maintenance, supply contracts, and compliance with PJM, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and National Electric Reliability Council (NERC). From 2013 to 2016, Mr. Shaffer was the Fuel and Environmental Manager for the Scrubgrass Plant. Mr. Shaffer started at the Scrubgrass Plant in 2003 as the Environmental Manager and was responsible for environmental compliance of the facility. Mr. Shaffer worked with the PADEP on several major permitting projects for the facility to give it both operational flexibility and to cause it to be a top emissions performer. Mr. Shaffer's reputation earned him an appointment as an industry member to the PADEP Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee in 2015, an appointment he still holds. Prior to his employment at the Scrubgrass Plant, Mr. Shaffer worked for an environmental remediation and consulting company that provided remediation and service work to industry. Mr. Shaffer graduated from Thiel College with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science.

There are no family relationships among any of our executive officers or directors.

### **Composition of Our Board of Directors**

Our board of directors currently consists of two members. Prior to the date that the Class A common stock is first traded on Nasdaq, our board of directors is expected to consist of members. Each director shall hold office for the term for which he or she is elected, and until his or her successor shall have been elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal.

Our amended and restated bylaws provide that the number of directors may be set and changed by resolution of the board of directors.

## **Leadership Structure of the Board**

Messrs. Beard and Spence will serve as co-chairmen of our board of directors. Our board of directors has concluded that our current leadership structure is appropriate at this time. Our board of directors will periodically review our leadership structure and may make such changes in the future as it deems appropriate.

## **Director Independence**

Under the listing requirements and rules of Nasdaq, unless we determine to take advantage of certain exemptions available to controlled companies, independent directors must comprise a majority of our board of directors within a specified period after the completion of this offering. In addition, the rules of Nasdaq require that, subject to specified exceptions, each member of a listed company's audit, compensation, and nominating and corporate governance committees must be independent. Audit committee members must also satisfy the independence criteria set forth in Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act. Under the rules of Nasdaq, a director will qualify as an "independent director" only if, in the opinion of that company's board of directors, that person does not have a relationship that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

Additionally, compensation committee members must not have a relationship with us that is material to the director's ability to be independent from management in connection with the duties of a compensation committee member.

Audit committee members must also satisfy the independence criteria set forth in Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act. To be considered to be independent for purposes of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act, a member of an audit committee of a listed company may not, other than in his or her capacity as a member of the audit committee, the board of directors, or any other board committee: (1) accept, directly or indirectly, any consulting,

advisory, or other compensatory fee from the listed company or any of its subsidiaries; or (2) be an affiliated person of the listed company or any of its subsidiaries.

Our board of directors has undertaken a review of its composition, the composition of its committees and the independence of each director. Based upon information requested from and provided by each director concerning his background, employment and affiliations, including family relationships, our board of directors has determined that Messrs. , representing a majority of our directors, do not have any relationships that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director and that each of these directors is "independent" as that term is defined under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and the listing requirements of Nasdaq. Our board of directors also determined that Messrs. , who will comprise our nominating and corporate governance committee, satisfy the respective independence standards for those committees established by applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and the listing requirements of Nasdaq. In making this determination, our board of directors considered the current and prior relationships that each non-employee director has with our company and all other facts and circumstances our board of directors deemed relevant in determining their independence, including the beneficial ownership of our capital stock by each non-employee director and the transactions involving each non-employee director, if any, described in "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions."

#### **Committees of the Board of Directors**

Our board of directors will establish an audit committee, a compensation committee and a nominating and governance committee prior to the completion of this offering. The composition and responsibilities of each of the committees of our board of directors are described below. Following the completion of this offering, copies of the charters for each committee will be available on our website. Members will serve on these committees until their resignation or until otherwise determined by our board of directors. Our board of directors may establish other committees as it deems necessary or appropriate from time to time.

### **Audit Committee**

Rules implemented by Nasdaq and the SEC require us to have an audit committee comprised of at least three directors who meet the independence and experience standards established by Nasdaq and the Exchange Act, subject to transitional relief during the one-year period following the completion of this offering. Our audit committee will initially consist of directors, of whom are independent under the rules of the SEC. As required by the rules of the SEC and listing standards of Nasdaq, after the applicable transition period, the audit committee will consist solely of independent directors.

, and will initially serve as members of our audit committee, with serving as chair of the audit committee. Each member of the audit committee is financially literate, and our board of directors has determined that defined in applicable SEC rules.

This committee will oversee, review, act on and report on various auditing and accounting matters to our board of directors, including: the selection of our independent accountants, the scope of our annual audits, fees to be paid to the independent accountants, the performance of our independent accountants and our accounting practices. In addition, the audit committee will oversee our compliance programs relating to legal and regulatory requirements. We expect to adopt an audit committee charter defining the committee's primary duties in a manner consistent with the rules of the SEC and applicable Nasdaq standards.

## **Compensation Committee**

Our compensation committee will consist of , and , with serving as the chair of the compensation committee. Our board of directors has determined that all members of the Compensation Committee are independent under the current listing standards of Nasdaq and are "non-employee directors" as defined in Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act.

The compensation committee will review and approve, or recommend that our board of directors approve, the compensation of our chief executive officer, review and recommend to our board of directors the compensation of our non-employee directors, review and approve, or recommend that our board of directors approve, the terms of

compensatory arrangements with our executive officers, administer our incentive compensation and benefit plans, select and retain independent compensation consultants and assess whether any of our compensation policies and programs has the potential to encourage excessive risk-taking. We expect to adopt a compensation committee charter defining the committee's primary duties in a manner consistent with the rules of the SEC and applicable Nasdaq standards.

## Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our nominating and corporate governance committee will consist of , and , with serving as the chair of the nominating and corporate governance committee. Our board of directors has determined that all members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are independent under the current listing standards of Nasdaq.

The nominating and corporate governance committee will identify, evaluate and recommend qualified nominees to serve on our board of directors, consider and make recommendations to our board of directors regarding the composition of our board of directors and its committees, and oversee our internal corporate governance processes, review and approve or disapprove of related party transactions, maintain a management succession plan and oversee an annual evaluation of the board of directors' performance. We expect to adopt a nominating and corporate governance committee charter defining the committee's primary duties in a manner consistent with the rules of the SEC and applicable Nasdaq standards.

### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

In connection with this offering, our board of directors will adopt a code of business conduct and ethics applicable to our employees, directors and officers, in accordance with applicable U.S. federal securities laws and the corporate governance rules of Nasdaq. Any waiver of this code may be made only by our board of directors and will be promptly disclosed as required by applicable U.S. federal securities laws and the corporate governance rules of Nasdaq.

### **Corporate Governance Guidelines**

In connection with this offering, our board of directors will adopt corporate governance guidelines in accordance with the corporate governance rules of Nasdaq.

## **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

None of the anticipated members of the compensation committee is currently or has been at any time one of our employees. None of our executive officers currently serves, or has served during the last year, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of our board of directors or compensation committee.

## **Legal Proceedings**

To our knowledge, (i) no director or executive officer has been a director or executive officer of any business which has filed a bankruptcy petition or had a bankruptcy petition filed against it during the past ten years; (ii) no director or executive officer has been convicted of a criminal offense or is the subject of a pending criminal proceeding during the past ten years; (iii) no director or executive officer has been the subject of any order, judgment or decree of any court permanently or temporarily enjoining, barring, suspending or otherwise limiting his involvement in any type of business, securities or banking activities during the past ten years; and (iv) no director or officer has been found by a court to have violated a federal or state securities or commodities law during the past ten years.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

We did not pay compensation to our named executive officers, including our Chief Executive Officer ("NEOs"), for services rendered during the year ended December 31, 2020. However, one of our NEOs was compensated by our predecessor, which carried on a portion of the operations of our business prior to this offering. We do not maintain employment or other service agreements with our NEOs. In connection with the consummation of our public offering, we anticipate entering into employment agreements or offer letters with our NEOs and establishing incentive compensation programs in which they may participate.

The tables and narrative disclosure below provide compensation disclosure that satisfies the requirements applicable to emerging growth companies, as defined in the JOBS Act.

### **Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal Year 2020**

The following table summarizes the compensation awarded to, earned by or paid to our NEOs for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

					All Other	m . 1
Name and Principal Position	Year	Sal (1		Bonus (\$)	Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
Greg Beard						
(Chief Executive Officer and Co-Chairman)	2020	\$	— \$	— \$	— \$	_
Ricardo Larroudé						
(Chief Financial Officer)	2020	\$	— \$	— \$	— \$	_
Richard J. Shaffer						
(Asset Manager & Environmental Lead)	2020	\$	\$	\$	\$	

## Narrative to the Summary Compensation Table

#### **Base Salary**

Mr. Shaffer received a base salary of \$ as a fixed component of annual compensation for performing his specific job duties and functions.

### **Other Compensation Elements**

Our predecessor maintained a retirement plan intended to provide benefits under section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code, under which employees, including Mr. Shaffer, were allowed to contribute portions of their base compensation to a tax-qualified retirement account. Neither Mr. Beard nor Mr. Larroudé participated in the 401(k) plan in fiscal year 2020.

## Compensation Actions after 2020 Fiscal Year-End

### Long-Term Incentive Plan

On April 28, 2021, we approved a long-term incentive plan (the "LTIP") pursuant to which we may grant stock options to employees, officers, consultants and other service providers of the Company.

LTIP Share Limits. Subject to adjustment in the event of certain transactions or changes of capitalization in accordance with the LTIP, a total of shares of our Class A common stock is reserved for issuance pursuant to awards under the LTIP. Class A common stock subject to an award that expires or is canceled, forfeited, exchanged, settled in cash or otherwise terminated without delivery of shares and shares withheld to pay the exercise price of, or to satisfy the withholding obligations with respect to, an award will again be available for delivery pursuant to other awards under the LTIP.

Administration. The LTIP will be administered by our board of directors, except to the extent our board of directors elects a committee of directors to administer the LTIP. Our board of directors has broad discretion to administer the LTIP, including the power to determine the eligible individuals to whom awards will be granted, the number and type of awards to be granted and the terms and conditions of awards. The board of directors may also

accelerate the vesting or exercise of any award and make all other determinations and to take all other actions necessary or advisable for the administration of the LTIP.

*Eligibility.* Any individual who is our officer or employee or an officer or employee of any of our affiliates, and any other person who provides services to us or our affiliates, including members of our board of directors, are eligible to receive awards under the LTIP at the discretion of our board of directors.

Stock Options. The board of directors may grant stock options that do not qualify as incentive stock options under the LTIP. The exercise price of a stock option generally cannot be less than 100% of the fair market value of a share of our Class A common stock on the date on which the option is granted and the option must not be exercisable for longer than ten years following the date of grant.

Restricted Stock. Restricted stock is a grant of shares of Class A common stock subject to the restrictions on transferability and risk of forfeiture imposed by our board of directors. Shares of restricted stock may be issued upon early exercise of previously-granted stock options. Our board of directors may condition the grant or vesting of Restricted Stock upon the attainment of specified performance goals or any other factor, determined by our board of directors in its sole discretion.

Recapitalization. In the event of any change in our capital structure or business or other corporate transaction or event that would be considered an equity restructuring, our board of directors may equitably adjust the (i) aggregate number or kind of shares that may be delivered under the LTIP, (ii) the number or kind of shares or amount of cash subject to an award, (iii) the terms and conditions of awards, including the purchase price or exercise price of awards, and (iv) the applicable share-based limitations with respect to awards provided in the LTIP, in each case to equitably reflect such event.

Change in Control. Except to the extent otherwise provided in any applicable award agreement, no award will vest solely upon the occurrence of a change in control. In the event of a change in control, awards made under the LTIP will be treated in accordance with one of the following methods: (i) the awards, whether vested or unvested, shall be continued, assumed, and be subject to the same restrictions to which they were subject to prior to the change in control, (ii) the awards will be surrendered in exchange for a cash payment, or (iii) the board of directors may, in its sole discretion, provide for accelerated vesting or lapse of restrictions of the awards.

Company Call Rights. In the event that a participant is terminated or violates any restrictive covenants, we have a right to repurchase from the participant any shares of our Class A common stock previously acquired by the Participant through the exercise, grant or payment of an award under the LTIP.

Amendment and Termination. The LTIP will automatically expire on the tenth anniversary of its effective date. Our board of directors may amend or terminate the LTIP at any time, subject to stockholder approval if required by applicable law, rule or regulation, including the rules of the stock exchange on which our shares of Class A common stock are listed. Our board of directors may amend the terms of any outstanding award granted under the LTIP at any time so long as the amendment would not materially and adversely affect the rights of a participant under a previously granted award without the participant's consent.

# **Director Compensation**

We did not award any compensation to our non-employee directors during the year ended December 31, 2020. Going forward, we believe that attracting and retaining qualified non-employee directors will be critical to the future value of our growth and governance. Consequently, we intend to develop a non-employee director compensation policy that may provide for cash and/or equity-based incentive awards to our non-employee directors going forward.

### CORPORATE REORGANIZATION

Stronghold Inc. was incorporated as a Delaware corporation on March 19, 2021. On April 1, 2021, contemporaneously with the Series A Private Placement, we underwent a corporate reorganization pursuant to the Master Transaction Agreement, which we refer to herein as the "Reorganization."

Immediately prior to the Reorganization, Q Power directly held all of the equity interests in SDM, and indirectly held 70% of the limited partner interests, and all of the general partner interests, in Scrubgrass LP, through wholly owned subsidiaries EIF Scrubgrass, Falcon and Scrubgrass Power. Aspen, a subsidiary of Olympus, held the remaining 30% of the limited partner interests in Scrubgrass LP. Scrubgrass LP is a Delaware limited partnership originally formed on December 1, 1990 under the name of Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. SDM is a Delaware limited liability company originally formed on February 12, 2020 under the name Stronghold Power LLC.

Contemporaneously with the Reorganization, Stronghold Inc. acquired the Aspen Interest using 200,000 shares of newly issued Series A Preferred Stock in Stronghold Inc. and proceeds from the Series A Private Placement. Pursuant to the Reorganization, Q Power contributed all of its ownership interests in EIF Scrubgrass, Falcon and SDM to Stronghold LLC in exchange for 9,400,000 Stronghold LLC Units, Stronghold Inc. contributed cash (using the remaining proceeds from the Series A Private Placement, net of fees, expenses and amounts paid to Aspen), 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock of Stronghold Inc. and the Aspen Interest to Stronghold LLC in exchange for 3,600,000 preferred units of Stronghold LLC, and Stronghold LLC immediately thereafter distributed the 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock to Q Power. In addition, on April 1, 2021, Stronghold Inc. acquired 5,000 Stronghold LLC Units held by Q Power (along with an equal number of shares of Class V common stock) in exchange for 5,000 newly issued shares of Class A common stock.

As a result of the Reorganization, the acquisition of the Aspen Interest and the acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units by Stronghold Inc. discussed above, (a) Q Power acquired and retained 9,395,000 Stronghold LLC Units, 5,000 shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc., and 9,395,000 shares of Class V common stock of Stronghold Inc., effectively giving Q Power approximately 72% of the voting power of Stronghold Inc. and approximately 72% of the economic interest in Stronghold LLC, (b) Stronghold Inc. acquired 3,600,000 preferred units of Stronghold LLC and 5,000 Stronghold LLC Units, effectively giving Stronghold Inc. approximately 28% of the economic interest in Stronghold LLC, (c) Stronghold Inc. became the sole managing member of Stronghold LLC and is responsible for all operational, management and administrative decisions relating to Stronghold LLC's business and will consolidate financial results of Stronghold LLC and its subsidiaries, (d) Stronghold Inc. became a holding company whose only material asset consists of membership interests in Stronghold LLC, and (e) Stronghold LLC directly or indirectly owns all of the outstanding equity interests in the subsidiaries through which we operate our assets, including Scrubgrass LP and SDM.

Our organizational structure following the Reorganization is commonly referred to as an umbrella partnership-C corporation (or Up-C) structure. Pursuant to this structure, following this offering Stronghold Inc. will hold a number of Stronghold LLC Units equal to the number of shares of Class A common stock issued and outstanding, and Stronghold Unit Holders (other than Stronghold Inc.) will hold a number of Stronghold LLC Units equal to the number of shares of Class V common stock issued and outstanding. See the section entitled "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Tax Receivable Agreement" for additional information on our organizational structure, including the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the Preferred Stock, on (i) the date that a registration statement registering the shares of Class A common stock issuable upon the conversion of the Preferred Stock is declared effective by the SEC or (ii) the date on which a "Significant Transaction Event" occurs, as defined in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, such shares of Preferred Stock will automatically convert into shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc. on a one-to-one basis, subject to certain adjustments as set forth in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Correspondingly, pursuant to the Stronghold LLC Agreement, preferred units in Stronghold LLC automatically convert into Stronghold LLC Units on a one-to-one basis under like circumstances (subject to corresponding adjustments). All of the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock will convert into shares of

Class A common stock in connection with this offering and, correspondingly, all of the preferred units in Stronghold LLC will convert into Stronghold LLC Units.

After giving effect to the offering contemplated by this prospectus and the Preferred Stock Conversion, Stronghold Inc. will own an approximate % interest in Stronghold LLC (or % if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full), and the Stronghold Unit Holders will own an approximate % interest in Stronghold LLC (or % if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full) and all of the Class V common stock. Please see "Principal Stockholders."

Each share of Class V common stock has no economic rights but entitles its holder to one vote on all matters to be voted on by stockholders generally. Holders of Class A common stock and Class V common stock vote together as a single class on all matters presented to our stockholders for their vote or approval, except as otherwise required by applicable law or by our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Stronghold Inc. does not intend to list Class V common stock on any exchange.

Under the Stronghold LLC Agreement, each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), subject to certain limitations, has a Redemption Right to cause Stronghold LLC to acquire all or a portion of its Stronghold LLC Units for, at Stronghold LLC's election, (i) shares of our Class A common stock at a redemption ratio of one share of Class A common stock for each Stronghold LLC Unit redeemed, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions or (ii) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the Stronghold LLC Agreement. Alternatively, upon the exercise of the Redemption Right, Stronghold Inc. (instead of Stronghold LLC) has a Call Right, for administrative convenience, to acquire each tendered Stronghold LLC Unit directly from the redeeming Stronghold Unit Holder for, at its election, (x) one share of Class A common stock, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions, or (y) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. In addition, Stronghold Inc. has the right to require (i) upon the acquisition by Stronghold Inc. of substantially all of the Stronghold LLC Units, certain minority unitholders or (ii) upon a change of control of Stronghold Inc., each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), to exercise its Redemption Right with respect to some or all of such unitholder's Stronghold LLC Units. In connection with any redemption of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or the Call Right, the corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock will be cancelled. See "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Stronghold LLC Agreement."

Stronghold Inc.'s acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right is expected to result in adjustments to the tax basis of the tangible and intangible assets of Stronghold LLC, and such adjustments will be allocated to Stronghold Inc. These adjustments would not have been available to Stronghold Inc. absent its acquisition or deemed acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units and are expected to reduce the amount of cash tax that Stronghold Inc. would otherwise be required to pay in the future.

In connection with the Reorganization, Stronghold Inc. entered into the Tax Receivable Agreement. The Tax Receivable Agreement generally provides for the payment by Stronghold Inc. to Q Power (or its permitted assignees) of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income and franchise tax (computed using the estimated impact of state and local taxes) that Stronghold Inc. actually realizes (or is deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of, (i) certain increases in tax basis that occur as a result of its acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of all or a portion of Stronghold Unit Holders' Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right and (ii) imputed interest deemed to be paid by Stronghold Inc. as a result of, and additional tax basis arising from, any payments Stronghold Inc. makes under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Payments will generally be made under the Tax Receivable Agreement as Stronghold Inc. realizes actual cash tax savings from the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement. However, if Stronghold Inc. experiences a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which includes certain mergers, asset sales and other forms of business combinations) or the Tax Receivable Agreement terminates early (at Stronghold Inc.'s election or as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s breach), Stronghold Inc. would be required to make an immediate payment equal to the present value of the anticipated future payments to be made by it under the Tax Receivable Agreement (determined by applying a discount rate equal to one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor

rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points) and such early termination payment is expected to be substantial and may exceed the future tax benefits realized by Stronghold Inc. Stronghold Inc. will be dependent on Stronghold LLC to make distributions to Stronghold Inc. in an amount sufficient to cover Stronghold Inc.'s obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

#### CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### Stronghold LLC Agreement

The Stronghold LLC Agreement is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and the following description of the Stronghold LLC Agreement is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

#### **Redemption Rights**

Under the Stronghold LLC Agreement, pursuant to the Redemption Right, the Stronghold Unit Holders have the right, subject to certain limitations, to cause Stronghold LLC to acquire all or a portion of their Stronghold LLC Units for, at Stronghold LLC's election, (i) shares of our Class A common stock at a redemption ratio of one share of Class A common stock for each Stronghold LLC Unit redeemed, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification or (ii) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. Alternatively, upon the exercise of the Redemption Right, Stronghold Inc. (instead of Stronghold LLC) will have the Call Right, to acquire each tendered Stronghold LLC Unit directly from the Stronghold Unit Holders for, at its election, (x) one share of Class A common stock or (y) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. In addition, Stronghold Inc. has the right to require (i) upon the acquisition by Stronghold Inc. of substantially all of the Stronghold LLC Units, certain minority unitholders or (ii) upon a change of control of Stronghold Inc., each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), to exercise its Redemption Right with respect to some or all of such unitholder's Stronghold LLC Units. As the Stronghold Unit Holders cause their Stronghold LLC Units to be redeemed, holding other assumptions constant, Stronghold Inc.'s membership interest in Stronghold LLC will be correspondingly increased, the number of shares of Class A common stock outstanding will be increased, and the number of shares of Class V common stock will be decreased.

#### **Distributions and Allocations**

Under the Stronghold LLC Agreement, subject to the obligations of Stronghold LLC to make tax distributions and to reimburse Stronghold Inc. for its corporate and other overhead expenses, Stronghold Inc. will have the right to determine when distributions will be made to the holders of Stronghold LLC Units and the amount of any such distributions. Following this offering, if Stronghold Inc. authorizes a distribution, such distribution will be made to the holders of Stronghold LLC Units generally on a *pro rata* basis in accordance with their respective percentage ownership of Stronghold LLC Units.

The holders of Stronghold LLC Units, including Stronghold Inc., will generally incur U.S. federal, state and local income taxes on their share of any net taxable income of Stronghold LLC. Net income and losses of Stronghold LLC generally will be allocated to the holders of Stronghold LLC Units on a *pro rata* basis in accordance with their respective percentage ownership of Stronghold LLC Units, subject to requirements under U.S. federal income tax law that certain items of income, gain, loss or deduction be allocated disproportionately in certain circumstances. To the extent Stronghold LLC has available cash and subject to the terms of any current or future debt instruments, the Stronghold LLC Agreement requires Stronghold LLC to make *pro rata* cash distributions to Stronghold Unit Holders, including Stronghold Inc., in an amount sufficient to allow Stronghold Inc. to pay its taxes and to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement it entered into with Q Power and an agent named by Q Power. In addition, the Stronghold LLC Agreement requires Stronghold LLC to make non-pro rata payments to Stronghold Inc. to reimburse it for its corporate and other overhead expenses, which payments are not treated as distributions under the Stronghold LLC Agreement.

### **Issuance of Equity**

The Stronghold LLC Agreement provides that, except as otherwise determined by us, at any time Stronghold Inc. issues a share of its Class A common stock or any other equity security, the net proceeds received by Stronghold Inc. with respect to such issuance, if any, shall be concurrently invested in Stronghold LLC, and Stronghold LLC shall issue to Stronghold Inc. one Stronghold LLC Unit or other economically equivalent equity interest. Conversely, if at any time, any shares of Stronghold Inc.'s Class A common stock are redeemed, repurchased or otherwise acquired, Stronghold LLC shall redeem, repurchase or otherwise acquire an equal number

of Stronghold LLC Units held by Stronghold Inc., upon the same terms and for the same price, as the shares of our Class A common stock are redeemed, repurchased or otherwise acquired.

#### Dissolution

Stronghold LLC will be dissolved only upon the first to occur of (i) the sale of substantially all of its assets or (ii) an election by us to dissolve the company. Upon dissolution, Stronghold LLC will be liquidated and the proceeds from any liquidation will be applied and distributed in the following manner: (a) first, to creditors (including to the extent permitted by law, creditors who are members) in satisfaction of the liabilities of Stronghold LLC, (b) second, to establish cash reserves for contingent or unforeseen liabilities and (c) third, to the members in proportion to the number of Stronghold LLC Units owned by each of them.

#### **Tax Receivable Agreement**

As described in "Corporate Reorganization," subject to certain limitations, Stronghold Unit Holders (other than Stronghold Inc.) may cause all or less than all of their Stronghold LLC Units, together with a corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock, to be redeemed for a corresponding number of shares of Class A common stock or an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. Stronghold LLC intends to make for itself (and for each of its direct or indirect subsidiaries it controls that is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes and that it controls) an election under Section 754 of the Code that will be effective for the taxable year of the closing of the Private Placements and this offering and each taxable year in which a redemption of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or the Call Right occurs. Pursuant to the Section 754 election, Stronghold Inc.'s acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or the Call Right are expected to result in adjustments to the tax basis of the tangible and intangible assets of Stronghold LLC. These adjustments will be allocated to Stronghold Inc. Such adjustments to the tax basis of the tangible and intangible assets of Stronghold LLC would not have been available to Stronghold Inc. absent its acquisition or deemed acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right. The anticipated basis adjustments are expected to increase (for tax purposes) Stronghold Inc.'s depreciation and amortization deductions and may also decrease Stronghold Inc.'s gains (or increase its losses) on future dispositions of certain assets to the extent the increase in tax basis is allocated to those assets. Such increased deductions and losses and reduced gains may reduce the amount of tax that Stronghold Inc. would otherwise be required to pay in the future.

The Tax Receivable Agreement generally provides for the payment by Stronghold Inc. to Q Power (or its permitted assignees) of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income and franchise tax (computed using the estimated impact of state and local taxes) that Stronghold Inc. actually realizes (or is deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of, (i) increases in tax basis that occur as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of all or a portion of Stronghold Unit Holders' Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right and (ii) imputed interest deemed to be paid by Stronghold Inc. as a result of, and additional tax basis arising from, any payments Stronghold Inc. makes under the Tax Receivable Agreement. Under the Tax Receivable Agreement, Stronghold Inc. will retain the remaining net cash savings, if any. In addition, certain of the rights of the Stronghold Unit Holders (including the right to receive payments) under the Tax Receivable Agreement are transferable in connection with transfers permitted under the Stronghold LLC Agreement of the corresponding Stronghold LLC Units or after the corresponding Stronghold LLC Units have been acquired pursuant to the Redemption Right or Call Right.

The payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement are Stronghold Inc.'s obligations and not obligations of Stronghold LLC, and we expect that the payments Stronghold Inc. will be required to make under the Tax Receivable Agreement will be substantial. Estimating the amount and timing of Stronghold Inc.'s realization of tax benefits subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement is by its nature imprecise. The actual increases in tax basis covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement, as well as the amount and timing of Stronghold Inc.'s ability to use any deductions (or decreases in gain or increases in loss) arising from such increases in tax basis, are dependent upon future events, including but not limited to the timing of the redemptions of Stronghold LLC Units, the price of Stronghold Inc.'s Class A common stock at the time of each redemption, the extent to which such redemptions are taxable transactions, the amount of tax basis in the Stronghold LLC Units of the redeeming holder at the time of the relevant redemption, the depreciation and amortization periods that apply to the increase in tax basis, the amount,

character, and timing of taxable income Stronghold Inc. generates in the future, the timing and amount of any earlier payments that Stronghold Inc. may have made under the Tax Receivable Agreement, the U.S. federal income tax rate then applicable, and the portion of Stronghold Inc.'s payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement that constitute imputed interest or give rise to depreciable or amortizable tax basis. Accordingly, estimating the amount and timing of payments that may become due under the Tax Receivable Agreement is also by its nature imprecise. For purposes of the Tax Receivable Agreement, net cash savings in tax generally will be calculated by comparing Stronghold Inc.'s actual tax liability (determined by using the actual applicable U.S. federal income tax rate and an assumed combined state and local income tax rate) to the amount it would have been required to pay had it not been able to utilize any of the tax benefits subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement. Thus, the amount and timing of any payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement are also dependent upon future events, including those noted above in respect of estimating the amount and timing of Stronghold Inc.'s realization of tax benefits.

A delay in the timing of redemptions of Stronghold LLC Units, holding other assumptions constant, would be expected to decrease the discounted value of the amounts payable under the Tax Receivable Agreement as the benefit of the depreciation and amortization deductions would be delayed and the estimated increase in tax basis could be reduced as a result of allocations of Stronghold LLC's taxable income to the redeeming holder of Stronghold LLC Units prior to the redeemption. Stock price increases or decreases at the time of each redemption of Stronghold LLC Units would be expected to result in a corresponding increase or decrease in the undiscounted amounts payable under the Tax Receivable Agreement in an amount equal to 85% of the taxeffected change in price. The amounts payable under the Tax Receivable Agreement upon Stronghold Inc. having sufficient future taxable income to utilize the tax benefits on which it is required to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement. If Stronghold Inc.'s projected taxable income is significantly reduced, the expected payments would be reduced to the extent such tax benefits do not result in a reduction of Stronghold Inc.'s future income tax liabilities.

The foregoing amounts are merely estimates and the actual payments could differ materially. It is possible that future transactions or events could increase or decrease the actual tax benefits realized and the corresponding Tax Receivable Agreement payments as compared to the foregoing estimates. Moreover, there may be a negative impact on our liquidity if, as a result of timing discrepancies, acceleration upon a change of control or early termination, or otherwise, (i) the payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement exceed the actual benefits Stronghold Inc. realizes in respect of the tax attributes subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement (which excess could be very significant) and/or (ii) distributions to Stronghold Inc. by Stronghold LLC are not sufficient to permit Stronghold Inc. to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement after it has paid its taxes and other obligations. Please read "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to Us and our Organizational Structure—In certain cases, payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement may be accelerated and/or significantly exceed the actual benefits, if any, Stronghold Inc. realizes in respect of the tax attributes subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement." The payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement will not be conditioned upon a holder of rights under the Tax Receivable Agreement having an ownership interest in either Stronghold LLC or Stronghold Inc.

In addition, although Stronghold Inc. is not aware of any issue that would cause the IRS or other relevant tax authorities to challenge potential tax basis increases or other tax benefits covered under the Tax Receivable Agreement, neither Q Power nor other Stronghold Unit Holders will reimburse Stronghold Inc. for any payments previously made under the Tax Receivable Agreement if such basis increases or other benefits are subsequently disallowed, except that excess payments made to any such holder will be netted against future payments otherwise required to be made, if any, to such holder after Stronghold Inc.'s determination of such excess (which determination may be made a number of years following the initial payment and after future payments have been made). As a result, in such circumstances, Stronghold Inc. could make payments that are greater than its actual cash tax savings, if any, and may not be able to recoup those payments, which could adversely affect Stronghold Inc.'s liquidity.

The term of the Tax Receivable Agreement commenced on April 1, 2021 and will continue until all tax benefits that are subject to the Tax Receivable Agreement have been utilized or expired, and all required payments are made, unless the Tax Receivable Agreement is terminated early (including upon a change of control). Payments will generally be made under the Tax Receivable Agreement as Stronghold Inc. realizes actual cash tax savings from the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement. However, if Stronghold Inc. experiences a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which includes certain mergers, asset sales and other forms of

business combinations) or the Tax Receivable Agreement terminates early (at Stronghold Inc.'s election or as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s breach), Stronghold Inc. would be required to make an immediate payment equal to the present value of the anticipated future payments to be made by it under the Tax Receivable Agreement (determined by applying a discount rate equal to one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points) and such early termination payment is expected to be substantial and may exceed our available funds and may reduce the value of Class A common stock. The calculation of anticipated future payments will be based upon certain assumptions and deemed events set forth in the Tax Receivable Agreement, including (i) that Stronghold Inc. has sufficient taxable income on a current basis to fully utilize the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement, and (ii) that any Stronghold LLC Units (other than those held by Stronghold Inc.) outstanding on the termination date are deemed to be redeemed on the termination date. Any early termination payment may be made significantly in advance of, and may materially exceed, the actual realization, if any, of the future tax benefits to which the early termination payment relates.

The Tax Receivable Agreement provides that in the event that Stronghold Inc. breaches any of its material obligations thereunder, whether (i) as a result of its failure to make any payment when due (including in cases where Stronghold Inc. elects to terminate the Tax Receivable Agreement early, the Tax Receivable Agreement is terminated early due to certain mergers, asset sales, or other forms of business combinations or changes of control or Stronghold Inc. has available cash but fails to make payments when due under circumstances where Stronghold Inc. does not have the right to elect to defer the payment, as described below), (ii) as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s failure to honor any other material obligation thereunder, or (iii) by operation of law as a result of the rejection of the Tax Receivable Agreement in a case commenced under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or otherwise, then Q Power (or any subsequent majority of the holders of rights under the Tax Receivable Agreement) may elect to treat such breach as an early termination, which would cause all of Stronghold Inc.'s payment and other obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement to accelerate and become due and payable applying the same assumptions described above.

As a result of either an early termination or a change of control, Stronghold Inc. could be required to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement that significantly exceed its actual cash tax savings under the Tax Receivable Agreement. In these situations, Stronghold Inc.'s obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement could have a substantial negative impact on our liquidity and could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing certain mergers, asset sales, or other forms of business combinations or changes of control that could be in the best interests of holders of Class A common stock or significantly reducing the consideration paid in any such transaction to holders of Class A common stock. There can be no assurance that Stronghold Inc. will be able to meet its obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Decisions we make in the course of running our business, such as with respect to mergers, asset sales, other forms of business combinations or other changes in control, may influence the timing and amount of payments that are received by Q Power (or its assignees) under the Tax Receivable Agreement. For example, the earlier disposition of assets following a redemption of Stronghold LLC Units may accelerate payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement and increase the present value of such payments, and the disposition of assets before a redemption of Stronghold LLC Units may increase Q Power's (or its assignees') tax liability without giving rise to any rights of Q Power (or its assignees) to receive payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement. Such effects may result in differences or conflicts of interest between the interests of Q Power (or its assignees) and other stockholders.

Payments generally are due under the Tax Receivable Agreement within five business days following the finalization of the schedule with respect to which the payment obligation is calculated. However, interest on such payments will begin to accrue from the due date (without extensions) of Stronghold Inc.'s U.S. federal income tax return for the period to which such payments relate until such payment due date at a rate equal to one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points. Except in cases where Stronghold Inc. elects to terminate the Tax Receivable Agreement early or it is otherwise terminated as described above, generally Stronghold Inc. may elect to defer payments due under the Tax Receivable Agreement if Stronghold Inc. does not have available cash to satisfy its payment obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement or if Stronghold Inc.'s contractual obligations limit its ability to make these payments. Any such deferred payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement generally will accrue interest from the due date for such payment until the payment date at a rate of one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 550 basis points. However, interest will accrue from the due date for such payment until the payment date at a rate of one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points if Stronghold Inc. is unable to make such payment as a result of

limitations imposed by existing credit agreements. Stronghold Inc. has no present intention to defer payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

The Tax Receivable Agreement generally may be amended if approved in writing by Stronghold Inc., the majority of holders of rights under the Tax Receivable Agreement, Q Power. To the extent an amendment would disproportionately affect payments made to certain holders of rights under the Tax Receivable Agreement, such amendment would require the written consent of such holders. Because Stronghold Inc. is a holding company with no operations of its own, its ability to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement is dependent on the ability of Stronghold LLC to make distributions to Stronghold Inc. in an amount sufficient to cover Stronghold Inc.'s obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement. This ability, in turn, may depend on the ability of Stronghold LLC's subsidiaries to make distributions to it. The ability of Stronghold LLC, its subsidiaries and other entities in which it directly or indirectly holds an equity interest to make such distributions will be subject to, among other things, the applicable provisions of Delaware law (or other applicable jurisdiction) that may limit the amount of funds available for distribution and restrictions in relevant debt instruments issued by Stronghold LLC or its subsidiaries and/other entities in which it directly or indirectly holds an equity interest. To the extent that Stronghold Inc. is unable to make payments under the Tax Receivable Agreement for any reason, such payments will be deferred and will accrue interest at a rate that may be significantly greater than our weighted average cost of capital until paid.

#### **Right of First Refusal Agreement**

In connection with the Series A Private Placement, Stronghold Inc., the investors in the Series A Private Placement and Key Holders entered the ROFR Agreement. Under the ROFR Agreement, the Key Holders agreed to grant a right of first refusal to purchase all or any portion of capital stock of Stronghold Inc, held by a Key Holder or issued to a Key Holder after the date of the ROFR Agreement, not including any shares of preferred or common stock issued or issuable upon conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock. The Key Holders also granted a secondary refusal right to the investors in the Series A Private Placement to purchase all or any eligible capital stock not purchased by Stronghold Inc. pursuant to their right of first refusal.

#### **Registration Rights Agreement**

Pursuant to the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement entered into as part of the Series A Private Placement, Stronghold Inc. entered into the Registration Rights Agreement with the investors in the Series A Private Placement, certain of whom are affiliates and members of Stronghold LLC. For a description of registration rights with respect to our Class A common stock, see the information under the heading "Description of Capital Stock—Registration Rights Agreement."

#### **Corporate Reorganization**

In connection with our Reorganization, we engaged in certain transactions with certain affiliates and the members of Stronghold LLC. Please read "Prospectus Summary–Corporate Reorganization" and "Corporate Reorganization."

#### **Promissory Notes**

We have entered into promissory notes with certain of our affiliates and directors. For additional information on the Scrubgrass Note, the Spence Note and the Beard Note, please read "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources – Debt Agreements."

# **Policies and Procedures for Review of Related Party Transactions**

A "Related Party Transaction" is a transaction, arrangement or relationship in which we or any of our subsidiaries was, is or will be a participant, the amount of which involved exceeds \$120,000, and in which any related person had, has or will have a direct or indirect material interest. A "related person" means:

any person who is, or at any time during the applicable period was, one of our executive officers or one of our directors;

- any person who is known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5.0% of our Class A common stock;
- any immediate family member of any of the foregoing persons, which means any child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, spouse, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law or sister-in-law of a director, executive officer or a beneficial owner of more than 5.0% of our Class A common stock, and any person (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household of such director, executive officer or beneficial owner of more than 5.0% of our Class A common stock; and
- any firm, corporation or other entity in which any of the foregoing persons is a partner or principal or in a similar position or in which such person has a 10.0% or greater beneficial ownership interest.

Our board of directors will adopt a written related party transactions policy prior to the completion of this offering. Pursuant to this policy, our nominating and corporate governance committee will review all material facts of all Related Party Transactions and either approve or disapprove entry into the Related Party Transaction, subject to certain limited exceptions. In determining whether to approve or disapprove entry into a Related Party Transaction, our nominating and corporate governance committee shall take into account, among other factors, the following: (i) whether the Related Party Transaction is on terms no less favorable than terms generally available to an unaffiliated third-party under the same or similar circumstances and (ii) the extent of the related person's interest in the transaction. Furthermore, the policy requires that all Related Party Transactions required to be disclosed in our filings with the SEC be so disclosed in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

Additionally, any amounts due under advances or loans that we have entered into with our directors, executive officers or principal stockholders have been retired or repaid in full prior to the public filing of this registration statement with the SEC.

#### PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS

The following table sets forth information with respect to the beneficial ownership of our Class A common stock and Class V common stock that, upon the consummation of this offering and the transactions related thereto, and, unless otherwise stated, assuming the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase additional common shares, will be owned by:

- each person known to us to beneficially own more than 5% of any class of our outstanding voting securities;
- each member of our board of directors and each nominee to our board of directors;
- each of our named executive officers; and
- all of our directors, director nominees and executive officers as a group.

Except as otherwise noted, the person or entities listed below have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of our common stock beneficially owned by them, except to the extent this power may be shared with a spouse. All information with respect to beneficial ownership has been furnished by the respective 5% or more stockholders, directors and director nominees or executive officers, as the case may be. The following table does not include any shares of common stock that directors and executive officers may purchase in this offering through the directed share program described under "Underwriting." Unless otherwise noted, the mailing address of each listed beneficial owner is

	Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to the Offering			Offe	neficially Owned a ering (Assuming I cise of the Option	No	Shares Beneficially Owned After the Offering (Assuming the Option is Exercised in Full)			
	Class A	Class V		Combined	Class A	Class V	Combined	Class A	Class V	Combined
	Common	Common	Preferred	Voting	Common	Common	Voting	Common	Common	Voting
	Stock	Stock	Stock(1)	Power(2)	Stock	Stock	Power(2)	Stock	Stock Stock	
Name of Beneficial Holder	Number %	Number %	Number %	%	Number %	Number %	%	Number %	Number %	%
5% Stockholders										

Q Power LLC
Directors, Director
Nominees and Named
Executive Officers
Gregory A. Beard
William B. Spence
Ricardo R. A. Larroudé
Richard J. Shaffer
Directors, director nominees
and executive officers as a
group ( persons)

- (1) Includes both Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock, the terms of and rights associated with each are substantively similar (except as discussed elsewhere in this prospectus).
- (2) Represents percentage of voting power of our Class A common stock and Class V common stock voting together as a single class. The Stronghold Unit Holders, each a holder of Stronghold LLC units, will hold one share of Class V common stock for each Stronghold LLC Unit.
- (3) Takes into account the Preferred Stock Conversion.

indicates beneficial ownership of less than 1%.

#### DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

Upon completion of this offering, the authorized capital stock of Stronghold Inc. will consist of 238,000,000 shares of Class A common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share, of which shares will be issued and outstanding and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value per share, of which shares will be issued and outstanding and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value per share, of which no shares will be issued and outstanding. As of May 1, 2021, there was one stockholder of record of our Class A common stock and Class V common stock. As of May 1, 2021, there were 107 stockholders of record of our Series A Preferred Stock. As of May , 2021, there were stockholders of record of our Series B Preferred Stock.

The following summary of the capital stock and amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws of Stronghold Inc., each of which will be in effect upon the completion of this offering, does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the provisions of applicable law and to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws, which are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

#### Class A Common Stock

*Voting Rights.* Holders of shares of Class A common stock are entitled to one vote per share held of record on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. The holders of Class A common stock do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors.

*Dividend Rights.* Holders of shares of our Class A common stock are entitled to ratably receive dividends when and if declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available for that purpose, subject to any statutory or contractual restrictions on the payment of dividends and to any prior rights and preferences that may be applicable to any outstanding preferred stock.

*Liquidation Rights*. Upon our liquidation, dissolution, distribution of assets or other winding up, the holders of Class A common stock are entitled to receive ratably the assets available for distribution to the stockholders after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preference of any of our outstanding shares of preferred stock.

Other Matters. The shares of Class A common stock have no preemptive or conversion rights and are not subject to further calls or assessment by us. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the Class A common stock. All outstanding shares of our Class A common stock, including the Class A common stock offered in this offering, are fully paid and non-assessable.

#### **Class V Common Stock**

*Voting Rights.* Holders of shares of our Class V common stock are entitled to one vote per share held of record on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. Holders of shares of our Class A common stock and Class V common stock vote together as a single class on all matters presented to our stockholders for their vote or approval.

Dividend and Liquidation Rights. Holders of our Class V common stock do not have any right to receive dividends, unless the dividend consists solely of shares of our Class V common stock. Holders of our Class V common stock do not have any right to receive a distribution upon a liquidation or winding up of Stronghold Inc.

*Other Matters*. The shares of Class V common stock have no preemptive or conversion rights and are not subject to further calls or assessment by us. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the Class V common stock. All outstanding shares of our Class V common stock are fully paid and non-assessable.

### **Preferred Stock**

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes our board of directors, subject to any limitations prescribed by law, without further shareholder approval, to establish and to issue from time to time one or more classes or series of preferred stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, covering up to an aggregate of shares of preferred stock. Each class or series of preferred stock will cover the number of shares and will have the powers, preferences, rights, qualifications, limitations and restrictions determined by the board of directors. Except as provided by law or in a preferred stock designation, the holders of preferred stock will not be

entitled to vote at or receive notice of any meeting of stockholders. In addition, 5,000,000 shares of the authorized preferred stock of Stronghold Inc. are designated "Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock" and shares are designated "Series B Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock."

#### Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock and Series B Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock

Generally. In connection with this offering, on the date that this registration statement is declared effective by the SEC, the shares of Preferred Stock will be automatically converted (without the payment of additional consideration by the holder thereof), into fully paid and non-assessable shares of Class A common stock at an initial one-to-one conversion rate. Pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement, the preferred units in Stronghold LLC will likewise be automatically converted (without the payment of additional consideration to the holder thereof) into Stronghold LLC Units at an initial one-to-one conversion ratio.

Conversion. Pursuant to the terms of the Preferred Stock, on (i) the date that a registration statement registering the shares of Class A common stock issuable upon the conversion of the Preferred Stock is declared effective by the SEC or (ii) the date on which a "Significant Transaction Event" occurs, as defined in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, such shares of Preferred Stock will automatically convert into shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc. on a one-to-one basis, subject to certain adjustments as set forth in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation.

*Voting Rights.* Holders of shares of our Preferred Stock are entitled to vote on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. Holders of shares of our Preferred Stock vote together with holders of common stock on an as-if converted to Class A common stock basis on all matters presented to our stockholders for their vote or approval.

Dividend Rights. Holders of shares of our Preferred Stock are entitled to receive dividends on shares of Preferred Stock equal (on an as if converted to Class A common stock basis) to and in the same form as dividends actually paid on shares of the Class A common stock when, as and if such dividends are paid on shares of the Class A common stock. In addition, holders of shares of Preferred Stock are entitled to receive dividends in fully paid and non-assessable shares of Preferred Stock (each a "PIK Dividend" and, collectively, the "PIK Dividends") upon the occurrence of: (i) our failure to file or confidentially submit a registration statement to register the shares of Class A common stock issuable upon conversion of the Preferred Stock (the "Registrable Securities") on or before the date that is one hundred and twenty (120) days following the date that the first share of Series A Preferred Stock is issued (the "Original Issue Date"); (ii) the failure of the registration statement to be declared effective by the SEC and the Registrable Securities to list on a National Securities Exchange (as such term is defined in the Registration Rights Agreement, on or before the date that is two hundred forty (240) days after Original Issue Date; and (iii) our failure to complete a Mandatory Redemption (as such term is defined in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation).

*Liquidation Rights*. Upon our liquidation, dissolution, distribution of assets or other winding up, the holders of Preferred Stock are entitled to receive (Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock, on a pari passu basis), before any payment is made to the holders of common stock, the funds and assets available for distribution to the stockholders.

### **Registration Rights Agreement**

Pursuant to the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement entered into as part of the Series A Private Placement, Stronghold Inc. entered into the Registration Rights Agreement with the investors in the Series A Private Placement, pursuant to which, among other things, the Company agreed to prepare and file a registration statement covering the resale of all Registrable Securities not already covered by an existing and effective registration statement or prior to the 120th day following the closing of the Series A Private Placement. Such registration rights are subject to certain conditions and limitations. We are generally obligated to pay all registration expenses in connection with these registration obligations, regardless of whether a registration statement is filed or becomes effective.

We entered into a Registration Rights Agreement with the purchasers of our Series A Preferred Stock in the Series A Private Placement. Such purchasers and their permitted transferees are entitled to certain benefits under the Registration Rights Agreement. Under the Registration Rights Agreement, we have agreed, at our expense, to file or confidentially submit with the SEC a resale shelf registration statement covering the resale of all Registrable

Securities (as defined in the Registration Rights Agreement) on or prior to July 30, 2021 (the "Filing Deadline"). We are also obligated to cause the resale shelf registration statement to be declared effective by the SEC and to have our Class A common stock listed on a national securities exchange as soon as reasonably possible, but in no event later than November 27, 2021 (the "Effectiveness Deadline").

In addition, if (i) the resale shelf registration statement is not filed on or prior to the Filing Deadline and (ii) if the resale shelf registration statement is not declared effective on or prior to the Effectiveness Deadline and the Class A common stock is not listed on a national securities exchange, pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement and our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, then in addition to any other rights the purchasers may have under the Registration Rights Agreement or applicable law, PIK Dividends (as defined in the amended and restated certificate of incorporation) as set forth below will begin to accrue:

- 10% per annum for each day we are in default of the Filing Deadline;
- 12% per annum for each day we are in default of the Effectiveness Deadline; and
- 15% per annum for each day we continue in default of the Effectiveness Deadline after 540 days following the closing of this offering.

If we fail to complete a Mandatory Redemption (as defined in the amended and restated certificate of incorporation) when required by our charter, we will be required to continue to pay a PIK Dividend at 12%.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) if prior to September 28, 2021, we enter into a binding definitive agreement or binding instrument (a "Definitive Instrument") relating to a Significant Transaction Event (defined below), we will have no obligation to pay any PIK Dividends accrued or payable through such date and any PIK Dividends that have accrued will be cancelled, and (ii) if we have entered into a Definitive Instrument by September 28, 2021 and have consummated the Significant Transaction Event by January 26, 2022, then we will have no obligation to pay any PIK Dividends accrued or payable through such date and any PIK Dividends accrued prior to such date shall be cancelled. A "Significant Transaction Event" means the date that the Company enters into a Definitive Instrument, as applicable, with a third party relating to a merger, share exchange, sale of all or substantially all of the assets or shares of the Company or other business combination, restructuring or change of control transaction, including any such transaction intended to result in the Company becoming subject to the reporting requirements of Section 13 of 15(d) of the Exchange Act (or becoming a voluntary filer under the Exchange Act), a business combination intended to increase the number of shareholders of the Company to facilitate listing on a trading market, a business combination with a special purpose acquisition company, or a business combination with a company that is listed on a trading market.

We will cause the resale shelf registration statement to become effective under the Securities Act as soon as possible after the filing and to continuously maintain the effectiveness of the resale shelf registration statement under the Securities Act. The securities proposed to be sold by the holders will cease to be Registrable Securities under the Registration Rights Agreement from and after such time as the holders may resell such securities without restriction under Rule 144 of the Securities Act.

We will bear certain expenses incident to our registration obligations upon exercise of these registration rights, including the payment of federal securities law and state "blue sky" registration fees, except that we will not bear any brokers' or underwriters' discounts and commissions or transfer taxes relating to sales of our Registrable Securities. We have agreed to indemnify each selling stockholder for certain violations of federal or state securities laws in connection with any registration statement in which such selling stockholder sells its Registrable Shares pursuant to these registration rights. Each selling stockholder will, in turn, agree to indemnify us for federal or state securities law violations that occur in reliance upon written information it provides to us for use in the registration statement.

This summary of certain provisions of the Registration Rights Agreement is not intended to be complete, and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the Registration Rights Agreement.

#### Anti-Takeover Effects of Provisions of Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, our Bylaws and Delaware Law

Some provisions of Delaware law, and our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our bylaws, which will be in effect upon the closing of this offering and as described below, contain provisions that could make the following transactions more difficult: acquisitions of us by means of a tender offer, a proxy contest or otherwise; or removal of our incumbent officers and directors. These provisions may also have the effect of preventing changes in our management. It is possible that these provisions could make it more difficult to accomplish or could deter transactions that stockholders may otherwise consider to be in their best interest or in our best interests, including transactions that might result in a premium over the market price for our shares.

These provisions, summarized below, are expected to discourage coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with us. We believe that the benefits of increased protection and our potential ability to negotiate with the proponent of an unfriendly or unsolicited proposal to acquire or restructure us outweigh the disadvantages of discouraging these proposals because, among other things, negotiation of these proposals could result in an improvement of their terms.

## **Delaware Law**

We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "DGCL"), regulating corporate takeovers. In general, those provisions prohibit a Delaware corporation, including those whose securities are listed for trading on Nasdaq, from engaging in any business combination with any interested shareholder for a period of three years following the date that the shareholder became an interested shareholder, unless:

- the transaction is approved by the board of directors before the date the interested shareholder attained that status;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the shareholder becoming an interested shareholder, the interested shareholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced; or
- on or after such time the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at a meeting of stockholders by at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested shareholder.

#### Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our bylaws may delay or discourage transactions involving an actual or potential change in control or change in our management, including transactions in which stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares, or transactions that our stockholders might otherwise deem to be in their best interests. Therefore, these provisions could adversely affect the price of our Class A common stock.

Among other things, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our bylaws:

- provide that the authorized number of directors may be changed only by resolution of the board of directors, unless the amended and restated certificate of incorporation fixes the number of directors, in which case, a change in the number of directors shall be made only by amendment of the certificate of incorporation;
- provide that all vacancies, including newly created directorships, may, except as otherwise required by law, be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum;
- provide that special meetings of our stockholders may only be called by the president, the chief executive officer, the chairman of the board (or any co-chairman), or on the written request of any two directors, by the secretary; and

• provide that our bylaws can be amended by the board of directors.

#### **No Cumulative Voting**

Under Delaware law, the right to vote cumulatively does not exist unless the amended and restated certificate of incorporation specifically authorizes cumulative voting. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation does not authorize cumulative voting. Therefore, stockholders holding a majority in voting power of the shares of our stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors will be able to elect all our directors.

#### **Limitation of Liability and Indemnification Matters**

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation limits the liability of our directors for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duty as directors, except for liability that cannot be eliminated under the DGCL. Delaware law provides that directors of a company will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duty as directors, except for liabilities:

- for any breach of their duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders;
- for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- for unlawful payment of dividend or unlawful stock repurchase or redemption, as provided under Section 174 of the DGCL; or
- for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

Any amendment, repeal or modification of these provisions will be prospective only and would not affect any limitation on liability of a director for acts or omissions that occurred prior to any such amendment, repeal or modification.

Our bylaws also provide that we will indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. Our bylaws also permits us to purchase insurance on behalf of any officer, director, employee or other agent for any liability arising out of that person's actions as our officer, director, employee or agent, regardless of whether Delaware law would permit indemnification. We intend to enter into indemnification agreements with each of our current and future directors and officers. These agreements will require us to indemnify these individuals to the fullest extent permitted under Delaware law against liability that may arise by reason of their service to us, and to advance expenses incurred as a result of any proceeding against them as to which they could be indemnified. We believe that the limitation of liability provision in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and the indemnification agreements facilitates our ability to continue to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve as directors and officers.

#### **Registration Rights**

For a description of registration rights with respect to our Class A common stock, see the information under the heading "Description of Capital Stock—Registration Rights Agreement."

# **Dissenters' Rights of Appraisal and Payment**

Under the DGCL, with certain exceptions, our stockholders will have appraisal rights in connection with a merger or consolidation. Pursuant to the DGCL, stockholders who properly request and perfect appraisal rights in connection with such merger or consolidation will have the right to receive payment of the fair value of their shares as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery.

### **Stockholders' Derivative Actions**

Under the DGCL, any of our stockholders may bring an action in our name to procure a judgment in our favor, also known as a derivative action; provided that the stockholder bringing the action is a holder of our shares at the

time of the transaction to which the action relates or such stockholder's stock thereafter devolved by operation of law.

## **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our Class A common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC.

# Listing

We intend to apply to list our Class A common stock on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol " . .

#### SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE SALE

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for our Class A common stock. Future sales of our Class A common stock in the public market, or the availability of such shares for sale in the public market, could adversely affect the market price of our Class A common stock prevailing from time to time. As described below, only a limited number of shares will be available for sale shortly after this offering due to contractual and legal restrictions on resale. Nevertheless, sales of a substantial number of shares of our Class A common stock in the public market after such restrictions lapse, or the perception that those sales may occur, could adversely affect the prevailing market price of our Class A common stock at such time and our ability to raise equity-related capital at a time and price we deem appropriate.

#### **Sales of Restricted Shares**

Upon the closing of this offering and taking into effect the Preferred Stock Conversion, we will have outstanding an aggregate of Class A common stock (or shares of Class A common stock if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised). Of these shares, all of the shares of Class A common stock (or shares of Class A common stock if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares is exercised) to be sold in this offering will be freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act, unless the shares are held by any of our "affiliates" as such term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act. All remaining shares of Class A common stock, including the shares received as part of the Preferred Stock Conversion, will be deemed "restricted securities" as such term is defined under Rule 144. The restricted securities were issued and sold by us in private transactions and are eligible for public sale only if registered under the Securities Act or if they qualify for an exemption from registration under Rule 144 or Rule 701 under the Securities Act, which rules are summarized below.

Each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), subject to certain limitations, has the right, pursuant to the Redemption Right, to cause Stronghold LLC to acquire all or a portion of its Stronghold LLC Units, together with an equal number of Class V common stock, for shares of Class A common stock (on a one-for-one basis, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and similar transactions) or, at such entity's election, an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. See "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions—Stronghold LLC Agreement." The shares of Class A common stock we issue upon such redemptions would be "restricted securities" as defined in Rule 144 described below.

As a result of the lock-up agreements described below and the provisions of Rule 144 and Rule 701 under the Securities Act, the shares of our Class A common stock (excluding the shares to be sold in this offering) that will be available for sale in the public market are as follows:

- · no shares will be eligible for sale on the date of this prospectus or prior to 180 days after the date of this prospectus; and
- shares (assuming redemption of all applicable Stronghold LLC Units along with a corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock) will be eligible for sale upon the expiration of the lock-up agreements, beginning 180 days after the date of this prospectus when permitted under Rule 144 or Rule 701.

## **Lock-up Agreements**

We, all of our directors that will own equity in us following the completion of this offering, all of our executive officers and certain of our Legacy Owners have entered or will enter into lock-up agreements pursuant to which we and they will be subject to certain restrictions with respect to sale or other disposition of our Class A common stock for a period of 180 days following the date of this prospectus, subject to certain exceptions and extensions. See "Underwriting" for a description of these lock-up provisions.

#### **Rule 144**

In general, under Rule 144 under the Securities Act as currently in effect, a person (or persons whose shares are aggregated) who is not deemed to have been an affiliate of ours at any time during the three months preceding a sale, and who has beneficially owned restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144 for at least six months (including any period of consecutive ownership of preceding non-affiliated holders) would be entitled to sell those shares, subject only to the availability of current public information about us. A non-affiliated person (who has been unaffiliated for at least the past three months) who has beneficially owned restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144 for at least one year would be entitled to sell those shares without regard to the provisions of Rule 144.

A person (or persons whose shares are aggregated) who is deemed to be an affiliate of ours and who has beneficially owned restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144 for at least six months would be entitled to sell within any three-month period a number of shares that does not exceed the greater of one percent of the then outstanding shares of our Class A common stock or the average weekly trading volume of our Class A common stock reported through Nasdaq during the four calendar weeks preceding the filing of notice of the sale. Such sales are also subject to certain manner of sale provisions, notice requirements and the availability of current public information about us.

#### **Rule 701**

In general, under Rule 701 under the Securities Act, any of our employees, directors, officers, consultants or advisors who purchases shares from us in connection with a compensatory stock or option plan or other written agreement before the effective date of this offering is entitled to sell such shares 90 days after the effective date of this offering in reliance on Rule 144, without having to comply with the holding period requirement of Rule 144 and, in the case of non-affiliates, without having to comply with the public information, volume limitation or notice filing provisions of Rule 144. The SEC has indicated that Rule 701 will apply to typical stock options granted by an issuer before it becomes subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, along with the shares acquired upon exercise of such options, including exercises after the date of this prospectus.

#### **Stock Issued Under Employee Plans**

We intend to file a registration statement on Form S-8 under the Securities Act to register stock issuable under our long-term incentive plan. This registration statement on Form S-8 is expected to be filed following the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and will be effective upon filing. Accordingly, shares registered under such registration statement will be available for sale in the open market following the effective date, unless such shares are subject to vesting restrictions with us or the lock-up restrictions described above.

#### MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following is a summary of the material U.S. federal income tax considerations related to the purchase, ownership and disposition of our Class A common stock by a non-U.S. holder (as defined below), that holds our Class A common stock as a "capital asset" (generally property held for investment). This summary is based on the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), U.S. Treasury regulations, administrative rulings and judicial decisions, all as in effect on the date hereof, and all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. We cannot assure you that a change in law will not significantly alter the tax considerations that we describe in this summary. We have not sought any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") with respect to the statements made and the conclusions reached in the following summary, and there can be no assurance that the IRS or a court will agree with such statements and conclusions.

This summary does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to non-U.S. holders in light of their personal circumstances. In addition, this summary does not address the Medicare tax on certain investment income, U.S. federal estate or gift tax laws, any state, local or non-U.S. tax laws or any tax treaties. This summary also does not address tax considerations applicable to investors that may be subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, such as:

- banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions;
- tax-exempt or governmental organizations;
- tax qualified retirement plans;
- "qualified foreign pension funds" as defined in Section 897(l)(2) of the Code (or any entities all of the interests of which are held by a qualified foreign pension fund);
- · dealers in securities or foreign currencies;
- persons whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;
- "controlled foreign corporations," "passive foreign investment companies," and corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax:
- traders in securities that use the mark-to-market method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- persons subject to the alternative minimum tax;
- partnerships or other pass-through entities for U.S. federal income tax purposes or holders of interests therein;
- persons deemed to sell our Class A common stock under the constructive sale provisions of the Code;
- persons that acquired our Class A common stock through the exercise of employee stock options or otherwise as compensation or through a tax-qualified retirement plan;
- certain former citizens or long-term residents of the United States;
- persons that hold our Class A common stock as part of a straddle, appreciated financial position, synthetic security, hedge, conversion transaction or other integrated investment or risk reduction transaction; and
- accrual method taxpayers for U.S. federal income tax purposes required to accelerate the recognition of any item of gross income with respect to our Class A common stock as a result of such income being recognized on an applicable financial statement.

PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONSULT WITH AND RELY SOLELY UPON THEIR TAX ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS, AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK ARISING UNDER THE U.S. FEDERAL ESTATE OR GIFT TAX LAWS OR UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL, NON-U.S. OR OTHER TAXING JURISDICTION OR UNDER ANY APPLICABLE INCOME TAX TREATY.

#### Non-U.S. Holder Defined

For purposes of this discussion, a "non-U.S. holder" is a beneficial owner of our Class A common stock that is not for U.S. federal income tax purposes a partnership or any of the following:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation (or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or
- a trust (i) whose administration is subject to the primary supervision of a U.S. court and which has one or more United States persons who have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (ii) which has made a valid election under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person.

If a partnership (including an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds our Class A common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership generally will depend upon the status of the partner, upon the activities of the partnership and upon certain determinations made at the partner level. Accordingly, we urge partners in partnerships (including entities or arrangements treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes) considering the purchase of our Class A common stock to consult with and rely solely upon their tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax considerations of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our Class A common stock by such partnership.

#### **Dividends and Other Distributions**

As described in the section entitled "Dividend Policy," we do not plan to make any distributions on our Class A common stock for the foreseeable future. However, in the event we do make distributions of cash or other property on our Class A common stock, such distributions will constitute dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. To the extent those distributions exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits, the distributions will instead be treated as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of the non-U.S. holder's tax basis in our Class A common stock (and will reduce such tax basis, but not below zero) and thereafter as capital gain from the sale or exchange of such Class A common stock. See "—Gain on Disposition of Class A Common Stock." Subject to the withholding requirements under "—Backup Withholding and Information Reporting" and FATCA (as defined below) and provided that such distributions are not effectively connected dividends, each of which is discussed below, any distribution made to a non-U.S. holder on our Class A common stock generally will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at a rate of 30% of the gross amount of the distribution unless an applicable income tax treaty provides for a lower rate or another exception applies. To receive the benefit of a reduced treaty rate, a non-U.S. holder must provide the applicable withholding agent with a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E (or other applicable or successor form) certifying qualification for the reduced rate. In the event that we determine that a portion of a distribution does not constitute a dividend, we may determine not to withhold U.S. federal income tax from such portion of the distribution or a non-U.S. holder may be entitled to claim a refund of excess amounts withheld.

Distributions treated as dividends paid to a non-U.S. holder that are effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by the non-U.S. holder in the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are treated as attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States)

generally will be taxed on a net income basis at the rates and in the manner generally applicable to United States persons (as defined under the Code). Such effectively connected dividends will not be subject to U.S. withholding tax (including backup withholding described below) if the non-U.S. holder satisfies certain certification requirements by providing the applicable withholding agent with a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI certifying eligibility for exemption. If the non-U.S. holder is a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it may also be subject to a branch profits tax (at a 30% rate or such lower rate as specified by an applicable income tax treaty) on its effectively connected earnings and profits (as adjusted for certain items), which will include effectively connected dividends.

#### Gain on Disposition of Class A Common Stock

Subject to the discussion below under "—Backup Withholding and Information Reporting" and the discussion below of FATCA, a non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax or withholding on any gain realized upon the sale or other disposition of our Class A common stock unless:

- the non-U.S. holder is an individual who is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the calendar year in which the sale or disposition occurs and certain other conditions are met;
- the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by the non-U.S. holder in the United States (and, if required by an
  applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States); or
- our Class A common stock constitutes a United States real property interest as a result of our being a United States real property holding corporation ("USRPHC") for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the shorter of the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition of or the non-U.S. holder's holding period for the Class A common stock and, as a result, such gain is treated as effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by the non-U.S. holder in the United States.

A non-U.S. holder described in the first bullet point above will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 30% (or such lower rate as specified by an applicable income tax treaty) on the amount of such gain, which generally may be offset by U.S. source capital losses.

A non-U.S. holder whose gain is described in the second bullet point above or, subject to the exceptions described in the next paragraph, the third bullet point above generally will be taxed on a net income basis at the rates and in the manner generally applicable to United States persons (as defined under the Code) unless an applicable income tax treaty provides otherwise. If the non-U.S. holder is a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes whose gain is described in the second bullet point above, then such gain would also be included in its effectively connected earnings and profits (as adjusted for certain items), which may be subject to a branch profits tax (at a 30% rate or such lower rate as specified by an applicable income tax treaty).

With respect to the third bullet point above, generally, a corporation is a USRPHC if the fair market value of its United States real property interests equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market value of its worldwide real property interests and its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business. We believe that we currently are not a USRPHC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and we do not expect to become a USRPHC for the foreseeable future. However, because the determination of whether we are a USRPHC is made from time to time and depends on the relative fair market value of our assets, there can be no assurance in this regard. In the event that we become a USRPHC, as long as our Class A common stock is and continues to be "regularly traded on an established securities market" (within the meaning of applicable U.S. Treasury regulations), only a non-U.S. holder that actually or constructively owns, or owned at any time during the shorter of the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition or the non-U.S. holder's holding period for the Class A common stock, more than 5% of our Class A common stock will be treated as disposing of a U.S. real property interest and will be taxable on gain realized on the disposition of our Class A common stock as a result of our status as a USRPHC. If we were to become a USRPHC and our Class A common stock were not considered to be regularly traded on an established securities market, such holder (regardless of the percentage of stock owned) would be treated as disposing of a U.S. real property interest and would be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a taxable disposition of our Class A common stock (as described in the preceding paragraph), and a 15% withholding tax would apply to the gross proceeds from such disposition. No assurance can be provided that our Class A common stock will be treated as regularly traded on an established securities market for purposes of the rules described above.

Non-U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors with respect to the application of the foregoing rules to their ownership and disposition of our Class A common stock.

#### **Backup Withholding and Information Reporting**

Any dividends paid to a non-U.S. holder must be reported annually to the IRS and to the non-U.S. holder. Copies of these information returns may be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. holder resides or is established. Payments of dividends to a non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to backup withholding if the non-U.S. holder establishes an exemption by properly certifying its non-U.S. status on an IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E (or other applicable or successor form).

Payments of the proceeds from a sale or other disposition by a non-U.S. holder of our Class A common stock effected by or through a U.S. office of a broker generally will be subject to information reporting and backup withholding (at the applicable rate) unless the non-U.S. holder establishes an exemption by properly certifying its non-U.S. status on an IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E (or other applicable or successor form) and certain other conditions are met. Information reporting and backup withholding generally will not apply to any payment of the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of our Class A common stock effected outside the United States by a non-U.S. office of a broker. However, unless such broker has documentary evidence in its records that the non-U.S. holder is not a United States person and certain other conditions are met, or the non-U.S. holder otherwise establishes an exemption, information reporting will apply to a payment of the proceeds of the disposition of our Class A common stock effected outside the United States by such a broker if it has certain relationships within the United States.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Rather, the U.S. federal income tax liability (if any) of persons subject to backup withholding will be reduced by the amount of tax withheld. If backup withholding results in an overpayment of taxes, a refund may be obtained, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

#### Additional Withholding Requirements under FATCA

Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, and the U.S. Treasury regulations and administrative guidance issued thereunder ("FATCA"), impose a 30% withholding tax on any dividends paid on our Class A common stock if paid to a "foreign financial institution" or a "non-financial foreign entity" (each as defined in the Code) (including, in some cases, when such foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity is acting as an intermediary), unless (i) in the case of a foreign financial institution, such institution enters into an agreement with the U.S. government to withhold on certain payments, and to collect and provide to the U.S. tax authorities substantial information regarding U.S. account holders of such institution (which includes certain equity and debt holders of such institution, as well as certain account holders that are non-U.S. entities with U.S. owners); (ii) in the case of a non-financial foreign entity, such entity certifies that it does not have any "substantial United States owners" (as defined in the Code) or provides the applicable withholding agent with a certification identifying the direct and indirect substantial United States owners of the entity (in either case, generally on an IRS Form W-8BEN-E); or (iii) the foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity otherwise qualifies for an exemption from these rules and provides appropriate documentation (such as an IRS Form W-8BEN-E). Foreign financial institutions located in jurisdictions that have an intergovernmental agreement with the United States governing these rules may be subject to different rules. FATCA also imposes a 30% withholding tax on any gross proceeds on a sale or other disposition of our Class A common stock. However, proposed U.S. Treasury regulations, which may be relied upon pending finalization, would eliminate this withholding tax on gross proceeds. Accordingly, FATCA withholding on gross proceeds is not expected to apply. Under certain circumstances, a holder might be eligible for refunds or

INVESTORS CONSIDERING THE PURCHASE OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK ARE URGED TO CONSULT WITH AND RELY SOLELY UPON THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS AND THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF U.S. FEDERAL ESTATE AND GIFT TAX LAWS AND ANY STATE, LOCAL OR NON-U.S. TAX LAWS AND TAX TREATIES.

#### CERTAIN ERISA CONSIDERATIONS

The following is a summary of certain considerations associated with the acquisition and holding of shares of common stock by employee benefit plans that are subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), plans, individual retirement accounts and other arrangements that are subject to Section 4975 of the Code or employee benefit plans that are governmental plans (as defined in Section 3(32) of ERISA), certain church plans (as defined in Section 3(33) of ERISA), non-U.S. plans (as described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA) or other plans that are not subject to the foregoing but may be subject to provisions under any other federal, state, local, non-U.S. or other laws or regulations that are similar to such provisions of ERISA or the Code (collectively, "Similar Laws"), and entities whose underlying assets are considered to include "plan assets" of any such plan, account or arrangement (each, a "Plan").

This summary is based on the provisions of ERISA and the Code (and related regulations and administrative and judicial interpretations) as of the date of this registration statement. This summary does not purport to be complete or comprehensive, and no assurance is or can be given that future legislation, court decisions, regulations, rulings or pronouncements will not significantly modify the requirements summarized below. Any of those changes may be retroactive and may thereby apply to transactions entered into prior to the date of their enactment or release, including the date of this prospectus. This discussion is general in nature and is not intended to be all inclusive, nor should it be construed as investment, legal or other advice.

#### **General Fiduciary Matters**

ERISA and the Code impose certain duties on persons who are fiduciaries of a Plan subject to Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (an "ERISA Plan") and prohibit certain transactions involving the assets of an ERISA Plan and its fiduciaries or other interested parties. Under ERISA and the Code, any person who exercises any discretionary authority or control over the administration of an ERISA Plan or the management or disposition of the assets of an ERISA Plan, or who renders investment advice for a fee or other compensation to an ERISA Plan, is generally considered to be a fiduciary of the ERISA Plan.

In considering an investment in shares of common stock with a portion of the assets of any Plan, a fiduciary should consider the Plan's particular circumstances and all of the facts and circumstances of the investment and determine whether the acquisition and holding of shares of common stock is in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the Plan and the applicable provisions of ERISA, the Code, or any Similar Law relating to the fiduciary's duties to the Plan, including, without limitation:

- whether the investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA and any other applicable Similar Laws;
- whether, in making the investment, the ERISA Plan will satisfy the diversification requirements of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA and any
  other applicable Similar Laws;
- whether the investment is permitted under the terms of the applicable documents governing the Plan;
- whether the acquisition or holding of the shares of common stock will constitute a "prohibited transaction" under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (please see discussion under "—Prohibited Transaction Issues" below); and
- whether the Plan will be considered to hold, as the Plan's assets, (i) only shares of common stock or (ii) an undivided interest in our underlying assets (please see the discussion under "—Plan Asset Issues" below).

#### **Prohibited Transaction Issues**

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code prohibit ERISA Plans from engaging in specified transactions involving plan assets with persons or entities who are "parties in interest," within the meaning of ERISA, or "disqualified persons," within the meaning of Section 4975 of the Code, unless an exemption is available. A party in interest or disqualified person who engages in a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to excise taxes and other penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Code. In addition, the fiduciary of the ERISA

Plan that engages in such a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to excise taxes, penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Code. The acquisition and/or holding of shares of common stock by an ERISA Plan with respect to which the issuer, the initial purchaser, or a guarantor is considered a party in interest or a disqualified person may constitute or result in a direct or indirect prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code, unless the investment is acquired and is held in accordance with an applicable statutory, class or individual prohibited transaction exemption.

Because of the foregoing, shares of common stock should not be acquired or held by any person investing "plan assets" of any Plan, unless such acquisition and holding will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under ERISA and the Code or a similar violation of any applicable Similar Laws.

#### UNDERWRITING

We and the underwriters named below have entered into an underwriting agreement with respect to the shares of Class A common stock being offered. Subject to certain conditions, each underwriter has severally agreed to purchase the number of shares of Class A common stock indicated in the following table. B. Riley Securities, Inc. is the representative of the underwriters.

Underwriter

Chaci writers	runioci di bilarca
B. Riley Securities, Inc.	
<u>-</u>	
Total	

The underwriters are committed to take and pay for all of the shares of Class A common stock being offered, if any are taken, other than the shares covered by the option described below unless and until this option is exercised.

The underwriters have an option to buy up to an additional shares of Class A common stock from the Company. They may exercise that option for 30 days. If any shares are purchased pursuant to this option, the underwriters will severally purchase shares in approximately the same proportion as set forth in the table above.

Shares sold by the underwriters to the public will initially be offered at the initial public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus. Any shares sold by the underwriters to securities dealers may be sold at a discount of up to \$ per share from the initial public offering price. After the initial offering of the shares, the representative may change the offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the shares by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The following table provides information regarding the amount of the underwriting discounts and commissions to be paid to the underwriters by us. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares to cover over-allotments, if any.

	Per Share	Total Without Over- Allotment	With Over-Allotment		
Underwriting discounts and commissions paid by us	\$	\$	\$		
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$	\$		

We estimate that the total expenses of the offering, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$

The representative has informed us that the underwriters do not intend to make sales to discretionary accounts.

The Company and its officers, directors, and holders of substantially all of the Company's shares of common stock have agreed with the underwriters, subject to certain exceptions, not to dispose of or hedge any of their common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Class A common stock during the period from the date of this prospectus continuing through the date 180 days after the date of this prospectus, except with the prior written consent of B. Riley Securities, Inc. This agreement does not apply to any existing employee benefit plans. See "Shares Eligible for Future Sale" for a discussion of certain transfer restrictions.

In addition, the underwriters have reserved for sale at the initial public offering price up to % of the shares of Class A common stock being offered by this prospectus for sale to our employees, executive officers, directors and related persons who have expressed an interest in purchasing common stock in this offering. Pursuant to the underwriting agreement, the sales will be made by B. Riley Securities, Inc. through a directed share program. We do not know if these persons will choose to purchase all or any portion of these reserved shares, but any purchases they make will reduce the number of shares available to the general public. Any reserved shares not so purchased will be offered by the underwriters to the general public on the same basis as the other shares of Class A common stock

offered hereby. Substantially all of the persons buying shares of Class A common stock through the directed share program will be subject to a 180-day lock-up period with respect to such shares. We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters in connection with the directed share program, including for the failure of any participant to pay for its shares of Class A common stock. Other than the underwriting discount described on the front cover of this prospectus, the underwriters will not be entitled to any commission with respect to shares of Class A common stock sold pursuant to the directed share program.

Prior to the offering, there has been no public market for the Class A common stock. The initial public offering price will be negotiated among the Company and the representative. Among the factors to be considered in determining the initial public offering price of the Class A common stock, in addition to prevailing market conditions, will be the Company's historical performance, estimates of the business potential and earnings prospects of the Company, an assessment of the Company's management and the consideration of the above factors in relation to market valuation of companies in related businesses.

We intend to apply to list our Class A common stock on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol " . .

#### Stabilization

Until the distribution of the securities offered by this prospectus is completed, rules of the SEC may limit the ability of the underwriters to bid for and to purchase our Class A common stock. As an exception to these rules, the underwriters may engage in transactions effected in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act that are intended to stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of our Class A common stock. The underwriters may engage in over-allotment sales, syndicate covering transactions, stabilizing transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M:

- Stabilizing transactions permit bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the Class A common stock, so long as stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.
- Over-allotment involves sales by the underwriters of securities in excess of the number of securities the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a short position. The short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of shares of Class A common stock over-allotted by the underwriters is not greater than the number of shares of Class A common stock that they may purchase in the over-allotment option. In a naked short position, the number of shares of Class A common stock involved is greater than the number of shares in the over-allotment option. The underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising their over-allotment option or purchasing shares of our Class A common stock in the open market.
- Covering transactions involve the purchase of securities in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover short positions. In determining the source of securities to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of securities available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase securities through the over-allotment option. If the underwriters sell more shares of Class A common stock than could be covered by the over-allotment option, creating a naked short position, the position can only be closed out by buying securities in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the securities in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in this offering.
- Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a selected dealer when the securities originally sold by the selected dealer are purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction.

These stabilizing transactions, covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our Class A common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of our Class A common stock. As a result, the price of our Class A common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market.

Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the effect that the transactions described above may have on the prices of our Class A common stock. These transactions may occur on any trading market. If any of these transactions are commenced, they may be discontinued without notice at any time.

#### **Certain Relationships**

B. Riley Securities, Inc. acted as our placement agent with private placements of (i) 3,400,000 shares of our Series A Preferred Stock sold for cash at \$25.00 per share in April 2021 and (ii) shares of our Series B Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock sold for cash at \$31.70 per share in May 2021. In connection therewith, we paid B. Riley Securities, Inc. cash commissions and expenses of \$ and issued them (i) a five-year warrant to purchase up to 34,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock at a per share exercise price of \$25.00 and (ii) a five-year warrant to purchase up to shares of Series B Preferred Stock at a per share exercise price of \$31.70. In each case the exercise price was equal to the respective private placement per share price. B. Riley Securities, Inc. and its affiliates purchased and shares of Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock, respectively, at the same private placement per share price.

Some of the underwriters and their affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us or our affiliates. They have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions.

#### **Electronic Prospectus**

This prospectus may be made available in electronic format on Internet sites or through other online services maintained by the underwriters or their affiliates. In those cases, prospective investors may view offering terms online and may be allowed to place orders online. Other than this prospectus in electronic format, any information on the underwriters' or their affiliates' websites and any information contained in any other website maintained by the underwriters or any affiliate of the underwriters is not part of this prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or the underwriters and should not be relied upon by investors.

## Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and Québec Only)

This document constitutes an "exempt offering document" as defined in and for the purposes of applicable Canadian securities laws. No prospectus has been filed with any securities commission or similar regulatory authority in Canada in connection with the offer and sale of shares of Class A common stock described herein (the "Securities"). No securities commission or similar regulatory authority in Canada has reviewed or in any way passed upon this document or on the merits of the Securities and any representation to the contrary is an offence.

Canadian investors are advised that this document has been prepared in reliance on section 3A.3 of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts ("NI 33-105"). Pursuant to section 3A.3 of NI 33-105, this document is exempt from the requirement that the issuer and the underwriters in the offering provide Canadian investors with certain conflicts of interest disclosure pertaining to "connected issuer" and/or "related issuer" relationships as may otherwise be required pursuant to subsection 2.1(1) of NI 33-105.

#### **Resale Restrictions**

The offer and sale of the Securities in Canada are being made on a private placement basis only and are exempt from the requirement that the issuer prepare and file a prospectus under applicable Canadian securities laws. Any resale of Securities acquired by a Canadian investor in this offering must be made in accordance with applicable Canadian securities laws, which may vary depending on the relevant jurisdiction, and which may require resales to be made in accordance with Canadian prospectus requirements, a statutory exemption from the prospectus requirements, in a transaction exempt from the prospectus requirements or otherwise under a discretionary exemption from the prospectus requirements granted by the applicable local Canadian securities regulatory authority. These resale restrictions may under certain circumstances apply to resales of the Securities outside of Canada.

#### Representations of Purchasers

Each Canadian investor who purchases the Securities will be deemed to have represented to the issuer, the underwriters and each dealer from whom a purchase confirmation is received, as applicable, that the investor (i) is purchasing as principal, or is deemed to be purchasing as principal in accordance with applicable Canadian securities laws, for investment only and not with a view to resale or redistribution; (ii) is an "accredited investor" as such term is defined in section 1.1 of National Instrument 45-106 *Prospectus Exemptions* or, in Ontario, as such term is defined in section 73.3(1) of the *Securities Act* (Ontario); and (iii) is a "permitted client" as such term is defined in section 1.1 of National Instrument 31-103 *Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations*.

#### Taxation and Eligibility for Investment

Any discussion of taxation and related matters contained in this document does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a Canadian investor when deciding to purchase the Securities and, in particular, does not address any Canadian tax considerations. No representation or warranty is hereby made as to the tax consequences to a resident, or deemed resident, of Canada of an investment in the Securities or with respect to the eligibility of the Securities for investment by such investor under relevant Canadian federal and provincial legislation and regulations.

#### Rights of Action for Damages or Rescission

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

#### **Personal Information**

We and the representatives hereby notify prospective Canadian purchasers that: (a) we may be required to provide personal information pertaining to the purchaser as required to be disclosed in Schedule I of Form 45-106F1 under NI 45-106 (including its name, address, telephone number, email address, if provided, and the number and type of securities purchased, the total purchase price paid for such securities, the date of the purchase and specific details of the prospectus exemption relied upon under applicable securities laws to complete such purchase) ("personal information"), which Form 45-106F1 may be required to be filed by us under NI 45-106, (b) such personal information may be delivered to the securities regulatory authority or regulator in accordance with NI 45-106, (c) such personal information is being collected indirectly by the securities regulatory authority or regulator under the authority granted to it under the securities legislation of the applicable legislation, (d) such personal information is collected for the purposes of the administration and enforcement of the securities legislation of the applicable jurisdiction, and (e) the purchaser may contact the applicable securities regulatory authority or regulator by way of the contact information provided in Schedule 2 to Form 45-106F1. Prospective Canadian purchasers that purchase securities in this offering will be deemed to have authorized the indirect collection of the personal information by each applicable securities regulator, and to have acknowledged and consented to such information being disclosed to the Canadian securities regulatory authority or regulator, and to have acknowledged that such information may become available to the public in accordance with requirements of applicable Canadian laws.

#### Language of Documents

Upon receipt of this document, each Canadian investor hereby confirms that it has expressly requested that all documents evidencing or relating in any way to the sale of the Securities described herein (including for greater certainty any purchase confirmation or any notice) be drawn up in the English language only. Par la réception de ce document, chaque investisseur canadien confirme par les présentes qu'il a expressément exigé que tous les documents faisant foi ou se rapportant de quelque manière que ce soit à la vente des valeurs mobilières décrites aux

présentes (incluant, pour plus de certitude, toute confirmation d'achat ou tout avis) soient rédigés en anglais seulement.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area and the United Kingdom

In relation to the Member States of the European Economic Area and the United Kingdom (each, a "Relevant State"), no offer of shares of our Class A common stock which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus to the public may be made in that Relevant State other than:

- to any legal entity that is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation;
- to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Regulation), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant representative or representatives nominated by us for any such offer; or
- in any other circumstances falling within Article 1(4) of the Prospectus Regulation,

provided that no such offer of shares of our Class A common stock described in this prospectus shall result in a requirement for the publication of a prospectus, by us or any of the underwriters, pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Regulation.

Each purchaser of shares of our Class A common stock described in this prospectus located within a Relevant State will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that (1) it is a "qualified investor" within the meaning of the Prospectus Regulation; and (2) in the case of any shares of Class A common stock acquired by it as a financial intermediary as that term is used in Article 5(1) of the Prospectus Regulation, each such financial intermediary will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that the shares of Class A common stock acquired by it in the offer have not been acquired on a non-discretionary basis on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in circumstances which may give rise to an offer to the public other than their offer or resale in a Relevant State to qualified investors, as that term is defined in the Prospectus Regulation, or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the underwriters has been given to the offer or resale; or where shares of Class A common stock have been acquired by it on behalf of persons in any Relevant State other than qualified investors, the offer of those shares of Class A common stock to it is not treated under the Prospectus Regulation as having been made to such persons. For purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer to the public" in relation to the shares of our Class A common stock in any Relevant State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares of our Class A common stock to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe to the shares and the expression "Prospectus Regulation" means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129.

We and the underwriters have not authorized and do not authorize the making of any offer of shares of our Class A common stock through any financial intermediary on their behalf, other than offers made by the underwriters with a view to the final placement of the shares as contemplated in this prospectus. Accordingly, no purchaser of the shares of our Class A common stock, other than the underwriters, is authorized to make any further offer of the shares on behalf of us or the underwriters.

References to the Prospectus Regulation includes, in relation to the UK, the Prospectus Regulation as it forms part of UK domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

The above selling restriction is in addition to any other selling restrictions set out below.

#### Additional Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

The communication of this prospectus and any other document or materials relating to the issue of the shares of our Class A common stock offered hereby is not being made, and such documents and/or materials have not been approved, by an authorized person for the purposes of section 21 of the United Kingdom's Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended, or the FSMA. Accordingly, such documents and/or materials are not being distributed to, and must not be passed on to, the general public in the United Kingdom. The communication of such documents and/or materials as a financial promotion is only being made to those persons in the United Kingdom

who have professional experience in matters relating to investments and who fall within the definition of investment professionals (as defined in Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended, or the Financial Promotion Order), or who fall within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Financial Promotion Order, or who are any other persons to whom it may otherwise lawfully be made under the Financial Promotion Order (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons"). In the United Kingdom, the shares of our Class A common stock offered hereby are only available to, and any investment or investment activity to which this prospectus relates will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this prospectus or any of its contents.

Any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) in connection with the issue or sale of the shares of our Class A common stock may only be communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to us.

All applicable provisions of the FSMA must be complied with in respect to anything done by any person in relation to the shares of our Class A common stock in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

#### **Notice to Prospective Investors in Germany**

This prospectus has not been prepared in accordance with the requirements for a securities or sales prospectus under the German Securities Prospectus Act (*Wertpapierprospektgesetz*), the German Sales Prospectus Act (*Verkaufsprospektgesetz*), or the German Investment Act (*Investmentgesetz*). Neither the German Federal Financial Services Supervisory Authority (*Bundesanstalt für finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht—BaFin*) nor any other German authority has been notified of the intention to distribute our Class A common stock in Germany. Consequently, the Class A common stock may not be distributed in Germany by way of public offering, public advertisement or in any similar manner and this prospectus and any other document relating to this offering, as well as information or statements contained therein, may not be supplied to the public in Germany or used in connection with any offer for subscription of the Class A common stock to the public in Germany or any other means of public marketing. The Class A common stock is being offered and sold in Germany only to qualified investors which are referred to in Section 3 paragraph 2 no. 1, in connection with Section 2 no. 6, of the German Securities Prospectus Act, Section 8f paragraph 2 no. 4 of the German Sales Prospectus Act, and in Section 2 paragraph 11 sentence 2 no. 1 of the German Investment Act. This prospectus is strictly for use of the person who has received it. It may not be forwarded to other persons or published in Germany.

#### **Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland**

This document is not intended to constitute an offer or solicitation to purchase or invest in the securities. The securities may not be publicly offered, directly or indirectly, in Switzerland within the meaning of the Swiss Financial Services Act ("FinSA") and no application has or will be made to admit the securities to trading on any trading venue (exchange or multilateral trading facility) in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the securities constitutes a prospectus pursuant to the FinSA, and neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the securities may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, the Company or the securities have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of securities will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (FINMA), and the offer of securities has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes ("CISA"). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of the securities.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of our Class A common stock offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas. Certain legal matters in connection with this offering will be passed upon for the underwriters by Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, Washington, D.C.

#### **EXPERTS**

The audited financial statements of Stronghold Digital Mining LLC and Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. included in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been so included in reliance upon the report of Urish Popeck & Co., LLC, independent auditors, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-1 (including the exhibits, schedules and amendments thereto) under the Securities Act, with respect to the shares of our Class A common stock offered hereby. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. For further information with respect to us and the Class A common stock offered hereby, we refer you to the registration statement, including all amendments, supplements, exhibits and schedules thereto. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract, agreement or any other document are summaries of the material terms of this contract, agreement or other document. With respect to each of these contracts, agreements or other documents filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, reference is made to the exhibits for a more complete description of the matter involved. The SEC maintains a website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a> that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. Our website address is <a href="https://www.strongholddigitalmining.com">www.strongholddigitalmining.com</a>. Information contained on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus.

As a result of this offering, we will become subject to full information requirements of the Exchange Act. We will fulfill our obligations with respect to such requirements by filing periodic reports and other information with the SEC. We intend to furnish our stockholders with annual reports containing financial statements certified by an independent public accounting firm.

# INDEX TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. and Stronghold Digital Mining LLC	
Combined Financial Statements	
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Combined Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2020 and 2019	F-3
Combined Statements of Operations for the Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019	F-4
Combined Statements of Changes in Partners' Capital (Deficit) for the Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019	F-5
Combined Statements of Cash Flows for the Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019	F-6
Notes to Combined Financial Statements	F-7

#### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Partners and Members and Board of Directors Scrubgrass Generating Company. L.P. and Stronghold Digital Mining, LLC. Kennerdell, Pennsylvania

#### **Opinion on the Combined Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying combined balance sheets of Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. and Stronghold Digital Mining LLC, (collectively the "Company") as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, the related combined statements of operations, changes in partners' capital (deficit), and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "combined financial statements"). In our opinion, the combined financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

These combined financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's combined financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the combined financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the combined financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the combined financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the combined financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

#### **Emphasis of Matter - Subsequent Event**

As more fully described in Note 12 of the combined financial statements, on April 1, 2021, the Company effected a reorganization.

/s/ Urish Popeck & Co., LLC

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2021.

Pittsburgh, PA May 10, 2021

# $\frac{SCRUBGRASS\ GENERATING\ COMPANY,\ LP\ AND}{STRONGHOLD\ DIGITAL\ MINING\ LLC}$

# COMBINED BALANCE SHEETS December 31, 2020 and 2019

<u>December 31, 2020 and 2019</u>		
	 2020	 2019
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 303,187	\$ 134,143
Cryptocurrencies	228,087	15,436
Accounts receivable	65,900	136,518
Due from related party	302,975	_
Inventory	396,892	529,483
Derivative contracts, net	_	505,747
Other current assets	 65,831	 57,960
Total Current Assets	 1,362,872	 1,379,287
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, NET	 7,814,199	 6,386,428
ROAD BOND	 185,245	 185,245
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 9,362,316	\$ 7,950,960
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 449,447	\$ 292,292
Related-party notes payable	2,024,250	, -
Accounts payable	8,479,183	7,932,464
Due to related parties	698,338	1,147,206
Accrued liabilities	 828	 3,757
Total Current Liabilities	 11,652,046	 9,375,719
LONG TERM LIABILITIES		
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	44C 100	42.4.207
Asset retirement obligation	446,128	424,307
Contract liabilities	40,000	-
Economic Injury Disaster Loan	150,000	-
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	638,800	-
Long-term debt	 482,443	 931,890
Total Long-Term Liabilities	 1,757,371	 1,356,197
Total Liabilities	 13,409,417	 10,731,916
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES		
PARTNERS' CAPITAL (DEFICIT)		
General partners	(2,710,317)	(1,935,489)
Limited partner	 (1,336,784)	 (845,467)
Total Partners' Deficit	 (4,047,101)	 (2,780,956)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL (DEFICIT)	\$ 9,362,316	\$ 7,950,960

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

# SCRUBGRASS GENERATING COMPANY, LP AND STRONGHOLD DIGITAL MINING LLC

# COMBINED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
OPERATING REVENUES		
Energy	\$ 518,397	\$ 7,047,237
Capacity	2,816,457	3,832,457
Cryptocurrency hosting	252,413	-
Cryptocurrency mining	339,456	33,337
Other	 191,661	 136,299
Total operating revenues	4,118,384	11,049,330
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Fuel	425,126	8,435,990
Operations and maintenance	3,305,833	5,637,118
General and administrative	2,269,525	3,072,285
Depreciation and amortization	 558,630	 483,658
Total operating expenses	6,559,114	17,629,051
Operating Loss	 (2,440,730)	(6,579,921)
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)		
Interest income	2,982	4,177
Interest expense	(205,480)	(192,961)
Gain on extinguishment of EIDL advance	10,000	- -
Realized gain (loss) on sale of cryptocurrencies	31,810	(1,516)
Commission on sale of ash	-	590,832
Derivative contracts, net	1,207,131	2,244,810
Waste coal credits	1,188,210	2,011,044
Renewable energy credits	35,493	105,532
Other	 25,590	 (33,640)
Total other income	 2,295,736	 4,728,278
NET LOSS	\$ (144,994)	\$ (1,851,443)

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

# SCRUBGRASS GENERATING COMPANY, LP AND STRONGHOLD DIGITAL MINING LLC

# COMBINED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN PARTNERS' CAPITAL (DEFICIT) Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	 Limited Partner	General Partners and Members		 Total Partners' Deficit
Balance - December 31, 2018	\$ (106,474)	\$	(246,855)	\$ (353,329)
Net loss	(564,980)		(1,286,463)	(1,851,443)
Distributions paid	 (174,013)		(402,171)	 (576,184)
Balance - December 31, 2019	\$ (845,467)	\$	(1,935,489)	\$ (2,780,956)
Partner contribution	-		62,000	62,000
Net (loss) income	(147,546)		2,552	(144,994)
Distributions paid	 (343,771)		(839,380)	 (1,183,151)
Balance - December 31, 2020	\$ (1,336,784)	\$	(2,710,317)	\$ (4,047,101)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these combined financial statements. F-5  $\,$ 

# SCRUBGRASS GENERATING COMPANY, LP AND STRONGHOLD DIGITAL MINING LLC

# COMBINED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	2020			2019		
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Net loss	\$	(144,994)	\$	(1,851,443)		
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash						
provided by operating activities:						
Depreciation of property and equipment		558,630		483,658		
Accretion of asset retirement obligation		21,821		20,662		
Forgiveness of EIDL advance		(10,000)		-		
Loss on disposal of assets		-		23,113		
Derivative contracts, net		505,747		(1,423,602)		
Realized (gain) loss on sale of cryptocurrencies		(31,810)		1,516		
(Increase) decrease in assets:						
Cryptocurrencies		(339,456)		(33,337)		
Accounts receivable		70,618		339,760		
Due from related party		(302,975)		=		
Inventory		132,591		(68,236)		
Other current assets		(7,871)		(3,940)		
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:		( )- /		(-,)		
Accounts payable		546,719		2,778,390		
Due to related parties		(448,868)		488,683		
Accrued liabilities		(2,929)		(42)		
Contract liabilities		40,000		(12)		
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		587,223		755,182		
NET CASH FROVIDED DT OFERATING ACTIVITIES		307,223		/ 33,102		
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Proceeds from sale of cryptocurrencies		158,615		17,982		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(1,986,401)		-		
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	-	(1,827,786)		17,982		
THE CHAIT ING VIDED BY (COLD IN) INVESTING MOTIVITIES	-	(1,027,700)		17,302		
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Payments on long-term debt		(292,292)		(250,058)		
Proceeds from PPP loan		638,800		-		
Proceeds from EIDL loan		150,000		-		
Proceeds from EIDL advance		10,000		=		
Proceeds from related-party notes payable		2,024,250		=		
Partner contribution		62,000		-		
Distributions paid		(1,183,151)		(576,184)		
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES		1,409,607		(826,242)		
				(==;=:=)		
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH		169,044		(53,078)		
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR		134,143		187,221		
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$	303,187	\$	134,143		

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION

Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. ("Scrubgrass") is a Delaware limited partnership formed on December 1, 1990. Q Power, LLC is a multi-member limited liability company and indirectly holds limited and general partner interests of Scrubgrass. Additionally, Aspen Scrubgrass Participant, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Olympus Power, LLC, is a limited partner of Scrubgrass.

Scrubgrass has two subsidiaries: Clearfield Properties, Inc. ("Clearfield"), which was formed for the purpose of purchasing a 175-acre site in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, and acquiring access to certain coal material; and Leechburg Properties, Inc. ("Leechburg"), which was formed for the purpose of acquiring access rights to certain waste coal sites. Leechburg was a dormant entity on December 31, 2019 and 2020.

Scrubgrass operates as a qualifying cogeneration facility ("Facility") under the provisions of the Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1978. Scrubgrass sells its electricity into the PJM Interconnection Merchant Market ("PJM") under an Energy Management Agreement ("EMA") with Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC ("DEBM") effective February 1, 2015. Scrubgrass' primary fuel source is waste coal which is provided by various third parties.

Pursuant to an equity Assignment and Assumption agreement dated September 24, 2020, Q Power LLC assigned a 50%-member interest to a second individual. As a result, two individuals are the sole members of Q Power LLC. Stronghold Power LLC ("Stronghold") was established on February 12, 2020 as a Delaware Limited Liability Company and is 100% owned by Q Power LLC. Stronghold was created to pursue opportunities involving cryptocurrency mining as well as providing hosting services for third-party miners.

Currently, Scrubgrass and Stronghold (collectively the "Company"), form a vertically integrated cryptocurrency mining operation, which utilizes specialized computers (also known as "miners") using application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) chips to solve complex cryptographic algorithms in order to support the Bitcoin blockchain (in a process known as "solving a block"), in exchange for cryptocurrency rewards.

The Company buys and maintains a fleet of cryptocurrency mining equipment and the required infrastructure, it also provides power to third party cryptocurrency miners under favorable Power Purchase Agreement ("PPA") agreements, and it sells energy as a merchant power producer and receives capacity payments from PJM for making its energy available to the grid. Waste coal credits are earned by Scrubgrass by generating electricity by using coal refuse.

### **NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### Basis of Presentation

The combined financial statements include the accounts and operations of Scrubgrass Generating Co., LP, its wholly owned subsidiaries Clearfield and Leechburg, and Stronghold Digital Mining, LLC. All intercompany accounts and balances have been eliminated in combination.

The combined financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. These combined financial statements reflect changes in statements of operations, changes in partners' capital (deficit) and cash flows of the Company.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

### NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Adoption of New Accounting Standard

As of January 1, 2019, the Company adopted ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). Topic 606 supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in FASB ASC 605, Revenue Recognition, and requires the recognition of revenue when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The Company adopted Topic 606 under the modified retrospective approach whereby the cumulative effect of adopting the new guidance was recognized on the date of initial application. The adoption of ASC 606 did not result in a change to the accounting for revenue, as such, no cumulative effect adjustment was recorded.

## Cash

The Company places its cash with a financial institution that it considers to be of high quality; however, at times, the deposits may be in excess of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance limits applicable in the United States.

#### Cryptocurrencies

Cryptocurrencies are included in current assets in the combined balance sheet. Cryptocurrencies purchased are recorded at cost and cryptocurrencies awarded to the Company through its mining activities are accounted for in connection with the Company's revenue recognition policy disclosed below.

Cryptocurrencies held are accounted for as intangible assets with indefinite useful lives. An intangible asset with an indefinite useful life is not amortized but assessed for impairment annually, or more frequently, when events or changes in circumstances occur indicating that it is more likely than not that the indefinite-lived asset is impaired. Impairment exists when the carrying amount exceeds its fair value, which is measured using the quoted price of the cryptocurrency at the time its fair value is being measured. In testing for impairment, the Company has the option to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that an impairment exists. If it is determined that it is not more likely than not that an impairment exists, a quantitative impairment test is not necessary. If the Company concludes otherwise, it is required to perform a quantitative impairment test. To the extent an impairment loss is recognized, the loss establishes the new cost basis of the asset. Subsequent reversal of impairment losses is not permitted.

Purchases of cryptocurrencies by the Company are included within investing activities in the accompanying combined statements of cash flows, while cryptocurrencies awarded to the Company through its mining activities are included within operating activities on the accompanying combined statements of cash flows. The sales of cryptocurrencies are included within investing activities in the accompanying combined statements of cash flows and any realized gains or losses from such sales are included in other income (expense) in the combined statements of operations. The Company accounts for its gains or losses in accordance with the first in first out (FIFO) method of accounting.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Cryptocurrencies (Continued)

The following table presents the activities of the cryptocurrencies for the years ended December 31:

	 2020	 2019
Cryptocurrencies at beginning of year	\$ 15,436	\$ 1,597
Additions of cryptocurrencies	339,456	33,337
Realized gain (loss) on sale of cryptocurrencies	31,810	(1,516)
Sale of cryptocurrencies	 (158,615)	 (17,982)
Cryptocurrencies at end of year	\$ 228,087	\$ 15,436

#### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from balances outstanding at year end. An allowance for doubtful accounts is provided when necessary and is based upon management's evaluation of outstanding accounts receivable at year end. The potential risk is limited to the amount recorded in the financial statements. No allowance was considered necessary as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

#### Inventory

Waste coal, fuel oil and limestone are valued at the lower of average cost or net realizable value and includes all related transportation and handling costs.

The Company performs periodic assessments to determine the existence of obsolete, slow-moving and unusable inventory and records necessary provisions to reduce such inventories to net realizable value.

### **Derivative Contracts**

In accordance with guidance on accounting for derivative instruments and hedging activities all derivatives should be recognized at fair value. Derivatives or any portion thereof, that are not designated as, and effective as, hedges must be adjusted to fair value through earnings. Derivative contracts are classified as either assets or liabilities on the accompanying combined balance sheets. Such contracts are accounted for on an accrual basis.

The Company uses derivative instruments to mitigate its exposure to various energy commodity market risks. The Company does not enter into any derivative contracts or similar arrangements for speculative or trading purposes. The Company will, at times, sell its forward unhedged electricity capacity to stabilize its operating margins.

On December 31, 2020, all derivative contracts were settled.

## Fair Value Measurements

The Company measures at fair value certain of its financial and non-financial assets and liabilities by using a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, essentially an exit price, based on the highest and best use of the asset or liability.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

The levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

- Level 1: Observable inputs such as quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2: Observable market-based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs for which there is little or no market data, which require the use of the reporting entity's own assumptions.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. On December 31, 2019, the Company remeasured its derivative contracts at fair value using Level 1 inputs obtained from active markets. On December 31, 2020, the Company does not have any assets or liabilities remeasured at fair value as there were no open positions.

### **Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives (EUL). Repairs and maintenance, which do not extend the lives of applicable assets, are expensed as incurred. Gain or loss resulting from the retirement or other disposition of assets is included in income.

The Company's depreciation is based on its Facility being considered a single property unit. Certain components of the Facility may require replacement or overhaul several times over its estimated life. Costs associated with overhauls are recorded as an expense in the period incurred. However, in instances where a replacement of a Facility component is significant and the Company can reasonably estimate the original cost of the component being replaced, the Company will write-off the replaced component and capitalize the cost of the replacement. The component will be depreciated over the lesser of the EUL of the component or the remaining useful life of the Facility.

#### Cryptocurrency Machines

The Company records all assets associated with the cryptocurrency hosting operations at cost. These assets are comprised of storage trailers and the related electrical components.

The Company operates in an emerging industry for which limited data is available to make estimates of the useful economic lives of specialized equipment. Management has determined that two years best reflects the current expected useful life of transaction verification servers. This assessment takes into consideration the availability of historical data and management's expectations regarding the direction of the industry including potential changes in technology. Management will review this estimate annually and will revise such estimate as and when data comes available.

To the extent that any of the assumptions underlying management's estimate of useful life of its transaction verification servers are subject to revision in a future reporting period either as a result of changes in circumstances or through the availability of greater quantities of data then the estimated useful life could change and have a prospective impact on depreciation expense and the carrying amounts of these assets.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Impairment of long-lived assets

Management reviews long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets. The factors considered by management in performing this assessment include current operating results, trends and prospects, the manner in which the long-lived asset is used, and the effects of obsolescence, demand, competition, and other economic factors.

### **Asset Retirement Obligations**

Asset retirement obligations, including those conditioned on future events, are recorded at fair value in the period in which they are incurred, if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. The associated asset retirement costs are capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset in the same period. In each subsequent period, the liability is accreted to its present value and the capitalized cost is depreciated over the EUL of the long-lived asset. If the asset retirement obligation is settled for other than the carrying amount of the liability, the Company recognizes a gain or loss on settlement. The Company's asset retirement obligation represents the cost the Company would incur to perform environmental clean-up or dismantle certain portions of the Facility.

### Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue under ASC 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The core principle of the new revenue standard is that a company should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The following five steps are applied to achieve that core principle:

- Step 1: Identify the contract with the customer
- Step 2: Identify the performance obligations in the contract
- Step 3: Determine the transaction price
- Step 4: Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract
- Step 5: Recognize revenue when the Company satisfies a performance obligation

In order to identify the performance obligations in a contract with a customer, a company must assess the promised goods or services in the contract and identify each promised good or service that is distinct. A performance obligation meets ASC 606's definition of a "distinct" good or service (or bundle of goods or services) if both of the following criteria are met: The customer can benefit from the good or service either on its own or together with other resources that are readily available to the customer (i.e., the good or service is capable of being distinct), and the entity's promise to transfer the good or service to the customer is separately identifiable from other promises in the contract (i.e., the promise to transfer the good or service is distinct within the context of the contract).

If a good or service is not distinct, the good or service is combined with other promised goods or services until a bundle of goods or services is identified that is distinct.

The transaction price is the amount of consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring promised goods or services to a customer. The consideration promised in a contract with a customer may include fixed amounts, variable amounts, or both.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Revenue Recognition (Continued)

When determining the transaction price, an entity must consider the effects of all of the following:

- Variable consideration
- Constraining estimates of variable consideration
- The existence of a significant financing component in the contract
- Noncash consideration
- Consideration payable to a customer

Variable consideration is included in the transaction price only to the extent that it is probable that a significant reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognized will not occur when the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. The transaction price is allocated to each performance obligation on a relative standalone selling price basis. The transaction price allocated to each performance obligation is recognized when that performance obligation is satisfied, at a point in time or over time as appropriate. There were no revenue streams with variable consideration during 2020 and 2019.

The Company's policies with respect to its revenue streams are detailed below.

#### Energy Revenue

The Company operates as a market participant through PJM Interconnection, a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO") that coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity. The Company sells energy in the wholesale generation market in the PJM RTO. Energy revenues are delivered as a series of distinct units that are substantially the same and that have the same pattern of transfer to the customer over time and are therefore accounted for as a distinct performance obligation. The transaction price is based on pricing published in the day ahead market which constitute the stand-alone selling price.

Energy revenue is recognized over time as energy volumes are generated and delivered to the RTO (which is contemporaneous with generation), using the output method for measuring progress of satisfaction of the performance obligation. The Company applies the invoice practical expedient in recognizing energy revenue. Under the invoice practical expedient, energy revenue is recognized based on the invoiced amount which is considered equal to the value provided to the customer for the Company's performance obligation completed to date.

Reactive energy power is provided to maintain a continuous voltage level. Revenue from reactive power is recognized ratably over time as the Company stands ready to provide it if called upon by the PJM RTO.

## Capacity Revenue

The Company provides capacity to a customer through participation in capacity auctions held by the PJM RTO. Capacity revenues are a series of distinct performance obligations that are substantially the same and that have the same pattern of transfer to the customer over time and are therefore accounted for as a distinct performance obligation. The transaction price for capacity is market-based and constitutes the stand-alone selling price.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Revenue Recognition (Continued)

### Capacity Revenue (Continued)

As capacity represents the Company's stand-ready obligation, capacity revenue is recognized as the performance obligation is satisfied ratably over time, on a monthly basis, since the Company stands ready equally throughout the period to deliver power to the PJM RTO if called upon. The Company applies the invoice practical expedient in recognizing capacity revenue. Under the invoice practical expedient, capacity revenue is recognized based on the invoiced amount which is considered equal to the value provided to the customer for the Company's performance obligation completed to date. Penalties may be assessed by the PJM RTO against generation facilities if the facility is not available during the capacity period. The penalties assessed by the PJM RTO, if any, are recorded as a reduction to capacity revenue when incurred.

### Cryptocurrency Hosting

The Company has entered into customer hosting contracts whereby the customer pays a stated amount per MWh (Contract Capacity). This amount is to be paid monthly in advance. Amounts used in excess of the Contract Capacity shall be billed based upon calculated formulas as contained in the contracts. If any shortfalls occur to due to outages, make-whole payment provisions contained in the contracts are used to offset the billings to the customer which prevented them from cryptocurrency mining.

### Cryptocurrency Mining

The Company has entered into digital asset mining pools by executing contracts, as amended from time to time, with the mining pool operators to provide computing power to the mining pool. The contracts are terminable at any time by either party and the Company's enforceable right to compensation only begins when the Company provides computing power to the mining pool operator. In exchange for providing computing power, the Company is entitled to a fractional share of the fixed cryptocurrency award the mining pool operator receives (less digital asset transaction fees to the mining pool operator which are recorded as a component of cost of revenues), for successfully adding a block to the blockchain. The terms of the agreement provides that neither party can dispute settlement terms after thirty-five days following settlement. The Company's fractional share is based on the proportion of computing power the Company contributed to the mining pool operator to the total computing power contributed by all mining pool participants in solving the current algorithm.

Providing computing power in digital asset transaction verification services is an output of the Company's ordinary activities. The provision of providing such computing power is the only performance obligation in the Company's contracts with mining pool operators. The transaction consideration the Company receives, if any, is noncash consideration, which the Company measures at fair value on the date received, which is not materially different than the fair value at contract inception or the time the Company has earned the award from the pools. The consideration is all variable. Because it is not probable that a significant reversal of cumulative revenue will not occur, the consideration is constrained until the mining pool operator successfully places a block (by being the first to solve an algorithm) and the Company receives confirmation of the consideration it will receive, at which time revenue is recognized. There is no significant financing component in these transactions.

Fair value of the cryptocurrency award received is determined using the quoted price of the related cryptocurrency at the time of receipt. There is currently no specific definitive guidance under GAAP or alternative accounting framework for the accounting for cryptocurrencies recognized as revenue or held, and management has exercised significant judgment in determining the appropriate accounting treatment. In the event authoritative guidance is enacted by the FASB, the Company may be required to change its policies, which could have an effect on the Company's combined financial position and results from operations.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## Waste Coal Credits

Waste coal credits are issued by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Facilities that generate electricity by using coal refuse for power generation, control acid gasses for emission control, and use the ash produced to reclaim mining-affected sites are eligible for such credits. Income related to these credits is recorded upon cash receipt.

## **Income Taxes**

Scrubgrass and Stronghold are structured as a limited partnership and limited liability company, respectively; therefore, the taxable income or loss of the Company is included in the income tax returns of the individual partners. Accordingly, no recognition has been given to federal or state income taxes in the accompanying financial statements.

Scrubgrass' two subsidiaries, Clearfield and Leechburg, are corporations for federal and state income tax purposes. Income taxes attributable to Clearfield and Leechburg are provided based on the asset and liability method of accounting pursuant to the Income Taxes Topic of the FASB ASC. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the tax bases of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all, of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. Clearfield and Leechburg have not recorded any temporary differences resulting in neither a deferred tax asset nor liability for the years ending December 31, 2020.

Clearfield and Leechburg follow the Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes Sub-Topic of the FASB ASC which governs the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. Pursuant to this Sub-Topic, a tax position can be recognized in the financial statements only when it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination by the relevant taxing authority based on the technical merits of the position. A position that meets this standard is measured as the largest amount of benefit that will more likely than not be realized upon settlement. A liability is established for differences between positions taken in a tax return and amounts recognized in the financial statements. Clearfield and Leechburg did not recognize an impact under this Sub-Topic for the years ending December 31, 2020 and 2019. As of December 31, 2020, the tax years ended December 31, 2017 through 2020 are open for potential examination by taxing authorities.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## Segment Reporting

Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise about which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief operating decision maker in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing performance. Our chief operating decision—making group is composed of the chief executive officer. The Company functions in two operating segments about which separate financial information is available as follows:

	 2020		2019
Energy Operations			
Energy revenue	\$ 518,397	\$	7,047,237
Energy capacity revenue	2,816,457		3,832,457
Other	 1,661		136,299
	 3,336,515		11,015,993
Cryptocurrency Operations			
Cryptocurrency hosting	\$ 252,413	\$	-
Cryptocurrency mining	339,456		33,337
Other	 190,000		_
	 781,869		33,337
	\$ 4,118,384	\$	11,049,330

Assets, at December 31, 2020, by energy operations and cryptocurrency operations totaled \$6,743,479 and \$2,618,837, respectively. Assets at December 31, 2019 related to cyptocurrency operations were not significant.

	 Energy Operations	yptocurrency Operations	 Total
Cash	\$ 223,188	\$ 79,999	\$ 303,187
Cryptocurrencies	-	228,087	228,087
Accounts receivable	65,900	-	65,900
Due from related party	_	302,975	302,975
Inventory	396,892	-	396,892
Derivative contracts, net	-	-	-
Other current assets	65,831	-	65,831
Property, plant and equipment, net	5,806,423	2,007,776	7,814,199
Road bond	 185,245	 	 185,245
	\$ 6,743,479	\$ 2,618,837	\$ 9,362,316

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2016, FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases ("Topic 842"), which supersedes ASC Topic 840, Leases. Topic 842 requires lessees to recognize a lease liability and a lease asset for all leases, including operating leases, with a term greater than 12 months on its balance sheet. The update also expands the required quantitative and qualitative disclosures surrounding leases. Topic 842 will be applied using a modified retrospective transition approach for leases existing at, or entered into after, the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented in the financial statements. In November 2019, FASB deferred the effective date for implementation of Topic 842 by one year and, in June 2020, FASB deferred the effective date by an additional year. The guidance under Topic 842 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2021 and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2022. Earlier adoption is permitted. The Company is in the process of developing its new accounting policies and determining the potential aggregate impact this guidance is likely to have on its combined financial statements as of its adoption date.

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## **NOTE 3 - INVENTORY**

Inventories consist of the following components on December 31:

	 2020	 2019
Waste coal Fuel oil Limestone	\$ 342,476 33,243 21,173	\$ 451,073 36,383 42,027
	\$ 396,892	\$ 529,483
NOTE 4 - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Property and equipment consist of the following on December 31:		
	 2020	 2019
Land and electric plant	\$ 30,288,979	\$ 30,288,979
Machinery and equipment	2,862,736	2,421,124
Computer hardware and software	5,062	4,236
Vehicles	81,733	81,733
Construction in progress	1,544,536	-
Asset retirement obligation	 79,848	 79,848
	34,862,894	32,875,920
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	 (27,048,695)	 (26,489,492)
	\$ 7,814,199	\$ 6,386,428

Depreciation and amortization charged to operations was \$558,630 and \$483,658 for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

There were no impairment charges related to miners for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

# NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 5 - LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt consisted of the following on December 31:

		2020	2019
\$66,076 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$1,537 with interest at 5.55%, due July 2021.	\$	16,440	\$ 30,896
\$75,000 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$2,489 with interest at 12.67%, due April 2021.		14,934	34,362
\$142,000 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$4,620 with interest at 11.21%, due April 2021.		18,056	68,364
\$70,000 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$2,300 with interest at 11.92%, due April 2021.		8,974	31,900
\$499,520 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$8,863 with interest at 2.49% due December 2023	3.	333,599	396,500
\$499,895 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$11,054 with interest at 2.95% due July 2023.		371,490	460,450
\$212,675 loan for equipment with monthly payments of \$7,239 with interest at 6.75% due October 2022.		168,397	 201,710
		931,890	1,224,182
Less current portion		449,447	 292,292
	\$	482,443	\$ 931,890

Future scheduled maturities on the outstanding borrowings for each of the next three years as of December 31, 2020 are as follows:

<u>Years ending</u> ,	
2021	\$ 449,447
2022	300,887
2023	 181,556
	\$ 931,890

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 6 - PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM AND ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOANS

The Company received a \$638,800 loan in April 2020 under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) pursuant to the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and a loan of \$150,000 was issued as an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and a \$10,000 advance from the EIDL. As a U.S. small business, the Company qualified for the PPP, which allowed businesses and non-profits with fewer than 500 employees to obtain loans of up to \$10 million to incentivize companies to maintain their workers as they manage the business disruptions caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. On December 27, 2020, the Bipartisan-Bicameral Omnibus COVID Relief Deal eliminated the requirement that PPP borrowers deduct the amount of EIDL advance from their PPP forgiveness amount. As of December 31, 2020, the \$10,000 advance was recognized as other income.

As of December 31, 2020, \$150,000 remains on the EIDL loan, which matures in April 2050. The loan bears interest at 3.75%, requires \$731 in monthly installments, and is secured by substantially all assets of the Company.

The principal payments required on the EIDL loan for years subsequent to December 31, 2020 are as follows:

<u>Years ending</u> ,	
2021	\$ -
2022	2,987
2023	3,102
2024	3,206
2025	3,346
Thereafter	 137,359
	\$ 150,000

Subsequent to year end, the Company applied for and received forgiveness of this PPP loan. On March 16, 2021, the Company received a loan of \$841,670 under the Second Draw Paycheck Protection Program.

## **NOTE 7 - CONCENTRATIONS**

Credit risk is the risk of loss the Company would incur if counterparties fail to perform their contractual obligations (including accounts receivable). The Company primarily conducts business with counterparties in the cryptocurrency mining and energy industry. This concentration of counterparties may impact the Company's overall exposure to credit risk, either positively or negatively, in that its counterparties may be similarly affected by changes in economic, regulatory or other conditions. The Company mitigates potential credit losses by dealing, where practical, with counterparties that are rated at investment grade by a major credit agency or have a history of reliable performance within the cryptocurrency mining and energy industry.

Financial instruments which potentially expose the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and accounts receivable. The Company's significant credit risk is primarily concentrated with DEBM, which amounted to approximately 100% of the Company's energy revenues for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019. DEBM accounted for 75% and 38% of the Company's accounts receivable balance at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

For the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company purchased 100% and 99% of coal from two related parties, respectively. See Note 9 for further information.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## **NOTE 8 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

The Company experiences routine litigation in the normal course of business. Management is of the opinion that none of this routine litigation will have a material adverse effect on the Company's combined financial position or results of operations.

### **NOTE 9 - RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

#### Related-Party Notes

In December 2020, one of the general partners loaned \$1,500,000 to the Company for working capital and equipment financing. The loan is due December 2021 plus applicable interest. Interest accrues daily at 8.0%. On December 31, 2020, the outstanding balance due was \$1,500,000.

In December 2020, a second general partner loaned \$524,250 to the Company for working capital and equipment financing. The loan is due December 2021 plus applicable interest. Interest accrues daily at 8.0%. On December 31, 2020, the outstanding balance due was \$524,250.

## **Management Services Agreement**

The Company has a management services agreement with Q Power, LLC to provide day-to-day management and administration services to the Company. The agreement provides for a monthly fee of \$25,000 in 2020 and \$50,000 in 2019. Amounts incurred for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 were \$300,000 and \$600,000, respectively.

The Company has an amount due from Q Power, LLC of \$302,975 on December 31, 2020.

#### Waste Coal Agreement

The Company is obligated under a Waste Coal Agreement (the "WCA") to take minimum annual delivery of 200,000 tons of waste coal as long as there is a sufficient quantity of Waste Coal that meets the Average Quality Characteristics. Under the terms of the WCA, the Company is not charged for the waste coal itself but is charged a \$6.07 per ton base handling fee as it is obligated to mine, process, load and otherwise handle the waste coal for itself and also for other customers of Coal Valley Sales, LLC ("CVS") from the Russellton Site specifically. The Company is also obligated to unload and properly dispose of ash at the Russellton site.

A reduced handling fee is charged at \$1.00 per ton for any tons in excess of the minimum take of 200,000 tons. The Company is the designated operator at the Russellton site and therefore is responsible for complying with all state and federal requirements and regulations.

In December 2019, the Company notified CVS by letter that it intended to reduce its payments and halt production from the Russellton site due to reasons consisting of but not limited to decline of power pricing, non-performance of the Company's trucking contractor and CVS's loss of other customers sales.

In December 2020, the Company notified CVS by letter that it intends to restart operations at Russellton during Q1 of 2021. It proposed a ramp-up of tons and payments at \$25,000 a month until the economics of the plant steady and return to the minimum take per the contract.

The Company purchased coal from Coal Valley Properties, LLC, a single-member LLC which is entirely owned by one individual that has ownership in Q Power LLC, and from CVS. CVS is a single-member LLC which is owned by a coal reclamation partnership of which an owner of Q Power LLC has a direct and an indirect interest in the partnership of 16.26%.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 9 - RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

## Waste Coal Agreement (Continued)

The Company purchased coal from the following related parties for the years ended December 31, as follows:

	 2020	 2019
Coal Purchases: Coal Valley Properties, LLC Coal Valley Sales, LLC	\$ - 17,095	\$ 754,305 1,210,562
	\$ 17,095	\$ 1,964,867
Amounts due to related parties on December 31:		
	 2020	 2019
Payables: Coal Valley Properties, LLC Q Power LLC Coal Valley Sales, LLC	\$ 188,338 510,000	\$ 188,338 695,000 263,868
	\$ 698,338	\$ 1,147,206

The Company earned commissions from Coal Valley Properties, LLC on sales of ash of \$590,832 for the year ended December 31, 2019. The Company had receivables from those sales to Coal Valley Properties, LLC of \$6,148 as of December 31, 2019.

# $\frac{SCRUBGRASS\ GENERATING\ COMPANY, LP\ AND}{STRONGHOLD\ DIGITAL\ MINING\ LLC}$

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## **NOTE 10 - COVID-19**

The full impact of the COVID-19 outbreak continues to evolve as of the date of this report. As such, it is uncertain as to the full magnitude that the pandemic will have on the Company's financial condition, liquidity, and future results of operations. Management is actively monitoring the global situation on its financial condition, liquidity, operations, suppliers, industry, and workforce. Given the daily evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak and the global responses to curb its spread, the Company is not able to estimate the future effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on its results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity.

## NOTE 11 - SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Supplementary cash flow disclosures as of December 31:

	2020 20		2019	
Equipment financed with debt	\$	_	\$	712,570
Interest paid	\$	205,480	\$	192,961

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

### **NOTE 12 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

### Corporate Reorganization

Stronghold Digital Mining Inc. ("Stronghold Inc.") was incorporated as a Delaware corporation on March 19, 2021. On April 1, 2021, contemporaneously with the April 2021 Private Placement (as defined herein), the Company underwent a corporate reorganization pursuant to a Master Transaction Agreement, which is referred to herein as the "Reorganization."

Immediately prior to the Reorganization, Q Power directly held all of the equity interests in Stronghold Digital Mining LLC ("SDM"), and indirectly held 70% of the limited partner interests, and all of the general partner interests, in Scrubgrass LP, through wholly-owned subsidiaries EIF Scrubgrass, LLC ("EIF Scrubgrass"), Falcon Power LLC ("Falcon") and Falcon's wholly-owned subsidiary Scrubgrass Power LLC ("Scrubgrass Power"). Aspen Scrubgrass Participant, LLC ("Aspen"), a subsidiary of Olympus Power, LLC ("Olympus"), held the remaining 30% of the limited partner interests in Scrubgrass LP. Scrubgrass LP is a Delaware limited partnership originally formed on December 1, 1990 under the name of Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. SDM is a Delaware limited liability company originally formed on February 12, 2020 under the name Stronghold Power LLC.

Contemporaneously with the Reorganization, using in part 200,000 shares of newly issued Series A Preferred Stock in Stronghold Inc. and in part proceeds from the April 2021 Private Placement, Stronghold Inc. acquired all of Aspen's limited partner interest in Scrubgrass LP (the "Aspen Interest"). Pursuant to the Reorganization, Q Power contributed all of its ownership interests in EIF Scrubgrass, Falcon and SDM to Stronghold LLC in exchange for 9,400,000 common units of Stronghold LLC ("Stronghold LLC Units"), Stronghold Inc. contributed cash (using the remaining proceeds from the April 2021 Private Placement, net of fees, expenses and amounts paid to Aspen), 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock in Stronghold Inc. and the Aspen Interest to Stronghold LLC in exchange for 3,600,000 preferred units of Stronghold LLC, and Stronghold LLC immediately thereafter distributed the 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock to Q Power. In addition, on April 1, 2021, Stronghold Inc. acquired 5,000 Stronghold LLC Units held by Q Power (along with an equal number of shares of Class V common stock) in exchange for 5,000 newly issued shares of Class A common stock.

As a result of the Reorganization, the acquisition of the Aspen Interest and the acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units by Stronghold Inc. discussed above, (i) Q Power acquired and retained 9,395,000 Stronghold LLC Units, 5,000 shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc., and 9,395,000 shares of Class V common stock of Stronghold Inc., effectively giving Q Power approximately 72% of the voting power of Stronghold Inc. and approximately 72% of the economic interest in Stronghold LLC, (ii) Stronghold Inc. acquired 3,600,000 preferred units of Stronghold LLC and 5,000 Stronghold LLC Units, effectively giving Stronghold Inc. approximately 28% of the economic interest in Stronghold LLC, (iii) Stronghold Inc. became the sole managing member of Stronghold LLC and is responsible for all operational, management and administrative decisions relating to Stronghold LLC's business and will consolidate financial results of Stronghold LLC and its subsidiaries, (iv) Stronghold Inc. became a holding company whose only material asset consists of membership interests in Stronghold LLC, and (v) Stronghold LLC directly or indirectly owns all of the outstanding equity interests in the subsidiaries through which it operates its assets, including Scrubgrass LP and SDM.

The Company's organizational structure following the Reorganization is commonly referred to as an umbrella partnership-C corporation (or "Up-C") structure. Pursuant to this structure, following this offering Stronghold Inc. will hold a number of Stronghold LLC Units equal to the number of shares of Class A common stock issued and outstanding, and Stronghold Unit Holders (other than Stronghold Inc.) will hold a number of Stronghold LLC Units equal to the number of shares of Class V common stock issued and outstanding.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## **NOTE 12 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS (CONTINUED)**

### Corporate Reorganization (Continued)

Pursuant to the terms of the Preferred Stock, on (i) the date that a registration statement registering the shares of Class A common stock issuable upon the conversion of the Preferred Stock is declared effective by the SEC or (ii) the date on which a "Significant Transaction Event" occurs, as defined in the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation, such shares of Preferred Stock will automatically convert into shares of Class A common stock of Stronghold Inc. on a one to one ratio, subject to certain adjustments as set forth in the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Correspondingly, pursuant to the Stronghold LLC Agreement, preferred units in Stronghold LLC automatically convert into Stronghold LLC Units on a one to one ratio under like circumstances (subject to corresponding adjustments). All of the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock will convert into shares of Class A common stock in connection with this offering (the "Preferred Stock Conversion") and, correspondingly, all of the preferred units in Stronghold LLC will convert into Stronghold LLC Units.

Each share of Class V common stock has no economic rights but entitles its holder to one vote on all matters to be voted on by stockholders generally. Holders of Class A common stock and Class V common stock vote together as a single class on all matters presented to the Company's stockholders for their vote or approval, except as otherwise required by applicable law or by the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Stronghold Inc. does not intend to list Class V common stock on any exchange.

Under the Second Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Stronghold LLC, as amended from time to time (the "Stronghold LLC Agreement"), each holder of Stronghold LLC units (each, a "Stronghold Unit Holder"), other than Stronghold Inc., subject to certain limitations, has the right (the "Redemption Right") to cause Stronghold LLC to acquire all or a portion of its Stronghold LLC Units for, at Stronghold LLC Unit redeemed, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions or (ii) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the Stronghold LLC Agreement. Alternatively, upon the exercise of the Redemption Right, Stronghold Inc. (instead of Stronghold LLC) has the right (the "Call Right"), for administrative convenience, to acquire each tendered Stronghold LLC Unit directly from the redeeming Stronghold Unit Holder for, at its election, (x) one share of Class A common stock, subject to conversion rate adjustments for stock splits, stock dividends and reclassification and other similar transactions, or (y) an approximately equivalent amount of cash as determined pursuant to the terms of the Stronghold LLC Agreement. In addition, Stronghold Inc. has the right to require (i) upon the acquisition by Stronghold Inc. of substantially all of the Stronghold LLC Units, certain minority unitholders or (ii) upon a change of control of Stronghold Inc., each Stronghold Unit Holder (other than Stronghold Inc.), to exercise its Redemption Right with respect to some or all of such unitholder's Stronghold LLC Units. In connection with any redemption of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to the Redemption Right or the Call Right, the corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock will be cancelled.

## NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

### **NOTE 12 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS (CONTINUED)**

### Corporate Reorganization (Continued)

Stronghold Inc.'s acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right is expected to result in adjustments to the tax basis of the tangible and intangible assets of Stronghold LLC, and such adjustments will be allocated to Stronghold Inc. These adjustments would not have been available to Stronghold Inc. absent its acquisition or deemed acquisition of Stronghold LLC Units and are expected to reduce the amount of cash tax that Stronghold Inc. would otherwise be required to pay in the future.

In connection with the Reorganization, Stronghold Inc. entered into a Tax Receivable Agreement with Q Power and an agent named by Q Power (the "Tax Receivable Agreement"). The Tax Receivable Agreement generally provides for the payment by Stronghold Inc. to Q Power (or its permitted assignees) of 85% of the net cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income and franchise tax (computed using the estimated impact of state and local taxes) that Stronghold Inc. actually realizes (or is deemed to realize in certain circumstances) as a result of (i) certain increases in tax basis that occur as a result of its acquisition (or deemed acquisition for U.S. federal income tax purposes) of all or a portion of Stronghold Unit Holders' Stronghold LLC Units pursuant to an exercise of the Redemption Right or the Call Right and (ii) imputed interest deemed to be paid by Stronghold Inc. as a result of, and additional tax basis arising from, any payments Stronghold Inc. makes under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

Payments will generally be made under the Tax Receivable Agreement as Stronghold Inc. realizes actual cash tax savings from the tax benefits covered by the Tax Receivable Agreement. However, if Stronghold Inc. experiences a change of control (as defined under the Tax Receivable Agreement, which includes certain mergers, asset sales and other forms of business combinations) or the Tax Receivable Agreement terminates early (at Stronghold Inc.'s election or as a result of Stronghold Inc.'s breach), Stronghold Inc. would be required to make an immediate payment equal to the present value of the anticipated future payments to be made by it under the Tax Receivable Agreement (determined by applying a discount rate equal to one-year LIBOR (or an agreed successor rate, if applicable) plus 100 basis points) and such early termination payment is expected to be substantial and may exceed the future tax benefits realized by Stronghold Inc. Stronghold Inc. will be dependent on Stronghold LLC to make distributions to Stronghold Inc. in an amount sufficient to cover Stronghold Inc.'s obligations under the Tax Receivable Agreement.

On April 1, 2021, Stronghold Inc. entered into the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement with certain accredited investors to sell 3,400,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock at a price of \$25.00 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$85.0 million.

#### **Purchase Agreements**

On April 2, 2021, the Company entered into a purchase agreement with a seller for the acquisition of 15,000 of their MV7 ASIC SHA256 model cryptocurrency miner equipment (miners) with a total terahash to be delivered equal to 1.5 million terahash (total terahash). The price per miner is \$4,892.50 for an aggregate purchase price of \$73,387,500 to be paid in installments. The first installment equal to 60% of the purchase price, or \$44,032,500, was paid on April 2, 2021. The company shall make two additional installment payments of 20% of the purchase price, or \$14,677,500 each, to be paid on June 2, 2021 and the other one month before the shipping date. The seller anticipates shipping no less than 5,000 miners by October 31, 2021, no less than 5,000 miners by November 30, 2021 and the remainder by December 31, 2021. In exchange for the delivery of the total terahash, seller shall be granted 154,114 shares of Stronghold Digital Mining at a price per share of \$25. The aggregate purchase price does not include shipping costs, which are the responsibility of the Company and shall be determined at which time the miners are ready for shipment.

# NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2020 and 2019

## NOTE 12 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS (CONTINUED)

## Purchase Agreements (Continued)

The Company entered into a hardware purchase and sales agreement with a party effective April 1, 2021. Hardware includes, but is not limited to ASIC Miners, power supply units, power distribution units and replacement fans for ASIC Miners. All hardware must be paid for in advance before being shipped to the Company. The Company made payments to this party totaling \$4,528,000 in April 2021.

The Company entered into an agreement with a party to provide approximately 14,285 miners at a cost of approximately \$33,783,000. The Company was required to make an initial payment on the miners that are expected to begin delivery in August 2021. The Company made a deposit of \$15,758,432 in April 2021. Once operational, after deducting an amount equal to \$0.027/kWh for the actual power used, 65% of all cryptocurrency revenue generated by the miners shall be payable to the Company and 35% of all cryptocurrency revenue generated by the miners shall be payable to this party or its designee.

In April 2021, the Company purchased 800 miners for a combined purchase price of \$5,657,432. These miners have been partially delivered and the remainder are expected to be delivered in 2021.

## Non-binding Letter of Intent

In March 2021, the Company entered into a non-binding letter of intent for the purchase of two additional coal refuse reclamation-to-energy facilities.

### Series B Offering

On April 26, 2021, the Company commenced an offering for shares of its Series B Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock.

## **Shares**

## **Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc.**

Class A Common Stock



## **B.** Riley Securities

, 2021

Until	, 2021 all dealers that effect transactions in these securities, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a
prospectus. This subscriptions.	is in addition to the dealers' obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as underwriters and with respect to their unsold allotments or
subscriptions.	

#### Part II

### INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

### Item 13. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

The following table sets forth an itemized statement of the amounts of all expenses (excluding underwriting discounts and commissions) payable by us in connection with the registration of the common stock offered hereby. With the exception of the SEC registration fee, FINRA filing fee and the Nasdaq listing fee, the amounts set forth below are estimates.

	Amount	
SEC registration fee	\$	*
FINRA filing fee		*
Nasdaq listing fee		*
Accountants' fees and expenses		*
Legal fees and expenses		*
Printing and engraving expenses		*
Transfer agent and registrar fees		*
Blue Sky fees and expenses		*
Miscellaneous expenses		*
Total	\$	*

<sup>\*</sup> To be provided by amendment.

### Item 14. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that a director will not be liable to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duties to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL"). In addition, if the DGCL is amended to authorize the further elimination or limitation of the liability of directors, then the liability of a director of the corporation, in addition to the limitation on personal liability provided for in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, will be limited to the fullest extent permitted by the amended DGCL. Our bylaws provide that the corporation will indemnify, and advance expenses to, any officer or director to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL.

Section 145 of the DGCL provides that a corporation may indemnify directors and officers as well as other employees and individuals against expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement in connection with specified actions, suits and proceedings whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, other than a derivative action by or in the right of the corporation, if they acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful. A similar standard is applicable in the case of derivative actions, except that indemnification extends only to expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such action and the statute requires court approval before there can be any indemnification where the person seeking indemnification has been found liable to the corporation. The statute provides that it is not exclusive of other indemnification that may be granted by a corporation's certificate of incorporation, bylaws, disinterested director vote, stockholder vote, agreement or otherwise.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation also contains indemnification rights for our directors and our officers. Specifically, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that we shall indemnify our officers and directors to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL. Furthermore, we may maintain insurance on behalf of our officers and directors against expense, liability or loss asserted against, or incurred by, them in their capacities as officers and directors.

We have obtained directors' and officers' insurance to cover our directors, officers and some of our employees for certain liabilities.

We will enter into written indemnification agreements with our directors and executive officers. Under these proposed agreements, if an officer or director makes a claim of indemnification to us, either a majority of the independent directors or independent legal counsel selected by the independent directors must review the relevant facts and make a determination whether the officer or director has met the standards of conduct under Delaware law that would permit (under Delaware law) and require (under the indemnification agreement) us to indemnify the officer or director.

The underwriting agreement provides for indemnification by the underwriters of us and our officers and directors, and by us of the underwriters, for certain liabilities arising under the Securities Act or otherwise in connection with this offering.

### Item 15. Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

We were incorporated via a nominal owner on March 19, 2021 by the filing of a certificate of incorporation under the laws of the State of Delaware. No shares of stock were issued at such time. In connection with the Reorganization, we issued 9,400,000 shares of Class V common stock to Stronghold LLC on April 1, 2021, which shares were immediately thereafter distributed from Stronghold LLC to Q Power. On April 1, 2021, we acquired 5,000 common units of Stronghold LLC from Q Power (and a corresponding number of shares of Class V common stock), and in exchange, we issued directly to Q Power an additional 5,000 shares of Class A common stock. These securities were offered and sold by us in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements provided by Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act in a transaction by an issuer not involving any public offering.

On April 1, 2021, Stronghold Inc. entered into the Series A Stock Purchase Agreement with certain accredited investors to sell 3,400,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock at a price of \$25.00 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$85.0 million. These securities were offered and sold by us in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements provided by Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506(b) of Regulation D promulgated thereunder in a transaction by an issuer not involving any public offering.

### Item 16. Exhibits and financial statement schedules

See the Exhibit Index immediately preceding the signature page hereto, which is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

## Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes to provide to the underwriters at the closing specified in the underwriting agreement certificates in such denominations and registered in such names as required by the underwriters to permit prompt delivery to each purchaser.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that:

(1) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(2) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

## INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement
2.1*¥	Master Transaction Agreement, dated as of April 1, 2021, by and among Q Power LLC, Stronghold Digital Mining Holdings LLC, Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc., Stronghold Digital Mining LLC, EIF Scrubgrass, LLC, Falcon Power LLC, Scrubgrass Power LLC, Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P., Gregory A. Beard and William Spence
3.1*	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Stronghold Digital Mining Inc.
3.2*	Certificate of Designation of the Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock
3.3*	Certificate of Designation of the Series B Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock
3.4*	Bylaws of Stronghold Digital Mining Inc.
5.1*	Opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. as to the legality of the securities being registered
10.1*†	Form of Stronghold Digital Mining Inc. Incentive Plan
10.2*†	Form of Indemnification Agreement
10.3*	Tax Receivable Agreement, dated as of April 1, 2021, by and among Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc., Gregory Beard, as Agent, and Q Power LLC
10.4*	Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement of Stronghold Digital Mining Holdings LLC
10.5*	Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of April 1, 2021, by and among Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc. and the investors listed on Schedule A thereto
10.6*†	Form of Employment Agreement, by and between Stronghold Digital Mining Inc. and certain persons
10.7*	Promissory Note, dated as of December 31, 2020, by and between Scrubgrass Generating Company, L.P. and Stronghold Power, LLC
10.8*	Promissory Note, dated as of December 31, 2020, by and between Stronghold Power, LLC and William B. Spence
10.9*	Promissory Note, dated as of December 31, 2020, by and between Stronghold Power, LLC and Gregory A. Beard
21.1*	List of subsidiaries of Stronghold Digital Mining Inc.
23.1*	Consent of Urish Popeck & Co., LLC
23.3*	Consent of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. (included as part of Exhibit 5.1 hereto)
24.1*	Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this Registration Statement)

To be filed by amendment.

Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Kennerdell, Pennsylvania, on

Stronghold Digital Mini
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By:

Gregory A. Beard

Chief Executive Officer and Co-Chairman

Each person whose signature appears below appoints Gregory A. Beard and Ricardo R.A. Larroudé, and each of them, any of whom may act without the joinder of the other, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and re-substitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement and any Registration Statement (including any amendment thereto) for this offering that is to be effective upon filing pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or would do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them of their, or his or her substitute and substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities indicated below as of

Name	Title	Date
Gregory A. Beard	Chief Executive Officer and Co-Chairman (Principal Executive Officer)	
Ricardo R. A Larroudé	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	
Bill Spence	Co-Chairman	